

COOKLEY & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

A Meeting of the Parish Council was held at 7-30pm at the Pavilion, Walpole on Tuesday, February 18th 2025.

Minutes:

Present:

Cllr. R. Chase (Chair), Cllr. C. Leggett (Vice-Chair), Cllr. J. Henson, Cllr. J. Lewis, Cllr. Z. Mair, Cllr. M. Porter and Cllr. J. Winter.

Also Present:

Paul Widdowson (Clerk).

1) Apologies:

Cllr. L. Andrews and Cllr. A. Thomas gave their apologies which were accepted by the Councillors.

District Cllr. J. Ewart gave her apologies. County Cllr. S. Burroughes was not present.

2) To receive declarations of interest:

Cllr. J. Henson declared an interest in the Allotments, Neave Close and the Pear Tree Centre.

Cllr. J. Lewis declared an interest in Suffolk County Council.

Cllr. Z. Mair and Cllr. M. Porter declared an interest in the Walpole and Cookley Playing Fields Trust.

3) Requests for dispensations:

There were no requests for dispensations.

4) To receive a report from the County and District Councillors:

There were no written reports from County Cllr. S. Burroughes and District Cllr. J. Ewart. Both Councillors were also not at the meeting.

5) Public Session: Members of the public have fifteen minutes to ask questions on topics on the agenda.

There were no parishioners at the meeting.

12) Cookley Telephone Box:

Cllr. R. Chase said that telephone box in Cookley needed refurbishment. It was agreed to spend up to £300 for the materials.

Proposer: Cllr. R. Chase:

Seconder: Cllr. J. Henson:

13) Planning Matters:

There were no planning applications.

Cllr. Z. Mair reported on the East Suffolk Council Planning Forum noting the East Suffolk Developers Charter for the building of ten or more homes on an estate.

Councillors discussed the effect on Cookley and Walpole of planning applications in the parishes around Cookley and Walpole. Councillors agreed to make individual responses to similar future planning applications.

Councillors also discussed retrospective planning applications.

14) Clerk's Report and Correspondence:

The Clerk reported that he had received ten Surgery Posters for the Suffolk Coastal Member of Parliament Jenny Riddell-Carpenter. He said that he had also received a Citizens Advice Bureau Poster and a letter from Coastal Accessible Transport Services (CATS) who wished to ask for Volunteer Car Drivers and also to advertise their service. The Clerk reported that he had received an update on the Walpole Water Treatment Works and the latest information regarding Devolution.

15) Policies:

Councillors decided not to have policies on 'Managing Probation Periods' or 'Grants'.

Councillors agreed to have a Data Processing Agreement with Suffolk Association of Councils (SALC), to adopt the ICO Model Publication Scheme, the Financial Regulations 2024 and the E-Summons Agreement Form.

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair:

Seconder: Cllr. R. Chase:

16) To agree Audit Arrangements:

Councillors agreed to the SALC Letter of Engagement as part of agreeing the Internal Audit arrangement with SALC.

Proposer: Cllr. Z. Mair:

Seconder: Cllr. R. Chase:

17) To agree Internal Control Statement and Report:

The Internal Control Statement and Report was agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. C. Leggett:

Seconder: Cllr. R. Chase:

18) Financial Report:

a) Balances at the Bank on February 7th 2025:

Business Community Account	£6 310-64
Business Savings Account	£11 340-63

b) Payments and Receipts:

SO	Will Austin Contract – March 2025	£220-00
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The Financial Report was agreed.

Proposer: Cllr. R. Chase:

Seconder: Cllr. J. Winter:

19) To receive reports and to agree matters regarding

a) Footpaths:

Cllr. J. Winter reported that Suffolk County Council were to put mesh on the footpath bridges.

b) Trees:

Cllr. C. Leggett reported that the maintenance of trees was taking place.

c) Cemetery:

There was no report.

d) Allotments:

Cllr. J. Henson reported that all was going well. She noted that around ten people came to the allotments to tidy them up.

It was also noted that there were one or two allotment vacancies.

e) To receive agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting:

It was noted that the next Parish Council Meeting would be held on Tuesday, March 18th 2025 at 7-30pm.

Cllr. M. Porter and Cllr. J. Lewis both gave their apologies for the Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday, March 18th 2025.

The Meeting ended at 9-07pm.