

HELMINGHAM PARISH MEETING

Clerked by: Ian Pepper
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held
on Monday 28th October 2024 at The Coach House, Helmingham Hall, Helmingham, at 7pm

Helmingham Parish Councillors Present: Lesley Clark (LC) (Chair), Julian Bowden (JB), Nick Styles (NS), Ian Pepper (IP) and David Styles (DS)

In Attendance: District Councillor Nick Hardingham (NH) and Edward Tollemache (ET) (for AOB)

281024/01 Appointment of Clerk: Ian Pepper was appointed as the Clerk for this meeting.

281024/02 Apologies for absence: Councillors Suzanne Curwen- Frost (SCF) and County Councillor Matthew Hicks (MH), both gave their apologies prior to the meeting.

281024/03 Election of Vice Chair:
It was agreed that no Vice Chair was required

281024/04 Declarations of Interest: None

281024/05 Dispensations: JB confirmed that our insurance has been paid. A charge for audit services to PKF was approved for payment. A CIL payment to the Parish of £1609.48 was raised and NH agreed to investigate further what it related to and whether there were any restrictions on use of the funds.

281024/06 Minutes of previous meeting: All Councilors confirmed receipt of the draft minutes from the meetings on 29th April 2024 and resolved to accept these as a true record of the decisions made. LC signed the minutes

281024/07 Public Forum:
a. NH provided his update (circulated before the meeting) that included mention of the new Taxi-Bus service, revised re-cycling scheme, shaping economic strategy, CIL and also the announcement that the Suffolk Devolution Deal had been scrapped for the time being.

These minutes are in draft form only. They have not been ratified by the full Council and therefore are not a matter of formal record. They will be presented to the full Council for approval at the next meeting.

- b. MH was not present but had circulated his report prior to the meeting.
 - c. No members of the public were present at this point
- 281024/08 Parish Meeting: Councillors were led in a discussion resulting from the resignation of our Parish Clerk. Without a Clerk, and the fact that we have tried without success to appoint a new Clerk, the Parish struggles to find the right level of skills and knowledge to operate effectively and within the frameworks laid down in SALC regulations. Options were explored with regard to merging with other Parish's and dissolving Helmingham parish Council. We agreed to get further advice on what options are open to us via NH and his contacts within the County Council.
- 281024/09 Any Other Business: The meeting was joined by Edward Tollemache (ET)
ET informed the Parish Council of the plans and outline planning permission being sought for the redevelopment of Wades Barn, the building of a car park for 200 cars and the creation of a "walkers hub". The wood surrounding would have a purpose built children's activity area that would be open during weekends and school holidays. LC thanked ET on behalf of the Parish Council for his advanced notice of this application.
NS and DS raised the issue of debris in the ditch just beyond Helmingham Primary School. LC will raise this with the relevant parties at the Estate.
LC wished to note the painting of the bench outside the Forge and thanked Parish Councillor SCF for her efforts
- 281024/10 Date of Next Meeting: The agreed date for the next meeting is Monday 16th December 2024 at 19:00 at Pearls Farmhouse, Ipswich Road, Helmingham IP14 6EN
- 281024/11 Close of Meeting: Chair LC closed the meeting at 20:20