

HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of Meeting held at Hoxne Playingfield Pavilion on
Thursday 5 September 2024 at 19.30 hours

Present:

Cllrs Alan Garnham, Paul Ellis, Angus Herron, Marie Lagerberg, Jason Middleton, Richard Kruszewski, Bryn Lerwill, and Chris Parkin. Also in attendance Sarah Foote, Parish Clerk.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Abbott

2. Declarations of Interests

Cllr Ellis declared an interest in items relating to the Playingfield and Cllr Middleton declared he was a member of Hoxne Community Stores Ltd.

It was noted all members had an interest, as parishioners, in the agenda items relating to the Post Office Stores.

3. Public Forum

One member of the public was in attendance. At 19.53 a further member of the public arrived.

4. The minutes of the meeting held on 1 August 2024 were approved and signed by the chairman.

5. Matters arising from minutes of 1 August 2024:

19.36 Cllr Ellis left the meeting

Item 10C May Fest – further information had been received, as requested, following the August meeting. The council discussed the application with the suggestion made to the member of the Playing Field Committee that the event should be self-sustaining. It was noted £750 was being made from the 24/25 financial year for the 2024 event which had taken place in May 2024. It was proposed to make a donation of £250 from the 25/26 financial year and unanimously agreed.

19.52 Cllr Ellis returned to the meeting.

6. **Vacancies on the Parish Council** – no applications had been received.

7. Planning

a. The following planning application was considered:

Ref	Location	Application
DC/24/03683	40 Church Hill	Erection of single storey rear extension following part removal of existing structure. Installation of an air source heat pump to the front of the property.

It was unanimously agreed to recommend approval of the application.

b. The following planning determinations were noted:

DC/24/03216	Birch Farm, Syleham Road	Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Erection, Extension or Alteration of a Building for Agricultural or Forestry use The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Schedule 2, Part 6 - Erection of Straw Barn including lean-to extensions for storage of machinery and straw – Application Refused.
DC/24/02912	The Old Wheelwrights, Cross Street	Application for Listed Building Consent - Installation of Electric Vehicle (EV) Charger on external wall – Listed Building Consent Granted.
DC/24/02883	The Old Wheelwrights, Cross Street	Installation of EV charging point – Planning Permission Granted.

c. Correspondence in relation to the Hoxne Neighbourhood Development Plan and land off Denham Low Road was noted. The Parish Council's NDP consultant had advised and a response would be sent.

d. There were no other planning matters.

8. Highways

a. Correspondence from Suffolk Constabulary was noted.

b. Correspondence from Suffolk Constabulary Speed Watch Manager was noted.

c. Correspondence from Adrian Ramsay, MP Waveney Valley was noted.

d. Hoxne Traffic Review 2024 – all involved were thanked for their work on preparing the report. It was

Signed

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unanimously agreed to adopt this document.

e. Hoxne Traffic Management Proposal 2024 – it was noted that this document had been submitted as a formal application to Suffolk County Council for speed limit changes. When Cllr Hicks arrived at the meeting, he committed to liaise with the newly appointed County Councillor (post 10 October) to progress the submission and Cllr Kruszewski would contact the Highways Engineer for comments on the submission.

9. Asset Management

a. Low Street Shelter – a quotation had been received and written confirmation of this was awaited.

b. Construction of memorial seat on Low Street Green – deferred until Cllr Garnham could give this matter further consideration present.

c. Proposed transfer of land at Abbey Terrace to the Parish Council – it was noted that the wildflower meadow area would be maintained by a nominated body, as per the unilateral undertaking linked to the planning permission and not transferred to the Parish Council.

At 20.08 District Councillor Hicks arrived. He provided a report noting there would be a by-election for the vacancy of County Councillor for the Hoxne Ward on 10 October. County Council had agreed to invest £9m into the special educational needs service.

Cllr Hicks gave an update on Norwich to Tilbury and examination of the plans.

MSDC had decided to change waste collection from 2026 including a weekly food bin collection, black bins to be collected every three weeks, glass would be collected.

d. Parish Investment Infrastructure Plan – it was agreed that Cllr Middleton would look the amended document provided by the Clerk but it was noted much work was needed to bring the draft Plan up to date and to include the outcomes of the CIL survey.

f. Volunteer Day at Community Orchard – was agreed as Saturday 18 January 2025 with a theme of Wassailing.

10. Finance and Governance

a. The current financial position was reported as £20,293

b. It was noted £1958.22 had been received as the VAT reclaim for the year ending 31 March 2024.

c. It was agreed to make the following payments:

Amount	Payee	Details	Power
£477.20	S Foote	Clerk salary September 2024	LGA 1972 s112
£468.00	R Williams	Street Caretaker July/August/September 2024	LGA 1972 s111
£637.72	HMRC	PAYE	LGA 1972 s112
£15.75	S Foote	Clerk's expenses September 2024	LGA 1972 s111
£571.26	Zurich	Annual insurance premium	LGA 1972 s111
£90.00	St Edmund's Hall	Garden and Social Club Show Hall Hire	LGA 1972 s137

11. Correspondence

The following correspondence was noted:

Received	From	Subject
13.08.24	Suffolk County Council	Suffolk Police and Crime Panel Annual Report
22.08.24	Mid Suffolk District Council	Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan Part 2 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Consultation and Proposed Approach to the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment Consultation
23.08.24	Octopus Energy	Proposed Octopus Wind Turbine in Stradbroke
27.08.24	Mid Suffolk District Council	Notice of vacancy of Councillor, Suffolk County Council - Hoxne and Eye Division

12. Hoxne Post Office Stores

a. Correspondence relating to Community Right to Bid – Hoxne Post Office Stores was noted.

b. A presentation was received from Hoxne Community General Stores Ltd. A further discussion took place in confidential session.

13. Urgent matters and matters for information

14. Date of next meeting was noted as Thursday 3 October 2024 at Hoxne Playingfield Pavilion.

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15. Pursuant to the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 the meeting was closed to the public to discuss matters relating to agenda item 12B.

Representatives from the Hoxne Community Stores Ltd brought councillors up to date with the funding position post the general election. Their wish remained to purchase to the Post Office Stores and thus retain the Post Office in its current location although other locations had been explored. Parish Councillors had sight of the business plan and discussed numerous options relating to financing. It was agreed to form a Working Group of Councillors Heron, Middleton and Parkin and members of the Community Stores Ltd to meet and consider further and report back to the Parish Council. The Clerk would also attend the Working Group meeting.

Meeting closed 21.07

Signed 

Dated 3.10.24