

LAYHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Council held at 7.30pm on
Wednesday 24 August 2022 in the Village Hall

Present:	Charlotte Britton (CB) Jane Cryer - Clerk (JC) Sue Keeble (SK) David Pratt (DP) Sheila Roberts (SR) Michael Woods - (MW)
In attendance:	John Ward, Babergh DC (JW)
Apologies:	John Curran (JDC) Steve Laing (SL) Georgia Hall, Suffolk CC (GC)

22.8.1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted from JDC and SL.

22.8.3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

22.8.3 PUBLIC FORUM

There were no parishioners present.

22.8.4 ADJOURNMENT TO RECEIVE WRITTEN REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

22.8.4.1 District Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes. Babergh was joining with some with other councils in the county to support skills development, as part of the Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan. With regard to planning appeals, JW said that in 2020-21 only two planning appeals out of 35 had been allowed, making Babergh the fourth best council in the country at defending appeals.

22.8.4.2 County Council report

A written report had been circulated prior to the meeting, a copy of which is filed with these minutes.

22.8.5 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was proposed by DP, seconded by MW and agreed unanimously that the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 27 July 2022 should be accepted as an accurate record, and signed accordingly.

22.8.6 ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Most of the actions were either ongoing or were on the agenda. There were updates on the following:

22.8.6.1 Quiet Lanes

MW confirmed that the correct height pole had been installed at the top of Water Lane and the QL sign was now in place.

22.8.6.2 Footpath from Church Lane to the Mill bridge

JC said SCC had confirmed that the footpath was their responsibility and repairs had been scheduled.

22.8.7 FINANCIAL MATTERS

22.8.7.1 RFO's report

It was proposed by CB, seconded by DP and agreed unanimously that the finance report for 24 August 2022 should be approved and payments of £916.03 authorised.

22.8.8 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS

22.8.8.1 New noticeboard for Playing Field

As agreed at the last meeting, the new noticeboard would be for use by the community and not solely for Parish Council notices. It was agreed to accept the working group's recommendation for an aluminium noticeboard which would accommodate nine A4 notices and that it would be unlocked and would take pins rather than magnets. JC would place the order once MW had confirmed the price; she would also obtain a quote for installation and for removal of the old board. The working group would identify a suitable location for the new noticeboard.

22.8.9 PLANNING

22.8.9.1 DC/22/02865 - Bridge Barn, Cherry Orchard Farm, Stoke Road

Councillors had no objections to the application for the erection of a single-storey extension. However, some concern was expressed that part of an ancient orchard would become garden; JC would ask Babergh for clarification.

22.8.9.2 DC/22/01485 - Uplands House, Upper Street

It was noted that part approval had been granted for the discharge of conditions.

22.8.9.3 DC/22/01930 - The Builders Yard, The Street, Lower Layham

It was noted that permission had been granted for the erection of a dwelling and cart lodge, and alterations to existing access.

22.8.9.4 DC/22/02368 - Valley Farm, Rands Road

It was noted that approval had been granted for the discharge of conditions.

22.8.10 LGA COUNCILLOR CODE OF CONDUCT

It was proposed by SR, seconded by SK and agreed unanimously to formally adopt the LGA's new Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

22.8.11 PARISH TREES, HEDGEROWS AND WILDFLOWERS SCHEME

As agreed at the last meeting, SR had contacted the PCC to suggest part of the churchyard might be turned into a wildflower area, taking advantage of Babergh's offer of free trees, hedgerow plants and wildflower seed mixes; she had passed on details of how to apply.

22.8.12 AUTUMN TIDY-UP

It was agreed that this would take place on Saturday 22 October.

22.8.13 DELIVERY OF HADLEIGH COMMUNITY NEWS

SK volunteered to take over Graham Coleman's round.

22.8.14 CORRESPONDENCE

22.8.14.1 Insurance renewal

JC had been advised by Community Action Suffolk (CAS) that its current insurance provider had pulled out of the market. CAS had secured Ansvar as the new scheme insurer and, as requested, JC had completed a form summarising the PC's requirements so that a quotation could be issued; she would also request quotes from alternative providers. Insurance renewal would be an agenda item for the September meeting.

22.8.15 CLERK'S REPORT ON URGENT DECISIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING

None.

22.8.16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.30pm on Wednesday 28 September, in the Village Hall.

* * * * *