



Parish Office, Sports Pavilion, Hundred Acre Way, Red Lodge, Suffolk, IP28 8FQ  
01 638 551 257 <http://redlodgeparishcouncil.gov.uk>

## **Minutes of the Meeting of Red Lodge Parish Council.**

**Date:** Tuesday 28 November 2023

**Time:** 19:00

**Venue:** St. Christopher's Church, Boundary Road. Red Lodge. IP28 8JQ.

**Present:** Cllr. Susan Houlder (Chairman)  
Cllr. Sandra Dwan (Vice-Chairman)  
Cllr. Ioana Tofan

**In Attendance:** Clerk/RFO - Remote  
D. Cllr. Dawn Dicker

**Non-Attendee:** Cllr. Andy Drummond  
Cllr. Angie Sewell  
Cllr. Ian Thompson

**Members of the Public:** 7

	Item	Action
1.	<b>Chair Person's welcome.</b>	
2.	All those present are reminded of The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 and that the meeting may be filmed or recorded by any members of the public. <b>Noted</b>	
3.	<b>Apologies and acceptance for absence.</b> Cllr. Andy Drummond – Work commitments Cllr. Angela Sewell – On holiday Members agreed to approve the above absences. <b>Resolved</b>	Clerk
4.	<b>Declaration of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests</b>  (i) <b>To receive declarations of pecuniary, local non-pecuniary interests and personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature including gifts of hospitality exceeding £50.</b> Cllr. Houlder declared a non-pecuniary interest on agenda items 7.5, 9.1 and 9.6. Cllr. Dwan declared a non-pecuniary interest on agenda item 9.1. <b>Noted</b>  (ii) <b>To receive requests for dispensation</b> Dispensations were requested and approved for Cllrs. Dwan and Houlder on agenda item 9.1, to allow the meeting to remain quorate. <b>Resolved</b>	
5.	<b>Members of the public are invited to speak on any item on the agenda for up to 3 minutes. (Public session is maximum 15 minutes)</b> No members of the public spoke <b>Noted</b>	
6.	<b>Confirmation of Minutes of the meetings held on 31 October 2023.</b> The minutes for the above meeting were agreed as accurate records and duly signed by the Chairman. <b>Resolved</b>	Clerk
7.	<b>Reports and Invited Speakers</b>	
7.1	<b>County Councillor</b> A newsletter was circulated to all members. <b>Noted</b>	
7.2	<b>District Councillors</b>	

	<p>D.Cllr. Dicker informed the meeting that school holiday activities are available in Suffolk. Free places will be offered to families who are in financial hardship, who wouldn't otherwise qualify.</p> <p>Red Lodge Parish Council has submitted an application to the District Council, for funding for over £12000, towards football goals requested by the community.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
<b>7.3</b>	<p>The Police Newsletter was circulated to all members.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
<b>7.4</b>	<p><b>Update from the Events Working Party</b></p> <p>A member of the Events Working Party informed the meeting that tickets for the Children's Christmas party had sold out. The event has been well supported by local businesses with donations of raffle prizes, food and drink for the children.</p> <p>A booking for the Big Top event for the summer has been secured and the party is now taking bookings for stall holders. Funding will be requested from the District Councillors for the Big Top event.</p> <p>A bingo machine and dabbers have been purchased as Cllr. Sewell will be arranging Bingo events.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
<b>7.5</b>	<p><b>Update from the Lightwave Working Party.</b></p> <p>The Lightwave Working Party met with the owner of the land in the North of Red Lodge, to discuss the planned housing development. The plans include a potential community hub for the charity Red Lodge Lightwave. Lightwave have strong links and referrals from the County Council, District Council, Citizens Advice Bureau and Doctors' Surgeries. The charity assisted in excess of 1800 residents in 2022/23 alone, resolving various issues ranging from poverty, food shortage, energy costs, isolation, housing and mental well-being, to name a few.</p> <p>A representative of Lightwave thanked the Parish Council's Working Party and informed the meeting that Lightwave exists for the community. Lightwave are struggling for space and want a facility to serve the village needs. For approximately three years, Lightwave, alongside the Parish Council Chairman and West Suffolk Council's Planning Officer have been negotiating with the landowner for a new building. The landowner had originally offered Lightwave a piece of land, however, West Suffolk Council had suggested that an area in the Northern Development will be more suitable instead. Currently the community hub is proposed in an area where a Sustainable Drainage System is also being considered. If the drainage is built over-ground, the community hub cannot be built and this decision remains with West Suffolk Council. The charity requested the voice and written support of the District Councillors and the Parish Councillors, in stating that a community build is needed. Lightwave assists approximately 300 youth and children in the village. Increasing the number of houses will in turn increase the number of children in the village, this inevitably increases anti-social behaviour and crime. County lines is active in Red Lodge and these issues need to be mitigated. Lightwave also supports vulnerable families being relocated into the village, dealing with isolation and loneliness. Lightwave offers warm spaces and disseminates winter funds. Lightwave has 40 dedicated volunteers and it is not an option that Lightwave is unsupported. Lightwave would like to appeal to the Parish Council and the community to express</p>	

	<p>that a building for Lightwave is needed to continue to provide all of the services currently offered.</p> <p>A Lightwave volunteer for the foodbank reiterated support for the charity.</p> <p>Red Lodge Parish Council agreed to support Red Lodge Lightwave and agreed to take responsibility for the building as a community asset and act as the landlords.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Financial and Clerk Reports</b>	
<b>8.1</b>	<p>Members noted that the bank reconciliation statements for October 2023 have been verified and signed by Cllr. Thompson.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
<b>8.2</b>	<p>Members approved all payments in October 2023 for the Parish account.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	
<b>8.3</b>	<p>Members noted and approved the Income and Expenditure in October 2023 for the following:</p> <p>(i) Parish Bank Account (ii) Deposit Bank Account (iii) Petty Cash Council (iv) Petty Cash Pavilion (v) Credit Card</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	
<b>8.4</b>	<p>Members reviewed and approved the Ear Marked Reserves at 31/10/2023.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	
<b>8.5</b>	<p>Members noted the Bank Balances at 20/10/23 for the following accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parish Bank Account £300,368.85</li> <li>Deposit Account £107,750.92</li> </ul> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
<b>8.6</b>	<p>Members noted that a VAT reclaim of £2177.88 for 01/08/2023 – 31/10/2023, submitted on 16/11/2023, has been received from HMRC on 22/11/2023.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
<b>8.7</b>	<p>Members discussed a draft budget for 2024-25. Members agreed that the Ear Marked Reserves continue to be depleted and require topping up to assure future maintenance of the village assets.</p> <p>Members agreed to set the budget for 2024-25 with a precept demand of £225,650, Council Tax Band D £121.86 pa, increase of £11.07 pa, which is an increase of 9.99%.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	Clerk
<b>9.</b>	<b>Discuss and approve any purchase</b>	
<b>9.1</b>	<p>Members agreed the request for a grant from Red Lodge Millennium Centre, towards the Over 65's Christmas Lunch.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	Clerk
<b>9.2</b>	Members discussed the decking and the funding approval for the Red Lodge Sports	

	<p>Pavilion. 3 Members of the Parish Council wrote to rescind a previous decision made by the Parish Council, agenda item 10.18 on 26/09/2023. Members considered repairs to the decking and also the replacement of the decking. Members agreed to defer this item to the next meeting when there is a full suite of councillors.</p> <p><b>Deferred</b></p>	Clerk
9.3	<p>Members agreed the mobile phone 2x SIM renewal with Vodafone for 18 months, 100GB data, unlimited texts and minutes, Vodafone will apply a total credit of £54 and deduct £10 per month, costing £7 per month.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	Clerk
9.4	<p>Members agreed the payment for Liquid weed and feed of all pitches, Vertas, £1081 exc. VAT.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	Clerk
9.5	<p>Members noted Suffolk County Council's public consultation encouraging Suffolk resident's views on future library services.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
9.6	<p>Members agreed the request from Red Lodge Lightwave to purchase a new oven of their choice, for the kitchen:</p> <p>(i) Bosch HBG634BB1B (ii) Bosch oven (iii) HBG634BS1B Bosch oven (iii) Samsung C61R2AEE hob Samsung Hob</p> <p>Members thanked Red Lodge Lightwave for this kind gesture.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	
9.7	<p>Members agreed to raise cheques for the petty cash top up for Parish £10.44 and petty cash top up Pavilion £32.18, cheque numbers 001497 and 001498 respectively.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	Clerk
10.	<b>Planning Applications - To Consider any Planning Applications:</b>	
10.1	<p><b>DC/23/1002/FUL – Re-consultation in respect of a planning proposal</b></p> <p><b>Proposal:</b> Planning application – two dwellings and new access (following demolition of existing dwelling)</p> <p><b>Location:</b> 8 Turnpike Road, Red Lodge Suffolk IP28 8JZ</p> <p>Members agreed a 'No Comment' on this application.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	Clerk
10.2	<p><b>DC/23/1577/OUT</b></p> <p><b>Proposal:</b> Planning application Outline Planning Application (means of access to be considered) a. 8 hectares of employment land for the formation of plots and associated construction of buildings for light industry (class E(g)(iii)), general industry (class B2), storage and distribution (class B8) b. construction of up to 300 dwellings (class C3) c. construction of a new local centre which may include retail, commercial and community uses (use classes to include commercial and services uses permitted under Class E (a-f), takeaway uses (sui generis), learning and non-residential institution uses permitted under Class F1, local community uses permitted under</p>	Clerk

	<p>Class F2) d. public open space SANG, landscaping, parking, infrastructure and associated roads, paths, and other hard standings.</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Land North of Acorn Way Manor Wood Red Lodge Suffolk</p> <p>Members agreed a 'No Comment' on this application. Members added that a skate park would be a desirable asset, this would occupy the youth in the village. From previous experience, the Parish Council are aware that the s106 monies are inadequate and therefore will request more s106 funding.</p> <p>Red Lodge Parish Council vehemently agreed that a community hub was essential for the village.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	
<b>11.</b>	<b>Correspondence Received</b>	
<b>11.1</b>	<p>Members noted the Play Area Inspection reports for October 2023. The reports highlighted 16 high risk issues. The Supervisor has not been able to work for a few weeks and has now returned, the work will resume. The trampoline in the Pavilion Play area is awaiting a part to commence the work. Some work highlighted in the reports has been addressed.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	Clerk
<b>11.2</b>	<p>Members noted an invitation from the Chair of West Suffolk Council to the West Suffolk Carol Service at 7pm on Monday 4 December 2023, in St. Edmundsbury Cathedral.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
<b>11.3</b>	<p>Members agreed a rota and noted the dates confirmed for the Parish Council Surgeries 6pm-7:30pm:</p> <p>Red Lodge Sports Pavilion: 10<sup>th</sup> January; 6<sup>th</sup> March and 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024</p> <p>Red Lodge Millennium Centre: 7<sup>th</sup> February; 10<sup>th</sup> April and 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	
<b>11.4</b>	<p>Members noted the Local Government Pay update for 2023 – 2024.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
<b>11.5</b>	<p>Members noted the update on the essential maintenance on the A11, between Babraham and Six Mile Bottom, work is expected to be complete by January 2024.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
<b>11.6</b>	<p>Members ratified the street names proposed for the street naming and numbering application comprising of 14 new streets at Land East of Russet Drive, Red Lodge.</p> <p><b>Resolved</b></p>	
<b>11.7</b>	<p>Members reviewed the Suffolk Police Working Model. A community police officer will be assigned to designated areas.</p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>	
<b>11.8</b>	<p>Members noted the street lighting maintenance and energy procurement, Suffolk County Council.</p>	

<b>11.9</b>	<b>Noted</b> Members discussed the Parish Council's stance on the North Development for media reports. Members agreed to support the development, as it provided housing, retail, employment and an essential community hub for the village. <b>Resolved</b>	
<b>12.</b>	<b>To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday 30 January 2024 at 19:00, St. Christopher's Church, 2 Boundary Road, Red Lodge. IP28 8JQ.</b> The next meeting was confirmed as above. <b>Noted</b>	Clerk
<b>13.</b>	<b>To resolve under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (20:11)</b>	
<b>13.1</b>	Members discussed staffing issues. Refer to Confidential Report 281123-01 <b>Resolved</b>	Clerk
<b>13.2</b>	Members discussed correspondence. Refer to Confidential Report 281123-01 <b>Resolved</b>	Clerk

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:25