

Brightwell, Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council
Wednesday, 9th May 2012

Report of the Parish Clerk

The purpose of this report is to update members on outstanding issues, items received after the deadline for agenda items, correspondence and action taken by the Clerk.

Matters arising from the last meeting

Minute 56.12 Localism Act 2011 / Neighbourhood Plans

I wrote to councillors giving optional dates for a meeting with Hilary Hanslip Suffolk Coastal District Council. Three councillors replied offering suitable dates and time as follows:

Tuesday, 15th May 2012 after 3.45 pm
Wednesday 16th May 2012 after 3.45 pm

I am waiting for a reply from Hilary as to the most suitable date.

Minute 57.12 Future Plans for Parish – Felixstowe Road

I have written to Anne Westover Suffolk Coastal District Council asking whether she could discuss the planting of trees on the Felixstowe Road as part of her presentation on 9th May 2012.

I have also written to Ipswich Borough Council Planning on the following items from the last meeting:

1. Parish Council concerned about the encroaching development and the impact on the parish as it does not appear that consideration has been given to the disturbance to the residents on the opposite side of Felixstowe Road to Ransomes Europark and the land along the railway line from the Storage Facility to Admiral Windows.
2. Lighting on Ransomes Europark.

Minute 58.12 Visibility Woodhouse Lane / Bucklesham Road

I have spoken to our insurance company who is suggesting that we carry out an initial risk assessment.

Minute 59.12 Brightwell Seat

A notice has been placed on the Brightwell Notice Board stating that it is the Parish Council's intention to arrange for a seat to be sited in July 2012 for the benefit of the local residents.

Minute 62.12 Correspondence

- a. Letter from Brightwell Church requesting a donation for the upkeep of the churchyard. Approximately £900 in the Recycling Credits budget.

Minute 65.12 Members Questions to the Chairman

- b. Cllr Day stated at the last meeting that he has been in contact with SCC concerning the Felixstowe Road Service Road parking who had stated that this matter had not been taken any further. The Clerk was asked to send a copy of our response to Andrew Pearce at SCC Phoenix House. Andrew Pearce did not reply and I have sent another copy of my original email asking for a response before our meeting.

Since the last meeting I have also received an email from PC Paul Smith stating that he had received a complaint from Neil Goldie who lives in the service road complaining about the parking stating he was finding it difficult to negotiate out of his drive. I have emailed Neil stating that the Parish Council are working towards a solution to this problem. PC Paul Smith and PCSO Andi Hillman are both monitoring the situation.

In addition, the Parish Council have also received a complaint via Cllr Day from Mr Capasso who also lives opposite John Banks about the level of night time lighting that the garage have now switched on and it is shining directly into his bedroom windows resulting in lack of sleep, etc.

Orwell Country Park

The travellers which were camped in the car park at Orwell Country Park have now vacated the site. We have no information as to where the travellers have moved to.

Scrutiny of Housing Provision within Suffolk Coastal District Council

An email was received from Phillip Dunnett Chairman to the Scrutiny Committee asking whether the Parish Council have any views about the housing situation in Suffolk Coastal. The details of the email are as follows:

“The Council’s Scrutiny Committee is to conduct a review of Housing provision in the District and we would like to know what you think.

We will also hear evidence from Housing Associations and their tenants, from developers, local housing charities and the Council’s Housing Team. But we want to start by asking you – the representatives of our local communities – for your thoughts and experiences regarding Housing in the District and how things could be improved.

The response form enclosed with this letter lists the aspects of Housing that we intend to review. Please tick those that you think are of most concern to your community and indicate whether you are satisfied or dissatisfied with the current situation.

There is also a space for you to add further explanation/comment or to suggest any other housing issue that you think we may have overlooked. If you have lots to say – and we hope you do – by all means continue on a separate sheet.

Finally we have asked a few straightforward questions about housing need and empty homes in your parish.

When we take evidence in public later this year we intend to invite a cross section of town/parish councils with views to express to come along and talk to us directly. This worked very well with our last major review – into Planning – and has helped the council to improve that service as a result. It is our hope and expectation that this review will do the same.

We understand that this will have to fit in with your meeting cycle but we would welcome your response as soon as possible so that we can get this important review under way.”

I forwarded the email to all councillors asking for comments so that I could formulate a reply.

Extraordinary Suffolk Coastal District Council Meeting 26th April 2012

Cllr O’Brien was unable to attend the above meeting but tabled the following report:

“Councillors

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the Extraordinary Meeting on April 26th and, as I will not be taking part, I must refute, in the strongest terms, issues that, contrary to the Executive Summary, **are significant and substantial** and have not been addressed. They are:

1. There is a serious lack of evidence to show that SCDC and Ipswich Borough Council have worked together to produce a strategy that will improve the A14 Orwell Bridge/Seven Hill Interchange and, importantly, take account of the changes on A12 at Copdock. It is vital that this is properly assessed otherwise the future is indeed bleak, in terms of mobility, environment and employment, for the Felixstowe Peninsula. – (The increase in container traffic from 3.4ml to 5.4ml, for the expanded Felixstowe Port, plus the increase in the number of private cars, from development at Felixstowe and Martlesham, a possibility of 4-6000 extra cars).
2. Worryingly, there has been no Visitor Impact Assessment on the Deben Estuary. Mitigation measures are insufficient, especially relating to a Country Park, development of which will not be within the plan period!
3. There has never been an explanation of why housing numbers increased from 1050, at Martlesham, to 2000.
4. Assumptions, but no firm evidence, that jobs will be created for the occupiers of the 2000 homes, at Adastral Park.
5. New secondary education provision is problematic; 2000 homes would be insufficient to provide the full complement of pupils for a secondary school.

Therefore, I conclude that with such significant and substantial issues yet to be addressed, the Core Strategy remains unsound. I cannot support the recommendations.

PATRICIA O’BRIEN”

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