

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at Trinity Park on Wednesday, 19th June 2013

Present

Cllr E Warham – Chairman

Cllr A Wells

Cllr B Newell

Cllr G Watts

Cllr A Day

Cllr M Briggs

Cllr V Falconer – Suffolk Coastal District Councillor

Cllr P O'Brien – Suffolk County Council Councillor / Suffolk Coastal District Councillor

Mrs A J Buggs – Clerk

1 member of the public

103.13 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Booth, Cllr J Batham, PC Paul Smith and PCSO Glynn Bown.

104.13 Declaration of interest

No declarations of interest were received.

105.13 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 8th May 2013 were approved as being a true record.

106.13 Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

107.13 Resignation of Cllr Lee Smith

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Cllr Lee Smith tendering his resignation to the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk**

108.13 To appoint Suffolk Association of Local Councils representative

Following discussion Cllr Warham proposed that the Clerk be appointed as the Parish Council representative, seconded Cllr Briggs – all in favour.

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

Cllr O'Brien – Suffolk County Council / SCDC Council – written report

The county elections took place on 2nd May and the makeup of the county council is very different from the past four years. The Conservatives remain the largest party with 39 councillors, Labour 15, UKIP 9, Liberal Democrats 7, Independents 3, Greens 2.

I was returned with a 50% majority, over the other candidates and would like to thank all those who supported me.

Cabinet posts have been allocated and chairmen, to the various committees appointed.

The first Full Council meeting took place on 23rd May.

I have been appointed Assistant Cabinet Member for Public Protection. Public Protection includes; Fire Service, Trading Standards, Drugs and Alcohol and policing issues.

I will also be chairing a Public Protection Committee that will be looking into the work of public protection and suggesting ways to improve the service etc.

On 14th May, I was invited to attend a Home Affairs Select Committee that was questioning Police Commissioners of 3 areas, Suffolk, West Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. I and the chairman of Police and Crime Panels in West Yorkshire and Lincolnshire were asked questions relating to our roles in relation to our commissioners. It was an interesting experience.

Cllr V Falconer – SCDC District Council – written report

LDF

I am sure you all know that the inspector, who has been examining the Core Strategy and Development management Policies, concluded last week that the document is sound. A Full Council meeting will be held shortly to formally adopt the Core Strategy.

Wind Farms

Eric Pickles has just announced a package of measures which will give communities a greater say over the siting of on shore wind farms, including earlier community consultation, and allow them to reap increased benefits from hosting developments that do proceed. Energy Minister Michael Fallon said that they are putting local people at the heart of decision-making regarding on shore wind. I hope this will also apply to Solar Panel Farms. The outskirts of Levington village just off the A14 are in the process of having a 62 acre Solar Panel Farm constructed.

Reduction in Suffolk Coastal District Council Members

The Council responded to the Boundary Commission 'Council size' consultation and recommended 43 councillors as of 2015. They are at present reviewing this. As of 23rd July till 1st October the Boundary Commission will yet again be going out to consultation re Warding proposals.

Suffolk Coastal District Council – Kerbside Textile Collection

From August last year until March this year, 117 tonnes have been collected for recycling and have not gone into landfill. Also a plastics recycling campaign has been launched. There is a short video on the web and information leaflets have been provided to all households aiming to raise awareness and increase the diversion of recyclable plastic.

Planning Application IT Software

As mentioned many times new IT is in the pipeline to make viewing planning applications and all their supportive documentation is now due to be implemented next month – fingers crossed.

General

As your Councillor I have attended a lot of meetings re the Deben Estuary Partnership, River Deben Association, SC Licensing and Health Panel Meetings and Sizewell Task Group. I have been involved with various planning applications and a site visit to Amberfield School.

Once again I will be one of the judges for the Best Village of the Year in Suffolk Coastal, and also be Chairing the Quality Place Awards Competition, both of which are extremely interesting. I will also be sitting on the Panel re Classifications of films that are to be shown at the Latitude Festival. This is quite an eye-opening task! Sadly we are unable to say “in no way should be shown” we can only recommended a Category of 12 and 12A, U and Uc, PG, 15 and 18.

Suffolk Police Report – 1st May 2013 – 19th June 2013 – PCSO Glynn Bown – written report

11 crimes of thefts from a local supermarket were reported.

2 crimes of thefts from local charity clothing bins.

7 crimes of harassment/distress or common assault.

20th May 2013 – During daylight hours in a supermarket a large black handbag containing various items which was left unsecured and unattended at the till was removed by unknown suspect(s).

27th May 2013 – Burglary Other Building – During the hours of darkness in isolated converted farm yard offenders have broken into four secured out buildings with unknown instrument removing a motorcycle that was recovered 75 metres from location.

27th May 2013 – Burglary Other Building – During the hours of darkness in isolated rural location unknown offenders have attempted to remove motorbike and failed offenders have then forced garage door open and stolen vehicle from within.

29th May 2013 – Criminal Damage to Vehicle – During the daytime in a main car park at the Suffolk Showground. Unknown offenders have removed three highway maintenance signs and two red and yellow chevron signs which were magnetically attached to silver Toyota Hilux by unknown means.

30th May 2013 – Theft from Person – During daylight hours at the Suffolk Show a ladies black leather look purse containing cards and cash was removed from the victim’s handbag whilst shopping at the stalls.

11th June 2013 – Other Building – Over period of a week offender has entered a garden shed and removed petrol driven lawn mower. Entry has been through an insecure shed door adjacent to a bungalow situated at the end of a gravel track surrounded by fields in a quiet rural village location.

The meeting was re-convened.

109.13 Clerk’s Report

The Clerk's report had previously been circulated and it was agreed that some of the items should be discussed as per the agenda.

SALC LAIS1354 June 2013 Community Infrastructure Levy Guidance

Local councils will be interested in the latest guidance on the Community Infrastructure levy (CIL). The CIL is of particular interest owing to the fact that local councils and communities are being incentivised to embrace development through a financial reward. This reward takes the form of 15% of the CIL receipts being passed to local councils (capped at £100 per existing council tax dwelling per year), rising to 25% (uncapped) where those councils have encouraged development through a neighbourhood plan.

Local councils will be aware of the need to engage with the local planning authority at an early stage in order to influence the decisions on the infrastructure requirements affecting their area. However, they will also be mindful that the local planning authorities might well be envisaging business as usual by retaining the local council's element of the CIL where they can persuade the local council that they are in agreement with the local planning authority's priorities. The Guidance is clear that councils have a major advantage in that they are entitled to spend their part of the CIL on a greater range of things than the other part of the CIL as it can be spent on infrastructure or 'anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area', such as affordable housing.

With Government recently indicating that over 500 areas are commencing neighbourhood plan processes, the potential apparent in this financial reward system is notable.

The CIL will apply in relation to most buildings that people normally use eg not pylons and wind turbines. Any new build (includes extensions) is liable for the levy if it has 100 square metres or more gross internal floor space, or involves the creation of one dwelling, even when that is below 100 square metres.

Community Emergency Planning Workshop Waldringfield Village Hall 14th May 2013

Cllr Warham attended for part of the above planning workshop and the results of the above meeting have been circulated to all councillors for information. Please read and indicate whether you believe it should be placed on the agenda of the next meeting for further discussion.

SALC LAIS1352 June 2013 Voting Age

Local councils will wish to be aware that a Private Members' Bill to lower the voting age of electors (including for parish elections) has been sponsored by Lord Tyler.

The Bill received its first reading in the House of Lords on 9th May 2013. It would amend the Representation of the People Act 1983 b changing the definition of voting age for parliamentary and local government elections from 18 to 16. Separate provision would be needed in order to amend the qualification age for councillors who were previously reduced from 21 to 18 via S.17 of the Electoral Administration Act 2006.

Local councils will be considering whether successful passage of the Bill would cause a significant increase in the interest in local councils from young people. Progress with this Bill will be of interest as will any connected developments on the qualification age for councillors.

SALC LAIS1353 June 2013 Precept Data

Parish and town councils (local councils) will be interested in the on-going attention that Government is paying to their reports. Over the last few years, Government has introduced provisions in the Localism Act 2011 for automatic precept referendums for any 'excessive increase', encouraged a precept freeze, reduced the council tax base and introduced a discretionary compensatory grant arrangement through a paternalistic mechanism using local billing authorities.

Although Government has chosen not to apply precept referendums for any financial years to date, this is reviewed on an annual basis. These changes have had an impact on local council precepts.

Given these changes and on-going central Government scrutiny, the annual publication of statistical data by the Department for Communities and Local Government will be of interest to local councils. The latest data covers the period of 2013-2014 and shows an increase in the average Band D precept compared to 2012-2013.

Local Government Financial Statistics England no 23 2013 (published May 2013) can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/203942_D_CLG_WEB_version.pdf.

110.13 Planning

The Clerk reported that there were no outstanding Planning Applications.

Renewable Electricity at Foxburrow and Walk Barn Farm

The Clerk reported that UK Sustainable Energy and Mosscliff Environmental are proposing the development of a 15 MW Solar Farm at Foxburrow Farm Brightwell and Walk Barn Farm Newbourne. The documents received from Mosscliff had previously been circulated to all councillors. The Clerk reported that the director of Mosscliff would like to meet with the Parish Council to discuss the development. Following discussion councillors agreed that the Clerk should write to Mosscliff stating that they should call a public meeting for all parishes which will be affected by the development and to recommend various suitable venues. **Action: Clerk**

Land to South and East of Adastral Park

The Clerk reported that she had received an email from Waldringfield Parish Council drawing our attention to a website which has been created advertising an opportunity to invest in land adjacent to the proposed BT development of 2000 new residential properties, hotel and shops of Adastral Park Martlesham. The website states:

- The land borders village, Waldringfield, Brightwell and Newbourne.
- The first phase released having road frontage.
- Investment plots are an alternative to trusts, savings or gifts.
- Record increase in land price have been achieved in East Anglia.
- Parcel of Land owns all the land that it sells.

All plots purchased are registered with the Land Registry and legal paperwork is carried out by law society accredited solicitors safeguarding your interests.

The website address is <http://www.parcelofland.co.uk/>

111.13 To discuss the latest action taken concerning Club House, Former Civil Service Sports Ground, Straight Road, Foxhall

The Clerk reported that she had received an email from Dan Kinsman Suffolk Coastal District Council Environmental Health reporting that he had visited the site and photographed the two buildings and confirmed that both the buildings are currently secured against intruders. The doors and windows have a combination of metal and timber boarding. Dan also reported that he had sent an email to Suffolk Coastal District Planning Department asking whether they could expedite the process of either getting the site redeveloped or getting the buildings demolished.

Cllr Newell reported that the intruders were still entering the external boiler room which she would like investigated. Additionally, intruders are still climbing up on to the roof on the South side of the buildings by steps which have been created by bricks being withdrawn from the side of the building.

Action: Clerk

112.13 Jubilee Tree

The Clerk reported that due to Cllr Smith's resignation she had contacted Suffolk Coastal Service concerning the planting of the Jubilee Tree who have advised that it would be better to plant the Jubilee Tree in the autumn 2013. Following discussions it was agreed that the tree should be planted in September/October 2013 details as follows:

3 to 4 metre tall Hornbeam (*Carpinus Betulus*) at an approximate cost of £100.00 plus VAT including stack and ties.

Metal plaque cemented into the ground; wording as follows: "This Hornbeam Commemorates the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II 1952-2012".

It was also agreed that the Clerk should investigate the planting of a row of trees along the main A1156.

Action: Clerk

113.13 Martlesham Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk reported that the Council had received an email from Martlesham Parish Council who is proposing to produce a Neighbourhood Plan – details previously circulated to all councillors.

The proposal from Martlesham Parish Council is as follows:

"Martlesham Parish Council has decided to produce a Neighbourhood Plan following a well-attended public meeting. One of the first steps is to define the Neighbourhood Plan boundary. This does not have to follow Parish boundaries; it can be less than the whole parish or can cover more than one Parish. However, an area can only be covered by one Neighbourhood Plan – you cannot have two plans covering the same area.

As you are aware the proposed Adastral Park development is primarily in Martlesham Parish, with some of the south end in Brightwell.

Should our plan include the area of development? This question is purely about the plan area, not about changing parish boundaries. Those houses when built will still be in Brightwell. If Brightwell is

not producing a Neighbourhood Plan then it would seem sensible for us to include that area in our plan.

The team producing our plan will be setting up a joint review panel with representatives from neighbouring Parishes, MHHL, SCDC and other bodies and we would be pleased to have a representative from Brightwell Parish Council on that panel.

Attached is a map and as you will see a significant part of the BT development is in your Parish. The question is whether our Neighbourhood Plan area should include the BT area in your Parish to enable any residents in that area to feed in their views on our plan as it develops and to enable the plan to cover the whole of the proposed development as one entity. “

Following discussions Cllr Newell proposed, seconded Cllr Briggs that the Parish Council accept the proposal to include Brightwell in the Martlesham Neighbourhood Plan with the proviso that the plan boundary is extended southwards up to and including Aerodrome Cottages and that the Brightwell residents are made aware of the proposals – all in favour. Clerk to notify Martlesham Parish Council of the decision. **Action: Clerk**

114.13 To discuss changing the Parish Council's Standing Orders

Following discussions Cllr Day proposed, seconded Cllr Watts that the Parish Council Standing Orders be amended as follows:

1. Meetings

...

- d. Subject to Standing Order 1c above, members of the public are permitted to make representations, answer questions and give evidence on any relevant matter.
- e. Delete
- f. Any member of the public is entitled to speak once only for duration of no more than 3 minutes.
- g. In accordance with Standing Order 1d above, a question asked by a member of the public during a public participation session at a meeting shall not require a response or debate.

...

All in favour.

The Parish Council also agreed that the public forum should be moved from the end of the Agenda to the middle of the Agenda after the reports. It was also agreed that a notice should be placed on the seats in the public area giving details of the procedure for members of the public to speak and also stating that members of the public wishing to speak should provide the following details; name, parish. This section of the meeting should be minuted.

Action: Clerk

115.13 To discuss purchasing additional grit, dog and waste bins

Due to Cllr Lawrence not being present at the meeting it was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

116.13 Future Plans for the Parish

Nothing to report.

117.13 A1156 Parking Restrictions

Cllr Day reported that the parking restriction signs in the A1156 layby have been erected.

118.13 Locality Budget 2013/2014

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council's Locality Budget 2013/2014 is £1,900.00. Cllr Day suggested that the money could be used to erect 'welcome signs' at the main entry points to each of the three parishes. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate the cost and report back to the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

119.13 To discuss letter from parishioner concerning various issues in Murrills Road

Cllr Warham distributed the letters which had been written by the police and printed by the Parish Council to be put through every letterbox in Murrills Road and adjoining roads warning residents that the police would take action against speeding motorists.

120.13 John Banks Honda – Light Pollution

Cllr Day reported that the resident had been visited by two people from Suffolk Coastal District Council recently at 10.00 pm to identify the problem and then visited John Banks to discuss. The lights have now been switched off and also the showroom lights.

121.13 Parking Problems Purdis Farm

Nothing further to report.

122.13 Parish Plan

Cllr Day reported that the first draft of the Parish Plan has been completed and the project is now making good progress. **Action: Cllr Day**

123.13 Charity Donations

The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Brightwell Parochial Church Council asking for a donation to their funds. Following discussion Cllr Wells proposed, seconded Cllr Day that the Parish Council send a donation of £200.00 – all in favour.

124.13 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

Clerk's Salary & Expenses May 2013	£228.76
Print4U	£124.80
Brightwell Parochial Church Council	£200.00

Cllr Wells proposed, seconded Cllr Day that the above expenditure is approved – agreed. **Action: Clerk**

125.13 Correspondence

None

126.13 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk

Cllr Warham gave her report on the recent Community Emergency Planning Workshop she had attended.

126.13 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr Briggs reported that she was concerned about cars/vans which were being parked outside a house in one of the cul-de-sacs in Woodrush Road. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to PC Smith requesting him to take action. **Action: Clerk**
- b. Cllr Newell reported that the Brightwell seat was in the process of being erected.
- c. Cllr Newell reported that she was concerned about the pot holes which had appeared in Purdis Road and Hall Road as she felt they would be dangerous to vehicles. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Suffolk County Council Highways. **Action: Clerk**
- d. Cllr Newell reported that there is serious flooding outside Lodge Farm to a depth of 6"-9" and that it appears that the ditch needed to be dug out. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Suffolk County Council Highways. **Action: Clerk**

126.13 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 10th July 2013.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.35 pm.

Signed Date.....

Angie Buggs
Clerk to Brightwell, Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council