

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at Trinity Park on Wednesday, 13th March 2013

Present

Cllr E Warham – Chairman
Cllr A Wells
Cllr B Newell
Cllr G Watts
Cllr M Briggs
Cllr E Lawrence
Cllr A Day
PCSO Andi Hillman
PC Paul Smith
Mrs A J Buggs – Clerk
1 member of the public

38.13 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Booth, Cllr L Smith, Cllr J Batham, Cllr V Falconer and Cllr P O'Brien.

39.13 Declaration of interest

No declarations of interest were received.

40.13 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 13th February 2013 were approved as being a true record.

41.13 Matters arising from the minutes

04.13 Admiral Windows / Boat Shop Felixstowe Road

The Clerk reported that the notices on the fencing at Admiral Windows had now been removed. Cllr Day reported that the current concern relates to the advertisements that are regularly and haphazardly placed on the verge between the service road and the main A1156 outside the Boat Shop. **Action: Clerk**

24.13 Clerk's Report – Grit Bins

Cllr Newell reported that the Foxhall grit bins had been placed in the wrong positions. **Action: Clerk**

25.13 Planning

Scottish Power Renewables – East Anglia One Limited – The Clerk reported that although the document had been circulated to all councillors, no comments had been received by the Clerk to submit.

28.13 Parking Problems – Purdis Farm

Cllr Briggs reported the situation concerning parking had improved but she would continue to monitor the situation. It was agreed that this item should be deferred until the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

36.13 Members questions to the Chairman

- b. The Clerk reported that the ditch adjacent to the Foxhall Notice Board had been cleaned out by Suffolk Coastal Services.
- c. The Clerk reported that although flooding in the service road on the A1156 had been reported to Suffolk County Council Highways the matter was still an on-going problem. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Highways again. **Action: Clerk**

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

- Suffolk Police – PC Paul Smith – written report.

March 2013

Brightwell

14th February 2013 – High Farm – Overnight unknown offenders have stolen two caravans from a storage yard by gaining access from a neighbouring field and towing the caravans away. Enquiries on going.

Foxhall

24th February 2013 – Bucklesham Road – Overnight unknown offenders have entered an insecure garage and stolen various bottles of alcohol and garden equipment. Enquiries on going.

Between 22nd February and the 25th February 2013 – Bucklesham Road – Over a weekend period unknown offenders have forced entry to a locked garden shed. They have searched the shed but have not stolen anything. Enquiries on going.

25th February 2013 - Bucklesham Road – Overnight unknown offenders have entered an insecure vehicle parked on a caravan site and stolen 3 sat nav units from within. Enquiries on going.

Between 23rd February and the 28th February 2013 – Bucklesham Road – Over a five day period unknown offenders have entered an insecure garage and stolen a cycle from within. No further lines of enquiry.

Sainsbury's Crimes

6 offences of theft from shop – 4 detected and 2 undetected.

Purdis Farm

19th February 2013 – Meadow Crescent – Overnight unknown offenders have forced open the rear patio doors of a residential property and removed a set of car keys. They have then stolen the car which was parked on the drive.

13th February 2013 – Essex Way – Overnight unknown offenders have stolen a ladder which was fixed to the roof of a vehicle parked in a small car parking area.

22nd February 2013 – Woodrush Road – Overnight unknown offenders have forced open a garden shed and stolen a cycle from within. No further lines of enquiry.

26th February 2013 – Woodrush Road – Overnight unknown offenders have entered an insecure property and stolen a quantity of electrical items and a set of car keys. They have then stolen the car from the driveway. Enquiries on going.

24th February 2013 – Meadow Crescent – Overnight unknown offenders have entered an insecure shed and stolen a cycle from within. No further lines of enquiry.

9th March 2013 – Trinity Park – Overnight unknown offenders have forced open a metal gate leading to a secure caravan storage area and cropped the padlock to gain entry. They have then broken the wheel locks from two caravans and then towed them away. Enquiries on going.

Speeding Murrils Road

PCSO Andi Hillman reported that following complaints by residents a speed recorder had been placed in Murrils Road. The results from the recording highlighted that the average speed of vehicles is 29 mph however some vehicles are going considerably faster but these could have been emergency vehicles. We will follow up with further checks and different locations on in the road.

Oxfam

PCSO Andi Hillman reported that the police had been working with Howard Smith and Oxfam has fitted new strong security locks on the clothes bins and there have been no thefts for the past 6 weeks. The entry chute has also been modified and it is no longer possible for people to get into the bins via this method. We will be monitoring the situation.

Break-ins

Cllr Newell expressed concern that the residents may not be aware of the high number of break-ins and thefts in the local area. She requested that notices be placed on the Parish Council website and notice boards to make residents aware.

- Cllr P O'Brien – Suffolk Coastal District Council / Suffolk County Council – written report.

Budget

Suffolk County Council has agreed that there will be no increase in council tax for the next 12 months. This is the third consecutive year without an increase.

In February the county council agreed the county's budget for 2013/2014. £25m needs to be saved this year, due to reduced government funding and increased demand for services. However, through strong financial stewardship – cutting management and back office costs and reducing bureaucracy – these savings will be delivered without a serious effect on front line services.

Schools Organisation Review

Raising educational attainment across Suffolk is a top priority. Moving to a consistent 2 tier school structure was a long overdue step that began in 2006. Change is going ahead in the Stowmarket and Stowupland areas with the Bury St Edmunds area left to complete. Suffolk schools can now start to look forward, and, together with head teachers, school governors and parents, we can work to drive up standards across Suffolk.

Growth Strategy for Suffolk

Economic growth is, along with raising educational attainment, the top priority of the county council. Whilst councils cannot create growth, they have a vital role to play in ensuring that the infrastructure is in place in order to give Suffolk a competitive advantage.

In February Suffolk County Council, together with partners from around the county, launched the Suffolk Growth Strategy. The strategy is designed to create an environment in which the private sector can develop the economic growth, jobs and increased prosperity that Suffolk needs.

A new, official, 'Invest in Suffolk' website is now up and running – www.investinsuffolk.com.

Vehicle Activated Speed Signs

Suffolk County Council and the police have teamed up to provide new speeding signs for Suffolk's roads.

Ten temporary vehicle activated signs (VAS – the type that flashes up the vehicle speed as it passes) and ten mobile tripod-mounted signs will now be used across the county. The temporary VAS, will move around the county to locations designated by the police, county and parish councils. Meanwhile, Community Speedwatch groups will have access to the mobile tripod-mounted signs for up to four weeks at a time. Some groups have already made use of the new equipment.

- Cllr V Falconer – Suffolk Coastal District Council – written report.

This seems to be month of consultations – I believe you should have received letters re:

1. [Help Shape the Future Spending in Suffolk Coastal](#)

Six key questions are going to be asked of residents with regard to shaping their future and they want to hear your views.

2. [LDF](#)

Inspector has considered the Main Modifications Issue 5 submitted by Suffolk Coastal and you should have received this a couple of weeks ago. Comments to be made direct to the Inspector but sent to Suffolk Coastal who will forward them to the Inspector.

At the same time there is consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal – comments on this should go to Suffolk Coastal.

Thirdly, Additional Modifications (Issue 3) is enclosed with comments to Suffolk Coastal but any comment you make will not be sent to the Inspector. The comments really are to do with English, punctuation, etc.

3. Suffolk Coastal Members

Another document will be sent out soon requesting your comments on how many members there should be in Suffolk Coastal. At present there are 55 of us but a review is being held by the Boundary Commission to reduce the number. At Full Council and after a number of Committee meetings Suffolk Coastal are going to recommend that the number should be 43 taking into account the number of Cabinet and Scrutiny Members needed etc. The idea is that that each Ward will have approximately the same number of constituents about 2,500. This may mean Ward changes. When a decision is made this will come into place at the next election.

4. Suffolk Coastal Head Office Move

In the next three years as a result of cutbacks, partnership working with Waveney the not very economic building to run at Melton Hill, Suffolk Coastal will vacate Melton Hill Offices and probably move to somewhere else in Melton. The offices are not very cost effective and in the light of all the recent changes it makes sense to have an office fit for purpose which the present one is not.

Council Tax for Year 2013/2014

The Council Tax for the year 2012/2014 has been frozen - £149.40 for a Band D home which will generate £6.9 million towards its budget of £2.7 million for the forthcoming year. Its Council Tax residents will be over £500,000 less than last year and its net budget requirement £360,000 lower. Band D average Council Tax bill for residents in Suffolk Coastal will be £1498.06. This is made up on average of £1,126 or 57.2% for SCC, £166.77 or 11% for Suffolk Police. £149.40 SCDC or 10% and £55.36 or 3.7% for town and parish Councils. There are 118 town and Parish Councils in the District and their rate from zero to £129.08.

Flyer

The freebee Flyer magazine for Felixstowe is every hopeful that Kirtin, Bucklesham, Nacton and Falkenham will submit to their editor a brief report/newsletter or précis of minutes for insertion in their monthly newspaper. Levington is the only village in the Ward so far that submits text. Email Adrian.bradshaw@flyeronline.co.uk if interested.

Stratton Hall Solar Panel Farm

Both North and South Development Control Committees met last week to determine that the above 62 acre 40,000 solar panel farm site just off the A14 and it was approved. The Hacheston Solar Panel Farm was refused and the Great Glemham has been deferred for further proof that the soil is Grade 3b. I went on a site visit three weeks ago and saw Wilburton, near Ely's Solar panel farm in situ – it is half the size of Levington's proposed site and it was enormous. However, it was miles from any main road, houses or villages and the soil was of very poor appearance.

The meeting was re-convened.

42.13 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.

Brightwell Footpath 9 and 10

An email has been received from Waldringfield Parish Council regarding Footpaths 9 and 10 being designated as bridleways. Information has been sent to the Parish Council detailing the process of changing the status and also explained to the Waldringfield that they will need to undertake the work to make this happen but Brightwell, Foxhall & Purdis Farm will submit the application on their behalf.

Light Pollution Issue re John Banks Honda

An email was received from Cllr Day stating that he had spoken to Naomi Goold Planning Officer Suffolk Coastal District Council as there seems to have been no progress on this for several months. Naomi Goold is stating that no action can be taken by the SCDC Planning. The reason being that although planning was initially refused for the lights, the planning authority has never enforced this by order the removal of the lights and so it seems after four years the lights can be turned on and no action can be taken against them on planning grounds. Naomi suggested that Highways could take the matters up on grounds of light pollution on the road (A1156) and believed that this was being investigated as she had passed the issue over to them.

I have emailed David Chenery Suffolk County Council Highways who is now investigating this issue.. It was also agreed that the Clerk should contact Environmental Health concerning this matter.

Action: Clerk

Off Shore Wind Farm

This document has been circulated to all members of the Parish Council but although I received the documents back within timescale no comments were received.

Newsletter Therese Coffey MP

An email newsletter has been received from Therese Coffey for February 2013 which has been circulated to all members of the Parish Council.

A1156 Service road Restriction of Waiting Order 201

Confirmation has been received from Suffolk County Council that the above has been approved and Highways are in the process of putting the restrictions in place.

Section 137 Expenditure Limit for 2013/2014

The Department for Communities and Local Government has today confirmed that the appropriate sum for Parish Councils in England for the purposes of Section 137 (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 ("the 1972 Act") for 2013/2014 is £6.98.

This is the amount that results from increasing the amount of 2013-2014 (£6.80) by the percentage increase in the Retail Prices Index between September 2011 and September 2012 (of 2.6%), in accordance with Schedule 12b to the 1972 Act.

Are you feeling cold this winter or struggling to pay for home heating?

The Suffolk Warm Homes Healthy People scheme may be able to help you make heating and energy improvements to your home this winter. We would like to offer you a **free home energy survey** carried out by an **independent surveyor**.

The survey will assess whether you qualify for the **FREE** insulation, draught proofing or other energy efficiency measures. The independent surveyor will tell you what energy improvements you could benefit from and what offers are available to you. During the survey you will be advised on any quick and easy measures you can take to help reduce your fuel bills. If you are struggling to pay for home heating or having problems with your existing heating system then you may qualify for **financial support**. The scheme could also provide you with free use of a Temperature Sensor and Telecare Alarm Unit that raises an alarm if the temperature in your home gets too low.

You could qualify for the free survey if you own or privately rent your home and:

- Someone living in the property is over 60 or under 5 years old **or**
- Someone living in the property is in receipt of a disability or means tested benefit **or**
- The property is within Council Tax band A, B and C.

To book a survey, all you have to do is call 08456 037 686 (Local rate lines open between Monday – Friday 9 – 5 pm). Survey appointments are available evenings and weekends, as well as during the day. So make this winter more comfortable by acting now.

The scheme is funded by the Department of Health and administered by your local authority and aims to make people warmer and healthier in their own homes.

Insurance Policy

The parish Council insurers (through Suffolk Acre) have been advised that we have purchased an additional 6 grit bins and the Brightwell seat. This will mean an extra premium on the cost of our insurance of £16.51.

Club House, Former Civil Service Sports Ground, Straight Road, Foxhall

Daniel Kinsman Environmental Health Officer Suffolk Coastal District Council is investigating the state of the premises. If Parish Council concerns are justifiable they will take action to secure the premises and will make contact with the owners of the site.

43.13 Planning

Applications Received

PC1067 C13/0233 Bucklesham Grange Care Home, 141 Bucklesham Road, Purdis Farm – Conversation of existing bathroom to form additional resident bedroom as part of the care home accommodation

The Clerk read out a letter which had been received from a local parishioner which had been sent to Suffolk Coastal District Council Planning Department objecting to Planning Application (C13/0233). Following discussion councillors felt that the letter did not relate to the existing planning application. It was agreed that the Clerk should reply to the parishioner suggesting that he contact Environmental Health and provide them with evidence of the issues.

The Parish Council reiterated their concerns about the parking places at the Care Home.

PC1066 C13/0078 Part Side Garden Sandacre Elmham Drive, Foxhall – Erection of detached dwelling and garage.

No objection.

44.13 Jubilee Tree

Due to illness, Cllr Smith was not present at the meeting, however the Clerk had received an email as follows:

“A 3/4 metre tall Hornbeam (Carpinus Betulus) will be £91.00 with stack and ties plus VAT. Brass Plaque 7” x 5” with 37 letters approximate cost of £60 plus VAT. The delivery time for a tree once ordered is 3 weeks from date of confirmation of the order. They would invoice the PC, the relevant payment information will be on the invoice.”

Following discussion councillors agreed that they felt the plaque should not be metal due to the likelihood that it would be stolen.

It was agreed that the following words should be on the plaque:

This Hornbeam Commemorates the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II 1952 -2012

Councillors acknowledged that the wording was more than 37 letters and that Cllr Smith should ask whether it would be possible for this higher number of letters.

It was agreed that Cllr Smith should be asked to arrange a suitable date as soon as possible and that photographs should be taken and any literature should mention that the finance was provided by Suffolk County Council Locality Budget.

Cllr Warham, seconded Cllr Briggs that the above is approved – agreed. **Action: Clerk**

45.13 Suffolk Coastal District Council Core Strategy Modifications

The Clerk reported that the documents were still in the process of being circulated and reminded councillors that comments had to be submitted by 1st April 2013.

Cllr Newell reported that she felt that the modifications to the Core Strategy document had been presented in a more clearly defined positive way and has made quite clear what is expected rather than stating what cannot be done.

46.13 Brightwell Seat

Cllr Newell reported that as soon as the weather is suitable the seat will be placed in situ. **Action: Cllr Newell**

47.13 Grit Bin – Dogswood Close

The Clerk reported that she had received a request to place a grit bin on the corner of Dogswood Close. It was agreed that this should be deferred until the next Parish Council meeting. **Action: Clerk**

48.13 Sizewell C Consultation

Nothing further to report.

49.13 Parking Problems – Purdis Farm

Cllr Briggs reported that the situation concerning parking had improved but she would continue to monitor the situation. It was agreed that this item should be deferred until the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**

50.13 Boundary Changes

Cllr Watts reported that the number of councillors at Suffolk Coastal could be reduced if next week's Full Council agrees to an electoral review of the current total of 55 that represent the District's 34 Wards. The public consultation period will be from the 23rd April until the 3rd June and information will be sent out to all councils.

51.13 Parish Plan

Cllr Day reported that the Parish Plan is progressing well. There are five main documents and Robert Shaw has documented the top ten pressing issues. The Working Group will now be reconvened to agree those issues and Cath Shelbourne will start to work on the document and inserting photographs. **Action: Cllr Day**

52.13 Future Plans for Parish

Cllr Newell reported that she had read through the Core Strategy Modification document and a lot of it applies to the parish. The main points as follows.

Traveller Sites – The document states that ten pitches are required as a transition site between Ipswich and Felixstowe. If the development of either of the two lorry parks on the A14 goes ahead, it could potentially be used as a traveller site.

Building Annexes – Annexes cannot be separated from a main house to create a separate dwelling.

Martlesham is now with Waldringfield and Newbourne which means it is now separated from Brightwell, Foxhall & Purdis Farm.

Further development at Beardmore Park and Purdis Farm will be resisted where it would compete to the detriment of the viability of the district's market towns and other identified neighbouring retail centres.

Sizewell C – The Council is keen to ensure that should new nuclear facility be provided at Sizewell, it should bring with it a long term beneficial legacy for local people and the local economy not least in the form of housing and leisure facilities benefits.

For planning purposes, the whole area is now referred to as the Eastern Ipswich Plan Area (EIPA).

Foxhall Tip – A restoration condition attached to the landfill operations at the tip will see its ultimate transformation to a country park. It is suggested that this will mitigate the increase in population in the wider residential development. However, environmentalists state that, if you bring more people into the area, the wildlife goes away.

53.13 Finance

Income

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| Locality Budget | £500.00 |
|-----------------|---------|

Expenditure

| | |
|---|---------|
| Clerk's Salary & Expenses February 2013 | £235.32 |
|---|---------|

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|---|--------|
| Acre – Insurance Policy – Addition of Grit Bins and Brightwell Seat | £16.51 |
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| SALC – HMRC Course | £12.00 |
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|-------------------|--------|
| Acre – Membership | £30.00 |
|-------------------|--------|

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|--|---------|
| SLCC-CiLCA Management – CiLCA Registration | £150.00 |
|--|---------|

The Clerk reported that she had discussed with Suffolk Association of Local Councils the recycling credits which had previously been paid to the Council had been withdrawn. SALC were surprised at the withdrawal. It was agreed that the Clerk should inquire as to whether Kesgrave Parish Council had also had their recycling credits withdrawn. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Warham proposed, seconded Cllr Watts that the above expenditure is approved – agreed.
Action: Clerk

54.13 Correspondence

- a. A donation request had been received from the Disability Advice Service. It was agreed to defer this item until June when funding requests are discussed by the Council. **Action: Clerk**
- b. Suffolk County Council Warmer Homes Health People Fund. See Clerk's Report for details.
- c. Letter received from the newly formed Community Action Suffolk which consists of a number of local organisations. The Clerk reported that Suffolk ACRE is now part of Community Action Suffolk. It was agreed that, as in previous years, the Council should continue their membership of the newly formed group (previously Suffolk ACRE).
- d. The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from a parishioner highlighting a number of issues about which he has concerns; dog bins, speeding in Murrills Road, speed check results, other Murrills Road issues and Meadow Crescent/play area issue however it had been received too late to enable the item to be placed as an item on the agenda. Cllr

Warham stated that some of the issues contained in the letter were matters which needed to be addressed to the police and not the Parish Council. Discussions took place over the position of the dog bins and it was agreed that Cllrs Briggs, Lawrence and Watts should investigate and report back to the next meeting. It was agreed that this item should be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk/Cllrs Briggs, Lawrence and Watts**

55.13 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk

- a. Cllr Day reported that he had attended the Trinity Park Annual Lunch Meeting 11th March 2013. Chris Bushby and Christine Bond were hosts and it had proved to be a very useful meeting. Bob the caretaker has now left Trinity Park and he has been replaced by an Events & Estate Manager and an Assistant Estates Manager. The number of events for 2013 has been reduced. Bracken around the site has been cut back and once it has started to grow back any gaps will be replaced by fencing. Cllr Day reported to Trinity Park the concerns about the oak trees in Straight Road and the ivy which is growing over the bark. Trinity Park needs to get permission to cut back the ivy but they will investigate. A tree has been cut down in the middle of White Farm field as it was dead. The SSA Masterplan has not been completed but it is hoped that it will be finished by the 13th April. When completed Chris Bushby would like to present it to the Parish Council. It was agreed that if it is completed in time it could be presented to the Annual Parish Meeting in May. The planning application has still not been submitted. This is because there are still issues concerning the Suffolk County Council Section 106 Agreement over the infrastructure and provision of services and Suffolk Coastal District Council's main concern which is affordable housing. Trinity Park is still seeking alternative ways of dealing with the access at Gate 10 and the roundabout at Gate 11. Trinity Park is still looking at making facilities available to the local community to use. Chris Bushby said he was considering making the tennis courts in Straight Road available for use by the public. **Action: Clerk**

55.13 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr Briggs reported that the finance has now been agreed for the flood barriers at Ipswich.

56.13 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 10th May 2013 at Trinity Park

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 pm.

Signed Date.....

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