

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at Trinity Park on Wednesday, 11th September 2013

Present

Cllr E Warham – Chairman
Cllr A Wells
Cllr B Newell
Cllr G Watts
Cllr J Batham
Cllr E Lawrence
Cllr A Day
Cllr M Briggs
Cllr V Falconer – Suffolk Coastal District Councillor
Mrs A J Buggs – Clerk

143.13 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Booth, Cllr B Davies, Cllr Patricia O'Brien, PC Paul Smith and PCSO Glynn Bown.

144.13 Declaration of interest

Cllr Day declared an interest in Item 7 Planning – C12/1930 Western Part of Land at Trinity Park at White House Farm Purdis Farm.

145.13 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 10th July were approved as being a true record.

146.13 Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

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

County Council Report

August, as everyone is aware, is the month when most people go on holiday and thus, SCC councillors, although not on holiday, have very few committees and engagement. This give us all a time to recharge our batteries and catch up with, in my case, jobs about the house and seeing family; as a result, not too much to report.

However, as you will know SCC has been working very hard to drive up educational standards in Suffolk, we are, unfortunately, still trailing, but the school that have changed from three tier to two tier, have seen improvements in their results and in the latest A level results, 1% of pupils in Suffolk, compared with the national average of 0.7%, gained places at Oxford and Cambridge. Further, the

findings of a recent report, aimed to driving up educational standards, is out for consultation and a response will be forthcoming after debate at Full Council in September. (Both A level and GCSE results showed a marked improvement in results.)

Trading Standards have had success in bringing a case against 5 people who conned 17,000 people out of £5.7m through a series of scams involving money laundering and fraud.

Local funding is available.

District Council Report

SCDC has informed all parishes of the re-warding of the district. Parishes have received information and have been asked for their views.

Consultation is a good idea but I think quite difficult for parishes to come up with a warding scheme for their parish. Consultation with neighbouring parishes would be sensible, if you have particular ideas, but then that leads to more discussion and could become quite lengthy.

It might be a good notion to look at the former arrangement that I represented when first becoming a councillor, ie Kirton/Falkenham, Newbourne, Hemley, Waldringfield, Levington/Stratton Hall, Nacton. This totals 2225 electors which is within the 10% plus or minus range (2178-2662).

I have sent all parishes a copy of the briefing note regarding the closure of the A14 Copdock to Seven Hills – late September early October. This is for maintenance and repair work. The section should be closed from 10 pm – 6 am.

Syria

Dear Therese

I have very serious concerns regarding the possibility of British intervention in the Syrian civil war and I welcome this opportunity to express them.

Firstly whilst 'taking out', with surgical airstrikes chemical plants that produce biological weapons, can be viewed as a humane act is understandable, the consequences of such acts are unknown and strikes, no matter how laudable, could be perceived as an act of war. This is a murderous civil war with atrocities on both sides. To enter into such a conflict, albeit with the right intentions, is, I believe, risking being drawn deeper and deeper into a war that we **do not and cannot control**.

Intervention in Iraq, ten years ago, has not brought stability to the region and Afghanistan is further proof against the Western misreading of the Middle East. I fear retaliation against Britain at some point, would be a likely consequence.

Secondly, if as a result of airstrikes the situation escalated, Britain is not in a 19c position whereupon it could dispatch its army to contain a 'little local difficulty'. Our armed forces are being cut dramatically and we would not be able to commit to a length, sustainable conflict.

Finally, I believe the Russians are key. Russia is an arms supplying ally of Syria and President Putin must be urged to put pressure on Syria. I know that the recent meeting between Presidents Obama and Putin was suspended/abandoned/unsuccessful because of an inability to come to agreement; it was every thus during the Cold War. I thought we had moved on!

Therese, I believe the situation is volatile and dangerous. To intervene is folly and I urge you to take seriously my concerns.

With regards

Patricia O'Brien
SCC Martlesham

Cllr V Falconer – Suffolk Coastal District Council

The Nacton Ward is being squeezed either side from the constant threat of development and currently in the pipeline is the **proposed** development for three hundred houses at Trinity park plus two new roundabouts along the Felixstowe Road (A1156) and a second Solar Panel Farm covering 60 acres outside Waldringfield – the first Solar Panel Farm covering 60 acres was approved and is about to be developed just outside Levington on the Bucklesham side of the A14. A balance is required between much needed renewable energy and agricultural land required for food production. 25 houses are currently being built just off the Bucklesham Road.

In addition, there is a proposal for 190 houses and a new Tesco's at Walton, 66 dwellings on the old Mushroom Farm site at Trimley, a further supermarket at the station in Felixstowe and a smaller one near the docks.

2,100 dwellings at Adastral Park, together with a 80 bedded hotel and the possible development of Innocence Farm's 200 acre site into a substantial industrial site for containers, warehousing and a possible rail terminal. There is little mention of improvements to our road, hospital or school infrastructure.

Changes to the Ward Boundaries

Out of the five meetings that have and are being held, I have only been to one – last week – where the discussions were very open and thought provoking.

Certainly there is a lot of discussion to get the boundaries right eg about 2,450 constituents per member plus + or – 10%. They are now talking of reducing the number of members from 43 to 42 from the present 55.

There was talk that Brightwell could come under Martlesham because of Sheep Drift Farm and all its small businesses. There was also talk of Kirton and Falkenham coming to the Nacton Ward with the possibility of Purdis being a lone Ward. Two days later at another meeting which I was not at, I understand that Purdis was linked with Nacton and Levington making 2015 predicted figure of 1362. All the other parishes in the Nacton Ward plus Kirton and Falkenham make for 2422 constituents and would be a two Ward.

If Purdis were to be a lone Ward – the numbers quoted last week did not take into account the huge development of 300 houses on Trinity Park resulting in about 600 people being added to the 2015 predicted figure of 1530 = 2130.

It was agreed that an item should be placed on next month's agenda – Ward Boundaries. **Action: Clerk**

Suffolk Police – SNT Co-ordinator PC Paul Smith – written report

Crime report for the Parishes of Brightwell, Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council – 11th July 2013 – 11th September 2013

FE/13/1150 Criminal Damage. On the 11th July 2013, a lock to a gate on Trinity Park was damaged in order for travellers to gain access. One male was detained and dealt with shortly after offence reported.

FE/13/1334 Theft from Motor Vehicle. On the evening of the 5th August 2013 at approx. 23:45hrs a suspicious vehicle was seen leaving an industrial vehicle yard. Upon further examination of the yard considerable amounts of diesel had been stolen from various vehicles. The suspect vehicle was located and male offender detained and charged with the offence.

FE/13/1429, FE/13/1430, FE/13/1431 & FE/13/1432. Theft Other x 4. On the 28th August 2013, four caravans that were being held in storage at Trinity Park were taken. Traffic officers located a van driving away with one of the stolen caravans. The vehicle was stopped and the 2 male occupants of the vehicle were detained and subsequently charged. The caravan was recovered, unfortunately officers have been unable to locate the other 3 caravans.

FE/13/1477 Theft from a Motor Vehicle. Overnight on the 30th August 2013 a secure van that was parked on a residential driveway was entered and tools and a Satnav were taken. No further lines or enquiry were available so the crime has been finalised.

FE/13/1478 Having an article with a blade/point in public. In the early hours of the 30th August 2103 officers received a call stating that a suicidal male had left a house with a knife. The male was located and after being spoken to the knife was recovered. The male was detained and dealt with.

FE/13/1479 Theft of a Motor Vehicle. Overnight on the 30th August 2013 and secured Motorbike was taken from the driveway of a residential property. The vehicle was subsequently recovered burnt out several days later. A suspect has been identified and enquiries are on-going.

FE/13/1499 Theft from a Vehicle. Overnight on the 31st August 2013 a car parked on residential driveway had the spare wheel removed. House to house enquiries were carried out in the area, but there were no further lines of enquiry so the crime has been finalised.

FE/13/1533 Criminal Damage. On the 6th September 2013 a ground floor window of a vacant property was broken. No attempts were made to enter the property and no items were taken from the property, as there are no lines of enquiry the crime has been finalised.

Further to these offences 22 various offences ranging from theft from to make off without payment at the local superstore.

Councillors felt that the layout of the report was not easy to read and requested that the Clerk send a copy of an earlier version of reports to Paul and Glynn as a template. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk reported that Paul Smith had asked if he could give a short talk to the Parish Council regarding the Community Speedwatch project. Councillors agreed to invite Paul to give a presentation at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 9th October. The Clerk was requested to ask Paul whether he wanted the presentation opened and advertised to the parishioners. **Action: Clerk**

The meeting was re-convened.

147.13 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.

Quality of Life Budget

Cllr O'Brien's budget for the Quality of Life Scheme for 2013/2014 is £8,891 and she would like to be made aware of any low cost schemes ie road signs, lines etc that the Parish Council believe would benefit the village. Cllr O'Brien will be meeting with Suffolk County Council Highway Officers late September.

SALC LAIS 1355 – Spending Review

Local Councils will have been considering the impact of the Government 2013 Spending Review (which relates to 2015/16). The impact of the cuts and changes in public service expenditure have already been felt by local councils and communities and the prospect of further cuts and changes could bring considerable further changes in the way services are delivered. This LAIS provides an overview of the Spending Review statement and is also helpful background to LAIS 1356 which covers a report from the Local Government Association on the changes that they believe are needed to help respond to the Spending Review. A glance at some of the headline figures will leave local councils in no doubt about the scale of the spending.

Review Statements:

- Until 2017/2018 the total amount of government spending will continue to fall in real terms at the same average rate as today.
- Total government expenditure for 2015/16 will be £745bn but Government says it needs £11.5bn of further savings, some £5bn of which will come from efficiency savings.
- Public sector pay rises will be limited to an average of up to 1% for 2015/16 and automatic progression pay in the civil service will be ended by 2015/16. Government aims to remove automatic pay rises for time served for staff in schools, NHS, prisons and the police – but not in the armed forces.
- The Office for Budget Responsibility forecasts that the total number of people working for the government will fall by a further 144,000 by 2015/16 signalling massive job cuts in central and local government.
- More than £3bn will be diverted to capital investment in affordable housing. In total more than £300bn will be invested in total in infrastructure including roads, railways, bridges, broadband, science and schools by 2020.
- A 10% cut in funding for principal local authorities will follow the 33% reduction in their budgets for the 2011/15 period. This could mean renewed threats to libraries, leisure centres, school support and other services.
- Inevitably the resultant loss and changes to public services will place increased demands on local councils and on voluntary and community organisations. This LAIS provides information on the

Spending Review and provides some examples of actions that local councils might wish to consider.

SALC LAIS 1356 – Rewiring Public Services

Local councils faced with the economic climate, challenges to local government, shrinking public services, localism, potential automatic precept referendums and changes to the council tax system with new grant arrangements, to name a few of the challenges, will be interested in a report from the Local Government Association (LGA): *Rewiring Public Services: Rejuvenating Democracy*.

The LGA is a politically-led, influential, membership organisation that works on behalf of principal local authorities. *Rewiring Public Services: Rejuvenating Democracy* sets out how the LGA believes public services can be transformed through the local leadership of their members rebuilding democratic participation, fixing public services and revitalising the economy, without one mention of local (town and parish) councils. This will be surprising to local councils, as the most local tier of local government democracy, especially those which have been picking up any services and assets which have been dropped by the principal local authorities.

The document broadly pursues an agenda of greater local freedoms and decision-making but some of the propositions might have an impact on local councils e.g. the call for greater independence in council tax and financial arrangements and the building of the role of local principal local authority politicians in promoting healthy living. The underpinning concern is that according to the LGA: 'The current financial position of most councils is unsustainable in the long term. Unless something changes, communities will fail solely because of financial instability.' They base this understanding on what they know 'from the preparations for the one year spending round in 2015/16 and the likely position of local government following the general election.'

SALC LAIS 1357 – Renewable Energy Planning Guidance

Local councils will be aware that, historically, they were able to refer to and rely on a wide range of planning policy documents, most recently Planning Policy Statements, which contained general and specific policies and were important reference documents that helped councils to influence the nature of development in their area. Government then moved away from this system and integrated over 1000 pages of policy documents into one 59 page National Planning Policy Framework. A total of 44 documents were cancelled with implementation of the new Framework. Local councils are expected to rely increasingly on neighbourhood planning to help shape their area. Although this process could assist councils, it is a relatively lengthy and expensive process and is firmly set within the context of enabling development.

In the meantime, local councils are faced with divergent local planning decisions on a number of high profile controversial development plans. With no overarching national policy documents, local freedom has resulted not only in a lack of consistency in how development is treated in one planning area compared to another but has also meant unpredictability even in relation to decisions within the same planning authority where no local policy has been set out. This makes it difficult for local councils to make informed comments and positively and properly engage with the developer and the local planning authority in the planning application process.

Government has now produced a short document 'Planning practice guidance for renewable and low carbon energy' which promises to address certain problems experienced with developments such as wind turbines and solar parks. Local councils concerned about lack of Environmental Impact Assessments, inappropriate siting and use of agricultural land and lack of community engagement

and benefit will be considering whether this document is helpful with ensuring that such developments are suitably sited and controlled in future.

Although the guidance provides only a little detail in its sparsely worded 14 pages, it does purport to answer the following important questions:

- How can local planning authorities develop a positive strategy to promote the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy?
- How can local planning authorities identify suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy?
- What are the planning considerations that relate to specific renewable energy technologies?

Undoubtedly, as with all law and guidance, there will be room for differing interpretations, the guidance does at least attempt to address some concerns of local councils such as the need to ensure that local planning authorities consider the cumulative impact of their planning decisions on the environment in an area. Government urges local planning authorities to listen to communities but does not compel them, per se, to act on what they hear. Local councils will need to ensure that their recommendations are sufficiently compelling i.e. that they are based on strong environmental concerns and material planning considerations in order to make their representations sufficiently persuasive.

The planning guidance information quoted in this LAIS is available on the SALC website <http://salc.onesuffolk.net/login/members-area/toolkits/planning-guides/>.

Electoral Review of Suffolk Coastal – Guidance on Warding Patterns for Parish and Town Councils

An email has been received from SCDC informing Parish and Town Councils about the start of the warding consultation as part of the Electoral Review of Suffolk Coastal.

Councils can write to the Boundary Commission between now and the 1st October 2013 proposing their preferred warding pattern for SCDC. You can suggest a pattern of wards for the whole District or just the Parish Council's area of the District.

Detailed guidance regarding this process can be found on Suffolk Coastal's website: <http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourcouncil/wardreview/> and on the Boundary Commission's website: <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/1382/la=175>.

Revised Bus Services in Suffolk

Services will change/commence at the start of September 2013.

Downloadable PDF timetables for these services can be found on our website by clicking on the appropriate month at <http://www.suffolkonboard.com/timetables-and-leaflets/passenger-transport-service-changes> or by contacting us on 0845 606 6171. Please note that these pages are frequently being updated to include new timetables and service change summaries so we would advise that you check this page regularly.

It would be helpful if this information can be made available to residents of your parish, as you feel appropriate and if possible shown in your parish letter/magazine or on any public notice boards available to you. Any out of date timetables or information for these services should be removed at this time.

Roadside publicity is currently being updated and area bus timetable leaflets will be available throughout September.

Should you require any further timetable information or to discuss the changes please contact us on 0845 606 6171 or emailPassenger.Transport@suffolk.gov.uk.

If your parish has a Transport Representative please could this message be forwarded to them. Also in order for us to update our records, it would be helpful if Passenger Transport representative details could be given to us, replying by email to Passenger.Transport@suffolk.gov.uk or by contacting May Healey on 01473 265097.

148.13 Planning

C12/1930 Western Part of Land at Trinity Park and Land at White House Farm Purdis Farm

Cllr Day reported that Cllr Newell, Cllr Watts and himself had attended a Site Inspection on Friday, 6th September at Trinity Park.

Chris Bushby had presented a detailed proposed plan of Trinity Park, showing the proposed housing development with the proposed new exit and entry points and the new layout of the showground itself. The Parish Council has not previously seen this plan.

The Parish Councillors had minimal opportunity to ask questions, their primary role was to observe. However, the additional information made available at the site visit has now raised a number of additional concerns and objections.

As a result of the meeting the Clerk had contacted Liz Beighton Planning Officer SCDC requesting that in view of the new information, could the Parish Council submit additional comments. Cllr Day had drafted a letter to SCDC which had been circulated to members of the Parish Council Planning Committee. Cllr Day read out the contents of the letter and requested sanction from councillors to send the letter to SCDC. Cllr Lawrence proposed, seconded Cllr Briggs that the letter be sent to SCDC – all in favour. The Clerk was requested to send a copy of the letter to all members. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Warham reported that Hiliary Haslip Planning Policy Team had offered to talk to Parish Councils on larger developments. As a result the Clerk had written to Hiliary asking her to attend a Parish Council meeting but had not received a reply. Clerk to follow up. **Action: Clerk**

Planning Applications

DC/13/2253/FUL Foxburrow Farm Brightwell – Construction of an 8 MW solar farm and ancillary development including solar panels and frames, substation building, inverter kiosks, security fencing, camera, landscaping cable route and temporary construction compound.

Parish Council comments: The Parish Council agreed that they had no objections to the development with the proviso that the where the cable crosses the road the cable is placed underground. **Action: Clerk**

Brightwell Hall

Cllr Newell reported that she had attended a meeting with Patrick Hockley Land Agent at Brightwell Hall on Wednesday, 28th August. Patrick had outlined proposals for which planning permission

would be sought for the changes to the site for additional residential accommodation and an agricultural building. Cllr Newell said that the changes being proposed were of an exceptional high standard and the owner has stated that he has written in his Will that the estate could not be broken down and sold separately.

Valley Works

Cllr Wells reported that planning approval had not been granted for work at Valley Works and he understood that SCDC are considering taking enforcement action.

149.13 To discuss purchasing additional grit, dog and waste bins

Following discussion Cllr Newell proposed, seconded Cllr Warham that the following waste and grit bins be purchased – all in favour.

Waste Bin – Murrills Road Bus stop adjacent to Sainsbury's garage. Clerk to contact SCC Highways re obtaining a licence.

Grit Bins – Adjacent to Waddling Duck and The White House Foxhall

Cllr Lawrence to inspect the dog bins to enable the council to decide which need replacing. **Action: Clerk / Cllr Lawrence**

150.13 Locality Budget 2013/2014

Councillors discussed the following options for the use of the Locality Budget:

Village Seats for Purdis Farm x 2

Fly tipping signs for Monument Farm Lane and Woodhouse Lane

Parish Signs

It was agreed that this item should be deferred until the next meeting. Clerk to gather information regarding costs. **Action: Clerk/Cllr Day**

151.13 Traffic Management – Purdis Farm

The Clerk reported that she had received an email from Malcolm King Suffolk Coastal District Council detailing proposals for improving the traffic management for Murrills Road, Sainsbury's roundabout and Bucklesham Road.

The proposals were:

Plan 1 – A speed camera sign to be placed at each end of Murrills Road and a roundabout sign on the approach to the Sainsbury's roundabout, in addition a 'slow' marking would be placed on the carriageway next to the roundabout sign. Following discussion Cllr Lawrence proposed, seconded Cllr Batham that Plan 2 be accepted – 4 in favour, 3 against and 1 abstained.

Plan 2 – The addition of lane marking arrows at the main A1156 roundabout, these reflect the movements that most people do at present. Following discussion Cllr Warham proposed, seconded Cllr Batham that Plan 2 be accepted – all in favour

Plan 3 – Speed camera signs at each end of Bucklesham Road on the section where enforcement is possible. These are located on the ‘Purdis Farm’ sign eastbound and a 30 mph repeater sign post westbound just before Purdis Avenue. Following discussion Cllr Warham proposed, seconded Cllr Day that Plan 3 be accepted – all in favour.

It was agreed that the Clerk should approach Cllr O’Brien for a contribution from the Quality of Life budget. **Action: Clerk**

152.13 To approve the repair of the litter bin Felixstowe Road Purdis Farm

The Clerk reported that Suffolk Coastal Services had reported that the litter bin owned by the Parish Council situated in Felixstowe Road had been pushed over and requires re-installation. The charge would be approximately £66.00. Cllr Watts proposed, seconded Cllr Wells that the Clerk should request that the work be carried out – all in favour.

153.13 Parish Plan

Cllr Day reported that a draft version of the Parish Plan had been produced. Robert Shaw had been round the parishes and taken additional photographs. Cathy is writing the introduction. Two quotes for printing have been received for 1,000 black and white summaries and 30 bound copies.

Cllr Day reported that an invoice had been received from Cathy Shelbourne for £1,015. The expenditure for the cost of producing the Parish Plan had been agreed at a previous Parish Council Meeting.

154.13 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

Clerk’s Salary & Expenses July 2013	£228.75
Clerk’s Salary & Expenses August 2013	£194.42
Suffolk Acre Insurance	£353.15
Seashell – Parish Plan	£1015.00

Cllr Warham proposed, seconded Cllr Briggs that the above expenditure is approved – agreed.

Action: Clerk

155.13 Correspondence

- a. The Clerk reported that an email had been received from a parishioner in Purdis Farm regarding the development of Trinity Park. He reports that Anglian Water in their report concerning Trinity Park state that there is adequate provision in the area by connecting to the existing sewer by way of a ‘man hole in Bucklesham Road adjacent to his property. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Anglian Water expressing concerns. **Action: Clerk**

156.13 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk

- a. Cllr Newell stated that she had attended the Waldringfield Quarry Liaison Committee Meeting on the 9th September 2013 and gave a report on the latest progress.

- b. Cllr Day announced that he had attended the site meeting for Trinity Park and also the planning exhibition meeting for the new Waste Transfer Station at Ransomes Europark Park and that he had formally advised them about vehicle noise that could result from reversing alarms and the effect it could have on properties in Felixstowe Road and Murrills Road.

157.13 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr Batham reported that a refuse lorry had been unable to empty bins in Holly Close as cars were parked in Meadow Crescent blocking the entrance to Holly Close. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Suffolk County Council Highways Department asking them to consider putting line markings on one side of the road preventing cars parking on both sides of the road. **Action: Clerk**
- b. Cllr Batham reported that blue protection gloves provided by Sainsbury's Petrol Station were not being placed in the bins. Clerk to contact Sainsburys. **Action: Clerk**
- c. Cllr Batham reported that the park area off Murrills Road had large holes in the ground where the goal posts are located. Additionally dogs are being allowed to foul on the area. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Suffolk Coastal District Council Outdoor Play Space Development Officer Jennie Catling. **Action: Clerk**
- d. Cllr Briggs stated that a lot of noise had been generated by Sainsbury's extending their car park carrying out overnight working when the shop is closed.
- e. Cllr Newell asked whether any progress had been made regarding the flooding outside Lodge Farm. The Clerk reported that she had written to Suffolk County Council Highways. **Action: Clerk**
- f. Cllr Newell asked whether any progress had been made regarding the thefts from the charity bins situated at Sainsbury's. Clerk to contact Pc Paul Smith. **Action: Clerk**
- g. Cllr Lawrence congratulated the Clerk on achieving the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CILCA) which was supported by the Parish Council.

158.13 Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 9th October 2013.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.58 pm.

Signed Date.....

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