

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held at Trinity Park at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 14th May 2014

Present

Cllr E Warham – Chairman
Cllr A Wells
Cllr B Newell
Cllr G Watts
Cllr A Day
Cllr J Batham
Cllr V Falconer – Suffolk Coastal District Council
Mrs A J Buggs – Clerk
PCSO Glynn Bown

64.14 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

The retiring Chairman asked for nominations for the office of Chairman of the Group Parish Council. Cllr Wells proposed Cllr Warham as Chairman, seconded Cllr Watts – all in favour. As there were no other nominations, Cllr Warham was duly elected. Cllr Warham signed her Acceptance of Office form, countersigned by Mrs A J Buggs Clerk.

Cllr Warham proposed that Cllr Watts be elected as Vice-Chairman, seconded Cllr Newell – all in favour.

65.14 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr B Davies, Cllr E Lawrence, PC Paul Smith and Cllr P O'Brien – Suffolk County Council / Suffolk Coastal District Council.

66.14 Declaration of interest

None

67.14 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of the 2nd April 2014 were approved as being a true record.

68.14 Matters arising from the minutes

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The Clerk reported that she had contacted the distributors Optic Marketing who had failed to give a satisfactory answer for the non-delivery of the Parish Plan. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Suffolk County Council Trading Standards. **Action: Clerk**

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Item a

The Clerk reported that the Hollies are still insecure and she would contact SCDC Environmental Health again to report. PCSO Glynn Bown who was present at the meeting agreed to bring this issue to the attention of Pc Paul Smith who had been involved with this issue previously. **Action: Clerk / PCSO Glynn Bown**

69.14 To elect a Chairman and Members of the Planning Committee

Cllr Wells proposed, seconded Cllr Warham that the Planning Committee should consist of Cllrs Warham, Day, Wells, Newell, Lawrence and Watts.

Cllr Wells proposed, seconded Cllr Warham that Cllr Watts should be appointed as Chairman of the Planning Committee – all in favour.

70.14 To appoint a Police Liaison member

Cllr Watts proposed, seconded Cllr Day that Cllr Warham should be appointed as a member of Police Liaison Committee – all in favour.

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

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

Suffolk Coastal District Council Annual Report

Perhaps the most significant action by SCDC was the adoption of the Core Strategy in July 2013. I voted against. My principal reasons – I could not agree the siting of 2000 houses at Martlesham, the increase in traffic this would bring to an already busy area and the impact large numbers of visitors would have on the AONB. The principal village communities affected, Martlesham and Waldringfield have worked tirelessly in challenging SCDC and they must congratulate themselves that they have done their utmost to plead their case.

SCDC has decided to reduce the numbers of district councillors from 55 to 42. The reduction would allow for savings in the region of £100k. At present Nacton Ward is served by 2 councillors. In future it would be divided into 2 wards, K & N. K Ward to comprise of Brightwell, Foxhall, Nacton & Purdis, N Ward of Bucklesham, Falkenham, Hemley, Kirton, Levington, Newbourne, Stratton Hall and Waldringfield (these wards are as they were when I first became a councillor in 1999 and I represented N Ward).

It is good news that the council has launched a Community Enabling Fund, giving each councillor £4k per year to spend on projects that will benefit the community and promote district objectives such as the promotion of increased access to quality leisure and cultural activities. So far I have given funding towards the renovation of a village hall; hedge coppicing, renovation of a village church. I have promised funds for repairs to a river wall and to a sea wall.

Options are being considered for a possible move from Melton Hill.

There will be no increase in council tax for 2014/15.

I am a member of the Audit and Governance Committee.

Suffolk County Council Annual Report 2014

The aim of all local authorities is closer co-operation and partnership working with other organisations and authorities, in efforts to address the funding cuts from government. As you will be aware, government grants have reduced and therefore it is necessary to change ways of working and to adopt more efficient practices. As a result, working in partnership is now seen as essential if councils are to balance their budgets; it is most welcoming to see this.

For the fourth consecutive year SCC has frozen its share of council tax. The council must save £38m over the next year which is the first part of the plan to save £156m over 4 years. However, despite being in this tough financial climate SCC will continue with its major projects such as: Raising the Bar (driving up standards in schools); roll out of superfast broadband; investing in apprenticeships; supporting the development of 10 new care homes and, you'll be pleased to hear, that the budget for fixing pot holes has been increased.

Education is SCC's no1 priority and is making every effort to raise standards through the "Raising the Bar" initiative. The recent Ofsted report was disappointing, to say the least, and identified areas for improvement. SCC had already begun improvement through Raising the Bar, which was launched last year. It encourages small rural schools, with less than 100 pupils, to enter into confederation to maximise resources. Further, SCC has been working with schools and arranging for local businesses to visit schools and inform pupils about employment opportunities in the county. A wide range of businesses have taken part such as: banks, energy companies, ports and the police.

The £1.5m investment in apprenticeships is greatly welcomed. SCC is set to invest in three programmes to encourage the growth of apprenticeships by: making apprenticeships more accessible to employers, raising the profile of apprenticeships in schools (as described) and highlighting the benefits. Young people will be offered free, impartial support to identify suitable apprenticeships and apply for vacancies.

Government has pledged £5m of new funding to help Suffolk deliver high-speed broadband to the least accessible parts of the county. At present, coverage is at 85% but with the new injection of money it is hoped that work can commence to lift that to 95%.

10 new care homes are to be built with development partner Care UK and work is already underway on 7 of the 10 new homes.

We are all only too well aware of the damage done to our roads by the excessive rain fall of the winter months and it is very good news that Suffolk is to receive £2.9m for pot hole repair. The Highways Service has a contract with Keir MG and Highways are determined that road repair will be of good quality. Unfortunately, because of the very wet weather, the materials used did not always survive. Better use of materials and labour is being introduced, so that repairs are permanent.

I began by mentioning partnerships and how vital they are to the continuance of services and improved efficiency across local authorities. Suffolk & Norfolk CC recently signed an agreement committing both counties to work closer together in areas such as: IT, commissioning of Mental Health Services and exploring areas where the two councils can join forces.

I would like to bring you up to date on my areas of activity within SCC. After the last election in May, I was asked to take on the role of Assistant Cabinet Member for Public Protection. This portfolio deals with the Fire Service, Trading Standards and Emergency Planning.

I continue to chair the Police and Crime Panel, set up by government to scrutinise and question the actions of the Police & Crime Commissioner, regarding the objectives and priorities in his Police and Crime Plan and to highlight areas of concern that have come to the Panel's notice. I have been asked to chair the forthcoming National Police and Crime Panel Conference in July in Nottingham.

I attended, together with leaders from around the Ipswich area, a Summit Meeting to discuss the A14/Orwell Bridge. The meeting was chaired by PCC Tim Passmore and concluded that a speed limit be imposed on the Orwell Bridge, that signage on A12/M25/A14 is crucial and that fast communication is vital. The efficient diversion of traffic is fundamental and needs urgent consideration. – The prospect of a Northern By-Pass is unlikely to be a reality in the near future.

I have spent my locality budget on projects as varied as: replacement cookers; bus shelter; water heater; new fencing; grit bin; village seat; equipment for village hall. I have also contributed, through my Local Highways Budget, to the Quiet Lanes project.

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

I will briefly touch on some of Suffolk Coastal's achievements during the last year.

100 Empty properties have been brought back into use.

Suffolk Coastal continues to seek to secure affordable housing

They have developed a successful apprentice's programme and have 7 at present.

Council Tax has been frozen for the 4th year

A significant level of saving has been secured through procurement – DC Leisure has saved in the region of £500,000 and SCD has saved approximately £700,000.

Port Health Licence fees have shown an £80,000 increase in income. The licence software that Port Health developed has been sold to other Ports around the country.

Suffolk Coastal was rated in the top 16 district across the country in terms of recycling.

A new shared Suffolk Coasts and Deben Vale AONB team has been established.

Parking at the Felixstowe South Seafront development is about to open.

1,500 planning applications were received in 2013/14 and permission granted for 700 new homes.

90% of Suffolk Coastal's food businesses are rated highly for hygiene.

After years of work on the Local Development Framework and building up an unbelievable pile of paperwork things have quietened down. The main planning issues in the Ward have been the permission to build a 60 acre Solar Panel Farm which is virtually finished just outside Levington with permission in the pipeline for a further 60 acres solar panel farm to be built just outside Waldringfield.

The majority of the planning applications determined in this last year have on the whole been pretty straight forward – the only one which has been an issue has been for outline planning permission for 300 houses at Trinity Park and a new round about near Straight Road on the old A45.

Deben Estuary Plan

I have been on the Access and Steering Group Committees for a number of years and after much hard work by these two and a number of other Committees, the Plan is nearing completion. It will hopefully become a Planning Guidance Document to be used with the new Local Plan when planning issues occur on or near the River Deben..

Numbers of recorded Police Crime in the Ward by Village

Brightwell	8
Bucklesham	17
Foxhall	12
Levington	15
Nacton	54
Newbourne	15
Purdis Farm	153 (101 of these were at Sainsburys)
Waldringfield	11
Total	285

Community Resilience – Emergency Plan

Many years ago there was a campaign to get Parishes to formulate an Emergency Plan for their Village in case of Fire, Petrol Station explosion, plane crash, power cuts, rail crash or floods. Some of the Parishes in the Nacton Ward were proactive but as a result of the Tidal Surge in December which highlighted the importance of a Plan, I cannot emphasise enough how important it is to get an Emergency Plan formulated. Could I please encourage you to put this item on your future Agendas?

The Environmental Agency are very happy to come and do a Hub workshop and explain fully the things you need to do as well as giving you a Starter Kit. In addition, their website www.getpreparednow.co.uk is a great help and shows other village's Emergency Plans.

Coastline Lite

Over the years I have tried to keep you up to date with a fair number of the goings on at Suffolk Coastal District Council either by my Report or recommending that you read the Coastline Magazine that goes out about 3 times a year. From now on the Cabinet Portfolio Cllr. T J Haworth is submitting a electronic newsletter *Coastline Lite* which is being distributed to Parish and Town Councils highlighting various issues.

Community Enabling Scheme

In the few weeks since each District Councillor was given a sum of £4,000 to allocate some or all for the year 2013/14, I have allocated £3,400 to schemes in Waldringfield, Levington and Bucklesham. £600 will be rolled over into year 2014/15 making the year 2014/15 budget £4,600. Please bear in mind that if any Projects in your Parish come to your attention, please ask them to contact me regarding some funding.

Suffolk Coastal District Council's Office Move

The current building is too large and not fit for purpose and in a poor state of repair; hence much work is going in to exploring exactly what to do. The preferred option at present is near the old Girdlestone's site in Melton but the costs have got to be worked out and it must be justified financially.

Boundary Changes

The Boundary Commission recently came back with their findings and took notice of Suffolk Coastal District Council's calculation of ward boundaries. It is likely there will be 42 seats. Brightwell, Foxhall, Purdis Farm along with Nacton will become the Nacton Ward. Levington, Stratton Hall,

Bucklesham, Newbourne, Waldringfield, Hamley with the addition of Kirton and Falkenham will be the Kirton Ward. SC will be writing again with their comments and recommendation as can Councillors.

Police Control Room

At Thursday's Full Council meeting the Conservative members resolved to call on Tim Passmore, Suffolk's Police and Crime Commissioner to strongly resist closure of the Police Contact and Control Room at Martlesham Police HQ. This is a critical part of front line policing which TP has pledged to protect. SC wants TP to secure major cost savings from administrative simplification and integration in partnership with Norfolk Police. The Labour councillors were unwilling to support this response to TP and voted against the proposal to suggest the best possible way of ensuring a quality, but affordable, police service for Suffolk. Watch this space.

Finally

Next year in 2015 there will be local District Elections – having given the matter much thought over the winter, I have decided not to stand next year. I will have done 12 years as your District Councillor and before that I was a Parish Councillor for 16 years. For the majority of that time I also did a full-time job and I feel the time has come for someone younger to take over.

I will be very sad to say goodbye to a very enjoyable, demanding and interesting chapter in my life and I know I will miss all the ups, downs and involvement enormously.

- Suffolk Police – PC Paul Smith – written report

Period 27th March 2014 – 28th April 2014

Parish	No of Crimes Recorded	Same Month Last Year
Brightwell	0	0
Bucklesham	1	1
Foxhall	0	2
Levington	0	0
Nacton	2	11
Newbourne	4	2
Purdis Farm	21	18
Waldringfield	0	0
Total Crime This Month	28	34

This month's recorded crime was 28. The level of recorded crime for the same period in 2013 was slightly higher (34).

Brightwell and Foxhall are again crime free this month. They are joined by Levington and Waldringfield.

Bucklesham recorded 1 crime again this month, officers investigated a report of make off without payment, whereby a group of girls were picked up by a taxi from Felixstowe and dropped off outside the Bucklesham Shannon, as they exited from the car they all ran off without paying the driver.

Nacton had 2 reported crimes this month, officers investigated criminal damage other, some fence panels on the local golf course were damaged during a 1 week period, and also a theft from motor

vehicle report whereby a lorry parked in a layby had the curtain side of its trailer cut open and 20 pallets of goods removed overnight, enquiries are on-going.

Newbourne recorded 4 crimes this month. Officers investigated a report of Criminal Damage, some signs put up along a public footpath by the local Campsite owners were removed and the posts damaged and a report of Arson, whereby a stolen car was reported to be alight in a field, this crime has been linked to the Stolen Vehicle crime. Also this month 1 person received a Community Resolution for Assault, 1 person was charged with Possession of Class B Drugs.

Purdis Farm had 21 recorded crimes, 11 of these relate to Sainsbury's. There were 9 linked crimes this month all relate to Theft from Motor Vehicle or Interference with a Motor Vehicle, overnight on the 3rd April in the Hazel Drive/Woodrush Road area 9 cars were entered and searched and 7 of them had items removed. 1 person was also charged with producing class b drugs.

A view of crime maps and data can now be found on the Internet www.police.uk

The next Public Community Engagement Meeting is being held at Waldringfield Village Hall on Tuesday 20 May from 6pm.

The meeting was re-convened.

71.14 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.

Community Infrastructure Levy and the Statement of Community Involvement

Letter received from the Planning Policy and Delivery Team which outlines the forthcoming public consultation periods that are scheduled to take place with regard to the Community Infrastructure (CIL) and the revised Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which has been distributed to councillors.

Suffolk Coastal District Council formally adopted and brought into effect the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies document in July 2013. The Core Strategy and Development Management Policies document is the first step towards the production of a new Local Plan for the District and will be supported by further specific documents such as the Site Specific Allocations and the Felixstowe Area Action Plan. Local communities, organisations and stakeholders will be encouraged to participate in the production of these documents accordingly, with the first stages expected towards the end of 2014.

Proposals to Close the Suffolk Police Control Room

A letter has been received from Peter Passingham Fighting Fund Local Organiser Norfolk and Suffolk Team Unison Eastern which has been distributed to councillors with regard to the current proposals to close the Suffolk Police Control Room and move the service to Norfolk. A campaign is currently being run by the East Anglian Daily Times and Unison calling the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore, to keep the control room local (it is currently in Martlesham Room).

There is currently a public consultation on the proposals enabling Suffolk residents to have their say. Peter Passingham is requesting that awareness is raised of the proposals within the parish and encourage participation in the consultation.

72.14 Planning

Planning Applications for Consideration

DC/14/1227/FUL Land Rear of Caris House and Brook House Purdis Farm Lane – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 5 dwellings (resubmission)

It was agreed that the Planning Committee should reply on the same grounds as for the previous application. **Action: Planning Committee / Clerk**

SCDC Planning Application Decisions

DC/14/0866/FUL 1 Holly Close Purdis Farm – Loft conversion and roof extension to provide additional bedroom accommodation including part cladding of existing front elevation.

SCDC Decision: Granted

DC/14/0915/FUL 1 Aerodrome Cottages Felixstowe Road Brightwell – Erection of two-storey side extension and garage/store.

SCDC Decision: Granted

DC/14/0850/VOC Trinity Park Felixstowe Road Purdis Farm – Additional use of Trinity Park for a two day summer music event (variation of condition 2 of planning permission consent C11/2129.

SCDC Decision: Pending

DC/14/0755/FUL 129 Bucklesham Road Purdis Farm – Construction of new front boundary wall and entrance gates.

SCDC Decision: Application refused

DC/14/0450/FUL Land North of Shepherd and Dog Piggeries between Railway Line and Felixstowe Road Foxhall – Change of use from existing retail/storage area for plants (C03/126) to car sales and outdoor display.

SCDC Decision: Application refused

73.14 Parish Newsletter

Cllr Day reported that the newsletter had been distributed to all households in the three parishes. PCSC Glynn Bown reported that arrangements were in hand for the Paws on Patrol / Micro Chipping / Police event which is being held between 11am – 4pm on 30th May 2014. Glynn also said that Jane Spivey the SCDC Dog Warden would also be attending. **Action: All Councillors / Clerk**

74.14 Locality Budget 2014/2015

The Clerk reported that at the last meeting councillors had agreed to request the cost of the Parish Council Newsletter which was £604.00 to be financed from the Locality Budget 2014/2015. It was

agreed that the Locality Budget 2014/2015 should be deferred until the next Parish Council Meeting in June. **Action: Clerk**

75.14 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

Clerk's Salary and Expenses April 2014	£256.29
Suffolk Coastal Services – Jubilee Tree	£270.00
SALC Subscriptions	£664.00
Seashell Communications	£280.00
Print 4 U	£324.00

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

Action: Clerk

76.14 To receive the accounts for the year 2013/2014

The Clerk had previously distributed a copy of the year-end accounts to each councillor and presented the accounts for 2013/2014 to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Warham, seconded Cllr Wells that the year-end accounts 2013/2014 and the Local Councils in England Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2014 be approved and signed by the Chairman – agreed by the council.

Action: Clerk

77.14 Correspondence

- a. The Clerk reported that she had received an enquiry from a parishioner in Purdis Farm who would be interested in becoming a councillor. The Clerk has sent copies of recent agenda/minutes and asked the gentleman to attend the next Parish Council on the 11th June.
- b. A letter has been received from Suffolk County Council Legal Department reporting that the Orders for the temporary footpath diversions for Footpath 9 and 10 in Brightwell came into operation on the 25th April 2014.
- c. Letter received from Vattenfall pre-warning the Parish Council that the formal consultation for the East Anglia Three Offshore Windfarm Forthcoming Consultation under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008 would commence on the 27th May 2014 and run for 42 days concluding on the 8th July 2014.

78.14 Meetings attended by councillors / clerk

None

79.14 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr Newell reported pot holes needed repairing adjacent to the Waddling Duck.
- b. Cllr Newell reported that the bridge in Monument Farm Lane is in the process of being re-enforced.

- c. Cllr Newell reported that the passing place road signs in Straight Road are obscured by vegetation. **Action: Clerk**
- d. Cllr Watts reported that the dog bin on the corner of Foxglove Crescent / Murrills Road is in need of repair. It was agreed to put this item on the agenda for the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**
- e. Cllr Batham reported that several of the houses situated on Purdis Farm have problems with fire hazards when the houses were built. The Fire Officer is investing the situation.

80.14 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 11th June 2014

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.02 pm.

Signed Date.....

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