

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at Trinity Park at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 11th March 2015

Present

Cllr E Warham – Chairman
Cllr G Watts
Cllr B Newell
Cllr A Wells
Cllr A Day
Cllr E Lawrence
Cllr J Batham
Mrs A J Buggs – Clerk
Cllr V Falconer – Suffolk Coastal District Council
1 member of the public

34.15 Apologies for absence

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

35.15 Declaration of interest

None

36.15 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 11th February 2015 were approved as being a true record but it was agreed to delete the following paragraph.

21.15 Planning

Cllr Day requested...would reword the reply

37.15 Matters arising from the minutes

- a. 25.15 To discuss the communication received via SALC from Cllr Graham Newman Cabinet Member for Roads, Transport & Planning Suffolk County Council regarding flooding

The Clerk reported that she had copied Cllr Newman into the email she had sent to Malcolm King regarding the flooding in Purdis Road and had received a response from Malcolm King stating that the work would be completed over the next month. **Action: Clerk to follow up**

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

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

Suffolk Coastal District Council

Not all pcs will have seen this and please forgive if you have. But I have nothing much to report as I am, not unnaturally, 'winding down' SCDC work. I do have queries from pcs or individuals that I deal with straight away and, unless I have come back, I do not pursue.

SCDC is holding Full Council this evening ,26th, and discussing the budget. There is no increase in council tax.

SCDC will be moving to Melton, Girdlestone site in the Autumn of 2016. The purpose built offices cost £3.9m, met from existing resources. Capital funds will be generated by the sale of the existing Melton Hill site and Cedar House.

I shall not be standing in the forthcoming district elections. I have served for 16 years. In my initial four year term I represented Kirton Ward, which comprised of Kirton/Flakenham, Levington, Waldringfield/Hemley, Newbourne, Bucklesham. Nacton & Purdis Farm were a separate ward until 2003 when two councillors were elected to serve the amalgamated ward. The 2015 district elections will see the wards returned to the 1999 original set-up.

I have allocated all my Community Enabling Fund to project throughout my Ward.

Suffolk County Council

For the 5th year Suffolk County Council's council tax share is to be frozen. Suffolk residents will not pay more than they did in 2010/11. The council has managed, successfully, to deliver savings in excess of £130m over the last four years. However, as the government's deficit reduction programme is set to continue until at least 2018/19, there is a forecast of a further £120m budget shortfall that will need to be addressed over the next three years.

The Council tax freeze was agreed as part of the budget proposals for 2015/16, which include savings of £38.2million, to be made across services delivered by the council during the financial year 2015/16. The bulk of these savings (£24.6m) will be delivered through wide-ranging transformation programmes which will result in the council becoming a leaner and more focused organisation. The remaining savings will be made by: reducing previous contingency budgets, set aside for major projects; change management; budgetary savings from within service areas. Meanwhile, over the last five years, there has been a reduction of approx. 47% in workforce numbers across council services.

Rather worrying findings are revealed in a survey, carried out by Suffolk Cyber Survey 2014, with 2,988 children and young people aged from 10 years old and upwards, monitoring trends in their online activity. The Survey discovered: approximately 83% of Suffolk's young people own a smartphone; 74% of children and young people are accessing the internet at home; 71% of parents do not limit the time that their children are on the internet; 31% of young people are spending more than 5 hours a day on-line; cyber-bullying rates have risen to 23%, in line with national trends. The report is published on the e-Safer Suffolk website at: www.esafersuffolk.org. Unfortunately, children who share personal information across mobile devices are vulnerable to harmful on-line content and aggression.

Active towns and villages across Suffolk were urged to come forward and tell how they're championing sports and physical activity in their local community. Whether it is football, dog-walking, yoga, hockey or Zumba, the county council wish to celebrate the hard work and commitment of these communities. **The winners and runners-up are as follows: Town winner: Kesgrave; Town runner-up: Southwold and Reydon; Large village winner: Brantham; Large**

village runner-up: Hundon; **Small village winner:** Middleton-cum-Fordley; **Small village runner-up:** Mendham.

Each winner will have an opportunity to receive support from the county council to explore ways in which they can be helped to build on their success.

I went to this month's Police & Crime Commissioner's Accountability & Performance meeting. One of the agenda items was a report on how the Town Pastors operate in Ipswich. They do such valuable work and save the police and hospitals time and money. I was invited to go along one night. I don't think I'm that brave!!

- Cllr Falconer – Suffolk Coastal District Council – written report

Suffolk Coastal District Council

Good evening every one and a Very belated Happy New Year. Thank you to, to those Parish Councils who very kindly sent me Get Well Cards – it was much appreciated. For 8 weeks I am afraid District Council work did not get a look in – I was too ill and for many weeks couldn't drive. However, I am now on the road to recovery and more or less back to normal.

Funnily enough in the last few weeks there is still not a lot to impart – probably due to the forthcoming election and the year end. Certainly there is not much in the pipeline.

Planning

The number of planning applications has increased enormously and so have the complaints to SCDC about the planning service. Once again, this is under review and great effort has been made to make accessing documents easier to find and also ensure that before a planning application can be accessed by the public all documents pertaining to the application can be viewed. The Planning Department too have gone back to listing briefly all the applications received each week and this information is sent to Parish Councils and Cllrs. However, I do believe the service could be improved by stating the exact village/location.

Community Enabling Fund

To date I have allocated all my allowance of £4,600 barr £26.

Police

I am glad to see the regular Police Ward up dates on crimes in the Ward. I believe these help us all enormously to keep alert to anything untoward. These figures are much appreciated.

DC Activities

I managed to attend the completion launch of the Waldringfield Flood Defence Group's wall in late December. A staggering £900,000 was raised in less than a year by local authority and political figures. The community have shown tremendous resilience and organisation to have achieved so much in so short a time since the tidal surge in December 2013. The project, to improve flood protection with innovative defence and flood gates, is also the first community-led project to be delivered from the new Deben Estuary Plan.

Waldringfield Quarry Liaison Meeting

For some years I have attended with fellow colleague Patricia O'Brien Brett Aggregates Quarry at Waldringfield. We are taken each time on a site visit round the whole area to see how they are managing the excavation of sand and gravel, building of an enormous bund to screen the Moon and Sixpence Caravan site from the workings, repairing slippage of earth of a bund and all in all, complaints from the workings and monitoring for dust and noise have been few. The area near the A12 is now more or less back to normal but at a lower level. I will miss these visits and feel I have learnt a great deal.

District Local Plan – Issues and Options

The Felixstowe Peninsula Area Action Plan has been out for consultation since 15th December and closed on the 27th February. The document is consulting on future housing sites. It is absolutely key to get this right as it will affect the Suffolk Coastal develops over the next couple of decade.

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

The saltmarsh restoration at Levington phase 2 has started and silt is being used from the Suffolk Yacht Harbour. Countryfile, BBC 1 Sunday evening programme featured this about ten days ago. Areas along the River Deben have been very successfully restored. Saltmarshes provide a vital nursery and feeding ground for juvenile fish etc.

CIL

The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is expected to be introduced across Suffolk Coastal by April 2015. Further information about CIL charges in Suffolk Coastal can be found through this link: <http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourdistrict/planning/review/cil/>

Suffolk Council Tax

The Council Tax for Suffolk Coastal will not rise for the fifth year. With government continuing to look towards cutting grant aid, Suffolk Coastal which has gross annual expenditure of around £65m – is now finding that around 80% of its net budget is now generated locally, 60% from the council tax and 20% business rates.

Recycling

Suffolk Coastal is one of the top 20 local authorities in England for waste recycling and composting. In 2013/14 they recycled and composted 57.4% of all rubbish. Just a reminder Suffolk Coastal will now accept aerosols, metal pots and pans, books and food and drink cartons such as Tetra packs.

Felixstowe Library

Is now a 'one-stop shop' providing Suffolk Coastal customer services and information as well as library services. Opening hours have been extended.

Suffolk Coastal Business Community Awards

Have just announced that Brafe Engineering, Notcutts and Revetts are the finalists for the above. The award recognises and rewards the businesses which have retained a strong connection with the community as they have grown in size and stature.

- Suffolk Police – PCSO Glynn Bown – written report

Period 29th January 2015 – 25th February 2015

Parish	No of Crimes Recorded	Same Month Last Year
Brightwell	1	1
Bucklesham	1	1
Foxhall	0	0
Levington	5	1
Nacton	5	1
Newbourne	0	0
Purdis Farm	9	11
Waldringfield	1	0
Total Crime This Month	18	17

This month's recorded crime was 18. The level of recorded crime for the same period in 2014 was 17.

Brightwell has 1 recorded crime this month, a person was charged with driving whilst under the influence of drink/drugs.

Bucklesham again had 1 reported crime this month, burglary other building, whereby the reception/office of a commercial livery yard on Watermill road was entered overnight on the 22nd February and a cash tin was taken.

Foxhall are crime free this month.

Levington has recorded 1 crime this month, burglary other building with intent, overnight on the 7th February, unknown persons gained access to a garden shed, but were unable to remove any items from within.

Nacton had 5 reported crimes this month. There were 2 reports of Assault both took place on the A14, 1 person was charged with possession of a class b drug, heating oil was removed from a tank in a residential garden sometime between 4th November and the 20th February, and damage was caused to a stationary car on the A14 in Nacton.

Newbourne joins Foxhall this month in being crime free.

Purdis Farm recorded 9 crimes, all relate to Sainsbury's.

Waldringfield recorded 1 crime this month, sometime between the 26th January and the 3rd February, an insecure outbuilding situated in a residential garden on Mill Road was entered and gardening equipment was taken.

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

The meeting was re-convened.

38.15 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 – Automatic Precept Referendums

The Government has decided not to apply automatic precept referendums to local councils in 2015/2016. The Parish Council noted the contents of the communication.

Local Council Award Scheme Foundation

The Local Council Award Scheme exists to celebrate the successes of the very best local councils and to provide a framework to support all local councils to meet their full potential.

All local councils want to serve their local communities and make a real difference to the lives of the people that live there. The scheme offers councils the opportunity to show that they meet the standards set by the sector, assessed by their peers, and to put in place the conditions for continued improvement. The Award Scheme has been designed to both provide the tools and encouragement to those councils at the beginning of their improvement journeys, as well as promoting and recognising councils that are at the cutting edge of the sector. It is only through sector working together to share best practice, drive up standards and supporting those who are committed to improving their offer to their communities that individual councils and the sector as a whole will reach its full potential. The scheme was created in 2014 and is managed on behalf of local councils by the Improvement and Development Board (IDB). Councils can apply for an award at one of three levels.

The Foundation Award demonstrates that a council meets the minimum requirements for operating lawfully and according to standard practice.

The Quality Award demonstrates that a council achieves good practice in governance, community engagement and council improvement.

The Quality Gold Award demonstrates that a council is at the forefront of best practice and achieves excellence in governance, community leadership and council development.

The scheme sets out criteria to meet at each level covering selected aspects of the council's work. Councils can seek to progress through the tiers over time thereby raising standards. Councils of any size can aspire to an award appropriate for their budget and level of activity.

To support transparency, councils achieving an award at any level must use an online facility for publishing documents and information. In all instances the council confirms that the required documents, information and conditions are in place (whether published or not) by resolution I public at a full council meeting. For Quality Gold, councils also provide statements for submission to the panel demonstrating excellence in their activities. The panel may ask for additional information to check the accuracy of claims.

39.15 Planning

Planning Applications Received by the Parish Council

SCC – Waldringfield Quarry, Heath Road, Brightwell, Ipswich, Suffolk

Variation of Condition 1 & 2 of Planning Permission C/11/0722 – Continued use of part of sand and gravel quarry for importation, storage and processing of concrete rubble and soils to provide secondary aggregates.

PC Comments: In the process of circulation.

Hollies Planning Application No DC/14/420/FUL

Cllr Watts reported that the Planning Committee had submitted their comments on the Planning Application as follows:

The Group Parish Council remains bitterly disappointed that the original application was refused. We fail to understand how the Development Committee could decide that the original plan for 11 dwellings was an inefficient use of land in terms of meeting the Council's identified housing shortfall when the Parish of Foxhall has already been designated as an 'Other Village' with development only permitted in exceptional circumstances.

Whilst we are keen for the Hollies site to be redeveloped we cannot support the latest proposal for 14 dwellings which includes 3 one bedroom dwellings. Our Parish Plan does not support the building of one bedroom homes and there is no identified need for such dwellings in the Parish of Foxhall. This latest development has also generated a number of objections from local residents.

For these reasons we object to this application as we do not believe that it meets the very specific criteria for the building of homes in the countryside as detailed in Policies SP28 and DM3 of the Suffolk Coastal District Local Plan – Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document July 2013.

In view of this we ask Suffolk Coastal District Council to immediately take all necessary steps to ensure that the Hollies. Site is made both safe and secure and remains so. Furthermore, we urge the Council to carefully consider the various comments made by local residents about Straight Road (which we support) and to make improvements to a road which has become unsuitable for the amount of traffic currently using it.

Submission by Foxhall residents concerning the Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies in the Local Plan

Cllr Watts reported that the Parish Council had been copied into a submission which Foxhall residents had submitted to Suffolk Coastal District Council concerning the Site Allocations and Area Specific Policies in the Local Plan. He commented that the submission did not cover all of the Parish of Foxhall only part of it. Councillors discussed the contents of the submission but agreed that until the Parish Council is formally consulted by Suffolk Coastal District Council the Parish Council would not comment on the contents."

40.15 Letter received from a local resident regarding the speed of traffic on Foxhall Road between the Nuffield and Bell Lane

The Parish Council noted the contents of the letter but as this is a Suffolk County Council's Highways / Police matter the Clerk was asked to advise the resident to contact Suffolk County Council's Highways Department at Endeavour House and the Police. **Action: Clerk**

41.15 To approve the Standing Orders / Procedure documents

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council should minute the acceptance of the Standing Orders Procedures and the Appointment of the Internal Auditor each year.

It was proposed by Cllr Wells, seconded Cllr Day that the following Standing Orders should be accepted and that the Internal Auditor Heelis and Lodge should be appointed – agreed. **Action: Clerk**

Code of Conduct

Freedom of Information

Asset Register

Grant Policy

Complaints Procedure

Financial Regulations

Internal Audit Procedure

Standing Orders

Information available from Brightwell, Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council under the Model Publication Scheme

Risk Assessment

42.15 Local Council Award Scheme 2015

The Clerk outlined the contents of the Local Council Award Scheme 2015 which involves three levels; Foundation, Quality and Quality Gold. The Clerk explained that some of the requirements of the Foundation Award are also a mandatory requirement of the Transparency Code which all councils with expenditure of less than £25,000 must adhere to.

Following discussion Cllr Newell proposed, seconded Cllr Warham that the Clerk produce a check list of the requirements to monitor parts of the Foundation Scheme which the Parish Council already have in place and place on the agenda following the Annual Parish Council Meeting. **Action: Clerk**

43.15 To discuss erecting fly tipping signs

The Clerk reported that she had applied to Suffolk County Council Highways for licences to erect fly tipping signs in Monument Farm Lane and Kennells Road. **Action: Clerk**

44.15 Locality Budget 2014/2015

Councillors agreed that if the licences are received before the end of March from Suffolk County Council Highways to erect fly tipping signs in Monument Farm Lane and Kennells Road, which is the deadline for Locality Budget requests for 2014/2015, the Clerk should request finance from the Locality Budget. **Action: Clerk**

45.15 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

A J Buggs Salary and Expenses February 2015

£268.29

Glasdon – Grit Bins

£405.16

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

46.15 Correspondence

- a. Invitation to councillors regarding Sizewell C Engagement Review on Wednesday, 11th March 2015 10.00 – 1.00 pm.
- b. Letter received from Suffolk Coastal District Council regarding Spring Clean Suffolk in 2015.
- c. Letter from Trinity Park enclosing details of the outside events to be held in 2015.
- d. The Clerk distributed copies of the elections nomination papers to councillors requesting that they return them to her by Sunday, 29th March so these can be taken to Suffolk Coastal District Council Offices on Tuesday, 31st March 2015.

47.15 Meetings attended by the Chairman and Clerk

- a. Cllr Day gave a report on the recent Residents Lunch Meeting which had been held at Trinity Park.
- b. Cllr Watts gave a report on the Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council Sizewell C Joint Local Authority Engagement Event held on Wednesday, 11th March which he attended on behalf of the Parish Council.

48.15 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr Day suggested that the Parish Council networked with other parishes to try to get a group together to campaign to get the Broadband speed upgraded in the area as quickly as possible. Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should contact Nacton, Bucklesham and Kesgrave Parish Councils suggesting that a group be formed to write to BT with regard to the Nacton exchange. **Action: Clerk**

49.15 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 8th April 2015

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.29 pm

Signed Date.....

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