

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at Trinity Park at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 9th December 2015

Present

Cllr E Warham – Chairman
Cllr B Newell
Cllr A Wells
Cllr G Watts
Cllr M Briggs
Cllr E Lawrence
Cllr A Finch
Cllr N Yeo – Suffolk Coastal District Council
Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

163.15 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Briggs, Cllr A Day and Cllr J Batham.

164.15 Declaration of interest

None

165.15 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 11th November 2015 were approved as being a true record.

166.15 Matters arising from the minutes

Admiral Windows / Car Site

Cllr Watts reported that planning permission had been agreed under the appeal process. The Parish Council are not notified that a planning application has gone to appeal or notified of the outcome of the appeal. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Naomi Goold Planning Officer. **Action: Clerk**

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

Cllr P O'brien – Suffolk County Council – no report

Cllr N Yeo – Suffolk Coastal District Council – written report

This is my last report for 2015 and may I firstly wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

These are challenging times for local councils. Our funding from Central Government has already been cut by 40% since 2010 and Suffolk Coastal District Council at the same time has frozen its Council Tax leading a reduction in our net budget of £3.7 million.

Despite this Suffolk Coastal is committed to continuing to find innovative ways of making savings, through increased partnership working and improved efficiency, so we can protect frontline services and support economic development without resorting to increasing the burden on local tax payers.

I am proud to acknowledge that Suffolk Coastal is already the strongest economy in Suffolk. Our business plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy for the next four years focuses on how as a Council we can invest in our local communities which will help them to flourish.

The "Call for Sites" consultation closed on 15 November. Suffolk Coastal has put forward one site which unfortunately is in our Ward. This is the land next to the Orwell Truck Stop. The Public Sector Leaders' Group will now decide which sites to put forward for consultation before Christmas. I believe that there are much better sites being put forward, for example, the old Sugar Beet factory which is owned by Ipswich Borough Council has a much better chance of being approved than the site off the A14 in our Ward. I believe that by February 2016 this Group will put forward their preferred sites to go through the planning process with the aim of these sites being up and running by the end of 2016. I will keep you informed of any information I receive which may affect our area.

Devolution is still going forward albeit one step forward and two steps back. The initial brochure which was delivered to Central Government on 4 November has now been returned with various suggestions. This is going to be a lengthy process and it has been mooted that Suffolk and Norfolk should now join with Cambridgeshire. Personally I cannot see how this will happen given the completely different ways that these County Councils along with their Borough, District, Parish and Town Councils are being run. Again I will keep you abreast of any developments that occur.

The meeting was re-convened.

167.15 Clerk's Report

The purpose of this report is to update members on outstanding issues, items received after the deadline for agenda items, correspondence and action taken by the Clerk.

Housing – CPRE Report and Spending Review

What is in this for local councils?

This LAIS will be of interest to local councils concerned about the impact of Government's housing strategy, insufficient levels of affordable housing, problems integrating sizeable developments with sufficient infrastructure and the sustainability of their community for future generations.

A new report has been published by the Campaign for Rural England (CPRE) pointedly called *Set up to fail: why housing targets based on flawed numbers threaten our countryside*. This comes days before Government's Spending Review and Autumn Statement 2015 which contained important announcements on housing, reference to which is also included within this LAIS.

The CPRE report can be found at <http://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/housing-and-planning/housing/item/4158-set-up-to-fail-why-housing-targets-based-on-flawed-numbers-threaten-our-countryside>

The Spending Review and Autumn Statement can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015-documents/spending-review-and-autumn-statement-2015>

Road Works Adjacent to Sainsbury's Roundabout Felixstowe Road

Reply received from Carl Ashton Highways Suffolk County Council:

It was our intention to make it three lanes wide of the approach to the roundabout and our design reflected this, however when we came to carry out the work on site there were underground services (that were not marked by the utility companies) that we could not move and were not deep enough for us to construct a road over it. Therefore we had to abandon this element on the grounds of time and cost. Unfortunately, the three lanes were painted in error; there is insufficient width to have three lanes. This has now been rectified and two lanes are present.

The Clerk reported that she had notified the parishioner who had complained about the Felixstowe Road roadwork. **Action: Clerk**

168.15 Planning

Planning Application

DC/15/4030/FUL Peeler Elmham Drive Foxhall Suffolk IP10 ODG Part severance of side garden and erection of new 2 storey dwelling

Cllr Newell said that she had concerns about the above application. It was agreed that the Planning Chairman Cllr Watts would speak to Cllr Newell regarding her concerns and formulate a submission to Suffolk Coastal District Council. **Action: Cllr Watts / Cllr Newell**

DC/15/4672/OUT Land To East Of Bell Lane Kesgrave Suffolk Phased development of 300 dwellings, provision of land for primary school and associated landscaping and open space with all matters reserved apart from access.

Cllr Watts reported that he had received a copy of a Kesgrave Planning Application as above. Following discussion it was agreed that councillors should email their views to Cllr Watts who would formulate a reply to Suffolk Coastal District Council regarding this application. **Action: Cllr Watts**

Roundabout adjacent to Sainsburys Felixstowe Road

The Parish Council discussed the on-going traffic problems at the Sainsbury's roundabout. The Parish Council felt that the area was not well sign posted and that the area should have signing on the road and overhead signing. It was also noted that there are serious cracks in the road on the Sainsbury's car park exit. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Suffolk County Council highlighting the problems. **Action: Clerk**

169.15 Precept 2016/2017

The Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Homira Javadi Chief Finance Officer at Suffolk Coastal District Council requesting the Parish Council to determine the parish precept. It was noted that the Parish Council would not be receiving an allocation of funding for the financial year 2016/2017. Following discussion and examination of the budget Cllr Watts proposed, seconded Cllr Finch that the Parish Council precept for £7,500.00. **Action: Clerk**

170.15 To discuss appointing the Sector Lead Body for Audit Procurement

The Clerk reported that from the start of 2017/2018 financial year smaller authorities, including parish and town councils, can choose to have an auditor appointed to them by a new 'sector-led body' or they can decide to procure their own. It is intended to call this procurement body the Smaller Authority Audit Appointment Authority Limited. Smaller authorities with a turnover of less than £25,000 will be exempt from having to submit an annual financial return, but will still need to have an auditor appointed in case there are questions from electors. The SLB will be the first point of contact to such a case. Following discussion Cllr Warham proposed, seconded Cllr Watts that the Parish Council appoint the Sector Lead Body for Audit Procurement – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

171.15 Neighbourhood Plan – Kesgrave Parish Council / Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council

Cllr Lawrence reported that Kesgrave Parish Council was having a meeting on the 25th January 2016 which he would attend and report back to the February 2016 Parish Council Meeting. **Action: Cllr Lawrence / Clerk**

172.15 Locality Budget 2015/2016

The Clerk reported that a reply had not been received from either Cllr O'Brien Suffolk County Council or Malcolm King Suffolk County Council Highways. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Cllr O'Brien and Malcolm King and place on January 2016 agenda. **Action: Clerk**

173.15 Graffiti

Cllr Lawrence reported that he had sent maps showing the location of the graffiti. Cllr Finch agreed to report the locations to Suffolk County Council/Suffolk Coastal District Council and request a quotation to clean the items which belong to the Parish Council. **Action: Cllr Finch**

174.15 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

A J Buggs Salary and Expenses November 2015

£284.24

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

175.15 Correspondence

None

176.15 Meetings attended by councillors / clerk

1. Cllr Watts stated he had received an email from Cllr Wells stating that the trees had been removed from the front of the property No 145 Bucklesham Road. It was agreed that Cllr Watts should discuss with Cllr Wells and speak to Naomi Goold Planning Officer Suffolk Coastal District Council. **Action: Cllr Watts / Cllr Wells**
2. Cllr Watts reported that he attended the World of Planning Event on the 12th November 2015 at Melton Offices.

3. Cllr Warham gave her report on the recently held Safer Neighbourhood Community Meeting.

177.15 Members questions to the Chairman

None

178.15 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 13th January 2016

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.20.

Signed Date.....

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