

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at Trinity Park at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 8th July 2015

Present

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

94.15 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Day.

95.15 Declaration of interest

None

96.15 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 10th June 2015 were approved as being a true record.

97.15 Matters arising from the minutes

Page 1 – 85.15 – Telephone Kiosk Felixstowe Road

Cllr Day has reported that although the telephone kiosk appeared to be up and working unfortunately on testing the telephone calls cannot be made. Cllr Day has reported this again to BT.

Action: Cllr Day

Page 4 – Broadband

Cllr Day has reported that he had been in contact with 'Better Broadband for Suffolk' because of the conflicting information on two websites. They have responded with the following statement in respect of our 'area'.

"The Openreach sites only show potential availability once there are committed plans to deliver. Our website says (rightly so) that it is under consideration for fibre under our second programme. The rollout for this second programme starts later this year, with the detailed plan and timings announced by October. So there are no firm plans at present, but by October I would hope there will be."

Cllr Day feels there is no benefit in doing anything with the other parishes until we have more information in October.

Page 6 – 92.15 Members questions to the Chairman

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Suffolk Coastal District Council Electoral Services regarding the inability of councillors to log into the Code of Conduct / Register of Interests area of their website. Councillors reported that they could now log into the site and update their details.

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

- Cllr P O'Brien – Suffolk County Council – written report

Colin Noble, Leader of SCC, has begun a series of visits to towns in order to meet people, hear their views and answer any questions. This initiative aims to find out what issues are of concern to residents and what might be done, locally, to address matters. Lowestoft (4.7.15) and Haverhill (18.7.15) are dates set. Other dates planned can be found on : www.suffolk.gov.uk/wearelistening

A planned programme of highways improvement works will begin on Friday 3rd July to increase road capacity and alleviate congestion in key areas of east Ipswich, particularly along Ransomes Way, Felixstowe Road and Nacton Road. This will reduce delay times for road users during busy peak periods. As part of the works, Nacton Road will be widened between The Havens' and Thrasher roundabouts. This will enable three traffic lanes and a 'free left slip road' at The Havens roundabout, to aid traffic turning left without having to slow or enter the roundabout. This will enable traffic from The Havens to slip onto the A14 east bound road without causing congestion. There will also be a number of cycle route and pedestrian improvements made as part of the works. Local businesses have previously welcomed this news, as the completed works will improve access to Ransomes Europark and surrounding businesses. The first phase of improvement takes place between July and November and includes work: to widen roads at roundabouts; to increase and improve capacity; to relocate some existing signal crossings; to install new pedestrian crossing islands; to resurface and paint line markings. For further information on this programme of work, visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/nactonroad

Following the above, this concerns Highways, I hope that verges have been cut in your area. I phoned some weeks ago and was promised, that as soon as major junctions had been cleared, then work would start on minor verges. Let me know if there are any outstanding.

My work continues, as chairman of the Police & Crime Panel, and in Mid-July I have been asked to report to the Suffolk Leaders meeting regarding issues the panel has tackled, and to answer questions. I am particularly interested to go, as I very much want to assess, for my own satisfaction, how partnership working is manifesting itself.

- Cllr N Yeo – Suffolk Coastal District Council – written report

Further to last month's Report I can now confirm that I am settling down into the job as a District Councillor.

I am being contacted by residents in the Ward on various matters ranging from an objection to a Planning Application to road repairs.

Last week I helped to judge the Suffolk Coastal Village of the Year which the Chairman of the Council will present an award to on 18th July. The four villages which I visited were Kelsale, Wickham Market, Grundisburgh and Otley – all completely different and my fellow judges had quite a task to decide which was the winner.

During the month of June there was the Women's Cycling Tour, which was part of the Aviva Women's Tour. The ladies started off in Bury St Edmunds through to Aldeburgh cycling through Kesgrave, Woodbridge, Rendlesham, Snape, Saxmundham, Leiston on to Thorpeness before turning round to finish at Moot Hall, Aldeburgh. I went along to Woodbridge to watch and it was quite something to see. Not only is this an exciting thing to watch but it is also a huge boost to the District and helped the local economy and tourism. Last year the Tour earned the District about £212,000 and it is hoped that this figure will be beaten this year.

The Council are sending out a request to owners of empty properties to get in touch and provide up to date information about the status of their property. There are over 690 empty homes in the District which have been empty for 6 months or longer and there is a growing shortage of housing in the area. The Council is willing to help property owners bring their property back into repair so that it can be used to provide accommodation for people living in hostels and bed and breakfast accommodation. This helps the Council rehome people and also helps landlords earn an additional income. The owner will also benefit from no longer paying an additional Council Tax premium of 50% on their bill which is payable on a property that has been empty for 2 years or more.

Empty home owners can receive support from the Council to offer advice on how properties can be let, sold or to find out more about other letting options such as leasing. The council may also be able to offer assistance of up to £10,000 to assist with the cost of essential repairs.

Should any Parish Councillor be aware of an empty property in disrepair there is a link for information about the renovation grants, visit:

www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourhome/privatesectorhousing/housinggrants/landlords

I have also been approached by a Group in Naction about using some of my Enabling Grant for their project and I have asked them to provide further information and approximate costings so that I can put this to the Enabling Committee. If anyone in Brightwell, Foxhall or Purdis Farm have a project which they feel I can help with please put them in touch with me.

My first Licensing Committee is coming up shortly and hopefully next month I will be able to confirm whether the applicant was successful or not.

I am on holiday from 9 July to 27 July and will therefore not be contactable.

- Suffolk Police – written report

Period 1st June – 29th June 2015

Parish	No. of crimes recorded	Same month last year
Brightwell	2	1
Bucklesham	1	3
Foxhall	0	2
Levington	1	1
Nacton	4	5
Newbourne	3	0
Purdis Farm	14	12
Waldringfield	0	1
Total Crime this month	25	25

This month's recorded crime was 25. The level of recorded crime for the same period in 2014 was also 25.

Foxhall and Waldringfield are both crime free this month.

Brightwell had 2 reported crimes this month, a car park outside Brightwell Barns was damaged on the 12th June and a person was charged with Driving whilst unfit through Drink or Drugs.

Bucklesham had 1 reported crime this month, the security lights at the Quarry Entrance of La Farge Tarmac were damaged sometime between the 6th and the 20th June.

Levington had 1 crime this month over a 5 month period someone has entered a boat moored at Levington marina and removed some equipment, enquiries are continuing.

Nacton have 4 reported crimes this month, overnight on the 10th June, unknown person entered a secure UK Power compound and damaged a vehicle and stole an RSJ. A person was charged with driving a vehicle with excess alcohol levels. Overnight on the 29th June an office was entered and items taken.

Newbourne again had 3 reported crimes this month, overnight on the 10th of June a barn on Newbourne Hall Estate was entered and items removed, some goods were taken from a stall outside a house but not enough money was paid into the honesty box and a community resolution was issued to a person who took items from a stall outside a house and did not pay for them.

Purdis Farm recorded 14 crimes this month, all relate to either Sainsbury's or Homebase.

Waldringfield had 3 reported crimes this month, the office of a local pub was entered and searched but the offenders left without taking anything when the alarm went off, a car parked securely in the sailing club car park was entered and handbags inside were taken and a wheelie bin was taken from outside a property in cliff road.

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

The meeting was re-convened.

98.15 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.

Broadband – SALC Briefing

You will all have seen a regular trickle (and sometimes a veritable flood) of announcements about broadband improvements which are hitting many areas thanks to a Suffolk County Council initiative. However, it is important that communities know when this new infrastructure is available to them and that they understand that they do not get access automatically or for free. The infrastructure is provided and now it is down to us all to decide whether to sign up for a deal that enables our access to the faster broadband. So, look out for those announcements. Perhaps when reliable news comes through to you, you might wish to let people know through your village and town magazines and help them to understand that if they want to take advantage of the new provision, they have to

contact an Internet Service Provider and pay to get connected?
<http://www.betterbroadbandsuffolk.com>

Sizewell C

At the community event held in Darsham on 11th March town and parish councils said that they found the opportunity for discussion particularly helpful. It was suggested that additional smaller group events should be held to help share thoughts, ideas and information ahead of EDF Energy's Stage 2 consultation.

With this in mind four events have been arranged:

30th June	Martlesham Community Centre
2nd July	Yoxford Village Hall
14th July	Leiston Community Centre
16th July	Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew

The meetings start with coffee and registration at 6.15 pm and conclude at 8.30 pm.

The events are designed to provide a forum for discussion amongst towns and parishes and with the joint local authorities about issues that are important to your communities. The meetings will be round table discussions with the opportunity to share your key areas of interest. The aim is to create a collective understanding across all towns and parishes and provide a clearer way forward as we approach Stage 2. Please do choose the venue which suits you best and book your place by emailing sizewellc@eastsuffolk.gov.uk or by telephoning Sharon Bleese on 01502 523346.

Fly Grazing

Local councils will wish to be aware that the Control of Horses Act 2015 is now in force.

The Act aims to clamp down on people who illegally abandon horses. It introduces changes to the law to deter people from illegally grazing or simply abandoning horses on public and private land, which is known as 'fly-grazing'. This affects many areas across the country. In the region of 3000 horses are estimated to be illegally fly-grazed. It is thought that horse welfare issues are on the increase generally owing to overbreeding and higher costs for caring for horses. The new law mean horse owners who fly-graze their animals without permission can now be dealt with more quickly and effectively.

Previously an abandoned horse could only be disposed of after 14 days through sale at market or public auction. The new Act means fly-grazing horses have to be reported to police within 24 hours, and owners now have only four days to claim their animals. It extends the options for dealing with abandoned horses, which now include private sale, gifting and rehoming which should mean they can be dealt with more quickly which is more efficient, cheaper for landowners and local authorities and kinder to the horses.

99.15 Planning

a. Planning Applications

Cllr Watts reported that one planning application had been received since the last meeting as follows.

PL/01705 Household Waste Recycling Centre Foxhall – Erection of temporary building with external display area for use as a reuse charity shop, storage containers, perimeter fencing, car parking and installation of CCTV.

Parish Council Comments:

The Parish Council supports the above application however they would like to make the following comments.

1. This proposal will undoubtedly increase the traffic to the site. There is currently a local fly-tipping problem particularly when site access to the skips is halted to remove full skips. It is noted that the skips have been rearranged to improve traffic flow. How will the replacement of skips be managed?
2. Fly tipping is also a consequence of charges to small businesses for depositing waste. Will there be any allowance if a business deposits items that can be resold?
3. Will the site support just one charity or a range of local charities in Suffolk. Who and how will this/these charities be decided?

The Clerk reported that a reply had been received and Suffolk County Council Planning would be answering the questions which the Parish Council had asked. **Action: Clerk**

b. Report on the World of Planning Event

Cllr Watts gave his report on the World of Planning Event he attended provided by Suffolk Coastal District Council.

100.15 Donation / Subscriptions

The Clerk reported that one request for a donation and two for subscriptions had been received as follows:

Brightwell PCC – Donation to the upkeep of the church	£200.00
Suffolk Preservation Society – Subscription	£25.00
Community Action Suffolk – Subscription	£30.00

Proposed Cllr Warham, seconded Cllr Watts that the above expenditure should be approved – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

101.15 Bucklesham Community Council – Sports Ground Contribution

The Clerk reported that an email had been received from Ruth Johnson who represents Bucklesham Community Council regarding the Sports Ground Contribution pot. Due to the fact that pot of money is available to Bucklesham and Brightwell, agreement is required by Brightwell to enable Bucklesham to access the fund. Following discussion Cllr Wells proposed, seconded Cllr Lawrence that a letter be sent to Bucklesham Community Council giving their support to access the pot of money – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

102.15 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Watts reiterated the decision previously made by the Parish Council not to go ahead with a Neighbourhood Plan – all in favour.

103.15 Speeding / Community Speed Watch

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to PCSO Badderley regarding the Community Speed Watch but unfortunately due to lack of support the initiative was unlikely to go ahead. This was noted by councillors.

104.15 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

A J Buggs Salary and Expenses June 2015	£229.60
Heelis & Lodge Audit Fee	£42.00
HMRC Tax April – May – June	£151.80
Richard Smith General Repairs	£512.96

Cllr Warham proposed, seconded Cllr Newell that the above expenditure is approved – all in favour.

Action: Clerk

105.15 Correspondence

None

106.15 Meetings attended by councillors / clerk

None

107.15 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr Newell reported that the ditch in Purdis Road was again flooding although the ditch had been cleared. Unfortunately the drain which had been cleaned has again silted up. Cllr Newell felt this was caused by the fields being higher than the road. It was agreed that the Clerk would report this to Malcolm King Suffolk County Council Highways Manager. **Action: Clerk**

- b. Cllr Warham reported that the graffiti on the speed limit sign on the Felixstowe Road between Sainsburys and the Suffolk Showground needs to be removed. **Action: Clerk**

108.15 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 9th September 2015

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 pm

Signed Date.....

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