

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at Trinity Park at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 10th January 2018

Present

Cllr E Warham – Chairman
Cllr A Day
Cllr R Walters
Cllr G Watts
Cllr A Wells
Cllr A Finch
Cllr B Newell
Cllr P O'brien – Suffolk County Council
Cllr N Yeo – Suffolk Coastal District Council
Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

01.18 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr E Lawrence. The Clerk reported that a reply had not been received from Cllr M Briggs so it had to be assumed that Cllr Briggs no longer wished to be a Parish Councillor. **Action: Clerk**

02.18 Declaration of interest

None

03.18 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 13th December 2017 were approved as being a true record with the following amendment.

Page 8 – 179.17 Members questions to the Chairman

a. Amend to read; '... parked at the entrance to Foxglove Crescent...'

04.18 Matters arising from the minutes

No matters arising from the minutes. All items included in the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

Cllr P O'brien – Suffolk County Council – written report

Firstly, May I wish you all a happy and successful New Year.

I find that January is always a difficult month to report on for one is looking back at happenings in December, which is such a pressurised month from a work and home perspective. However, here goes.

Home to School Transport

Suffolk County Council has launched a school travel consultation. In Suffolk £21m is spent per year on school transport. Over the past two years SCC has managed to save £2.6ml from its school and post 16 travel budget, making it more efficient. However, despite this, the budget is £3ml overspent. Changes to school travel policies now need to be considered so the service is affordable and capable of meeting growing demand.

The two and half month consultation began December 12th and ends February 28th.

SCC current school transport policies go above the legal requirements and the consultation seeks views on changing these policies and presents 3 alternative options:

1. In Sept.2019 change the school travel policy so that it is line with legal requirements.
2. From Sept.2019 introduce changes on a phased basis as a child joins or moves school. This would cost SCC an estimated £8.8ml to implement.
3. Make no changes to school transport but take savings from other services provided by SCC.

There is to be a full programme of events and opportunities for discussion, plus consultation workshops. In the Martlesham Division that is to be at Kesgrave Conference Centre 12 Acre Approach, IP5 1JF on January 16th in the Orwell Room from 19.00 until 20.30.

Retention of Business Rate Pilot Scheme

SCC has been named as one of the 10 pilot areas for a new government scheme to retain 100% of business rate from Council Tax in 2018/19. More information is needed before SCC knows how much additional income this could generate.

Warm Homes Fund

Local authorities, working together as the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership, have been successful in securing funding from the first round of the Warm Homes Fund for a project worth £4.3 million.

Suffolk's local authorities are now able to provide fully funded central heating systems to 514 fuel poor households across Suffolk over the next three years.

The new £150m fund was established by National Grid using part of the proceeds from the sale of the company's majority stake in its gas distribution business.

Upper Orwell Crossings

Structural and environmental tests to finalise the detailed design for the Upper Orwell Crossings in Ipswich are to begin early next year.

Ground investigation works, which could last up to three months, are scheduled to begin on 15 January 2018. Contractors Fugro GeoServices Ltd will dig trial holes and deep boreholes both on land and in the water.

The works will determine the underlying properties of the ground and river bed. The land based work will take place between 7am and 7pm Monday to Friday and 7am and 1pm on Saturdays, while the work in the water will be carried out 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Noise levels will be monitored closely throughout the works.

High Needs Funding Consultation

On 13th December 2017 Suffolk County Councils launched a consultation, to reform the way in which education providers are funded for delivering high needs support to children/ young people with special educational needs and or disabilities.

Funding is not being reduced, the consultation is to determine the fairest way to use the budget SCC has.

The consultation will run until 9th February 2018.

Cllr N Yeo – Suffolk Coastal District Council

First of all I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and hope that you all had a brilliant Christmas.

Life is now back to normal and I have a couple of items to mention which might be of use to you when meeting with residents.

The first one is the question of the garden waste collection service which we discussed briefly at the last Parish Council meeting and I have some more information on this which I feel will be beneficial to yourselves if asked any questions. When I was first elected to the Council in 2015 it was agreed that the Council would carry the costs of the 'free' garden waste collection service and to bear the cost of reduced Recycling Performance Payment support, despite the financial pressures on the council. However, at the time, it was recognised that this is discretionary service that is provided and it was always said that the Council would keep this decision under review.

Suffolk Coastal District Council is now under increasing pressure financially, with dwindling support from central Government. Next year (2018/19), the council is faced with a budget gap of over £2.8 million.

Providing the organic waste collection and composting service currently costs Suffolk Coastal over £1.2 million a year. This cost has been exasperated by the £200,000 per year reduction in support for recycling organic waste previously provided by the county council.

The East Suffolk Business Plan identifies the need for the council to become increasingly financially-self-sufficient in the future. As such, a difficult decision to join the vast majority of other local authorities in Suffolk and Norfolk in providing local people with the opportunity to pay for a garden waste collection service.

I would stress, this service will be entirely voluntary, with people having to 'opt in' and register to receive the service. Any funds raised from the service will be re-invested in providing services to local people and reducing the budget gap.

A timetable for introducing the charge for garden waste collection is currently being drawn up, including details of how and when people can join & pay, should they opt to use the service.

As soon as this detailed information is available, I will make sure that I let you have a copy.

The second item which I feel might be of interest is fly tipping, again another interest to residents.

The Council has recently taken a Saxmundham man to court after 20 sacks of household waste were dumped on land near Cransford. Apparently, he had paid a company to remove these sacks, not checking that they were a reputable company and also where they were going to dispose of the household waste. He was fined £100 due to his personal circumstances.

The Council have a Scrap Code which helps people to avoid being held responsible and risk getting a criminal record if they dispose of their household waste in this way.

- S: Suspect. Beware of rogue waste carriers – reputable companies do not usually make direct approaches. If in any doubt as to whether someone is a legitimate waste carrier, do not allow them to take your waste.
- C: Check. Ask for their waste carrier registration details, and verify them by checking the online register or by calling 03708 506 506. Always note down the registration number of the vehicle used to take your waste away.
- R: Refuse unsolicited offers to have any rubbish taken away. Always carry out your own research and choose who you wish to approach. Legitimate waste carriers are unlikely to seek business by going door-to-door.
- A: Ask questions. Always ask what exactly is going to happen to your rubbish and seek evidence that it is going to be disposed of appropriately. A legitimate, professional waste carrier who wants your business should not object to being asked reasonable questions.
- P: Paperwork. Make sure you get a proper receipt containing the written information for your waste. This should include what has been removed, and where it will be going. Make sure the Company or tradesman's details are included.

The Suffolk Waste Partnership has produced a video aimed at householders, emphasising the importance of the Duty of Care and how to do their bit to prevent their waste ending up fly-tipped by rogue waste carriers and avoid risking a fine of up to £5000: www.youtube.com/watch?v=a1X83ka_AqQ

If you see someone fly-tipping in Suffolk Coastal or Waveney report it in confidence online at: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/waste/fly-tipping/how-to-report-fly-tipping

The meeting was re-convened.

05.18 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.

Electoral Roll

The new electoral roll has been received which after acknowledgement that we wish to receive a copy it is sent by email and then having acknowledged that the electoral roll has been received a password is then sent. I raised the question with Suffolk Coastal District Council with regard to what will happen after May 2018 when the new data protection laws come into effect. SCDC have replied stating in future Parish Councils will need to register for accessing a secure sharing site. Invitations for this will be sent in due course.

Precept Referendums

Jayne has informed us there will be no precept referendums for smaller Parish Councils this financial year.

06.17 To discuss the broadband in the parishes

Cllr Day reported that Nicky had mentioned at the last Parish Council meeting additional funding for broadband. Cllr Day said that after further investigation he felt extra funding was only available for areas which have poor internet activity and he did not think it applied to this area. No further action.

07.18 Straight Road Classification

Cllr Day reported that despite the efforts of Cllr O'Brien Suffolk County Council he had still not been contacted by David Chenery Suffolk County Council Highways Manager. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should complete the on-line highways reporting screen on line. Clerk to discuss with Cllr O'Brien again. **Action: Clerk**

08.18 VAS Signs

Cllr Finch reported that unfortunately his computer has not been working so he has been unable to download data but hoped to be able to shortly. **Action: Cllr Finch**

09.18 Data Protection – ICO

Councillors discussed the new data protection laws which come into effect in May 2018. Cllr Day reported that the Clerk had produced a number of documents which may be applicable to the Parish Council. Discussions took place as to whether the Clerk could act as the Data Protection Officer and the Clerk reported that the Local Council Public Advisory Service had stated that as long as the Clerk remains impartial it was in order. The Clerk reported that the Local Public Advisory Service was going to hold an evening course for Clerks and Councillors at a cost of £30 per delegate. Cllr Wells proposed, seconded Cllr Watts that the Clerk and Cllr Day should attend the course – all in favour. The Clerk was asked to obtain a copy of a 'model' data protection policy. **Action: Clerk**

10.18 Bus Shelter – Bucklesham Road

Cllr Walters reported that he had arranged a meeting next week with the Ipswich Golf Club to discuss the positioning of the bus shelter. It was agreed that Cllr Warham should send him a copy of the map of the land at the front of the golf club. **Action: Cllr Warham / Cllr Walters**

11.18 Parking Entrance to Foxglove Crescent

Cllr Watts reported that the number of cars and vans parked at the entrance to Foxglove Crescent had increased recently and this should be raised as a concern with Suffolk County Council Highways. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to SCC Highways with a copy to Cllr O'Brien and Sgt Peter Street. **Action: Clerk**

12.18 Planning

The Parish Council discussed the following planning matters.

General

Cllr Watts reported that two planning applications had been circulated recently as follows.

DC/17/5406/FUL Poppies Farm Purdis – Extension to northfacing side of house (ground) extension to east facing side of house and internal mods – No objection.

DC/17/5292/FUL Tanglewood – Variation of Con 2. Positioning of boundary fence – No objection.

The following application is still in the process of circulation.

DC/17/5437/OUT Land to the North of Purdis Farm Lane – Six dwellings with associated infrastructure, parking and landscaping. Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Watts would draft a reply and pass to the Clerk for submitting to Suffolk District Council Planning Department.

Action: Clerk / Cllr Watts

Adastral Park

Cllr Watts reported that a full day Planning Committee Meeting was being held on Monday, 15th January 2018. Cllr Watts commented that the timescale for being notified of this meeting was extremely short. Following discussion, it was agreed that no councillor was available to attend the meeting and that the Clerk should write to Ben Woolnough Suffolk Coastal District Council stating that the Parish Council could not send a representative to speak but that they stand by their comments already put forward. **Action: Clerk**

Orwell Truck Stop Planning Application

No further information relating to this application.

13.18 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

A J Buggs Salary and Expenses December 2017	£306.52
HMRC Tax – A J Buggs	£194.00

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

14.18 Correspondence

The Clerk reported that the following correspondence has been received.

- a. Email received from Gillian Benjamin Communities Officer Suffolk Coastal District Council enclosing a copy of a guide to transport for disabled. She had pointed out that this guide does not include public transport. **Action: Clerk**

15.18 Meetings attended by councillors / clerk

None

16.18 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr Day reported that a number of properties had been sold in the area, other houses are up for sale and the families are moving into the Hollies Development. He felt it was now a good time to advertise for additional parish councillors. **Action: Clerk**

- b. Cllr Finch asked what was the current position with regard to the renovation of the Foxhall Sign. Cllr Wells agreed to speak to Richard Smith. **Action: Cllr Wells**

17.18 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 14th February 2018

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.24

Signed Date.....

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