

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

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

Present

Cllr E Warham – Chairman

Cllr A Day

Cllr A Wells

Cllr E Lawrence

Cllr B Newell

Cllr R Walters

Cllr A Finch

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

Cllr P O'brien – Suffolk County Council

119.18 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Nicky Yeo District Councillor and Cllr G Watts (business commitment).

120.18 To receive Members' declaration of interest

None

121.18 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11th July 2018 were approved as being a true record.

122.18 Matters arising from the minutes

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Cllr Day reported that the plans for improving the Broadband by Open Reach were not going ahead now but in the future the area will get a much better level of service than before – 45 mb.

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

Cllr P O'brien – Suffolk County Council

Upgrading recycling centres

Suffolk County Council's Cabinet has approved a plan to invest £6million into upgrading Suffolk's recycling centres.

The plan has earmarked £3m for the Foxhall Recycling Centre and £1m for Haverhill for "urgent improvements". The plans will see improvements to traffic access at Foxhall and measures to prevent people from having to climb steps to dispose of their waste in the containers. Existing planning permission for work expires in March 2021.

Elsewhere £1m has been earmarked for a site to replace the Portman's Walk Recycling Centre in Ipswich town centre, and a further million for the same in Stowmarket.

Construction for improvements is expected to get underway in 2019/20.

Financial support for victims of domestic abuse

The Suffolk Public Sector Leaders group agreed funding of £225,000 to be awarded to the Safer and Stronger Communities Group (SSCG) for three key developments in domestic abuse support.

£100,000 will be used to create a Suffolk Co-ordination Centre. This will be a single point of contact for victims of domestic abuse, family members, friends and others with concerns.

Elsewhere, £65,000 will develop a domestic abuse champions network where industry professionals will train organisations in identifying the signs of domestic abuse early.

The remaining cash will be used to help support joint schemes in tackling abuse.

Funding for young people

Public sector leaders have given their backing to a major financial boost to help more young people in Suffolk get into education, employment or training.

An extra £200,000 has been agreed by Suffolk's council leaders and the Police and Crime Commissioner, with a further £200,000 agreed in principle for a second year. This is on top of £600,000 committed by Suffolk County Council - £1 million in total.

Currently in Suffolk 7% of 16 to 18 year olds are not in education, employment or training (NEET) and 12% of the county's 66,000 16 to 24 years olds are unemployed. Suffolk's youth unemployment position is in line with the national picture.

The investment will support local projects to reduce the number of young people who are NEET or unemployed, including programmes to prepare young people to benefit from local Apprenticeship opportunities.

Financial Challenge

I sent information to all parishes re the serious financial challenge Suffolk CC is facing. This is due to the impact of reduced funding for the council and increasing demand, particularly in the area of Children's Services.

SCC has overspent by £8.6ml this year. Children's Services account for £5ml.

Savings are to be made by:

Changing the way SCC works; review major projects; re negotiate passenger transport contracts; strengthen Adult Services contract management; cutting Children's budgets that have underspent; lobbying government for more money.

Suffolk CC is not alone in this situation. All public bodies are having to deal with growing demand whilst less funding is available.

Education

Improved GCSE results. 67% achieved grade 4 and above in English and Maths.

A level results were good with 98% achieving A-E. 3% increase in pupils achieving A/A*

Tourism

The tourist trade grew enormously this year with the visitor economy reaching £2bl. for the first time. 13% of all employment in Suffolk is in the tourist sector.

Cllr Nicky Yeo Suffolk Coastal District Council – no report

The meeting was re-convened

Question Time

None

123.18 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.

Government are Consulting on the Financial Settlement for Districts, Boroughs and Counties

Within the document they are also consulting on the Automatic Referendum Principles.

The Government have indicated that they may decide to keep Parish and Town Councils outside of it. However, this is under active review therefore councils are encouraged to respond to the consultation.

Council tax referendum principles for town and parish councils.

In 2018-19 the Government decided to defer the setting of referendum principles for town and parish councils for three years.

However, this was conditional upon:

The sector taking all available steps to mitigate the need for council tax increases, including the use of reserves where they are not already earmarked for other uses or for "invest to save" projects which will lower on-going costs and

The Government seeing clear evidence of restraint in the increases set by the sector.

In 2018-19, the average band D parish precept increased by 4.9%. This compares to a 6.3% increase in 2017-18 and is the lowest year on year increase in parish precepts since 2015-16.

In view of this the Government intends to continue the deferral of setting referendum principles for town and parish councils, but encourages parish councils to continue this downward trend, and will keep this area under active review.

New National Planning Policies

Building attractive and better designed homes in areas where they are needed is at the centre of new planning rules published by the Secretary of State Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP.

The new rules will also make it easier for councils to challenge poor quality and unattractive development and give communities a greater voice about how developments should look and feel.

The revised National Planning Policy Framework follows a public consultation launched by the PRIME Minister earlier this year to provide a comprehensive approach for planners, developers and councils to build more homes, more quickly and in the places where people want to live.

East Suffolk Housing Strategy – ‘Housing 2023’

The first joint Housing Strategy for East Suffolk was launched at the end of late year. In April next year the newly created East Suffolk Council comes into being and both Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils were keen that a unified housing strategy was in place for the area in which we live and work.

Can we take the opportunity to remind you of the East Suffolk Housing Strategy which can be found at <https://www.paperturn-view.com/?pid=Mzi32274>. The Strategy discusses the housing issues in east Suffolk and identifies actions to help address some of these issues. We are making strides in progressing on the challenging targets we have set ourselves. If you have any questions about the East Suffolk Housing Strategy please contact David Howson at dave.howson@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

New Grit Bin Process – Information from Suffolk Highways

Although the summer is in full swing and leaves are still on the trees, we need to contact you about our preparations for the winter. In particular, we want to tell you about recent changes made to the grit bin service and how we can better support you this winter.

Suffolk Highways has undertaken a review of grit bins/heaps for highway use. These are the bins/heaps for which you have responsibility and support through your community's self help winter scheme. Suffolk Highways has been keeping the bins/heaps stocked up.

This review, which was reported to Suffolk County Council's Scrutiny Committee on 1st May 2018 in a paper entitled 'Winter Maintenance Resilience', seeks to address some of the concerns raised about the grit bin/heap service last winter.

The main aims of this review are:

- To make it easier to request grit bin refills.
- To explain the process of applying for a new grit bin.
- To establish and explain our position on grit heaps.
- To provide clarity of the grit bin process and associated responsibilities, resulting in a more efficient service for communities.

We have developed clear guidance on the application process for new bins as well as setting out how the bins should be managed and maintained in the future. Our aim is to ensure that all Suffolk parish and town councils are better informed when making a new application for a grit bin and know

what their responsibilities as the owners are. The Grit Bin Guidance and Application Procedure is attached to this email for your reference.

Grit heap removal:

The review highlighted some significant concerns about the effectiveness of grit heaps. They can damage the environment due to the leaching of salt into the highway, verges and the underlying groundwater and watercourses. This leaching also reduces the effectiveness of the remaining material. Therefore, the provision of grit heaps across the country can no longer be supported. Material for these heaps will not be provided any more by Suffolk Highways.

However, if you wish to maintain a stock of grit at the location of a redundant grit heap in your parish/town please apply for a new grit bin at that location. To do so follow the attached guidance.

If you require a new replacement bin, please also refer to the guidance. The team responsible for this service is ready to receive completed applications for the processing. This year, the closing date for applications has been relaxed to ensure you have sufficient time.

Please rest assured that the full restocking of all registered highway grit bins will commence before the winter. At that time, or shortly after, we will install signage on the grit bins to explain how to make best use of the grit and how to get the grit bin restocked.

124.18 Bus Shelter – Bucklesham Road

CLlr Walters stated that the golf club are in the process of drafting an agreement for the siting of the bus shelter. Noted. **Action: CLlr R Walters**

125.18 VAS Equipment

CLlr Finch reported that the VAS results had previously been circulated to all councillors. CLlr Finch stated that a parishioner had written to Sgt Peter Street re the results of the VAS equipment and would ask him whether he had received a reply. CLlr Finch that Suffolk County Council are against fixed cameras. **Action: Clerk / CLlr A Finch**

126.18 To discuss the CIL receipts allocated to Foxhall because of the Straight Road development

The Clerk reported that she had written to Suffolk County Council Highways accepting the proposal for the new signs to be erected Felixstowe Road / Straight Road. The Clerk also reported that once the health and safety work had been undertaken Highways would send a copy of the proposal. It was agreed that the Clerk should circulate a copy of the proposal when received rather than wait for the next Parish Council Meeting. **Action: Clerk**

127.18 To discuss Locality Budget 2018/2019

CLlr O'brien said that the Locality Budget for 2018/2019 is £1,000.00. Items discussed by councillors were CCTV equipment to deter people from fly tipping in the area. It was agreed that CLlr Walters would speak to Tim Passmore as to whether the Parish Council could legally install cameras. Councillors also discussed whether the Parish Council should install two more poles to locate the speed camera. **Action: CLlr R Walters / Clerk**

128.18 Complaints re Noise at Trinity Park

The Clerk reported that over the summer she had received several complaints regarding the noise at Trinity Park. Graham Trinity Park groundsman had been contacted and had reported that NCS camp on Foxhall Car Park had caused problems with music etc during the evening and they have been working with NCS to reduce noise. Suffolk Coastal District Council were aware of the issues and Environmental Health had visited twice to check noise levels and both times they were happy with their results. Graham felt that the hot weather had added to the situation. The Clerk had reported back to residents who had complained with her findings.

129.18 To discuss the Major Review of Highways Budget in Suffolk

Parish Councillors discussed the review of the Highways budget and decided SCC needed to have the right contractors in place for the contracts. No further action.

130.18 To discuss the Ward Boundary Consultation

Cllr Watts was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following comments. The consultation period has closed. My view is that in view of the criteria used the proposed Ward Boundary is acceptable particularly in view of the ongoing development of Brightwell Lakes and potential housing along the Foxhall Road. No further action.

131.18 To discuss the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan – First Draft Local Plan

It was reported that Cllr Watts and Cllr Newell had attended the meeting which was on the 18th July. In his written report Cllr Watts said that in his opinion there are few changes which will affect the Parish. The major concern is the proposal to develop land at Felixstowe Road Nacton (opposite the crematorium) into a high-quality prestigious business park. Whilst such a site may be required this is the wrong location. It is a remote site away from any facilities only realistically acceptable by car. Unlike the warehousing development in Purdis Farm access to the A12, A14 is not so essential as the principal road users will be car users not lorries. Therefore, locations away from the Orwell Bridge such as north of Woodbridge would be more suitable. No further action.

132.18 To approve expenditure to replace the damaged Waste Bin – Footpath from Felixstowe Road to Woodrush Road

The Clerk reported that she had been contacted by Suffolk Coastal District Council regarding the replacement of the damaged waste bin on the footpath from Felixstowe Road to Woodrush Road. The cost of replacing the bin is in the region of £350.00. Cllr Finch proposed, seconded Cllr Lawrence that the expenditure for the renewal of the bin should be approved – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

133.18 Planning

a. General

Cllr Watts reported that in general planning applications have been quiet. The only outstanding issue is Tanglewood. I believe updated plans have been submitted which may satisfy the objections raised by a local resident although he remains concerned that the Planning Officer will not fully consider his concerns. Cllr Watts went on to say that as far as he is aware the view of the Parish Council has not changed and nobody else is objecting.

b. Adastral Park

Brightwell Lakes Forum – It was agreed that Cllr Day and Cllr Newell be appointed to represent the Parish Council on this forum.

Speed Limit Consultation – Cllr Watts stated that he agreed with the comments of Martlesham Parish Council in particular the sentence: *The reality is that this stretch of the A12 is now a very busy urban road which will have 5 sets of full time traffic lights in the 2.5km from Foxhall Road to the A1214 and it should have consistent 40 mph speed limits along the whole of this length which reflect that fact.*

134.18 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

A J Buggs Salary and Expenses July 2018	£298.95
A J Buggs Salary and Expenses August 2018	£304.52

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

135.18 Correspondence

None

136.18 Meetings attended by councillors / clerk

- a. Cllr Newell reported on the Quarry Meeting she had attended on the 17th July.

137.18 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr Newell reported that there had been more instances of fly tipping in Kennels Road and Hall Road. If the fly tipping is on the landowner's land and not on the road side of the fence Suffolk Coastal District Council will not remove the rubbish.
- b. Cllr Newell also reported that the renovations to the bridge in Monument Farm Lane are not straight. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Suffolk County Council Highways reporting the issue. **Action: Clerk**
- c. Cllr Day reported that the railway level crossing adjacent to the Felixstowe Road is open again for vehicle and pedestrian crossing following the accident during the year.
- d. Cllr Walters said that he had researched surveillance equipment good practice guide. Cllr Walters said that he would report back to the next Parish Council meeting re surveillance equipment. **Action: Cllr R Walters / Clerk**

138.18 Date of next meeting

Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm Wednesday, 10th October 2018

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.05 pm.

Signed Date.....

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