

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at Trinity Park, Felixstowe Road at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 12th June 2019

Present

Cllr E Warham – Chairman

Cllr A Day

Cllr G Watts

Cllr A Finch

Cllr A Wells

Cllr E Lawrence

Cllr R Walters

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

Cllr P O'brien – Suffolk County Council

Cllr E Thompson – East Suffolk Council

Cllr C Blundell – East Suffolk Council

7 members of the public

87.19 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr B Newall.

88.19 To receive Members' declaration of interest

None

89.19 Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th May 2019 were approved as being a true record.

90.19 Matters arising from the minutes

All items arising from the minutes form part of the agenda.

91.19 To elect a Vice Chairman

Cllr A Day proposed that Cllr E Lawrence be elected as Vice Chairman, seconded Cllr E Warham – all in favour.

92.19 To elect another member of the Planning Committee

Cllr G Watts proposed that Cllr R Walters be elected as a member of the Planning Committee, seconded Cllr E Warham – all in favour.

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

Cllr P O'brien – Suffolk County Council

Five new policy areas were outlined at SCCs Annual General Meeting and they are: proposals to begin to use council owned land to build more homes, plans to cut carbon emissions, a commitment to continue work to protect vulnerable adults and children, improve Suffolk roads, raise educational standards. There are all major areas to address in the coming twelve months.

Plans were also announced regarding work with partners, businesses and residents to develop a long-term vision for Suffolk, to renew the council's approach to growing Suffolk's economy and for the council to act more commercially.

Improvements need to be made with our relationships with district and borough councils. It is essential that we work together as this will make for efficiency and savings. The time of pursuing separate avenues are long gone. We need co-operation and service, regardless of political view.

Tremendous news on May 21st. Ofsted inspectors awarded Children's Services at SCC an Outstanding grade following April visit. Only eight other Local Authorities, out of 152, have been judged to be 'Outstanding' overall.

Inspectors were impressed with improvements made across the service since rated 'Good' in 2015. Inspectors commended the staff, highlighting that "the work that staff are doing with children and young people is impressive; the way that they are doing it is making a real difference to their lives". Workforce management was also recognised by Ofsted as a strength.

The Fire Service has had its first major upgrade to its equipment and uniforms since 2011. The firefighter's role has changed much in recent times. In the last year, over a third of emergency incidents attended were not fire related and included events such as road traffic collisions and rescues of both animals and people, from water or height.

The fire service worked in consortium with 12 other fire services across the country, to create an efficient and cost-effective way of purchasing the equipment.

A Highways Community Self Help scheme has been developed in partnership with towns and parishes across Suffolk after it was recognised that many of these councils were willing to carry out additional works to maintain and improve the look of their communities. Works, such as: sign cleaning, hedge cutting, and fingerpost painting. Highways has committed £100k to the scheme in its first year. This funding was taken from the £9.67million additional funding allocated to Suffolk Highways in the budget and is designed to support and empower town and parish councils. Towns and parishes that are interested in joining Community Self Help are encouraged to visit: www.suffolk.gov.uk/communityselfhelp for more details.

Discussions took place regarding Parish Council and local people carrying out work on behalf of Suffolk County Council Highways regarding cutting back vegetation and cleaning of road signs. Cllr A Day stated that he was concerned that Suffolk County Council Highways were still not engaging with the Parish Council regarding the improvements to Straight Road. Cllr P O'brien suggested a better outcome would be achieved by telephoning Suffolk County Council Highways rather than emailing.

Action: Clerk

Cllr E Thompson – East Suffolk Council – Verbal report and discussions.

Cllr C Blundell – East Suffolk Council

East Suffolk Council make up. The East Suffolk District Council is formally registered as a District Council with the Government. However, The Council has chosen to use their title locally as 'East Suffolk Council' which I am advised they are entitled to do and have done so. The district council is made up of 39 Conservatives, 7 Labour, 4 Green, 3 Liberal Democrats and 2 Independents. The Greens, Liberal Democrats and Independents have chosen to work together as a single group making them the second largest group in the council with 9 members. The third group is made up of all 7 Labour councillors.

This matters in the distribution of seats on the various committees. It has been decided by the legal team that Planning (North) will have two opposition seats, and Planning (South) will have three opposition seats.

Since the election most of council time has been taken up with the training and induction of the new councillors and bringing returned councillors up to date with the new and revised processes introduced because of the merger. Therefore, there is little to report on that affects Martlesham, Brightwell, Foxhall and Purdis Farm other than Gladman's Outline Planning Permission for 2700 new homes in Bucklesham/Foxhall which I understand has been submitted to the Council with no Pre-application discussions.

A change has been made in the number of days for planning comments from interested parties. Instead of simply stating 21 days it is now formally changed to 15 working days. This allows for bank holidays etc.

You may like to know that the 'Brightwell Lakes Plan' and the background work involving all relevant parties was, on Tuesday 4th June 2019, granted a national award by an organisation 'Planning Resource' in London for excellence in planning processes and consultations. The district Council will publicise this in due course.

Extensions for planning applications will become more difficult in future due to more strictly adherence to determination timetables. It will, however, still be possible to ask for time extensions if they are needed.

If lobbying has taken place with respect to a particular application to a planning committee member that member is recommended to make that known before the planning meeting in which that particular application is to be determined.

Question Time

Discussions took place concerning the Planning Application and proposed development of Orwell Green. Several members of the public stated their objections to the proposed development. Cllr C Blundell stated that it is not likely to go ahead as a. it is outside the Local Plan and b. too much work would have to be completed to bring the area up to standard and many other issues. Cllr C Blundell went on to say that, in his opinion, it is unlikely to succeed as East Suffolk Council has to take the Local Plan seriously.

The meeting was re-convened

93.19 Planning

a. General

Cllr G Watts reported that there had been three Planning Application refusals in the last month.

DC/19/0680/FUL Straight Works Straight Road Foxhall – Conversion of existing offices/store to dwelling and extension of same building.

The Parish Council had not objected to this application however the Planning Department have turned it down as it is in the countryside and they are continuing to enforce the policy of very limited development in the countryside very strongly.

DC/19/1222/FUL The Moorings Felixstowe Road Foxhall – Garaging to frontage and associated works.

This application was turned down by the Planning Department because of the scale of the development.

DC/19/0992/OUT The Bungalow High Trees Foxhall – Demolition of building and erection of new two storey dwelling.

The Parish Council supported this application however the Planning Department have refused it on the grounds that it is in the countryside and a lack of information submitted to assess and address the potential adverse effects on the woodland TPO and Special Landscape Area.

The Parish Council have received another Planning Application for Tanglewood Elmham Drive Foxhall (DC/19/2281/FYL) for extensions to the dwelling which will be circulated to members of the Planning Committee. Previous Tanglewood applications have been refused.

b. Brightwell Lakes

Cllr A Day said that he was concerned that the forum which had been set up did not appear to be addressing the relationship between the forum and neighbouring properties. Concerns were expressed over the boundary between Sheep Drift Farm and the Quarry and the type of fencing. Cllr C Blundell stated that he had been assured that this problem would be solved.

c. Orwell Green Outline Planning Application No DC/19/1988/OUT

Cllr G Watts gave an outline of the contents of the application which he reports to be in line with previous correspondence and literature which was produced by Gladman's in 2018. Cllr G Watts said although there would be opposition to the application itself, he felt that a major problem is the traffic situation. As is required Gladman's have carried out a traffic assessment. As part of the traffic assessment they have used a traffic modelling system which it is believed was data gathered from a Suffolk County Council Model of 2016 which they have used the figures from that model to show traffic flows which basically are estimated figures. The projected building of 2700 dwellings is estimated to be built in different phases until 2038. Gladman's have carried out the traffic survey and they have assessed the road network and state that no mitigation is necessary for the extra amount of traffic. Gladman's have assessed Bucklesham Road as a 400% increase in traffic which they say is low effect. Gladman's have not assessed the traffic figures in Straight Road however as it is known locally the quickest route to local supermarkets and business parks is along Straight Road. It appears they have no local knowledge and have just used the figures which were produced for another project.

The Planning Application will be dealt with in the normal way and Brightwell, Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council will be putting in their objections as clearly there is local opposition to the

development particularly on traffic grounds. This application is contrary to the East Suffolk Council Local Plan therefore if it is approved it will be against that policy.

94.19 Clerks 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.

District Councillors

In case councillors would like to contact our newly appointed District Councillors their email addresses are; chris.blundell@eastsoffolk.gov.uk and Edward.thompson@eastsoffolk.gov.uk.

New Highways Self Help Scheme Empowers Suffolk people to do more in their community

Suffolk County Council today launched 'Highways Community Self Help' which is designed to support and empower towns and parish councils in Suffolk to carry out minor maintenance tasks in their communities.

The much-anticipated scheme has been developed in partnership with town and parishes across Suffolk after it was recognised that many of these councils were willing to carry out additional works to maintain and improve the look of their communities such as sign cleaning, hedge cutting, painting signs.

Highways has committed £100k to the scheme in its first year, taken from the £9.67million additional funding allocated to Suffolk Highways by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP, in the Budget last October; the investment will help fund training, personal protective gear; such as gloves, hi-viz and safety glasses and any needed tools.

The types of works that town and parish councils are keen to undertake include:

- Sign cleaning
- Fingerpost cleaning/painting/repair
- Tree pruning/branch removal
- Hedge cutting/pruning
- Siding out of footways, or paths (widen back to original/full width)
- Grass verge cutting
- Weed killing/weed removal

Towns and parishes across Suffolk will be able to carry out these tasks and more through one or more of the following four options:

1. Buying in services from contractors
2. Using your own trained employee(s)
3. Using volunteers to undertake work
4. Buying additional services from Suffolk Highways

Residents encouraged to tackle air pollution

East Suffolk residents are being encouraged to take simple steps to protect their health, and the health of their families, from air pollution.

In the lead up to Clean Air Day on 20 June, East Suffolk Council's Air Quality Officers are working with schools, workplaces and communities to help raise awareness of the causes of air pollution and how improved air quality can benefit health.

Clean Air Day is the UK's largest air pollution campaign and aims to tackle and raise awareness of air pollution. Schools, hospitals and communities across the UK will be holding events to inspire local residents to act for their own health and the health of local children.

In preparation for Clean Air Day, Air Quality Officers have been visiting East Suffolk schools to speak with drivers about the pollution caused by idling vehicles and asking parents to switch off their engines outside schools.

Children have [also been invited to become School Air Quality Ambassadors](#) and will attend an air quality lesson at the Council's offices in both Lowestoft and Melton next month.

Phil Gore, Head of Environmental Services and Port Health at East Suffolk Council said: "Air pollution has serious health impacts with dirty air contributing to 40,000 deaths every year in the UK. We want to raise awareness of the simple things people can do in their everyday lives to improve air quality. Clean Air Day is a chance to find out more about air pollution, share information with friends and family and help make the air cleaner and healthier for everyone."

As well as outdoor air pollution, residents are also being asked to consider the air quality in their homes. There are many ways to improve indoor air quality; including opening windows when cooking or using cleaning products, regularly servicing your boiler to ensure there are no carbon monoxide leaks and avoiding artificial scents in the products used at home.

Find out more at eastsuffolk.gov.uk/clean-air-day-20-june-2019

95.19 VAS Sign

Cllr A Finch reported that he is in discussions with David Chenery Suffolk County Council Highways to try and agree some suitable locations for the VAS Sign to be placed on Brightwell Hill.

Cllr A Finch stated that one of the batteries in the VAS Sign needs replacing but he has not yet received a quotation of cost. Cllr A Day proposed, seconded Cllr A Walters that Cllr A Finch be authorised to spend up to £200 on a new battery – all in favour. **Action: Cllr A Finch / Clerk**

96.19 Cameras Straight Road Foxhall

Cllr R Walters reported that the cameras and signs in Foxhall were proving to be a deterrent to fly tippers. One fly tipping offender is likely to be prosecuted. **Action: Cllr R Walters**

97.19 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

A J Buggs Salary and Expenses May 2019	£297.30
Trevor Brown Audit Fee	£100.00

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

99.19 Correspondence

None

98.19 Meetings attended by councillors / clerk

None

99.19 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. The Clerk reported that waste bin adjacent to the Parish Council Notice Board in Murrills Road has now been replaced.
- b. Cllr A Finch reported that there had been two accidents on the Bell Lane / Foxhall Road junction; one was a motorcyclist fatality and the other a young boy on a bicycle who had been seriously injured. It was agreed that the Clerk should speak to both Kesgrave Parish Council and David Chenery Suffolk County Council Highways. **Action: Clerk**
- c. Cllr R Walters reported that the bus shelter on the Bucklesham Road adjacent to the entrance to the Golf Club will be erected in the next few weeks.
- d. Cllr A Wells queried how far the improvements to Straight Road had progressed. It was pointed out that the Parish Council had requested a meeting on site, but David Chenery Suffolk County Council Highways had not responded. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to David Chenery requesting that a meeting be held. **Action: Clerk**
- e. It was reported that the junctions Straight Road / Felixstowe Road and Straight Road / Bucklesham Road has been flooding. Also the road adjacent to Foxhall Lodge (IP10 0AE) had been flooding and causing problems to the owners of the property. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to David Chenery Suffolk County Council Highways to report the problems. **Action: Clerk**

100.19 Date of next meeting

Parish Council Meeting Wednesday, 10th July 2019

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.14 pm

Signed..... Date

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