

## BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes

Of the Parish Council (Zoom) Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Present

Cllr E Warham - Chair

Cllr E Lawrence

Cllr G Watts

Cllr K Rout

Cllr B Newell

Cllr B Short

Cllr S Short

Cllr Patricia O'Brien – Suffolk County Council

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

1 members of the public Ms R Johnson

#### **126.20 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Day, Cllr P Edmunds, Cllr Ed Thompson – East Suffolk Council and Cllr Chris Blundell – East Suffolk Council.

#### **127.20 To receive Members' declaration of interest**

None

#### **128.20 Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 were approved as being a true record.

#### **129.20 Matters arising from the minutes**

To discuss proposed presentation to Cllr Alan Wells

Cllr B Newell stated that she had delivered the clock and card to Alan Well's as a retirement gift to his home.

#### **130.20 The meeting was adjourned to receive reports and questions:**

- a. Cllr Ed Thompson – no report.
- b. Cllr Chris Blundell – no report.
- c. Cllr Patricia O'Brien – written report

Working from home is not ideal. Zooming can be awkward. It often takes some time to set up and is not so fluid. However, we are all surviving. I fervently hope that we will all have happy and comfortable Christmas with our families. I wish you all the very best.

Below is information of the activities taken by SCC.

Suffolk's current COVID infection rates, local hotspots and pressure on hospitals are among the reasons why the county will enter tier two local restrictions on Wednesday 2 December.

Following the decision by central Government, public sector organisations in Suffolk have set out their goal to get the county out of local restrictions as quickly as possible. They have also moved to help residents, business owners and employees to understand the restrictions that will apply across the county, and the reasons for them.

At the beginning of September, there were just five cases of Covid per 100,000 people, now parts of Suffolk, especially in Ipswich and Hadleigh, are seeing much higher numbers of positive COVID cases than anticipated. This all puts pressure on Suffolk's hospitals, which need to protect Suffolk's vulnerable residents whilst still treating non-COVID patients. There were 116 COVID patients in Suffolk hospital beds as at 23 November.

We all understand the restrictions that have been put in place

Suffolk's special educational needs and disability service (SEND) has won a prestigious national award at this year's Nasen awards.

Nasen is a charity that supports and champions those working with, and for, children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and learning differences. Each year, Nasen hosts an annual awards campaign, which looks to celebrate the achievements of individuals and organisations within the SEND sector.

Suffolk's SEND service won the David Ryan Publication Award, which recognises an innovative publication (including e-publications) that have had a positive impact on children and young people with SEND.

Suffolk won the award for the Suffolk SEND 16+ Transitions Guide. The guide, which was initially created in 2019, was developed to support young people aged 14-19 years to plan a successful journey towards adulthood.

The guide is being distributed to all Suffolk colleges and high schools, including special schools and PRUs, and is being used by SEND and Inclusion services in their work with young people. The guide can be found on the Local Offer website

As the end of the UK's transition period for exiting the EU draws closer, Suffolk's Public Sector Leaders (SPSL) pay close attention to progress.

Throughout the transition period, which began when the UK left the EU on 31 January 2020, SPSL have maintained a keen focus on local issues through the work of the county's Brexit Task Group.

On 20 November, SPSL agreed to invest £490,000 over the next three years to support the continued strategic growth of Suffolk's economy and business community, and to support future local and regional business interests.

The money will be used by Suffolk Chamber of Commerce to strengthen Suffolk's trade offer as Trade Advisors.

Suffolk County Council has successfully delivered the largest digital care project in its history - from procurement to delivery in just 16 weeks.

Working alongside care technology specialists, Alcove and Rethink Partners, the council delivered over 750 Carephone devices to elderly and vulnerable people, both in and outside of formal care settings, to help them stay in touch during the coronavirus pandemic. The Carephone is a simple communication device.

On 12 November, Princes Street Fire Station in Ipswich completed its temporary relocation to the Army Reserve Centre on Yarmouth Road.

The move is due to the refurbishments and improvements being made at Princes St, which will see Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service and Suffolk Constabulary share a new blue light hub in about a year's time.

The Home, But Not Alone free phonenumber, which supports vulnerable people in our communities, went live again on 3 November.

The service was paused in August because of low demand and the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions. However, after the announcement of the second national lockdown, the service is up and running again.

The telephone number is freephone 0800 876 6926 and is staffed from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

c. No members of the public present expressed the wish to speak.

#### **To reconvene the meeting**

#### **131.20 To discuss the estimate of cost for repairs to the VAS Sign**

Cllr Eddie Lawrence reported that David Penn had taken the VAS sign to the manufacturers who have now quoted for the repair of the equipment. The quotation is £720.00 plus VAT for repair, £29.50 plus VAT labour and delivery charge of £27.50 plus VAT. The total cost is £777.00 plus VAT. The Clerk reported that the Parish Council would also have to purchase a fixing kit to fix the camera on to any new poles which is £5.00 plus VAT and two kits are required making a total of £10.00 plus VAT. Cllr Eddie Lawrence asked whether the Parish Council wished to pay for repairs or to scrap the sign. Cllr Bernard Short stated that he felt that the VAS sign appeared to reduce the speed of the traffic in Foxhall. Cllr Brenda Newell proposed that the Parish Council instruct the manufacturers to go ahead with the repair of the sign, seconded Cllr Bernard Short – all in favour. **Action: Clerk / Cllr Eddie Lawrence**

#### **132.20 Planning**

DC/20/3593/FUL Brightwell Wood Land Adjacent Lower House Brightwell Street Brightwell – The creation of a nature pond for indigenous species to inhabit.

Application has now been permitted.

DC/20/3867/FUL 53 Bucklesham Road Purdis Farm – Increase in boundary fence height to 2.3m to restore privacy following construction of conservatory on raised ground by neighbour.

Application has now been permitted. Planning Officer had no concerns as it met all the requirements regarding privacy etc.

DC/20/3262/FUL Bucklesham Care Home Purdis Farm – 5 bed extension with additional day space with extra parking spaces.

This application is still under consideration by ESC.

DC/20/4038/FUL – The Bungalow Adjacent High Trees Foxhall Annex Foxhall - Annex with occasionally holiday let usage.

This application has been refused several reasons.

DC/20/4597/FUL 148 Bucklesham Road Purdis Farm – Proposed two storey and single storey extensions and alterations. Repositioning of cartlodge and new vehicle access.

The Parish Council has no objection and we have not received any objection from the neighbour of this property.

DC/20/4844/FUL Woodhouse Woodhouse Lane Foxhall – Retrospective Application – Conversion of Existing Stable Block to Form 1 Holiday Let.

Cllr Brenda Newell pointed out that if High Trees has been rejected on the grounds of a holiday let then the Parish Council should object to this application. Councillors discussed the application, and it was agreed that Cllr Graeme Watts as Chairman of the Planning Committee should look at the policies concerning this application and submit comments on behalf of the Parish Council. **Action: Cllr Graeme Watts**

#### Suffolk County Council Boundary Changes

Cllr Graeme Watts said that he believed the deadline was the 13<sup>th</sup> December 2020 but when he investigated recently unfortunately it was the 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020 so the Parish Council have missed the deadline, but he believed the Parish Council could still submit our comments. Cllr Graeme Watts said that Cllr Brenda Newell had put together a response to SCC. Councillors were concerned that the parishes would be split if the new changes were put in place. It was agreed that Cllr Graeme Watts would submit comments on behalf of the Parish Council. **Action: Cllr Graeme Watts / Clerk**

#### **133.20 Sizewell C Submission**

Cllr Brenda Newell said that the Parish Council should object on the grounds of the number of lorries on the road. She said that during the building time of 8-10 years the area will still have Brightwell Lakes being built. Cllr Graeme Watts stated that they should object to the latest changes on the grounds of traffic on the roads and the congestion at Seven Hills. The Clerk stated that the submission is due on the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020. **Action: Cllr Graeme Watts**

#### **134.20 To discuss the proposal from Cllr E Lawrence to change the agenda item “to receive questions from members of the public”**

Councillors agreed to defer this item until the January 2021 meeting.

#### **135.20 To discuss the Straight Road Improvements**

The Clerk reported that she had contacted Suffolk County Council Highways regarding when the survey would be commenced however David Chenery was unable to give a date. It was agreed that the Clerk should continue to contact David Chenery. **Action: Clerk**

#### **136.21 To discuss the Group Parish Council providing a Community Hall in Purdis Farm**

Cllr Liz Warham and Cllr Eddie Lawrence reported that they had visited the areas in Purdis Farm highlighted by Cllr Chris Blundell for a Community Centre. Cllr Eddie Lawrence stated that they had identified a site adjacent to the Sainsbury's Petrol Station in Murrells Road which appeared to be a suitable location both in terms of location and proximity to residential properties. The site is 4.7 hectares. Cllr Liz Warham said that the Parish Council needed advice on whether this is a suitable site on which to build a Community Hall. It was agreed that the Clerk should speak to Cllr Chris Blundell and Andy Jolliffe regarding the suitability of the site. Please refer to map attached. **Action: Clerk**

#### **137.20 Update on the Community Partnership – Talking Benches Proposal**

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Andy Jolliffe Community Officer who has agreed to fund a 'Talking Bench' out of the money available for the sport and play funding that is available to the parish and this will be included in the design brief and ensure that it is part of the final version. **Action: Clerk**

#### **138.20 To consider financing extra grass cutting spraying etc in all three parishes**

Cllr Eddie Lawrence said he had arranged a meeting with Paul Tynan Norse on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 but unfortunately Paul could not make the meeting and it has now been arranged for next week. **Action: Cllr Eddie Lawrence**

#### **139.20 To consider updating the Group Parish Council Grants Policy**

Councillors agreed to defer this item until the January 2021 meeting.

#### **140.20 Finance**

##### **Income**

None

##### **Expenditure**

A J Buggs Salary and Expenses November 2020	£257.55
Expenses David Penn re VAS Sign	£61.20

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

#### **Budget 2021/2022**

The Clerk went through the budget figures which had previously been circulated. The following amendments were agreed.

Newsletter	£500.00
SALC Training Courses	£300.00
Graffiti Cleansing Service/Materials	£0.00
Zoom Subscription	£47.50
Repairs and General Maintenance of Property	£1,500.00

It was agreed that the Clerk should reissue the budget with the following amendments. The revised budget and setting the precept to be discussed at the January 2021 meeting. **Action: All Councillors / Clerk**

**141.20 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk**

None

**142.20 Members questions to the Chairman**

- a. Cllr Kevin Rout reported that there is still a lot of water damage to the banks in Straight Road caused by heavy rain and the speed of cars eroding the banks. It was agreed that the Clerk should report this to Suffolk County Council Highways. **Action: Clerk**
- b. Cllr Brenda Newell reported that at the Bell Lane crossroads, Highways put a special surface down to stop people skidding to try to reduce the accident rate however it appears that they have now resurfaced the road and covered up the special surface. Clerk to report to Suffolk County Council Highways. **Action: Clerk**
- c. Cllr Eddie Lawrence offered to meet with new councillors if they had any questions they would like to raise which may not be covered in a normal Parish Council Meeting.

**143.20 Date of next meeting**

**Parish Council Meeting Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30 pm (Zoom Meeting)**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.30.**

Signed..... Date .....

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