

BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council (Zoom) Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 14th October 2020

Present

Cllr E Warham - Chair

Cllr E Lawrence

Cllr G Watts

Cllr A Day

Cllr K Rout

Cllr B Newell

Cllr P Edmunds

Cllr B Short

Cllr S Short

Cllr Patricia O'Brien – Suffolk County Council

Cllr Ed Thompson – East Suffolk Council

Cllr Chris Blundell – East Suffolk Council

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

2 members of the public

92.20 Apologies for absence

None

93.20 To receive Members' declaration of interest

None

94.20 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10th September 2020 were approved as being a true record.

95.20 Matters arising from the minutes

80.20 To discuss proposed presentation to Cllr Alan Wells

The Clerk reported that a card and a clock had been purchased and handed to Cllr B Newell for presentation to Alan. Cllr B Newell reported that Alan was having a number of tests at the moment but as soon as he has completed his tests, she will make the presentation. **Action: Cllr B Newell**

96.20 The meeting was adjourned to receive reports and questions:

- a. Cllr Ed Thompson - verbal report
- b. Cllr Chris Blundell – written report

New Chairman Elected

East Suffolk Council elected its new chairman at a Virtual Annual Meeting that was held on 23rd September 2020. Cllr Keith Richardson, who represents the Oulton Broad Ward, will be Chairman for the remainder of the 2020/21 Municipal Year, taking on the post from Cllr Colin Hedgley.

New Ambitious Local Plan Approved

East Suffolk Council have adopted the Suffolk Coastal Local Plan. An ambitious strategy to guide and manage new development for the former Suffolk Coastal area in a sustainable and plan led way. It proposes the delivery of at least 6,500 jobs and 9,756 new homes over the period to 2036 supported by the delivery of appropriate infrastructure whilst also setting out an approach to protect, maintain and enhance the high quality built, historic and natural environment, and mitigate and adapt to climate change.

New Service for Council Tenants to be Launched

East Suffolk Council's housing tenants will soon be able to manage their tenancy more easily using a new online service, due to be launched later this year. The new portal, called 'myHome East Suffolk' will be launched by the end of the year and will enable those living in council owned properties to manage payments, request repairs and make appointments quickly and easily. More details about how to sign up for the new service will be released in the coming weeks and all tenants will be contacted directly regarding the new service.

Major Funding Boost to help Tackle Homelessness

East Suffolk Council has been awarded £93,312 in funding as part of the Government's 'Next Steps Accommodation Programme', to help vulnerable people housed during the pandemic stay in accommodation. Working closely with key partners across the district, the funding will enable the Council to continue to provide accommodation and support for vulnerable people placed under the Covid 19 provisions, including assisting with offers of accommodation in the private rented sector; offering employment and skills support through a personalised one-to-one coaching service delivered by: Access Community Trust; and providing additional emergency beds during the colder Winter months.

People Encouraged to stay Safe on our Coast

A campaign was launched earlier this year to remind residents and visitors about the importance of staying safe on our coast. Throughout the Covid 19 restrictions and particularly since early Summer, the Council's Coastal Management Team has received almost daily reports from concerned land owners, businesses and the community about people climbing on eroding cliffs, climbing on top of sea defences and ignoring signs warning of potential dangers.

The campaign encourages people to visit the coast and enjoy all that there is to see and do but also aims to educate people to take care whilst they are there to ensure that their visit is enjoyable and safe. The campaign launched on social media and with posters and information in prominent local places.

Anyone who notices anything unusual or dangerous about cliffs or any coastal defences, should email coastalmanagement@eastsoffolk.gov.uk In an emergency always call 999 and ask for the Coastguard.

If you wish to have further information on any of the foregoing topics or any other district council matter please contact me by email at chris.blundell@eastsoffolk.gov.uk. Otherwise by phone on 01473 622716.

Councillors discussed the possibility of a Village Hall on Purdis Farm. Cllr C Blundell reported that the Parish Council needed to take this forward. Cllr E Warham believed that the Parish Council should have a member of Community Action Suffolk attend the meeting to talk about Village Hall and the amount of land required. It was agreed that the Clerk should set up a Zoom meeting with Community Action Suffolk and as many councillors as possible should attend. **Action: Clerk**

c. Cllr Patricia O'Brien – written report

Difficulties and challenges are obvious, and we are all having to adapt to new ways of working. I find coming together on 'zoom', just seeing heads and shoulders and being unable to pick up the nuances that are so much more apparent at 'regular' meetings wearing, in both energy and time. However, it is reassuring for me to inform of the continuing SCC service and below is a resume of recent happenings.

£300,00 for Electric vehicle charging points

100 fast charging points for electric vehicles will be installed in rural parts of Suffolk by SCC. This project is the first to benefit from the council's Suffolk 2020 Fund. This is a £3m fund for the council's own projects that must help address the council's climate emergency declaration. The £300k award will link into the council's existing Plug in Suffolk project. It is the UK's first 'fully open' public fast charging network for electric vehicles. Drivers simply park, plug in and charge using contactless payment.

Covid – Investment in recovery

Collective action was taken on September 25th by Suffolk's public sector leaders to agree recovery from Covid 19.

To kickstart the process, the group agreed in principle to a significant investment of £3.4 million towards key priorities to support Suffolk's communities and businesses. For the first phase of supporting Suffolk's recovery, the following funding was agreed in aiding some of Suffolk's immediate areas of focus:

- **Driving inclusive economic growth** – investing in recovery (visitor economy/local investment) and the Suffolk Growth Partnership - £1,302,500m (over three years).
- **Supporting the most vulnerable** – hardship funding - £800,000.
- **Community safety** – tackling gangs and county lines – £1,352,202m (over three years).

Whilst it is essential that individual organisations across Suffolk's public sector have their own recovery plans, agreeing funding for these key areas is another sign of the collaborative focus that Suffolk's Public Sector Leaders recognise in supporting their priorities.

Sizewell C

As you will know I have objected to Sizewell C over the months and I am pleased to note that SCC cannot support EDF's Energy plans for the same reasons that I forwarded; those of transport. The strategy remains predominantly lorry-based and unsustainable in its present form. SCC believes that an increased proportion of rail and sea transport is achievable.

School places

Parents and carers can now apply for primary & secondary school places for Sept.2021.

The deadline to secure a place at Suffolk secondary school is October 31st 2020, for primary it is 15th January 2021. All applications received by these dates are processed at the same time, using the schools' oversubscription criteria to prioritise where necessary. Late application processed after those received on time.

It is well to note that before making an application, parents and carers need to consider how they will get their child to and from school. School travel eligibility is based on a child attending nearest suitable school that has a place available. This might not be the catchment area school.

Information available at: suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel plus Suffolk.gov.uk/admissions

A new political map for SCC

New boundaries are being proposed for council divisions in SCC. The Local Government Boundary Commission would like to hear what residents and local organisations think about the proposals.

The Boundary Commission is an independent body that draws boundaries. Presently it is reviewing SCC to be sure that councillors represent the same number of electors. It is proposing that there should be 70 councillors in future: five fewer than at present.

There is a dedicated section on the Commissions website where details of the proposals can be seen and comment on the names of divisions , their boundaries and the number of councillor per division: <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/18495>.

Views can also be given by email at; reviews@lgbce.org.uk

d. To receive questions from members of the public

Mrs Ruth Johnson requested to speak as a member of the public. Mrs Ruth Johnson said that in answer to Cllr Chris Blundell's mention of a new village hall, Foxhall already have a Village Hall and we are up and running so make use of the Village Hall you already have. If you have any questions re my report, please ask me. We are grateful for the donations which have already been received. Myself and the rest of the Committee on the Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall have been working very hard to keep the hall running. Mrs Heather Owen spoke briefly about the usage of the Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall and reiterated Mrs Ruth Johnson's appeal for funding from BPPF Parish Council. Mrs Heather Owen stated that Foxhall residents use the Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall. Mrs Ruth Johnson confirmed that the Village Hall is now open for business and several groups are using it. Mrs Ruth Johnson confirmed that in terms of running costs the Village Hall are breaking even.

To reconvene the meeting

97.20 To discuss the request from Bucklesham Village Hall for funding support.

Cllr E Warham opened the meeting by putting forward four possible options for discussion.

1. In view of the late arrival of the information received yesterday, and the possibility that not all of you have had time to read it, discussion should be deferred until November meeting.
2. We defer discussion until the Covid19 restrictions are over to see if indeed there is any shortfall. That was, and remains, one of the valid points raised in our first response and confirmed by the advice we have been given.
3. We decide now that we have no responsibility for funding or contribution to the Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall, so all discussion is terminated.
4. That possibly we cannot countenance the latest request for funding for a project, the first one being changed, as it constitutes a second request within the same year. We would need to seek advice about that. There is also the fact that our rules say that requests be made in the year preceding the project so that, if it is accepted by councillors as being beneficial to our residents, the sum of money can be factored into next year's budget and not taken out of the current year's funds.

Cllr A Day put forward a proposal that the Parish Council donate £500 to the Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall to assist them in the current situation. Cllr E Lawrence stated that it is evident that Covid19 is not going to go away and I am concerned that Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall Committee will come back in three months' time for further funding. Cllr E Lawrence stated his proposal was that the Parish Council should not contribute funds to running of the Village Hall. Cllr B Newell stated that it had been established at the last meeting that the Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall Committee have a considerable sum of money and what started as a hardship fund request is no longer the case. In the latest correspondence from Ruth Johnson the request has changed, and they are now asking for a contribution to update the urinals. Cllr E Warham stated that the Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall Committee have received £15,200 so far in funding. Cllr G Watts stated that the request for funds for updating the urinals comes under the BFPF Parish Council Grant Policy. The Grant Policy mentions "a clear need for funding". I am not entirely convinced that there is a clear need for funding as Covid19 has been covered by the grants they have already been given. If the Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall Committee want to put money aside for further emergencies it is not a matter for BFPF Parish Council and we should be considering the application in terms of it being a request for a grant towards the changes to the urinals and that it is not a request for a hardship grant.

Proposal 1: Cllr A Day proposed that the Parish Council make a donation to the Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall Committee of £500 but that it should be stated that this is a one-off grant, seconded Cllr G Watts – Voting 6 in favour (Cllr A Day, Cllr G Watts, Cllr P Edmunds, Cllr K Rout, Cllr B Short and Cllr S Short) – 3 against (Cllr E Warham, Cllr B Newell and Cllr E Lawrence).

Proposal 2: Cllr E Lawrence proposed that the Parish Council do not make a donation to the Bucklesham and Foxhall Hall Committee, seconded Cllr B Newell – Voting 3 in favour (Cllr E Warham, Cllr B Newell and Cllr E Lawrence) – 6 against (Cllr A Day, Cllr G Watts, Cllr P Edmunds, Cllr K Rout, Cllr B Short and Cllr S Short).

It was a majority decision that the Parish Council should make a donation to Bucklesham and Foxhall Village Hall of £500 but that it should be stated that this is a one-off grant.

98.20 Planning

The Parish Council Planning Chairman Cllr Graeme Watts gave his report on the following planning applications.

DC/20/2772/FUL – Peeler Elmham Drive Foxhall – Proposed erection of two detached houses with associated parking and landscaping.

PC comments: The Parish Council objects to this application as we consider that the building of two such dwellings will lead to a higher density of development than the surrounding properties and an acceptable change to the existing street scene.

DC comments: Pending

DC/20/2805/FUL – 123 Bucklesham Road Purdis – Erection of 2 detached dwellings with garages following demolition of existing bungalow.

PC comments: No comment was submitted.

DC comments: Refused on the basis of changing the street scene.

DC/20/3015/FUL – Acadis Purdis Farm Drive Purdis – Proposed detached garage.

PC comments: No objection.

DC comments: Withdrawn

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

PC comments: The Parish Council objects to this application due to the continued concerns expressed by local residents and shared by councillors about the number of cars being parked along Bucklesham Road because there is often insufficient parking space at the Care Home. This has caused inconvenience to surrounding residents and potentially a highway hazard. Despite this issue being raised during the consultation for the recent application DC/20/0955/FUL we do not think that the planning officer fully investigated this issue and did not seek the advice of the Highway Authority. As a result, we object to this application on the specific grounds of highway safety.

DC comments: Pending

DC/20/3442/FUL Molen Bucklesham Road Foxhall – Outdoor detached leisure building to consist of bar area, etc.

PC comments: No objection

DC comments: Pending

DC/20/3438/FUL 148 Bucklesham Road Purdis – 2 storey extension and alterations.

PC comments: The Parish Council objects to this application as we consider that the building of the proposed extension will have a significant detrimental impact on the residential amenity of the occupiers of neighbouring property at number 148a particularly in terms of access to daylight and sunlight. In their letter of objection, the occupiers of number 148a have raised a number of

concerns which should be carefully considered by the planning officer particularly regarding highway safety and the cumulative effect of approved developments in the immediate area. The issue of highway safety along Bucklesham Road continues to be of concern to the Parish Council.

DC comments: Pending

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

PC comments: No objection

DC comments: Pending

PC/20/3861/FUL 53 Bucklesham Road Purdis – Increase in boundary fence height.

PC comments: No objection

DC comments: Pending

DC/20/4027/CON - Civic Amenity Site Foxhall Road Foxhall Suffolk IP10 OBG – Proposed development to waste management facility

PC comments: Cllr G Watts stated that Councillors all appear to be in favour of the changes. PC should formally support this application.

DC comments: Pending.

DC/20/3950/DRC BT Innovation Site Brightwell Outline planning permission.

PC comments: No concerns.

DC comments: Pending.

DC/20/4038/FUL The Bungalow Adjacent High Trees Foxhall Road Foxhall Annex with occasional holiday let usage.

PC comments: The previous application made by High Trees was rejected by EastSuffolk Council and the Planning Inspector. I would suggest that the Parish Council support this application.

DC comments: Pending

DC/20/3699/PN3 Straight Road Works Straight Road Foxhall Prior Notification – The proposed development is to change the existing store to a 4 bed residential dwellings.

PC comments: This is not a normal planning application. It is an application that effectively gives permission to go ahead without pre notification request. As far as I can see it does conflict with the new Suffolk Housing Policy. I propose that the Parish Council would like a full application to be submitted so we can consider the application properly. We have not formally been consulted but are being asked for our views.

Sizewell C

Cllr G Watts reported that on behalf of the Parish Council he had registered an interest in the proposed construction of Sizewell C with the Planning Inspector.

99.20 To discuss the VAS equipment (approve expenditure to purchase a new battery) / Fly Tipping Cameras

Cllr E Lawrence reported that the VAS sign had been erected on a post in Bucklesham Road. Cllr E Lawrence also reported that a new battery was required as one of the batteries would no longer charge. Cllr E Lawrence proposed that the Parish Council purchase a new battery at a cost of £81.00 including VAT, seconded Cllr A Day – all in favour.

Cllr E Lawrence reported that there should be 5 positions for siting the VAS sign however only 2 posts have got brackets and that there are 3 brackets which do not appear to have been erected. Cllr E Lawrence to investigate further. **Action: Clerk / Cllr E Lawrence**

The Clerk reported that she had spoken to Ray Walters who is still managing the Fly Tipping Cameras. Ray is happy to continue to monitor the fly tipping although he says that recently there have been less incidents. Cllr A Day reported that he had reported several incidents of fly tipping in the area.

100.20 To discuss Straight Road Improvements

The Clerk reported that she had written to Suffolk County Council Highways instructing them to go ahead with the survey on Straight Road but had received no indication of when this might take place. Patricia O'Brien has kindly agreed to donate £1,000 from the Locality Budget to cover part of the cost. Cllr A Day suggested that the Clerk telephone David Chenery Suffolk County Council Highways Manager to discuss. **Action: Clerk**

101.20 To discuss the Parish Council purchasing a Zoom subscription

Cllr E Lawrence had asked for the Zoom subscription to be placed on the agenda as he felt that the Parish Council should have their own subscription. Following discussion Cllr E Lawrence proposed that the Parish Council purchase a Zoom subscription, seconded Cllr E Warham – all in favour. The Clerk reported that this would need to be paid for on a credit card and she was happy to use her personal card and reclaim the money back from the Parish Council. **Action: Clerk**

102.20 To approve SALC new councillor training

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council has four new councillors which may wish to undertake training. Cllr B Short and Cllr S Short had already indicated that they would like to attend and had selected dates to attend. Cllr P Edmunds and Cllr K Rout also indicated they would like to attend. The Clerk agreed to send details of SALC Zoom courses and dates available. Cllr E Warham proposed that the Parish Council should fund SALC Zoom courses for four new councillors at a cost of £150 per person making a total expenditure of £600, seconded Cllr B Newell – all in favour. **Action: Clerk / Cllr B Short, Cllr S Short, Cllr P Edmunds and Cllr K Rout.**

103.20 To discuss Quiet Lanes

It was agreed that this item should be deferred until the November 2020 meeting to enable councillors to have more time to consider the relevant documents. **Action: Clerk / All Councillors**

104.20 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

A J Buggs Salary and Expenses September 2020	£240.00
HMRC Tax Clerk July, August, September 2020	£150.00
Norse Commercial – Installation of New Dog Bin	£234.00
Zoom Subscription	£95.92
VAS Battery – Cllr Eddie Lawrence	£81.00

To appoint an additional signatory due to Cllr A Wells Resignation

The Clerk reported that as Cllr A Wells had resigned from the Parish Council he could no longer be a signatory on cheques. Cllr G Watts had indicated his willingness to take on the position. Cllr A Day proposed that Cllr G Watts be appointed as the third signature on cheques, seconded Cllr K Rout – all in favour. **Action: Clerk / Cllr G Watts**

105.20 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk

None

106.20 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr A Day asked about the marquee in Sainsbury’s car park and that some 60 spaces had been lost. Cllr E Lawrence said it was as a result of the reorganisation of the shop.
- b. Cllr K Rout reported that Straight Road was flooding at the Bucklesham Road end although he believed the ditches had been cleaned. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Suffolk County Council Highways Manager to report the flooding. **Action: Clerk**

107.20 Date of next meeting

Parish Council Meeting Wednesday, 13th November 2020 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