

## BRIGHTWELL, FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm Wednesday, 15th December 2021

Present

Cllr E Warham - Chair

Cllr G Watts

Cllr K Rout

Cllr B Newell

Cllr E Lawrence

Cllr B Short

Cllr S Short

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

#### **165.21 Apologies for absence**

No apologies for absence were received.

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

No declarations of interest were received.

#### **167.21 Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> November 2021 were approved as being a true record.

#### **168.21 Matters arising from the minutes**

148.21 The meeting was adjourned to receive reports and questions

a. Cllr Chris Blundell – East Suffolk District Councillor – verbal discussion

The Clerk reported that she had written to Cllr Blundell asking for information on the details of the work on Murrills Park but had not received a reply. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Andy Jolliffe with a copy to Cllr Blundell requesting an update. **Action: Clerk**

#### **169.21 The meeting was adjourned to receive reports and questions**

a. Cllr Chris Blundell – East Suffolk District Councillor – no report.

b. Cllr Ed Thompson – East Suffolk Councillor – no report.

c. Cllr Patti Mulcahy – Suffolk County Council – no report.

Councillors expressed concern that Cllr Patti Mulcahy had attended only one meeting since her appointment and had never sent any apologies or reasons for her non-attendance. The Clerk was requested to write to the Conservative Leader of Suffolk County Council

expressing our concerns regarding lack of communication with Cllr Patti Mulcahy. **Action: Clerk**

- d. To receive questions from members of the public - no members of the public were present.

### **To reconvene the meeting**

#### **170.21 Declaration of a Casual Vacancy**

The Clerk reported that no applications had been received to replace Adrian Day. It was agreed that the Clerk should post a suitable notice on the Parish Council Notice boards and contact the Foxhall Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator regarding the councillor vacancy for Foxhall. **Action: Clerk**

#### **171.21 Planning**

- a. Proposed development of Orwell Crossing Logistics Park DC/21/3486/FUL

Cllr G Watts reported that the above planning application is still outstanding which is the area of the Truck Stop. Both the Highways England and Suffolk County Council Highways have objected to the removal of the lorry park which they state is contrary to NPPF 109 & 111.

109. Planning policies and decisions should recognise the importance of providing adequate overnight lorry parking facilities, taking into account any local shortages, to reduce the risk of parking in locations that lack proper facilities or could cause a nuisance. Proposals for new or expanded distribution centres should make provision for sufficient lorry parking to cater for their anticipated use.

111. Development should only be prevented or refused on highways ground if there would be an unacceptable impact on highways safety, or the residual cumulative impacts on the road network would be severe.

- b. Brightwell Lakes

Nothing to report.

- c. General

DC/21/3805/FUL Foxhall Hall Hall Road Foxhall – Change of use and partial rebuilding of some of the former agricultural buildings as a new orthodontics surgery with associate facilities.

Suffolk County Council Highways have confirmed their original objection that the road is unsuitable for the possible amount of traffic.

DC/21/0903/FUL The Hollies Straight Road Foxhall - Utilise the existing land formally known as The Hollies Sports Centre and Social Club as home pitch locations for both youth and adult football. Creation of new vehicular access, parking and associated facilities. The Parish Council objected to this application however it is still pending with ESC.

DC/21/2391/FUL Change of use of land for siting of 31 static units and 12 touring pitches and ancillary facilities - re-submission of DC/20/5102/FUL. | Land Off Ipswich Road Brightwell Ipswich Suffolk IP10 OBJ – The Environment Agency has written a submission regarding foul

drainage and that the applicant has not fully explored the connection to foul drainage. The Environment Agency has stated that this must be fully reviewed before they can consider non mains drainage as a suitable option.

#### **172.21 Report on VAS Sign and consider of purchasing another VAS sign**

Cllr E Lawrence reported that the VAS sign now located on Brightwell Hill, has established that there was speeding however, its presence appears to be encouraging drivers to reduce their speed. Cllr E Warham suggested that the data should be passed to the Safe Neighbourhood Team as evidence of speeding. It was felt that more data was needed over a period of time to look at patterns and trends. Councillors agreed not to purchase an additional VAS sign at the current time. **Action: Clerk**

#### **173.21 CIL Receipts**

Councillors discussed the funding of projects using CIL receipts. Cllr L Warham proposed that the CIL receipts are used to cover the cost of the VAS sign of £4,350.00, seconded Cllr G Watts - all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

#### **174.21 Straight Road Improvements**

The Parish Council discussed the contents of the email which had been received from David Chenery Suffolk County Council Highways Manager concerning assessing the data which already exists, the road layout and making recommendations for improvements including road surface assessments and identifying any drainage or flooding issues.

It was noted that the previous survey only related to Straight Road and that the Parish Council would like an estimate of the cost of surveying the following roads individually; Straight Road, Monument Farm Lane, Hall Road and Woodhouse Lane Foxhall.

It was agreed that the Clerk should write to David Chenery asking him to let the Parish Council have an estimate of the cost of surveying and making recommendations for improvements – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

#### **175.21 To discuss email reply from Andy Jolliffe concerning a road safety forum**

The Parish Council noted the contents of Andy Jolliffe's email regarding the suggestions proposed by the Parish Council which may be funded through the road safety budget. As indicated signage will be added to the next Road Safety Forum meeting however the CP is conscious of not allocating funding to something that is the responsibility of Suffolk County Council Highways. The other items suggested by the Parish Council also appear to be the responsibility of Suffolk County Council Highways and Andy Jolliffe has suggested that the Parish Council seek funding from other sources such as the Suffolk County Council Highways Locality Budget which is held by individual County Councillors. **Action: Clerk**

#### **176.21 Clerk's Report December 2021**

East Suffolk Council / Norse Partnership

Announcement from East Suffolk Council

As you know most of our front line services are delivered by a Joint Venture Company with Norse. East Suffolk Council is exercising its right not to renew the contract it holds with Norse for the provision of operational services. This means that in July 2023, the contract will come to a natural end. In its place, a Local Authority Trading Company (LATCo) will be created and will operate as an 'arms-length' commercial business, separate to the Council.

The establishment of East Suffolk LATCo will allow the Council to play a more direct and influential role in how important services are delivered in the future. We will explore the commercial potential of these particular services enabling us to deliver profit which is invested back into communities. Our aim will be to provide the best quality services possible with the resources available; always seeking to deliver improvement and the best possible outcomes for council taxpayers.

This is a growth, not a 'cutting' exercise in terms of service. We will look at finding more efficient ways of working, maximising revenue, delivering value for money, but not sacrificing quality. The Council believes there are business growth opportunities and we want to invest in the development a sustainable business which will provide increased job security and opportunity.

Where companies and other organisations such as town and parish councils have 'paid-for' service contracts in place, we will discuss transferring these services to the LATCo. If you do have your own contract in place and have any concerns you wish to discuss further, please do not hesitate to get in contact and I can arrange to speak with you directly.

It is important to the Council that we have a productive working relationship, ensuring that the future service meets Parishes' needs and delivers value for money.

We are intending to release a statement on this matter to be made public tomorrow however we would request that you treat this information in confidence until this point, to allow Norse the opportunity to inform their staff personally.

#### Declaration of a Casual Vacancy

The period for parishioners to request an election has now passed therefore we are now able to co-opt a new councillor to replace Adrian Day.

#### Reply from Andy Jolliffe Regarding Road Safety Forum

In terms of the signage, it's something that I've asked to be added to the agenda for the January meeting. There have been a few enquiries about signage from different areas, however at the moment the CP is conscious of not allocating funding to something that is Suffolk Highways' responsibility. There are several risks attached to it and the CP funding aims to take practical action against the priority. However I'll be collating any such requests and we'll want to understand how we convey these requests to Highways appropriately.

Same goes for the splay on the junction at point 3. Not only would you need to evidence that the current splay is unacceptable, Highways would be required to make the necessary amendments and I would expect that all in, it would exceed the £15,000 remaining for this financial year.

I'd suggest there may be other funding options for such works and I see from your November minutes you're 'in the right direction'. Your County Councillor has a highways locality budget for such works and many county councillors haven't been able to allocate their budgets in the past. I'm unsure if your CIL funds would be appropriate to fund such works but it is certainly worth asking.

## Email from East Suffolk Council regarding planting of trees during 2022

East Suffolk Council is supporting 'Treebilee', a project launched by HRH Prince Charles to encourage the planting of trees during a year-long celebration of the Queen's 70-year reign in 2022.

As part of its involvement in the project, the Council has purchased 200 oak trees which will be donated to every town and parish council in East Suffolk. Not only will this mark the very special occasion, but it will also help tackle climate change and contribute towards East Suffolk Council's vision to create environmentally sustainable communities.

The attached letter from Cllr Mallinder, Cabinet Member for the Environment, gives full details of how your council can take part.



Treebilee Letter to  
Parish and Town Cour

It was suggested that a tree could be planted near to the memorial seat for Wally Reeve adjacent to the Village Sign in the centre of Foxhall. Parish Councillors were unable to think of a suitable place for a tree to be planted in Purdis.

### **177.21 Finance**

#### **Income**

Receipt of Insurance Payment re Brightwell Notice Board	£826.08
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#### **Expenditure**

A J Buggs Salary and Expenses November 2021	£339.60
David Penn – Padlock VAS Sign	£9.99
Westcotec VAS Sign	£4,350.00

Cllr G Watts proposed that the above expenditure be approved, seconded Cllr B Short – all in favour.

### **To discuss/approve 2022/2023 Budget and setting of Precept for 2022/2023**

Councillors discussed the budget for 2022/2023 which had previously been circulated. The budget was accepted by the Parish Council. Cllr G Watts proposed that the Parish Council precept for £7,000.00 for the financial year 2022/2023, seconded Cllr B Short – all in favour.

In view of the uncertainty surrounding the holding of face-to-face meetings, Cllr E Warham proposed that the Clerk be authorised to renew the Zoom licence should the Government decide to allow Parish Council meetings to be held via Zoom due to Covid19, seconded Cllr G Watts – all in favour.

**Action: Clerk**

### **178.21 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk**

None

### **179.21 Members questions to the Chairman**

a. Brightwell Lakes Community Forum

It was agreed that in view of the resignation of Adrian Day that Cllr E Lawrence be the Parish Council's representative on the community forum in addition to Cllr B Newell. The Clerk was requested to write to Ben Woolnough East Suffolk Council requesting he delete Adrian Day and adding Cllr E Lawrence to the forum. **Action: Clerk**

- b. Cllr B Newell thanked Cllr K Rout for installing the bench by Foxhall Village Sign commemorating the life of Wally Reeve.

**180.21 Date of next meeting**

**Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at Trinity Park**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.34 pm**

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

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