

BRIGHTWELL FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 13th December 2023 at Trinity Park

Present

Cllr E Warham - Chair

Cllr E Lawrence

Cllr B Newell

Cllr K Rout

Cllr E Beach

Cllr W Thursford

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

1 member of the public

185.23 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr G Watts (illness) and Cllr Mark Packard – East Suffolk Council.

186.23 To receive Members' Declaration of Interest

None

187.23 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th November 2023 were approved as being a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

188.23 Matters arising from the Minutes

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

189.23 The meeting was adjourned to receive reports and questions

- a. Cllr Mark Packard – East Suffolk Council – no report.
- b. Cllr Ed Thompson – East Suffolk Council – no report
- c. Cllr Patti Mulcahy – Suffolk County Council – no report
- d. To receive questions from members of the public

A member of the public attended the meeting and was given the opportunity to express his views on the placing of the grit bin in Foxglove Crescent / Hazel Close. Discussions took place as to whether the grit bin should have a padlock to enable only residents with a key to access and spread the grit. It was noted that a member of the public had come forward who had significant health issues who has been and is prepared to spread the grit.

190.23 To Co-opt Parish Councillor and Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The Chairman reported that Wendy Thurston had put herself forward to become a Parish Councillor and the Clerk had checked her eligibility. Cllr E Warham proposed that Wendy Thurston be co-opted on to the Parish Council, seconded Cllr B Newell – all in favour. Wendy Thurston signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form and the Clerk said she would arrange for the Completion of Interests with East Suffolk Council. **Action: Clerk / Cllr W Thurston**

191.23 Planning

The Parish Council noted Cllr G Watts comments in his absence.

DC/22/2999/FUL The Hollies Straight Road Foxhall IP10 0FN

Although a new entrance is to be used this makes no difference to our principal objection which is that Straight Road (and adjoining roads) are totally unsuitable for the additional traffic. We should also support the residents' concerns about the wildlife particularly as there are discrepancies with what the applicant has said and the observations of the residents. We will maintain our strong objection to this proposal which if the officers are "minded to approve" will go to the Planning Committee. **Action: Cllr G Watts / Clerk**

DC/21/3546/FUL The site is located to the North of Trinity Park, to the North of Bucklesham Road...

Change of use to facilitate four croquet lawns with clubhouse, maintenance shed, car parking and water tank. Parking will be on site. Even in winter the well draining sandy soil will allow vehicles to be parked without any problems. Four lawns can host 16 Association Croquet players.

PC Comments: No objection.

ESC Comments: Approved.

DC/22/4401/FUL Land East of Bucklesham Village and the A1093 Bucklesham Hall Drive Bucklesham

Installation and operation of a Solar Farm together with all associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure.

PC Comments:

The following are Brightwell Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council's comments on the above planning application. DC/22/4401/FUL | Installation and operation of a Solar Farm together with all associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure. | Land East of Bucklesham Village and The A1093 Bucklesham Hall Drive Bucklesham Suffolk Following a Public Meeting which included a presentation by the developers and a question-and-answer session the Group Parish Council voted to object to the proposal to build a solar farm. Whilst appreciating the need for increasing the amount of renewable energy being produced, the Parish Council believes that a better use of the land is to retain it as agricultural land so a variety of crops could continue to be grown as has been the case for a number of years. The Parish Council is also concerned about the detrimental impact such a development would have on the landscape of this rural location. The screening measures are considered to be inadequate for an undulating site particularly during the early years of operation. Specific concerns were raised about the glint and glare from the panels impacting highway safety and the ability to grow the hedgerows which are planned due to the type of soil at the proposed location.

Further concerns were also raised about surface water drainage from the site, a concern also raised by the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), and the inadequate nature of the access to the site with the narrow access road unable to cope with the combined traffic of the construction site and the expanding bike park. For these reasons the Brightwell Parish Council OBJECTS to this proposal.

ESC Comments: Approved

192.23 To discuss the grit bin Foxglove Crescent / Hazel Drive Purdis Farm

Councillors discussed the recent events concerning the moving /placing and filling of the grit bin in Foxglove Crescent / Hazel Drive Purdis Farm. Cllr K Rout proposed that the grit bin should remain in its original position, for which the Parish Council has approval from Suffolk County Council Highways, seconded Cllr B Newell – all in favour. It was agreed that this item should no longer be placed on the Parish Council agenda for discussion. **Action: Clerk**

193.23 To discuss the proposed 40 mph speed limit Brightwell

An email has been received from Suffolk County Council Highways requesting comments by the 19th January 2024 from the Parish Council concerning the draft speed limit for a 40 mph speed limit on C375.

Cllr B Newell stated that although Brightwell Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council are in favour of the 40 mph speed limit, the Parish Council has not been campaigning for the restriction as stated.

Following discussion, the Parish Council agreed that, although not in our parishes the Parish Council have no objection to the proposal. **Action: Clerk**

194.23 Draft Healthy Environments and Draft Rural Development Supplementary Planning Documents

The initial consultation drafts of both the Supplementary Planning Documents have been prepared and are out for consultation. Parish Councillors agreed that they had no comments to make. **Action: Clerk**

195.23 Litter and Fido Waste Bin Policy

East Suffolk Council's Strategic Waste and Contract Management Team, a new department within the Council, have undertaken a review of the current provision of litter and fido waste bins within the district that we have a responsibility to empty.

The purpose of this review is to map the current bin provision and create a policy, that is open and transparent, for managing the stock in the future.

Bins are traditionally provided maintained and emptied as a means of controlling litter or dog waste problems. There are circa 3,460 bins in varying condition across the district that are currently emptied by our service provider.

Whilst the Council is committed to providing sufficient bins to help discharge its responsibilities under the Environmental Protection Act 1990, it has never had a formal policy for agreeing numbers or locations for bins.

The Council's capacity to provide the resources to empty litter bins is finite. It is likely that the demand for litter bins will, at certain times or locations, exceed the capacity to provide the service.

As part of this process, we have created a draft policy, which we would like to share with Town and Parish Council's for your comments and consideration.

While we are undertaking the review, we have temporarily closed the request for new bins service. However, if there are issues with missing or damaged bins, please continue to report these through the normal channels through our Customer Services Team.

The Parish Council noted the contents of the review. Cllr E Lawrence stated that there are two dog bins side by side on Murrills Park. The Clerk explained that due to health and safety concerns East Suffolk Council limit the size of dog bins hence why two bins are placed when a high 'need' is identified.

196.23 To discuss engagement with local High School Pupils

Cllr E Warham reported that she had spoken to the Head of 6th Form at Copleston High School concerning pupils taking part in setting up communication aids for the Parish Council. Cllr E Warham asked if it would be possible to show the council's appreciation in some way if the work was done well. It was agreed that this item will be discussed again at the January 2024 meeting. **Action: Clerk**

197.23 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

Clerk's Salary and Expenses November 2023 £387.20

Account Balances

Community Account Balance on 31st October 2023 £32,624.37

Business Account Balance on 31st October 2023 £8,332.97

Cllr E Warham proposed that the above expenditure be approved, seconded Cllr K Rout – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

198.23 To discuss and approve the Precept for 2024/2025

The Chairman reported that the Parish Council set the precept at £7,000.00 for the financial year 2023/2024. Following discussion, Cllr E Beach proposed that the Precept for the financial year 2004/2205 should remain at £7,000.00, seconded Cllr E Warham – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

199.23 To discuss and approve the Local Government Pay Claim 2023/2024

The Clerk stated that the Local Governance Pay Claim 2023/2024 had been circulated to all councillors. Cllr E Warham proposed that the Parish Council agree to increase the clerk's salary by 3.88% back dated to the 1st April 2023, seconded Cllr K Rout – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

200.23 To discuss and approve SALC training for new Councillor

The Clerk reported that she had sent details of training courses for new councillors to Cllr W Thurston. The Clerk stated that Parish Councils are required to offer training to new councillors. It was agreed that Cllr W Thurston be authorised to book SALC training. **Action: Cllr W Thurston / Clerk**

201.23 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk

- a. Cllr B Newell reported that another meeting concerning Brightwell Lakes will be held in early 2024. It is expected that in due course a residents' association will be set up.

202.23 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr B Newell reported that the Greener Waldringfield Group (now referred to as Greener Infrastructure Meeting) are grouping parishes in the most appropriate way.
- b. Cllr E Beach asked for articles for the next edition of the Parish Magazine. Cllr W Thurston agreed to discuss editorial with Trinity Park.
- c. Cllr K Rout reported that both the Brightwell and Foxhall village signs are in need to refurbishment in the spring / summer of 2024. It was agreed this item should be placed on the January 2024 agenda. **Action: Clerk**

203.23 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 10th January 2024

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.34 pm.

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

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