

# BRIGHTWELL FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2023 at Trinity Park

Present

Cllr E Warham – Chair

Cllr E Lawrence

Cllr G Watts

Cllr B Short

Cllr S Short

Cllr K Rout

Cllr E Beach

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

3 members of the public

### **01.23 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr B Newell (illness), Cllr Patti Mulcahy (illness), Cllr Ed Thompson East Suffolk Council.

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

None

### **03.23 Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022 were approved as being a true record.

### **04.23 Matters arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising. All items formed part of the agenda.

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

- a. Cllr Chris Blundell - East Suffolk Councillor – no report.
- b. Cllr Ed Thompson – East Suffolk Councillor – written report.

### **East Suffolk Council residents survey**

East Suffolk Council is asking residents to share their thoughts. They want to know more about the people who live and work in East Suffolk, to help deliver services that residents need. The online survey is permanently live and should only take a few minutes to complete. Although the survey is available all year round, each year on 31 December to feed into our budget setting process for the coming financial year. Click the link below to fill it out:

[www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/survey](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/survey)

## **Suffolk Housing Board to launch county-wide housing strategy review**

Following a grant of £20,000 from the LGA's Housing Advisors Programme, East Suffolk Council will work with all other councils in Suffolk as part of the Suffolk Housing Board to commission a vital, county-wide housing strategy review. The funding will kickstart a programme which aims to increase the number of genuinely affordable properties available to meet those in housing need.

The Suffolk Housing Board has identified 900 properties available for rent, 5,000 properties marketed for sale, 1,000 long term empty homes and 6,000 second homes. And yet, despite this, there are currently a significant number of households living in unsatisfactory, unsuitable accommodation, experiencing, or at risk of homelessness. A project will therefore be launched to remove barriers to accommodating people, as well as gaps in policies where accommodation solutions could be encouraged. The councils will use this opportunity to join up their approaches, exploring ideas such as resource pooling, funding empty home renovations, early engagement, legal advice and community engagement.

## **East Suffolk Council given Government approval for £2.75m funding**

East Suffolk Council has been allocated £2.75m from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) which will be used to support high streets, local businesses, workforce and community skills development, as well as support for those struggling with the cost of living crisis.

Following approval of an Investment Plan detailing to Government how the funding would be spent, East Suffolk Council has been allocated £2.75m to invest across two and a half years (2022/23 – 2024/25) in initiatives that will address inequality and contribute to levelling up.

Additionally, East Suffolk Council has also been allocated a further £1.129m from the Government under the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF), which is part of the UKSPF and aims to support small business and community infrastructure in rural areas. Final approval for this element of funding is expected in the new year, with funded programmes to commence in April 2023.

## **Digital Springboard launched to boost business online**

Launched on behalf of East Suffolk Council by not-for-profit company MENTA, the [Digital Springboard](#) offers access to support, resources, workshops and grants for businesses hoping to create or improve online presence.

The programme has been funded by the New Anglia LEP's Innovative Projects Fund, the Getting Building Fund, and East Suffolk Council internal funding, and aims to strengthen the local economy and improve connectivity within the district's market towns.

## **Consultations**

- Dog control Public Space Protection Order renewal – Residents in East Suffolk are invited to have their say on the proposed renewal of thirteen Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) relating to the control of dogs which are due to expire next year. All thirteen PSPOs were adopted in 2020 and are being proposed for renewal without any alteration to existing

restrictions for a further three years. As well as orders relating to dog fouling, the PSPOs cover areas including Southwold beach and promenade, Carlton Marshes Nature Reserve, Lowestoft beach and promenade, Corton beach, Lound Lakes Nature Reserve, Herringfleet Hills and Charsfield Churchyard. The consultation closes at 5pm on 8 January 2023 and can be found at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/dog-control](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/dog-control)

c. Cllr Patti Mulcahy – Suffolk County Council – written report.

### **Celebrating Suffolk’s environmental champions**

Creating the Greenest County Awards 2023 launched

The Creating the Greenest County Awards return for a 12th time to celebrate the achievements of Suffolk’s residents, businesses, schools, communities and organisations who are protecting our environment and reducing their carbon emissions.

Nominations are now open online and close on 1 February 2023, with an environmentally-friendly ceremony to be held in March.

As Suffolk continues to work together in pursuit of being net zero by 2030, the Awards recognise those who are connecting with people, sharing best practice and collaborating to help make Suffolk the greenest county.

To go alongside awards such as Greenest Business, Greenest School and Enhancing Biodiversity and Landscape, this year a new category has been introduced - The Greenest Tourism Award.

This Award recognises the good work being done across the county by the numerous organisations in this vital sector, from visitor attractions to accommodation providers.

If you, your community or business are working hard towards net zero, please put yourself forward for an Award. Or if you know someone who is making a real difference, nominate them for an Award, so Suffolk can celebrate them and inspire others to follow their lead. One of the most popular categories, the Green Hero, will be returning; turning the spotlight on those individuals who have taken it upon themselves to lead the way in working for the environment. It’s the only award for which both the nominees and the winners are chosen by the public.

Nominations can be submitted online at [www.greensuffolk.org/awards](http://www.greensuffolk.org/awards)

### **Keeping people in Suffolk warm this winter**

“Suffolk Winter Warmth” provides items such as hats, gloves, scarves, blankets, duvets, baby sleep bags, hot water bottles, LED bulbs, draughtproofing and more, to households in need.

Following a successful pilot in November, Suffolk Winter Warmth launched this week. The project provides support for any household experiencing hardship and in need of support to prevent ill health and keep warm. Residents can be referred by professional or voluntary sector organisations supporting residents who are struggling to heat their homes. These organisations include: District and Borough Councils, Health Professionals, Citizens Advice and Community Groups, Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, Rural Coffee Caravan and more.

The project is backed by £50,000 of funding from Suffolk’s Collaborative Communities Board and is co-ordinated on behalf of the whole county by East Suffolk Council.

Professional and voluntary organisations can refer residents to the scheme by visiting: [Winter warmth referral » East Suffolk Council](#).

There are also more than 250 voluntary warm spaces across Suffolk, where residents can meet up with members of the community in a warm, safe space, at no charge. A map of warm spaces in Suffolk can be found on the Rural Coffee Caravan website: <https://ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk/map/>

Alongside this, all Suffolk Libraries will act as warm, safe spaces this winter. Information and opening times for Suffolk Libraries can be found at <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/>

If your community would like to set up its own Warm Space to support local residents this winter, guidance is available from Rural Coffee Caravan and Community Action Suffolk at: <https://ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk/winter-warmth/#warmspaces>

Further details of cost of living support available for Suffolk residents and organisations can be found at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/costofliving](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/costofliving)

### **Council to protect frontline services and increase funding in budget proposal**

Adult care services and children's services will receive £47m more funding as part of Suffolk County Council's £685m budget proposals, published today.

Despite an incredibly challenging economic climate, the council has been able to produce a balanced budget. This will protect the services that people rely on the most and continue to care for the most vulnerable, which accounts for 75% of the whole budget.

Adult care services will have £34m more in their budget, and children's services will have a further £13m. This will help with the extra expense needed to meet the huge increase in demands for services, as well as higher costs due to inflation.

The budget-setting has been achieved with input from the council's partners, officers, departments and notably, Suffolk residents. Over 2,600 local people contributed to an online survey and focus groups, asking where they would spend more money, spend less money, and their views on Council Tax.

The top service areas where people wanted to spend more, were social care services for adults and children.

Some of the service areas where people also said they wanted to see more money spent, will receive additional funding:

- £700,000 for SEND services to support new recruitment, which is on top of the £1.1m invested this year
- £500,000 for Highways: to use environmentally friendly weed treatments, and stop using glyphosate which can damage wildlife
- £110,000 for tree management: to support the 'right tree right place' policy, having an appropriate inspection regime and supporting the resulting tree management requirements.
- £45,000 for Citizens Advice: to support work during cost-of-living challenges

A budget gap for next year - the difference between what money is available and what needs to be spent - had already been identified, resulting in savings of £15.5m for next year.

Under the proposals, the council's budget would increase by 9.6% (from £625.3m to £685.3). Additional funds would come from a total 3.99% increase in Council Tax, and an increase in funds from the Government for adult and children's social care.

Regarding Council Tax, the proposed 3.99% increase would be made up of a 1.99% increase in general Council Tax and a 2.00% increase dedicated to funding adult care.

This means costs for a household would look like:

- Band B property: £22.32 per week (85 pence per week increase from 2022-23) (Band B properties are the most common in Suffolk)
- Band D property: £28.70 per week (£1.10 pence per week increase from 2022-23)

The proposed budget will be discussed at the council's Scrutiny meeting on 10 January 2023, then presented at the Cabinet meeting on 24 January, with the final budget debated and voted on at Full Council on 9 February.

The Scrutiny meeting will be available to stream on [Suffolk County Council's YouTube channel](#), and public questions can be submitted in advance, details available at [www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk)

d. To receive questions from members of the public.

Two members of the public (the developer and his agent) requested to speak regarding the Planning Application at Pinetrees, Purdis Farm. Plans for the development were made available to members of the Parish Council with an explanation of the layout and design of the development. Discussions took place with regard to the Planning Application and the information provided was very helpful.

## **06.23 Planning**

### **a. Proposed development of Orwell Crossing Logistics Park**

This planning application is still pending.

### **b. Planning Applications**

DC/22/2437/FUL Pinetrees, Purdis Farm Lane - Demolition of existing bungalow, construction of 4 new dwellings and associated carports, parking, access and landscaping

Having considered the revised plans, the Parish Council no longer objects to this application.

DC/21/2391/FUL 31 static units / 12 Touring pitches – Off Ipswich Road Brightwell

Having considered the new information provided in relation to this application. The Parish Council decided at its recent meeting to continue to object to this application for the reasons stated previously in its comments submitted on 13 March 2022 and 17 June 2021.

It appears that the only difference in the resubmission is that it is stated that the sewerage has been sorted out.

DC/22/2506/ARM Os 2092 Purdis Avenue Purdis Farm Suffolk IP3 8UE - Approval of Reserved Matters of APP/J3530/W/18/3213811 (DC/17/5437/OUT) Six dwellings with associated infrastructure, parking and landscaping.

The Parish Council sent a letter of objection earlier this year stating that the Parish Council objects to this development which we consider to be unsuitable for this location at the edge of Purdis Farm. We believe that the building of six large houses and garages will have an unacceptable effect on the visual amenity of Purdis Heath, Purdis Avenue and Purdis Farm Lane. We do not believe that this meets the inspector's expectation of six modest single storey dwellings which would provide a sense of transition between the settlement and the countryside. The plans also lack detail in particular in respect of car parking. Does the provision meet the minimum requirements for such properties? The Parish council is also concerned about the effect that such a development will have on the SSI and associated wildlife. We do not think these concerns have been sufficiently mitigated by this proposal. The Parish Council is also very concerned by the disturbance to local wildlife and residents that will be caused by such a large building site in a quiet area adjacent to the countryside. We expect the planning authority to require that a comprehensive and restrictive construction plan is agreed prior to any construction being started. Any planning approval should also include a condition that any damage caused during construction to Purdis Avenue or Purdis Farm Lane should be repaired at the applicant's expense. For these reasons the Parish Council and several local residents object to this application.

DC/23/0066/TPO 12 Beechwood Drive - 1no. Oak (T1 on plan) - Reduce the canopy away from 12 Oak House by up to 3.5 metres, and reduce the rest of the canopy by up to 3 metres including the height. Bringing the crown spread from approximately 16 metres to 10.5 metres and the height from 19 metres to approximately 16 metres. Crown lift to 5 metres. 1no. Copper beech (T2 on plan) - Crown reduce by 3.5 metres including the height. Bringing the crown spread from 22 metres to approximately 16 metres, and the height from 26 metres to 22.5 metres

The Parish Council does not object to this application provided the pruning doesn't affect the sustainability of these mature trees.

DC/22/2999/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

This Planning Application is still pending.

DC/21/3486/FUL Crossing Truck Stop A14 Nacton – Erection of buildings for use within Classes B2 and B8 together with access and servicing arrangements.

This Planning Application is still pending.

DC/22/4401/FUL - Installation and operation of a Solar Farm together with all associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure on Land East of Bucklesham Village and the A1093 Bucklesham Hall Drive Bucklesham

Planning Application to be discussed by Parish Council.

DC/22/5013/FUL Brightwell Lakes Land to the South and East of Adastral Park Martlesham Heath – Construct a pumping station in close proximity to the pond that is being created adjacent to Parcel E1.

Planning Application to be discussed by Parish Council.

### **07.23 To discuss VAS signs reports**

Cllr E Lawrence said that he had sent the latest monitoring results to all councillors. One of the VAS signs has developed a fault and gives the readings as 1970. Cllr E Lawrence will get in touch with the supplier of the signs to discuss options for repair. It was reported that the VAS sign in Murrills Road which belongs to Suffolk County Council Highways appears to have a fault and is not registering vehicles. Clerk to report to Highways. **Action: Cllr E Lawrence / Clerk**

### **08.23 To discuss the placement of grit bins in Purdis Farm**

Cllr E Lawrence reported that he had consulted with Suffolk County Council Highways concerning the grit bin which is partly on private land due to the resident moving it to another location. Highways do not propose to take any action however we now have evidence that the Parish Council notified them of our concerns in case there are problems with the landowner in the future.

Cllr E Lawrence reported that he has arranged a site meeting in Bramble Drive with the resident who has requested a grit bin to be installed and will present a report to the next Parish Council meeting. **Action: Cllr E Lawrence / Clerk**

### **09.23 To discuss the litter in Straight Road Foxhall**

The Clerk reported that she had written to Ray Walters who manages the CCTV Cameras in Foxhall regarding the moving of one of the cameras from its current position to Straight Road but had not received a reply. Clerk to try contacting him again. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr K Rout reported that he had carried out a survey of Straight Road as to the possibility of placing signs along Straight Road asking people not to fly tip or drop litter. The vehicles using Straight Road have deteriorated the banks, which means that in a lot of places posts cannot be erected on which to erect signs. It was reported that a lot of vehicles who use Straight Road are travelling above the national speed limit of 60 mph. It was noted that the 'passing places' in Straight Road are not recognised by Suffolk County Council Highways. It was agreed to postpone this item until the next Parish Council meeting in February. **Action: Clerk**

### **10.23 To discuss the Parish Newsletter and the purchase of equipment to assist in the editing of the newsletter**

The second newsletter is being distributed and has received a good response from residents. As discussed at the last meeting, it is recommended that a laptop be purchased for the use of the Parish Newsletter Editor. Following discussion Cllr E Warham proposed, seconded Cllr B Short that a laptop should be purchased with MS 365 preloaded up to a value of £500.00 – all in favour. **Action: Clerk / Cllr E Beach**

### **11.23 Clerk's Report January 2023**

Please refer to individual minutes.

### 12.23 Road Safety Forum

No meeting this month. Nothing to report.

### 13.23 Report on Foxhall Road Surveys

The Clerk reported that a formal complaint had been made to Suffolk County Council concerning the work that the Parish Council had commissioned from Suffolk County Council Highways for a survey to be undertaken in the Parish of Foxhall. The survey had previously been quoted for by David Chenery Highways Manager and the work agreed at a cost of £11,190.70 by the Parish Council and £3,000.00 from Cllr Patti Mulcahy Suffolk County Councillor.

An email from David Chenery had been received by the Clerk confirming that an invoice for £11,190.70 had been sent to the Parish Council and a cheque had been received in June 2022. A design order by David Chenery was placed but the work has still not been started. The Clerk reported she had made a formal complaint to Suffolk County Council Complaints Department and had received an email from Suffolk County Council stating that the Parish Council would receive an answer to their complaint by the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023. **Action: Clerk**

### 14.23 To consider the setting up of allotments

An advertisement has been placed in the Parish Newsletter asking, if allotments were to become available, whether residents would be interested in hiring. It was agreed to place this item on the next agenda to discuss any responses which had been received. **Action: Clerk**

### 15.23 Finance

#### Income

None

#### Expenditure

A J Buggs Salary and Expenses December 2022	£400.80
A J Buggs Salary Back Pay from 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022	£192.00
Flyer Press – Newsletters	£659.00

Community Account Balance on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022 £29,582.87

Business Account Balance on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022 £8,278.51

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

### 16.23 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk

- a. Cllr E Lawrence said that he had attended the last meeting of the Community Partnership. They had agreed to purchase extra reflective coats for schools. A Citizens Advice Bureau information centre has been set up in Martlesham. The Parish Council discussed the responsibility of householders to remove overground vegetation and agreed that any problems should be reported to Suffolk County Council Highways. Road safety has been improved on the B1078 at Clopton.  
**Action: Clerk**



**17.23 Members questions to the Chairman**

- a. Cllr K Rout reported that the Foxhall sign is being overgrown by a Holly bush. **Action: Clerk**

**18.23 Date of next meeting**

**7.30 pm Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.**

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

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