

## **BUCKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes**

Annual Parish Council Meeting held at Bucklesham Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019

#### **Present**

Cllr Ruth Johnson (Chair)  
Cllr Georgina Burgess  
Cllr David Riddleston  
Cllr Rhea Gardener  
Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield  
Cllr Heather Owen  
Mrs A Buggs Clerk  
1 member of the public

#### **39.19 Election of Chairman**

Cllr Ruth Johnson asked for nominations for the office of Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield proposed that Cllr Ruth Johnson be elected as Chairman, seconded by Cllr Georgina Burgess – all in favour. As there were no other nominations, Cllr Ruth Johnson was duly elected.

#### **40.19 Declaration of acceptance of office**

Parish Councillors who were present at the meeting signed their Acceptance of Office forms, countersigned by the Clerk Mrs A J Buggs.

Cllr Ruth Johnson signed her Acceptance of Office form as Chairman of the Parish Council which was countersigned by the Clerk Mrs A J Buggs.

#### **41.19 Election of Vice Chairman**

Cllr Ruth Johnson asked for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr Ruth Johnson proposed that Cllr Heather Own be elected as Vice Chairman, seconded by Cllr Georgina Burgess – all in favour. As there were no other nominations, Cllr Heather Owen was duly elected.

#### **42.19 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr David Brinkley.

#### **43.19 Declaration of interest**

Cllr Heather Owen and Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield both declared an interest in Item 9 of the agenda.

#### **44.19 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on the Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were approved as being a true record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **45.19 Matters arising from the minutes**

25.19 To discuss holding a First Aid Course

Nothing further to report.

All other items arising from the minutes form part of the agenda.

**The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:**

Cllr Patricia O'Brien – Suffolk County Council

The new Light Rescue Pump fire engine was launched in April 2018. It has the latest firefighting and rescue equipment and has been specifically designed to provide flexible crewing in rural areas of between two and five firefighters. The standard fire appliance usually has four to six firefighters.

Councillor Mathew Hicks was elected as the new leader of SCC on May 24 2018. Councillor Hicks confirmed focus on major infrastructure projects and stressed the need for a co-ordinated and strategic approach with partners.

In July Suffolk County Council's Cabinet approved a plan to invest £6million into upgrading Suffolk's recycling centres.

The plan has earmarked £3m for the Foxhall Recycling Centre – Suffolk's busiest with 20% of all recycling waste in the county – and £1m for Haverhill for "urgent improvements". The plans will see improvements to traffic access at Foxhall and measures to prevent people from having to climb steps to dispose of their waste in the containers.

Construction for improvements is expected to get underway in 2019/20.

Suffolk's tourism trade has seen its biggest boom for a decade. The visitor economy has reached the £2 billion mark for the first time.

Interim figures released in August 2018 by Visit Suffolk showed that tourism grew by at least five per cent in 2017, more than double the year before.

The number of jobs in the county's tourism sector rose by 6 per cent to 42,428; thus 13.6 per cent of all employment in Suffolk is in the tourism sector.

The Care Quality Commission rated Mid Suffolk Home First, provided by SCC, as outstanding

Mid Suffolk Home First, provides a short-term reablement service and a longer-term care service. The reablement and care services support people following a period of ill health or a significant loss in their ability to manage their day to day care needs. The service aims to help the person reach their optimum level of independence.

The Suffolk Climate Change Partnership received a national award for supporting local communities to be more energy efficient. The Partnership is a collaboration of Suffolk County Council, all Suffolk's borough and district councils and The Environment Agency. It supports the county's communities, businesses and residents to reduce carbon emissions, realise the economic benefits of reducing

energy consumption and adapt to the future impacts of climate change. Its work has brought in significant amounts of external funding to Suffolk.

The Sport and Physical Activity sector is very important to Suffolk and contributes £270m a year to the Suffolk economy. Over 10,000 jobs, or 3% of all employment in Suffolk, is provided by this sector and is almost double the proportion seen at national levels.

A report highlights the importance of continuing the drive towards increasing participation in sport and physical activity as a way of both improving productivity and reducing the spend on health and social care. It estimates that a reduction of just 10% in Suffolk employee sickness rates would give the Suffolk economy a boost of £42m annually.

Over the month of January, Suffolk Highways deployed three thermal road repair machines which repaired approximately 1,700 potholes county-wide. This is a more effective and longer-lasting method of repair

The process does not require excavation of the highway, meaning no dust or noise, and better still, no waste material. The result also means there are no surface joints, which can be prone to faster deterioration.

Suffolk has risen in national league tables and 64% of students in Suffolk are now achieving the expected standard in GCSE English and Maths, putting Suffolk in the top half of authorities achieving this standard.

The validated A Level figures confirm that Suffolk pupils have performed well. 98.1% of A Levels taken in the county have been awarded an A\*-E grade, compared to 97.6% nationally.

Suffolk has been at the forefront of fibre broadband rollout, via its Better Broadband for Suffolk Program, since 2010 and currently the county enjoys a superfast broadband coverage of 93%, with the current contract due to reach 98% by 2020. Additional funding from the Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs of £1.725ml will contribute towards meeting some of the remaining 2% of the county that is not covered by the existing contracts.

Budget proposals to increase SCC portion of council tax for 2019/20 by 4% were agreed by Full council on February 14th. Transformation of services is currently underway and working with other authorities and public sector partners is key to reducing spend and making services more efficient. Working together in partnership will benefit services enormously.

East Suffolk District Councillor(s) – no report

**Cllr Ruth Johnson reconvened the meeting and said that Questions would be taken at the end of the meeting.**

#### **46.19 To discuss Orwell Green (Land to the North and South of Bucklesham Road)**

Nothing to report.

#### **47.19 Community Council**

Cllr Ruth Johnson reported that the Community Council will hold an Annual General Meeting once a year. Nothing further to report.

#### **48.19 Bucklesham School Report**

No report.

#### **49.19 Clerk's Report**

The purpose of this report is to update members on outstanding issues, items received after the deadline for agenda items, correspondence and action taken by the Clerk.

#### Elections 2019

A polite reminder to all councillors. It is your responsibility to complete your election expense form that would have been sent to you by Karen Last following the election. It is also your responsibility to complete the on-line Register of Interests form when you receive it. Please be aware that if you do not complete these two documents you could be liable for a fine. I will ask you to complete the Acceptance of Office Form which will be held by myself.

#### Cyber Security

Stephen Baker CEO of East Suffolk Council will be presenting an information session for SALC council members providing a general update on cyber security related issues from both a national and local perspective and to make councils aware of the support that is available.

This FREE event is taking place on 26<sup>th</sup> June 10am – 11.30am at Riverside Centre, Straithe Road, Bungay, NR35 1BF. Refreshments will be available on arrival.

To register your place please let me know.

#### Latest News from East Suffolk Council

#### Free Compost to Help Green Fingered Residents

As part of International Compost Awareness Week (Sunday 5 May to Sunday 12 May), the Suffolk Waste Partnership is supporting several initiatives aiming to help residents get composting.

Not only will there be free compost and composting advice from Master Composter Volunteers, there will also be the launch of this year's low cost compost bin promotion.

To coincide with late night opening at Recycling Centres on Thursdays, site staff will be giving away a free 25 litre bag of compost to visitors to any of the 11 sites - between 2pm and 7pm on Thursday 9 May.

Loose soil improver will also be given away for free at one further event. Those attending will need to bring a spade and bags to collect it:

Sunday 5 May, 9am to 3pm (or until stocks last)  
Needham Market Lake, Mill Meadow side Needham Market

Suffolk's Master Composter Volunteers will also be hosting a number of 'Composting Clinics' during the week, to help residents learn how to compost at home and provide free trouble-shooting advice, on the following dates:

Monday 6 May, 11am to 4pm  
Spring Wood Day 2019, Spring Wood, Bobbits Lane, Ipswich.

Wednesday 8 May & Friday 10 May, all 11.30am to 2pm:  
Endeavour House Atrium, Suffolk County Council, Ipswich, IP1 2BX

Sunday 12 May:  
South Suffolk Show, Ampton Racecourse, Ingham, Bury St Edmunds (on A134), 9am to 5pm  
Foxburrow Farm May Fair, Foxburrow Farm, Melton, IP12 1NA, 11am to 4pm

For those interested in making their own compost, the Suffolk Waste Partnership is also launching the fourth year of its successful compost bin promotion, which helps residents buy compost bins and other food digesters at discounted prices. Prices start from only £9.49 for compost bins and £9.99 for food digester systems.

On average, more than a third of the contents of Suffolk's rubbish bins could easily be composted at home. Each household in Suffolk could compost 150kg of organic material a year, turning this waste into free soil improver.

Rob Cole, Suffolk Waste Partnership Manager, said: "Compost Awareness Week is a great time to learn about the many benefits of composting at home.

"It's the cheapest and most environmentally friendly way to deal with organic waste as it requires no transport or processing. Our events and discounted offers are also a great opportunity to get involved, learn more and discover a range of composting systems that hopefully suit most resident's needs and budget."

For details of all the discounted items available to Suffolk households through the offer, and to order, please visit <http://www.getcomposting.com/> or call 0844 571 4444. Order leaflets for discounted compost bins will be available at all events listed. Further details on Compost Awareness Week activities please visit [www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk](http://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk)

#### **50.19 To discuss the timing of Question Time on the agenda**

The Parish Council discussed whether to continue holding Question Time at the end of meeting or revert it back to be held during the adjournment of the meeting when Suffolk County Council and District Council reports were received. Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield proposed, seconded Cllr Georgina Burgess that Question Time be held during the adjournment of the meeting. **Action: Clerk**

#### **51.19 To discuss the proposed development by Hastoe**

The Parish Council discussed the proposed development. Neil Salisbury Hastoe had been invited to the May Parish Council Meeting but had been unable to attend. It was agreed that The Clerk should write to Neil Salisbury asking him whether he could attend the July 2019 meeting. **Action: Clerk**

#### **52.19 To discuss CIL Receipts**

The Clerk reported that for the year 2018/2019 £1,293.69 had been received in CIL receipts. The Clerk also reported that during the year 2019/2020 currently the CIL receipts due to the Parish Council would be approximately £2,168.85. The Clerk was requested to place CIL Receipts on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting. **Action: Clerk**

### **53.19 Renovation of Play Equipment**

Cllr Ruth Johnson reported that part of the play equipment has broken away. Ipswich Borough Council came out and took the broken parts away. The Parish Council can get the new parts free of charge but will have to pay the delivery charges which amount to £120.00. It was agreed that the existing bolts could be reused. Cllr Georgina Burgess proposed, seconded Cllr David Riddleston that the expenditure of £120.00 should be approved – all in favour. Discussions took place regarding the installation of the new poles and Cllr Ruth Johnson proposed, seconded Cllr Georgina Burgess that the Parish Council authorise a spending limit of £200.00 to cover the cost of the labour, cement, etc – all in favour.

### **54.19 To discuss Innocence Lane**

Cllr Ruth Johnson stated that as all councillors are aware Cllr David Brinkley is a member of a cross boundary group of Parish Councils. The Parish Council has been approached to contribute finance from their precept to towards the cost of employing a barrister to represent the group of Parish Councils to oppose the proposed development in Innocence Lane. Currently Kirton & Falkenham have agreed to contribute £14,000.00 and Trimley St Martin have agreed to contribute £10,000.00 to the fund. The Clerk reported that she had consulted professional guidance and been advised that the Parish Council should consider the following: a. Identify the likely costs and potential risks associated with the project. The Parish Council should not go down a route where the costs are beyond the capacity of the Council to fund as that would result in financial harm to both the Council and residents and cause significant reputational damage to the Council. b. Seek initial legal advice on the suitability of pursuing the case. There have been instances recently where local councils have incurred high costs when the case was lost, and they had to pay the barrister costs of the opposing side. There is also a KATCAG Action Group comprised of local people who are not comprised of Parish Councils. KATCAG have initiated a petition requesting local Parish Councillors to review how they can join in funding professional support for the defence of Innocence Farm, The Trimley Villages and Trimley Primary School (as stated in social media). The Parish Council discussed the request to donate funds, but it was believed that Bucklesham is not in a position to give finance towards the cost of funding a barrister. Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield proposed, seconded Cllr Rhea Gardner that having taken advise and that the Parish Council have little in reserve, the Parish Council could not offer any financial support to the group – all in favour. **Action: Clerk (to write to Caroline Lee informing the Group of Bucklesham Parish Council's decision)**

### **55.19 To discuss Bucklesham Playing Field**

Nothing to report.

### **56.19 Planning**

DC/19/1648/FUL 4 Church Close Bucklesham Suffolk IP10 ODU – Ground and first floor rear extension, conversion of garage to habitable room and external alterations

The above application is currently being considered by the Parish Council.

## 57.19 Finance

### Receipts

Football Subs Bucklesham Team	£250.00
Precept First Payment	£4,250.00
CIL Receipts	£1,293.69

### Payments (to be approved this meeting)

Clerk's Salary & Expenses March 2019 (excluding tax)	£268.78
Clerk's Salary & Expenses April 2019 (excluding tax)	£200.00
HMRC MrsAJBuggs Tax	£150.00
Norse Commercial Grass Cutting	£88.20

### Bank Balances

Current Account	£9,944.65
Deposit Account	£4,513.37

Cllr Ruth Johnson proposed, seconded Cllr Heather Owen that the above expenditure should be approved – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

## 58.19 To receive the accounts for the year 2018/2019

The Clerk had previously distributed a copy of the year-end accounts to each councillor and presented the accounts for 2018/2019 to the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr Ruth Johnson, seconded Cllr Heather Owen that the year-end accounts 2018/2019 – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Ruth Johnson proposed a vote of thanks for the Clerk for her work in producing the accounts.

The Parish Council considered Parish Council reserves and agreed as follows:

Tree Planting	£300.00
Repairs to Play Equipment	£1,000.00
Replacement of Picnic Tables (5) on the Playing Field including bases/installation	£2,500.00
Maintenance of Defib	£500.00

## Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/2019

The Clerk outlined the responsibility of Bucklesham Parish Council to ensure that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. It was proposed by Cllr Heather Owen seconded Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield that the Chairman signs Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2018/2019 on behalf of Bucklesham Parish Council – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

## 59.19 General Matters

- a. Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield reported that the Willow Tree which is lifting the footpath outside the Shannon Public House has still not been dealt with by Suffolk County Council Highways. It was agreed that Cllr Ruth Johnson would organise photographs to be taken to send to the Clerk. Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield also reported that the ditches in Levington Lane (opposite No 11) were blocked. **Action: Clerk**
- b. Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield reported she had been told that if there is no school bus contract there would be no buses to and from Bucklesham.

**60.19 Date of next meeting**

Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 pm**

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

**QUESTION TIME**

1. Discussions took place with regard to Bucklesham producing a Neighbourhood Plan.

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