

BUCKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Parish Council Meeting held at Bucklesham Village Hall at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 4th July 2019

Present

Cllr Ruth Johnson (Chair)
Cllr Georgina Burgess
Cllr Rhea Gardener
Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield
Cllr Heather Owen
Cllr David Brinkley
Mrs A Buggs Clerk
Cllr Chris Blundell East Suffolk District Councillor
Cllr Richard Kerry East Suffolk District Councillor
31 members of the public

61.19 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Melissa Allen East Suffolk District Councillor and Cllr Patricia O'Brien Suffolk County Councillor.

62.19 Declaration of interest

None

63.19 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the Friday, 10th May 2019 were approved as being a true record and signed by the Chairman.

64.19 Matters arising from the minutes

Cllr Ruth Johnson reported that the defibrillator course had been held and proved to be very successful.

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

Cllr Patricia O'Brien – Suffolk County Council

Five new policy areas were outlined at SCCs Annual General Meeting and they are: proposals to begin to use council owned land to build more homes, plans to cut carbon emissions, a commitment to continue work to protect vulnerable adults and children, improve Suffolk roads, raise educational standards. There are all major areas to address in the coming twelve months.

Plans were also announced regarding work with partners, businesses and residents to develop a long-term vision for Suffolk, to renew the council's approach to growing Suffolk's economy and for the council to act more commercially.

Improvements need to be made with our relationships with district and borough councils. It is essential that we work together as this will make for efficiency and savings. The time of pursuing separate avenues are long gone. We need co-operation and service, regardless of political view.

Tremendous news on May 21st. Ofsted inspectors awarded Children's Services at SCC an Outstanding grade following April visit. Only eight other Local Authorities, out of 152, have been judged to be 'Outstanding' overall.

Inspectors were impressed with improvements made across the service since rated 'Good' in 2015. Inspectors commended the staff, highlighting that "the work that staff are doing with children and young people is impressive; the way that they are doing it is making a real difference to their lives". Workforce management was also recognised by Ofsted as a strength.

The Fire Service has had its first major upgrade to its equipment and uniforms since 2011. The firefighter's role has changed much in recent times. In the last year, over a third of emergency incidents attended were not fire related and included events such as road traffic collisions and rescues of both animals and people, from water or height.

The fire service worked in consortium with 12 other fire services across the country, to create an efficient and cost-effective way of purchasing the equipment.

A Highways Community Self Help scheme has been developed in partnership with towns and parishes across Suffolk after it was recognised that many of these councils were willing to carry out additional works to maintain and improve the look of their communities. Works, such as: sign cleaning, hedge cutting, and fingerpost painting. Highways has committed £100k to the scheme in its first year. This funding was taken from the £9.67million additional funding allocated to Suffolk Highways in the budget, and is designed to support and empower town and parish councils. Towns and parishes that are interested in joining Community Self Help are encouraged to visit: www.suffolk.gov.uk/communityselfhelp for more details.

Cllr Richard Kerry – District Councillor – verbal report.

Question Time

- a. Discussions took place regarding lorries using Nacton Lane.
- b. Hastoe Housing – Cllr Ruth Johnson reported that the landowner for the preferred site had decided not to sell the land for housing. It appears that Hastoe will no longer be pursuing building rural exception sites in Bucklesham.
- c. Orwell Green

Cllr Ruth Johnson gave a report on information the Parish Council had put together regarding the development and letters written by consultees. She said that the Parish Council had held meetings with Gladman and members of the public at the beginning of the year to enable the Parish Council to have all the facts available to them. Discussions took place about the pro and cons of the development. It was pointed out that Orwell Green does not appear in the Draft Local Plan. Members of the public discussed the development and put their views forward.

The meeting was reconvened

65.19 Planning

To discuss Orwell Green (Land to the North and South of Bucklesham Road) – DC/19/1988/OUT

The Parish Council discussed the development. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Brightwell Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council requesting that they set up a cross boundary group and that Bucklesham Parish Council would give their full support to the group. Following discussions Cllr David Brinkley proposed, seconded Cllr Georgina Burgess that the Parish Council write to East Suffolk Council Planning Department objecting to the proposed application – 5 in favour, 1 abstention. **Action: Clerk / Cllr Ruth Johnson**

66.19 Community Council

Cllr Ruth Johnson reported on the Community Council activities. The Community Council will be replacing the goals with financial support from grant applications, District Council and Suffolk County Council. New football teams are also starting in September 2019.

67.19 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.

New Highways Self Help Scheme Empowers Suffolk people to do more in their community

Suffolk County Council today launched 'Highways Community Self Help' which is designed to support and empower towns and parish councils in Suffolk to carry out minor maintenance tasks in their communities.

The much-anticipated scheme has been developed in partnership with town and parishes across Suffolk after it was recognised that many of these councils were willing to carry out additional works to maintain and improve the look of their communities such as sign cleaning, hedge cutting, painting signs.

Highways has committed £100k to the scheme in its first year, taken from the £9.67million additional funding allocated to Suffolk Highways by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP, in the Budget last October; the investment will help fund training, personal protective gear; such as gloves, hi-viz and safety glasses and any needed tools.

The types of works that town and parish councils are keen to undertake include:

- Sign cleaning
- Fingerpost cleaning/painting/repair
- Tree pruning/branch removal
- Hedge cutting/pruning
- Siding out of footways, or paths (widen back to original/full width)
- Grass verge cutting
- Weed killing/weed removal

Towns and parishes across Suffolk will be able to carry out these tasks and more through one or more of the following four options:

1. Buying in services from contractors
2. Using your own trained employee(s)
3. Using volunteers to undertake work
4. Buying additional services from Suffolk Highways

1. Residents encouraged to tackle air pollution

East Suffolk residents are being encouraged to take simple steps to protect their health, and the health of their families, from air pollution.

In the lead up to Clean Air Day on 20 June, East Suffolk Council's Air Quality Officers are working with schools, workplaces and communities to help raise awareness of the causes of air pollution and how improved air quality can benefit health.

Clean Air Day is the UK's largest air pollution campaign and aims to tackle and raise awareness of air pollution. Schools, hospitals and communities across the UK will be holding events to inspire local residents to act for their own health and the health of local children.

In preparation for Clean Air Day, Air Quality Officers have been visiting East Suffolk schools to speak with drivers about the pollution caused by idling vehicles and asking parents to switch off their engines outside schools.

Children have [also been invited to become School Air Quality Ambassadors](#) and will attend an air quality lesson at the Council's offices in both Lowestoft and Melton next month.

Phil Gore, Head of Environmental Services and Port Health at East Suffolk Council said: "Air pollution has serious health impacts with dirty air contributing to 40,000 deaths every year in the UK. We want to raise awareness of the simple things people can do in their everyday lives to improve air quality. Clean Air Day is a chance to find out more about air pollution, share information with friends and family and help make the air cleaner and healthier for everyone."

As well as outdoor air pollution, residents are also being asked to consider the air quality in their homes. There are many ways to improve indoor air quality; including opening windows when cooking or using cleaning products, regularly servicing your boiler to ensure there are no carbon monoxide leaks and avoiding artificial scents in the products used at home.

Find out more at eastsuffolk.gov.uk/clean-air-day-20-june-2019

67.19 Speeding Signs

Cllr Ruth Johnson reported that the police do not have to erect speeding signs to warn motorists of possible speed deterrents. She said that the Parish Council were keen to place speed warning signs on the bridge approaching Bucklesham and on the road towards the school. Permission would need to be sort from Suffolk County Council Highways. **Action: Cllr Ruth Johnson / Clerk**

68.19 Finance

Receipts

None

Payments (to be approved this meeting)

Clerk's Salary & Expenses May 2019	£252.30
Clerk's Salary & Expenses June 2019	£200.00
Norse Commercial Grass Cutting	£176.40
Trevor Brown Audit Fee	£100.00
Print4You	£142.00
David Riddleston Playing Field	£42.75

Rachel Gowers Defib Course	£25.00
HMRC Tax April, May, June 2019	£150.00
<u>Bank Balances</u>	
Current Account	£8,856.20
Deposit Account	£4,513.37

69.19. To discuss the report of the Internal Auditor

The Clerk reported that the internal audit had been successfully completed and no issues had been highlighted. However, it had been recommended that the Parish Council check that their Standing Orders etc comply with the latest legislation. Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield proposed, seconded Cllr Georgina Burgess that the above expenditure is approved, and that the successful completion of the Internal Audit had been noted by the Parish Council – all in favour.

70.19 General Matters

- a. Cllr Georgina Burgess offered her apologies for the September 2019 meeting as she would be going into hospital on the 12th August 2019. It was agreed that the Parish Council would authorise absence for Cllr Georgina Burgess due to ill health at the next meeting. **Action: Clerk**
- b. It was reported that the Plum Hedge would be cut back in September 2019. **Action: Clerk**
- c. Cllr David Brinkley reported that the footpath from the village to the school was very overgrown. One property has a hedge which is particularly overgrown. It was agreed that Cllr Heather Owen would speak to the owners of the property. **Action: Cllr Heather Owen**
- d. Cllr Ruth Johnson reported that the parking of vehicles on the footpaths was causing obstructions to pedestrians particularly in Field View, Main Road and Levington Lane. It was agreed to put a notice in the next issue of the Bugle reminding residents not to park on the footpaths. **Action: Cllr Ruth Johnson**

71.19 Date of next meeting

Thursday, 5th September 2019

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.16 pm

Signed..... Date

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