

BUCKLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Parish Council Meeting held at Bucklesham Village Hall at 7.00 pm on Thursday, 2nd January 2020

Present

Cllr Ruth Johnson (Chair)
Cllr Rhea Gardener
Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield
Cllr Georgina Burgess
Cllr David Brinkley
Mrs A Buggs Clerk
3 members of the public
Cllr Richard Kerry – East Suffolk District Council

01.20 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Heather Owen (ill), Cllr Mellisa Allen – East Suffolk Council and Cllr Patricia O’Brien – Suffolk County Council.

02.20 Declaration of interest

Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield declared an interest in Item 6b of the agenda.

03.20 Minutes

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

04.20 Matters arising from the minutes

Page 1 – Plum Hedge

It was reported that the plum hedge had still not be cut back. **Action: Clerk**

Page 1 – Pavement Uplift – Levington Lane Bucklesham

It was reported that Suffolk County Council Highways have still not repaired the pavement. It was agreed that the Clerk would report this hazard again as a lady had fell over due to the height of the uneven pavement. **Action: Clerk / Cllr Patricia O’Brien**

Page 8 – 95.19 Speeding Signs

The Clerk reported that she had sent the pictures of the locations for speed signs to Suffolk County Council Highways but had not received any feedback. **Action: Clerk**

The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from:

Cllr Patricia O’Brien – Suffolk County Council

May I begin by wishing you all a happy and peaceful New Year.

The new year has begun, dare I say, rather quietly and most of what is in this report is from December. The main issue for the early new year will be the budget and this will be reported to you as and when.

Suffolk County Council is now in a position to provide information regarding the development of new **Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)** units attached to mainstream schools in the county. These units are:

- Two Generic Key Stage 1 Units – Pipers Vale Primary Academy and Burton End Primary Academy
- Three Communication and Interaction Key Stage 2 Units – Murrayfield Primary Academy, Houldsworth Valley Primary Academy, and Causton Junior School
- One Cognition and Learning Key Stage 2 Unit – Clements Primary Academy
- Three Communication and Interaction Key Stage 3/4 Units – Copleston High School, Ixworth School, and Newmarket Academy
- One Cognition and Learning Key Stage 3/4 Unit – Castle Manor Primary Academy.

This means an additional 168 new specialist placements will be available for children and their families from September 2020. Successful schools are currently working with the council to ensure the appropriate infrastructure and support is in place to enable these new units to be opened in September 2020.

It may be of interest that David Waters, company director of Anchor Mobility Limited, received a 32-month custodial sentence in December.

Anchor Mobility Limited, a company meant to provide life-improving furniture to vulnerable and elderly people, failed to fulfil orders and refused to refund customers.

Many customers received no goods, no refunds and poor customer service. One customer paid over £8,000 for two beds, which were never delivered, and no refund was ever received.

A hearing, to consider compensation for victims, will take place in the new year.

Suffolk Trading Standards officers, partner agencies and the National Trading Standards Tri Regional Investigation Team helped bring Mr Waters to justice.

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service has undergone its most comprehensive, independent inspection in many years and has been rated as “Good” for its effectiveness, efficiency and how well it leads and manages its staff.

A report, published on December 17th, praised the many aspects of the service. In particular how well it collaborates with other services and agencies, how it responds to fires and other emergencies, how it ensures fairness and promotes diversity, and the financially sound way the service is run.

On 16 December, Suffolk County Council announced the Suffolk 2020 Fund – from which organisations can bid for a share.

This is a £3million pot formed to fund projects such as new speed cameras, electric charging points, new cycle lanes or tree planting.

Bids between £50,000 and £500,000 will be accepted within 100 days of the new financial year and will be for Suffolk-wide projects.

An idea to raise awareness of the effects that population growth, climate change, littering and pollution has on animal habitats has been launched by thirty schools and groups across the county.

Using homemade glue from flour and water together with recycled paper and cardboard, Suffolk school children have created 1,000 endangered animals from recycled material to make tigers, whales, turtles and gorillas.

This has been an important project as it demonstrates, to children, how everyday materials can be reused and recycled.

Cllr Richard Kerry – District Councillor / Cllr Mellisa Allen – District Councillor

Housing

The new housing strategy is going to Cabinet on the 7th January this was reported in the local press over the weekend.

<https://www.eadt.co.uk/news/east-suffolk-affordable-rent-shared-ownership-homes-plans-1-6440934>

East Suffolk's longer-term strategy for using the HRA money involves identifying redevelopment funding of £55.9m over the next 30 years along with new development funding of £227.3m for housing.

New Paperless Land Charges Service Launched

The new East Suffolk Public Access Land Charges (PALC) system was launched on 2 December, enabling people to directly access the Land Charges team at East Suffolk Council.

As part of the conveyancing process, a local land charges search is undertaken whenever a property or piece of land is purchased, leased, valued or re-mortgaged. The search shows any restrictions or legal obligations against the site such as tree preservation orders, conditional planning consents, conservation areas and listed buildings.

Prior to the introduction of the new PALC system, searches could only be applied for via email or in writing.

Through the use of intelligent online forms which ensure the correct information is captured during an application, the new system removes the need for third parties and additional transactions. Applicants receive a downloadable response document, removing the need for printing and further paperwork.

To access the new Public Access Land Charges service, go to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/local-land-charges

Consultation on Proposed Dog Control Orders

Earlier this year, 10 Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) were introduced to replace existing byelaws. The areas affected by these include Charsfield recreation ground, Martello Park Gardens in Felixstowe and Felixstowe Seafront Gardens.

Now, three more PSPOs are being proposed to ensure dogs are kept on leads in Herringfleet Hills, Lound Lakes and Charsfield churchyard. A four-week consultation was launched on 13 December inviting local people to give their views on the proposals.

Full details of the proposals, and details of how to comment on them, can be found at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/dog-control-order-consultation

Responses can also be sent to PSPO Consultation, c/o Environmental Protection, East Suffolk Council, East Suffolk House, Station Road, Melton, Suffolk, IP12 1RT.

The consultation closes on Friday 10 January 2020.

Consultation on Draft Heritage Action Zone Document

Local residents, businesses and other interested parties are being asked for their views on the draft design guidance for the North Lowestoft Heritage Action Zone.

The 6-weeks Draft North Lowestoft Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document consultation started on 13 December 2019 and closes at 5pm on Friday 24 January 2020.

The North Lowestoft Heritage Action Zone is a project carried out in partnership with Historic England, Lowestoft Town Council and East Suffolk Building Preservation Trust which will run until the end of March 2023. East Suffolk Council is actively supporting the HAZ programme of work, including through the commissioning and production of this Design Guide. Following the consultation, the Council will consider the comments received prior to finalising the document early next year.

The Draft HAZ Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document can be found at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/HAZ

Reducing Waste This Christmas

East Suffolk residents are being encouraged to consider the environment this Christmas by choosing recyclable products wherever possible and reducing their household waste.

An estimated 125,000 tonnes of plastic packaging and 83km² of wrapping paper is thrown away in the UK every Christmas. However, much of this waste could be recycled at home through the blue household recycling bin.

Most wrapping paper is recyclable, with the exception of paper with glitter or foil-effect papers. Cardboard packaging and cards without glitter are also recyclable through the blue wheeled bin, as well as hard plastic, aluminium foil, newspaper, magazines, cans and plastic bottles.

According to the Suffolk Waste Partnership, 73% of people have leftover food at Christmas. Buying less and freezing leftovers can save money and reduce the amount of food being thrown away. For more information on reducing food waste, visit www.foodsavvy.org.uk.

Work to Improve Beach Access In Felixstowe Has Been Completed

Work to improve access to Felixstowe beach and beach huts has been completed at a cost of £250,000.

East Suffolk Council has invested £250,000 to improve public access to the beach and beach huts in Felixstowe following a survey of the area, which revealed that some of the older steps had deteriorated and were potential hazardous.

The work included renovating the steps at Golf Road car park and removing the old steps at Brackenbury car park to create a new set of wooden and concrete steps. Access has also been improved for beach hut licence holders at Brackenbury Cliffs with the refurbishment of new platforms in front of the huts.

Food Safety Packs Launched to Help Small Businesses

Small businesses in East Suffolk can now manage their food safety practices more easily following the launch of new information packs.

Developed by the Food Standards Agency, 'Safer Food Better Business' packs are now available from East Suffolk Council's Food and Safety Team to help small business operators understand and comply with food hygiene regulations and food safety management procedures.

Food safety regulations require a business to show and record the actions they take to ensure food made and/or sold on the premises is safe to eat.

The 'Safer Food Better Business' packs contain food safety procedures for a variety of businesses including caterers, care homes, retailers and childminders. The packs contain up to date information on:

- Food allergens
- 'Pre-Packed for Direct Sale' regulations (which will be introduced in October 2021)
- Details on how to register as a food business
- Guidance around the Food Hygiene Ratings Scheme.

Businesses can download or order a pack here: www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/business/food-safety/safer-food-better-business/

Photo Competition Winners Announced

The winners of this year's East Suffolk Photo Competition have been announced.

Returning for its third year, the competition ran throughout November and invited amateur and professional photographers to submit their photos of the district to East Suffolk Council.

In early December, the entries were judged by Cllr Stephen Burroughes, cabinet member for Customer Services and Operational Partnerships and Cllr Letitia Smith, cabinet member for Communities, Leisure and Tourism.

See the winning photos at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/east-suffolk-photo-competition/

The meeting was reconvened

04.19 Planning

- a. DC/19/4510/OUT Land to the South Side of Levington Lane Bucklesham – Erection of up to 33 dwellings with associated landscaping, vehicular access and parking provision.

Cllr Ruth Johnson reported that only two residents had commented on the application. Suffolk County Council Highways has written that the road should be widened to 5 ½ metres before the developers start the development.

05.20 Report by the Community Council

Cllr Ruth Johnson reported that the new goals are now in place on the playing field. £600 has been donated to Knit and Natter Group to cover the hire of the Village Hall for the year which will enable them to continue to meet. Cllr Georgina Burgess asked about changing facilities as mentioned at the last meeting. Cllr Ruth Johnson explained the reasons for not installing changing and toilet facilities and stated that it was not felt that residents should be funding those facilities.

06.20 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.

Section 137 Expenditure

The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has notified the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) that the appropriate sum for the purpose of section 137(4)(a) of the Local Government Act 1972 (the 1972 Act) for parish and town councils in England for 2020-21 is £8.32 per elector.

This is the amount as a result of increasing the amount of £8.12 for 2019-2020 by the percentage increase in the retail index between September 2018 and September 2019, in accordance with Schedule 12B to the 1972 Act.

Cllr Sue Baxter, chairman of NALC, responded: "NALC welcomes this earlier than usual notification from the government about the increase to the level of Section 137 expenditure for local (parish and town) councils. This is important as Section 137 enables local councils to spend a limited amount of money for purposes for which they have no other specific statutory power, and will help England's 10,000 local councils continue to build stronger communities."

Flu Jab

Every winter unpaid carers miss out on a free NHS flu jab despite the fact that they are entitled to have one. If you receive a carer's allowance or you look after somebody who would not be able to manage without your support if you fall ill, or if you know someone who is a carer, then you can speak to your GP or pharmacist about getting vaccinated as well as the person(s) you care for. Flu is a common infectious viral illness spread by coughs and sneezes. It can be very unpleasant. It's not the same as the common cold and is caused by a different group of viruses. The symptoms tend to start more suddenly, be more severe and last longer. This is why it is important that carers have a flu vaccination to help protect themselves as well as the person for whom they care for.

There are a lot of myths about flu and many people worry that the vaccine can give you the flu. Please be assured that this isn't possible as there is no live influenza virus in the vaccine. As with any vaccine you may have some side effects that could include a mild fever and slight muscle aches for a day or so. As with other vaccines, the flu vaccine is not 100% effective in all cases. This is because different strains circulate during the season and they can adjust over time. However the benefit of having the vaccine is if you are unfortunate enough to catch flu after the vaccine, often the symptoms are milder and short lived.

For more information about flu jabs for carers, visit Carers UK at <https://www.carersuk.org/> and for general information around staying well this winter, visit: <http://www.nhs.uk/staywell/carers>

Buckingham Palace Garden Party 2020

Suffolk Association of Local Councils have been allocated two invitations to the Buckingham Palace Garden Party 2020 for one Mayor/Chairman of Suffolk's Town and Parish Councils with one accompanying guest only. The garden party is taking place on Wednesday, 27th May 2020. Applications need to be set to SALC by 5 pm on Tuesday, 28th January 2020. The following discussion Cllr Ruth Johnson proposed, seconded Cllr Georgina Burgess that Cllr Heather Owen and Cllr Evelyn Bloomfield be put forward to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party 2020 – all in favour.

07.20 CIL Receipts

Cllr Ruth Johnson said that the Parish Council would receive additional money in CIL receipts in 2020/2021 and should start to consider what improvements they would like to make in the village.

Action: All Councillors

08.20 To discuss setting up a lift share scheme for the village

Cllr Ruth Johnson said that she had put a notice in the Bugle asking whether residents would be interested in a lift sharing scheme but had not received any response. It was agreed that Cllr Ruth Johnson would arrange for the lady from the lift sharing scheme to come and talk to the village at the Annual Parish Meeting in May 2020. **Action: Cllr Ruth Johnson**

09.20 Budget 2020/2021 / Precept 2020/2021

Councillors discussed the budget for 2020/2021 which had previously been circulated. The budget was accepted by the Parish Council. Cllr D Brinkley proposed, seconded Cllr G Burgess that the budget be accepted and that the Parish Council should precept for £9,100.00 for the year 2020/2021 – 4 in favour, 1 against – unanimously agreed. **Action: Clerk**

10.20 To discuss the playing field

Cllr Ruth Johnson reported that the Parish Council were waiting for the Rospa Report which is due in January 2020. As yet the volunteers have not started work on the hedgerow but it will be starting shortly.

11.20 Bucklesham School Report

No report. It was agreed to take this item of future agendas. **Action: Clerk**

12.20 Finance

Receipts

None

Payments (to be approved this meeting)

Clerk's Salary & Expenses November 2019	£200.00
Clerk's Salary & Expenses December 2019	£273.23
Print4You	£142.00
HMRC Tax	£150.00
<u>Bank Balances</u>	
Current Account	£15,529.57
Deposit Account	£4,513.37

Cllr E Bloomfield proposed, seconded Cllr R Johnson seconded that the above expenditure is approved – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

13.20 General Matters

- a. Discussions took place regarding the amount of dog fouling in the village. It was agreed that a notice would be put in the Bugle. **Action: Cllr Ruth Johnson**

14.20 Date of next meeting

Thursday, 5th March 2020

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.50 pm.

QUESTION TIME

Cllr Richard Kerry reported that Trimley St Martin school government are planning to locate the school as the size of the present school does not meet the need.

Nacton Lane was discussed and it was agreed that this would be put on the next agenda. **Action: Clerk**

Signed..... Date

Angie Buggs
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