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## **Tattingstone Parish Council**

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm in Tattingstone Village Hall.**

**Present: Cllr. R Dearing, Cllr. S Tweedy, Cllr. D Hawes,  
Cllr. S Page, Cllr. S Gipps, Cllr. D Clark**

### **Members of public: 1**

In the absence of both the chairman and the vice chairman, the clerk asked for nominations for a temporary chair of this and the February meetings.

Cllr. S Gipps was proposed and seconded and voted in unanimously.

Cllr. S Gipps took the chair.

#### **1. Apologies for absence.**

Cllr. Wood, Cllr, Mendel, Cllr. Clarke, D. Cllr. Gould, Speedwatch rep. Mrs Proctor.

#### **2. Declaration of interest.**

N/A

#### **3. To consider requests for dispensation.**

N/A

#### **4. To approve, as accurate, minutes of meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2019**

Proposed: Cllr. Dearing

Seconded: Cllr. Hawes

Carried unanimously

## **5. To receive Clerk's Report.**

- It has been a very quiet month with general election
- The clerk has received advice about contributing to maintenance of a parish church. Under the Local Government Act 1894 although the Parish Council can contribute to maintenance of a graveyard which is open for burials for people of the village, the Parish Council cannot give assistance for maintenance or repairs of the church building. The village church has had a recent quinquennial report that states thousands of pounds needs to be spent on the building. The clerk advised that a contribution should not be made from the Parish Council.
- AONB report circulated as has Rural bulletin.
- Dog bin at the end of footpath opposite the chapel has been remounted by a local resident. The clerk will write a letter of thanks. Councillors had received complaints that dog bins were not being used especially up the Wheatsheaf. The situation would be monitored for 2 months and then a decision will be made as to whether an additional bin be purchased and sited.

## **6. To consider Matters arising from the minutes.**

All matters arising are covered by the agenda.

## **7. Open Forum for members of the public.**

- A member of the public asked if the Parish Council had plans to plant trees in the Parish. Volunteers were available to assist with planting. The Council suggested that she put an article in Tattingstone News with her contact details regarding possible sites for planting.

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- The state of the blue/green algae on Alton Water was causing concern. The Clerk will contact Anglian Water and ask about the situation and report back.

#### **8. To receive reports from District and County Councillors**

Both reports are attached to these minutes.

#### **9. To discuss progress on village Speedwatch and to consider feedback from working group on possible traffic calming measures on A137.**

The SID has been ordered and the necessary paperwork regarding sites has been sent off to the County Council.

#### **10. To discuss, recommend, not recommend or update on Planning Applications:**

**DC/19/05070**

**Summercourt, The Heath, Tattlingstone IP9 2LX**

**Erection of 5 dwellings and garages, creation of vehicular accesses including associated landscaping and parking [following demolition of existing buildings]**

The Clerk submitted the Council's objections about this application. The Clerk also telephoned the planning department to report that building was already taking place and that the bridle path was being obstructed and churned up. Planning department would report to their enforcement team for action.

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## **11. Correspondence requiring immediate discussion at the discretion of the Chairman**

None

## **12. Finance: to consider and approve.**

- **Bank Balances:** Bank reconciliation presented and accepted.
  
- **To approve payment :**
  - Clerk's wages and expenses: £265.06
  
  - HMRC: £188.80
  
  - Babergh District Council [playground inspection]: £60.22
  
  - Data protection Fee: £40.00
  
  - Mr B Self [ plaque for Howard bench]: £26.34

Proposed: Cllr. Page  
Seconded: Cllr. Dearing  
Carried unanimously

Expenditure to date 2019/20 presented. Bank reconciliation agreed and signed.

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Unfortunately only one signatory was available. The clerk would apply for herself and Cllr Tweedy to be signatories so a second person could sign.

**13. To Receive update on village telephone box project.**

Deferred to next month

**14. To receive Report from Playing Field Representative.**

There had not been a meeting since the last meeting but a report will be made next meeting.

**15. To Confirm Precept requirements and sign necessary request form.**

The precept having been agreed on presentation of the budget for the forthcoming financial year at £12,420. The necessary paperwork was formally signed by Cllr. Gipps, Cllr. Hawes, Cllr. Page and witnessed by the Clerk.

**16. To discuss the of SATNAV in the village.**

SATNAV is directing vehicles down Back Lane, a bridle path, to access A137 from Church Road. Unfortunately, the necessary legislation to stop vehicles using unsuitable roads failed to get a second reading and has thus been shelved. The Council considered larger signage but this might be ineffective at night. The local farmer will be consulted.

**17. To discuss arrangements for VE Day 2020**

The working group has not yet met and will report back next month.

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## **18. Any other urgent village matters**

**None**

## **19. Date of next meeting**

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020

Both Cllr. Wood and Cllr. Mendel gave their apologies for the February meeting

## **20. Items for next agenda.**

VE day

SatNav

Update on phone box

**The meeting ended at 20.40.**

**Signed minutes of previous Parish Council Meetings are available for inspection by contacting the clerk**

**01473 327865 or email: [tatt.pc@gmail.com](mailto:tatt.pc@gmail.com)**

**Report for Tattingstone Parish Council from Jane Gould,  
Babergh District Councillor  
Meeting date: 6 January 2020**

**Season's greetings**

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A happy new year to you all and I hope you all had a good seasonal break. There have been no District Council meetings since I last reported to you but from the look of the calendar there will be plenty happening over the next few months as we scrutinise actions and policies and move the Joint Local Plan on.

### **Countryside and Public Realm**

I have asked for a ward tour with the countryside and public realm team. This will be an opportunity for me to raise any ward issues and view them on the ground. Action can be agreed that needs to be taken to resolve any issues found and if there are any improvement projects, these can be looked at as well. There is a growing interest in how our open spaces can be better managed for nature as well as local people's enjoyment of nature, so if you have any ideas as to where more trees can be planted or meadow areas created I will be happy to discuss these on my tour as well. Facilities for young people are important also and a 5 year programme of play site improvements will be developed.

I thought you might be interested to read about their work. Their corporate manager, Peter Garret says -

*2019 has been a busy year with many improvement projects being delivered including the new Skate/BMX facility at Belle Vue Park, new play equipment at Pinecroft Rise, Sudbury and a newly refurbished play site at Wren Close, Stowmarket. Tree for Life continues to go from strength to strength with over 400 babies now registered to receive a free tree in early 2020 across both Districts. We are also hoping for a few Christmas babies to be registered early in the New Year to swell numbers further. We have also been pleased to support the proposals for the new Visitor Centre at Needham Lake and are looking forward to the added dimension that this excellent facility will bring to this already highly popular regional tourist attraction. The new arrangements for Civil Parking Enforcement will come into force in early 2020 and we have been busy preparing an action plan for tasks including new signage and customer information as well as ensuring our parking meters are upgraded to the latest technology. Opened at the end of last year the new path at Bakers Mill really came into its own during 2019 and has proven to be one of the most successful projects Public Realm have ever completed. Usage counts during 2019 have shown that the path*

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*can be used by over 100 people an hour during peak periods and this vital link, so many years in the making, has proven to be a very popular addition to the informal recreational opportunities of this beautiful area of the Stour Valley.*

*All these achievements have been achieved alongside our daily commitment for grounds maintenance and street cleansing duties that make both districts a clean, green and welcoming place to live, work, rest and play. As the year comes to an end I thought it is timely to remind you of the daily work of the team and the themes that we cover:*

**Specific functions undertaken by Public Realm are:**

- The service ensures that the public realm is clean, welcoming and well managed and that any new provision meets the needs and expectations of communities, stakeholders and visitors.*
- We provide high quality and value for money services including the direct provision of parks, open spaces, countryside sites, play areas, arboriculture, car parks, street cleansing (including the collection and disposal of fly tipped material), roadside verge maintenance and public conveniences.*
- We also process definitive map modifications on behalf of partners across Suffolk.*
- We provide direct management of facilities and also act in an advisory capacity to those partners, such as Parish and Town Councils who also manage similar local facilities.*
- A number of small scale contracts are also secured working on behalf of other land managers with respect to grounds maintenance and cleansing including mowing parish council owned recreation grounds and amenity areas.*
- Open spaces are also offered for the use of the local community for events and to local clubs and societies for the provision of leisure, sport and recreation.*
- The Council manages 'off-street' pay and display car parking and provides an enforcement function under the Road Traffic*



*Act Regulations 1984, until the new arrangement for CPE come into force in early 2020 by which our car park enforcement will be delivered under service level agreements with West Suffolk and Ipswich.*

- *Through the transformation programme we are exploring more efficient and cost effective management of facilities and are also working with the local community and other partners to explore different delivery mechanisms for the public realm such as the Hadleigh Tidy Town Volunteers and the Community Caretaker Scheme.*
- *There is a strong reputational outcome for our work as Council services are critically judged in areas such as street cleansing and open space provision. A well-managed environment is critical to the tourism offer in Babergh and Mid Suffolk and also offers opportunities for sport, recreation, health and well-being. Our open spaces also offer natural environment assets that enhance biodiversity and landscape amenity.*

### **How does the service function?**

- *The service provides expert technical staff, working in an enabling capacity along with front line staff involved in direct service delivery. In Babergh the front-line provision is provided by a contractor, IDverde and in Mid Suffolk by a direct in-house team of grounds maintenance and street cleansing operatives. Car park services are also provided.*
- *Technical staff deliver development opportunities, explore efficient work practice, deal with service performance issues and complaints and work with the local community to ensure that all facilities are fit for purpose and are what our customers want.*
- *Day to day operational activity is supported by a dedicated team of Administrative and Technical Support Officers who deal with enquiries from the public, manage the service operating systems and provide all back office support functions.*
- *The future will see new and innovative work practice being developed where 'doing things differently' will be explored across all of our service areas. Costs will continue to be reduced and more efficient working explored.*

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## Planning

I don't know of any new planning applications in the parish.

### Parish Report - January 2020

**Councillor**

*David Wood*



**Please note:** I will be away visiting my daughter in New Zealand from 27 December - 11 February but will still be contactable by email and in an emergency by my mobile (07889389443).

### 2020-21 Budget Proposals

Due to the General Election, the announcement of the 2020-21 budget proposals was delayed until end of December. These proposals will be scrutinised on Tuesday 7 January, before being discussed by the Cabinet on 24 January and by the full Council on 13 February.

#### Overview

- Forecast Budget Requirement = £545.4m
- Expected Funding = £550.8m
- The remaining funding will be divided into contributions to reserves (£1.8m), investment into Highways (£0.5m) and the "Suffolk 2020 Fund" (£3m)

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### Council Tax

Council Tax is due to increase by 4% in 2020-21. 2% of this will be for general council tax, whilst another 2% will be the final increase for the Social Care Precept.

### Suffolk 2020 Fund

£3m of the Council's funding will be available through the "Suffolk 2020 Fund". The purpose of this fund is to enable investment in projects focused on carbon reduction/offset, road safety, natural environment, built environment, innovation and use of technology.

The budget proposals suggest that all projects will need to have a Cabinet "sponsor" and be capable of delivery within 12 months. They must have a clear return on investment (economic, social and/or environmental) and involve non-recurring expenditure.

More details on how this funding will be allocated, and who can bid for funding, is not yet known.

### Citizens Advice

In last year's budget, Suffolk County Council announced that it would be removing the £368,000 grant for Citizens Advice. This cut was expected to be phased in, with half of the grant cut in 2019-20 and the rest cut in the 2020-21 budget.

However, the budget proposals for 2020-21 include £120,000 funding for Citizens Advice. This grant will remain in place for three years only and will be subject to annual review of the service in terms of efficiency, income generation and impact.

After three years of additional funding, the council expects Citizens Advice to become financially independent.

### Savings

There are no major cuts to services proposed in the 2020-21 budget. However, the budget does rely on the council achieving £7.2m of savings from its transformation programmes, and a further £12.3m from "mitigations and savings".

## **Future bus projects**

Suffolk County Council is planning to launch a pilot project in early 2020, using school buses to provide bus services for rural communities during off-peak hours. The scheme will run as a pre-book service via a series of villages from Stowmarket to Cockfield, before connecting with Sudbury services. The reverse journey will happen in the afternoon. If the pilot is successful, this system may be implemented in other parts of the county.

At a Scrutiny meeting in December, the deputy cabinet member for transport announced that the council was planning to bid for around £20 million from the Department for Transport for an electric bus pilot scheme. If the bid is successful, the council has said that it plans to launch the pilot scheme within 12-18 months in the Bury St Edmunds area.

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## **First new SEND units announced**

In January 2019, Suffolk County Council agreed to provide an additional £45.1m to fund additional school and specialist units for children with SEND.

The first 10 specialist units, providing 168 spaces, are due to open in September 2020. The new units will be based at:

- Pipers Vale Primary Academy, Ipswich (Key Stage 1)
- Burton End Primary Academy (KS1)
- Murrayfield Primary Academy, Ipswich (communication and interaction needs - KS2)
- Houldsworth Valley Primary Academy (communication and interaction needs - KS2)
- Causton Junior School (communication and interaction needs - KS2)
- Copleston High School, Ipswich (communication and interaction needs - KS3/4)
- Ixworth School (communication and interaction needs - KS3/4)
- Newmarket Academy (community and interaction needs - KS3/4)
- Clements Primary Academy, Haverhill (cognition and learning needs - KS2)
- Castle Manor Academy, Haverhill (cognition and learning needs - KS3/4)

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