

## Tattingstone Parish Council

### Minutes of meeting: Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2021 via Zoom

Present: Cllrs. Wood [Chair], Mendel, Clarke, Clark, Hawes, Page, Tweedy, Mark

D Cllr. Gould,

Ms Proctor

C Cllr. Harley

3 members of the public

The chairman formally welcomed MR Simon Harley, the new county councillor for Peninsular ward, who had been elected to Suffolk County Council on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

Cllr. Marks was welcomed to her first Parish Council meeting since her co-option last month.

Item		Detail	Action
1	Apologies for absence	Cllr. Wills	
2	Declaration of interest	Cllr. Clarke re item 11	
3	Requests for dispensation	Granted – non-pecunary	
4	To approve as accurate the minutes of meetings on 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2021 and	Minutes of Zoom meetings emailed out to councillors. Approved by email. Proposed: Cllr. Tweedy Seconded: Cllr. Clarke Carried unanimously	
5	Open Forum	There were no comments from members of the public.	

6	To receive Clerk's report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information on continuation of Zoom meetings circulated. After the High court Judgement, meetings will now be face to face. Covid risk assessment will need to be updated, based on village hall expectations.</li> <li>• Forwarded village hall newsletter to Village Hall committee</li> <li>• Reported broken gate fastening to Playing Field committee.</li> <li>• Cllr Mark paperwork has been completed.</li> <li>• A condolence notice was put on website and Facebook page following the sad death of Prince Phillip. Union flag flown at half-mast. The fittings were replaced by Cllr. Mendel on the flagpole</li> <li>• Put up the notices regarding the election of county councillor and police and crime commissioner.</li> </ul>	
7	To consider matters arising from minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Park and Pay equipment not installed yet in Lemon's Bridge and Wonder carparks.</li> <li>• The street lighting at Lemon's Hill bridge was reported as faulty. The clerk will contact Suffolk CC again as not mended yet.</li> <li>• Although considerable interest in a mobile fish and chip van in the village, none has been able to be booked.</li> </ul>	JCS
16	Brought forward. To receive update on the setting up of village shop by the village shop working group.	<p>A small working group of villagers has been formed co-ordinated by Cllr. Hawes. A questionnaire has been written and tested on the community at Chedworth/ Samford. The results were shared with the councillors. The questionnaire will now be circulated to all households in the village with The Tattler. Parents of pupils at the village school will also be questioned. There are grants possibly available. It was proposed that cost of printing the questionnaire be funded by the Parish Council. Proposed, seconded and carried.</p>	DH

8	Reports from County and District Councillors	Report from D Cllr Gould and C.Cllr Wood circulated via email Attached to these minutes.	
9a	To receive update on Tattingstone Speedwatch, especially the use of the SID.	The SID has been up in several location around the village and is having a marked effect on many people's speed. At the moment there is some difficulty downloading the information from it. SWARCO has been contacted. More volunteers are needed to help with Speedwatch. An article will be put in the next edition of The Tattler and on Facebook page.	AP
9b	To consider the use of cameras with number plate recognition by Suffolk County Council	An application has been completed. The camera will only remain on a village road [A137] for a week at a time. The order for the gateways has been sent in with some amendments because of the width of the verge.	
10	To receive update on The Tattler. Cllr Hawes reported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next edition will be distributed shortly: deadline in 14<sup>th</sup> May.</li> <li>• This issue has more village specific articles.</li> <li>• Gradually more advertising is being secured as local firms see quality of production.</li> <li>• Questionnaire regarding a village shop will be sent out with the next edition.</li> </ul>	DH
11	To consider any planning applications received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DC/21/01222 1 White Horse Cottages, IP9 2NT Approved.</li> <li>• DC/21/00730 Orion. Church Road, IP9 2LY Approved.</li> <li>• DC/21/02149 Yew Tree House, Church Road, IP9 2LY Cart Lodge with accommodation above. This was discussed fully. The council recommended approval. Proposed, seconded and carried.</li> </ul>	

12	Correspondence requiring immediate discussion	Further correspondence has been received by the chairman regarding the Anglian Water carpark at the Wonder. These have been replied to and the councillors kept informed.	DW
13	Finance to consider and approve	<p>Bank balances at 30.04.21  Current account: £21,216.38  Savings Account: £3183.32  Bank reconciliation was shared with councillors.</p> <p>The following payments were approved:  Proposed: Cllr. Clark  Seconded: Cllr Mendel  Carried unanimously</p> <p>Clerk's wages and expenses: £291.11  Andrea Mendel [ flagpole fittings] £15.99  SALC [ membership subscription] £265.44</p> <p>The first tranche of precept has been received.  The Expenditure to date was shared with the Council.</p> <p>Cllr. Wood will contact Barclays regarding additional signatories.</p> <p>It was agreed to terminate Zoom contract.  Agar Forms and Exemption certificate completed at AGM</p>	JCS
14	To discuss how Parish Covid grant be best spent.	Luckily, no-one in the village seems to be struggling too much and Good Neighbours has worked well. The cost of Village Shop survey will be taken from this grant.	

15	To consider plans for Annual Parish Meeting.	This can now take place face to face in the village hall. The clerk will set a date as soon as possible and invite village organisations to take part or submit a report. The event will be advertised on notice boards and on the internet through website and social media.	
16	Update on the setting up of a village shop.	Brought forward.	
17	To comment on any other urgent Village Matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Photographic Competition has been proposed; this will be open to all village residents and pupils at the school. One class is open to students. There is an entrance fee and cash prizes. It was suggested that an exhibition of photos could be organised in the autumn either in the village hall or the church. Proposed, seconded and carried.</li> <li>• A drone had been seen flying over dwellings by the Wheatsheaf. The clerk will investigate regulations for flying drones and an article can be placed in The Tattler.</li> </ul>	
19	Items for next agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playing field report</li> <li>• Anglian Water parking.</li> <li>• Litter</li> <li>• Review of complaints procedure, Standing Orders and Code of Conduct.</li> </ul>	
20	Date of next meeting	7 <sup>th</sup> June 2021 in the village hall.	

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Minutes of Part 2 Confidential item sent separately.

## Parish Report – May 2021

**Councillor**

*David Wood*



## **Elections to take place on May 6<sup>th</sup>**

Local elections will take place on Friday May 6<sup>th</sup> for SCC's 75 county councillor seats, as well as several district councillor seats and the Police & Crime Commissioner. Suffolk County Council's annual general meeting will take place on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

## **COVID-19 Home testing kits available from libraries and pharmacies**

The public can now obtain free Lateral Flow Devices (LFD) from any library in the county, along with 130 NHS pharmacies, subject to stock availability and opening times. Regular testing is seen as key in controlling the spread of the virus as the UK's vaccination programme continues.

For more information see the link below:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/show/home-testing-now-available-from-libraries-and-pharmacies>

## **95% of Suffolk children receive a place at their first preference school**

School places for the coming year have been confirmed, and 95% of children have been offered a place at their first preference school. 99.15% of children were offered a place at one of their top three preferred schools. SCC received 7207 applications from parents indicating which primary school they would prefer their child to join in September 2021.

Parents will now need to consider school transport. If children are eligible for Suffolk County Council funded school travel parents will receive an email by 14 May 2021 with details of how to opt-in.

## **Suffolk Waste Partnership composting campaign launches**

To celebrate International Compost Awareness Week in the first week of May, Suffolk Waste Partnership are launching several initiatives to support residents to begin composting. Free bagged compost will be handed out at several events (see link below for details), and cheap composting equipment can be ordered through the Partnership.

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

See link below for more details:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/show/free-compost-a-hot-competition-and-cheap-bins-to-help-green-fingered-residents>

## **'Our Parks' fitness classes to begin in East Suffolk**

Working with East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council, 'Our Parks' will be running free workouts on Britten Field and Normanston Park in Lowestoft as well as at Leiston Recreation Ground and King George's Park in Leiston. The programme of weekly classes being offered will be suitable for all fitness levels and will start on May 1<sup>st</sup>. All classes will be Covid secure and are bookable at [www.ourparks.org.uk](http://www.ourparks.org.uk)

## **District Council Annual Report for Orwell Ward from Cllr Jane Gould**

### **May 2021**

The last year has been a very different one for all of us, defined by the Covid pandemic. For many, it has been a difficult year and the insecurity and fear will be with us as we move forward into the year ahead and, hopefully, start to return to a more normal day-to-day life.

### **COVID**

During the last year Babergh Council have been working with partners and other local authorities across the county to ensure that the communities have received the support that they need. Local

community groups that sprang up in our towns and parishes were offered support and a support line 'Home but not alone' was set up for anyone that may need it. There was also financial support for residents facing hardship due to self-isolation. As businesses across the county were forced to close, they were contacted by councillors and officers to ensure that they received the grants they were entitled to. Measures were put in place to ensure that council housing tenants were not evicted should they suddenly find that they were unable to pay their rent.

Unfortunately, many services had to be suspended during the lockdowns including our leisure facilities, face to face access points and some waste services. As we now exit the 3<sup>rd</sup> lockdown these services are slowly returning.

One of the main changes this year has been the move to virtual meetings. We all now know what Zoom is and, "you're still on mute" has been the statement of the year. Following a short suspension of all council meetings and a change in the way planning applications were decided for a while, we settled into a routine of attending all meetings from the comfort of our own home. One change that has come about from this is the ability for councillors to vote electronically. While this means the public cannot see the vote as it happens it is available online within 24 hours.

Recently a significant new grant fund has been launched by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, it is set to support the recovery of local businesses that are reopening after lockdown but are unable to access the Government's Restart Grant scheme. The councils' Discretionary Restart Grant is designed to help with costs associated with reopening following the lifting of lockdown restrictions, to help businesses resume trading at pre-Covid levels. The grant will be a one-off payment of up to £18,000 for eligible businesses. Business owners must submit a new application for the Discretionary Restart Grant by 13<sup>th</sup> June. Regardless of whether they have received a previous Covid business support grant.

## **PLANNING - JOINT LOCAL PLAN**

The Council finalised the Joint Local Plan, which details how and where development should take place, ensuring suitable homes are built to meet Government housing targets, whilst also protecting and enhancing the districts' natural environment and heritage. Sustainable development and transport options have been promoted in the plan. Following a final consultation that was completed just before Christmas the plan was submitted to the Secretary of State for examination.

## **5 YEAR HOUSING SUPPLY**

A report into the current 5-year Housing Land supply in Babergh has demonstrated that the Council currently has enough approved developments for 6.75 years. The Council has 35% more properties approved than is required.

## **OTHER PLANNING MATTERS**

The council submitted its thoughts on two consultation papers outlining major changes in planning. One government paper was for a completely new national planning system – the ‘Planning for the Future’ white paper. The other suggested shorter-term amendments to the current system, which would take effect more quickly. The council submitted a strong rebuttal to the proposals.

## **CIL FUNDING**

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have approved over £4.39 million in CIL funding from housing growth in the last 12 months.

During the past twelve months over £3.26 million has been awarded to 35 projects across both districts. In addition, town, and parish councils across Babergh and Mid Suffolk received CIL funding totalling £1,138,909 during the year – with 21 of Babergh’s town and parish councils receiving a share of £314,206.

## **ENVIRONMENT & BIODIVERSITY**

The Biodiversity task forces submitted proposals this year that will form the Councils’ first Biodiversity Action Plan. These set out how they aim to protect and strengthen biodiversity in the districts.

One of the Councils main carbon emitters is the diesel used by its fleet of vehicles. It was agreed that the fuel used will be changed to Hydrogenated Vegetable Oil (HVO) which will substantially reduce the councils carbon footprint.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils are set to make further significant CO2 savings, thanks to a £1.4m Government grant for carbon-saving measures. Leisure centres and other buildings are expected to see solar PV panels and air source heat pumps installed on the council-owned sites so they can begin to move away from fossil-fuelled heating systems. The council also received an injection of up to £800,000 in matched funding from the “Getting Building Fund”, with the money going towards a pilot scheme to introduce electricity micro-generation and storage solar carports in Sudbury and Stowmarket. The Cabinet at Babergh also approved additional funding for pilot solar carport schemes at Kingfisher Leisure Centre in Sudbury.

A Cycle motion that my colleague Leigh Jamieson submitted last summer was approved. The 1<sup>st</sup> lockdown saw a significant increase in the number of people that had either taken up cycling or returned to it. The motion was designed to help Babergh act on this. Babergh have also agreed to take their public realm work “in-house”. This will allow the Council to manage verges and some open space more effectively for biodiversity and meadow type habitat.

## **BUDGET - GENERAL FUND BUDGET**



The budget outlined earlier this year approved Babergh's share of council tax would increase by 2.96%, the equivalent of less than 10p a week (£5 a year) for an average Band D property.

### **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) BUDGET**

This HRA report included a CPI + 1% increase of 1.5% in Council House rents, equivalent to an average rent increase of £1.35 a week and that Sheltered Housing Service charges be increased by £0.69 per week to ensure recovery of the actual cost of service.

### **CAR PARKING**

The council's controversial decision to begin charging for parking in Hadleigh and Sudbury was approved earlier this year. The charges, which were opposed strongly by residents, will begin after the first hour of parking and will come into force no earlier than October. At the moment the car parks are heavily subsidised by taxpayers.

### **BELLE VUE, SUDBURY**

Whitbread pulled out of the deal to take on a hotel, for their Premier Inn chain, in Belle Vue park, following the financial downturn caused by the coronavirus crisis. The sale of the council-owned land comprising of Belle Vue House, the car park and the northern part of the old swimming pool site, was openly marketed between December 2020 and February 2021. A proposal to create a new retirement living development plus a conversion of the existing Belle Vue house back into private living accommodation was accepted.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any issues that you think I can help with and all the very best to you all.

Jane Gould

Babergh District Councillor, Orwell ward

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