

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2011 AT 7.00PM

Present: Ken Watkins. (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Richard Kemp, Maureen Lankester Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix,  
Also present Julie Rix the Clerk and John Brand, and one member of the public.  
Apologies; There were none

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as correct. (Proposed by Alan Ariss and seconded by Richard Kemp.)

Matters Arising

The trees for the Community Orchard were planted before the snow, and Sunday March 27<sup>th</sup> is the provisional date for the Dedication Ceremony.

The Clerk has written to Suffolk County Council about the road surface again and asked for various abandoned road signs to be collected.( Subsequently the signs have been removed) Seven grit boxes have arrived from Glasdon Products Ltd. Suffolk County Council have been contacted for advice with reference to their installation (placement, distance from kerb, base etc).

There was a temporary reprieve for Sudbury court, but it will be closing in March 2011.

The repeater signs that have been requested for Church Lane have not yet arrived.

Police

PCSO Partington was unable to attend. There was no Crime Report.

Planning

Application B/11/00001/FUL

Elliot's Cottage, Shop Hill, Alpheton, CO10 9BU

Erection of detached stable block and associated works  
(existing redundant pig rearing building to be demolished).

Application B/11/00003/FHA

Elliot's Cottage, Shop Hill, Alpheton, CO10 9BU

Erection of first floor extension over existing flat roof single-storey extension,  
(existing single-storey rear lobby extension to be demolished.)

Both of these applications were considered at this meeting and there were no objections.

Highways

A resident has complained about speeds in Old Bury Road, particularly coming down the hill. Mr Kemp offered to ask SCC if repeater 30mph signs could be added here. It may be possible to request the speed gun for deployment here.

Dog fouling is also a problem in Old Bury Road/Hospital road footpath, ironically near the dog waste bin. It was suggested that if seen, the number of the owner's vehicle should be taken and the information given to the police. We will put a note in the village magazine although it is

not distributed to all residents and it may not be a resident who is at fault. Mr Kemp will ask Babergh (who have a Dog Warden) for more advice.

#### Finance

Cheques authorised at this meeting;

No; 350	£28.42	Jane Watson/PCC - Refreshments for Christmas Tree Lights Ceremony.
No; 351	£1082.98	Glasdon Manufacturing Ltd - Grit Bins
No; 352	£99.00	Alan Ariss 50% donation to Community Orchard
No; 353	£167.29	Babergh DC Dog & Litter bin collection 2010
No; 354	£12.00	Alpheton Village Hall – Hire
No; 355	£ 840.00	Graham Maskell – Grass Cutting

Cheque received for recycling £88.04

#### Chairman's Report.

The Chairman noted that there are no speeding figures from the new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator. He and the clerk will try to complete the Registration process of land in the parish. The Christmas Tree lights on the Green was very well attended and the tree's lights looked good from the main road.

#### District and County Reports

John Brand gave his report regarding Babergh District Council, concerning finances. He said that information about council pensions was now available to the public. Mr Kemp reported for Suffolk County Council. First he commented on Babergh's possible merger with Mid-Suffolk Council, which would obviously incur cost and redundancies. SCC must save £28million over 3 years and so are looking for volunteers in some areas. Both were thanked for their reports.

#### Clerk's Report & Correspondence

The visit to Great Blakenham is still to take place. Six councillors are interested in going. A note will be put in the magazine to make the numbers up to ten.

#### Any Other Business

The Royal British Legion are celebrating their 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday by encouraging communities to hold Poppy Parties on the weekend 10/12<sup>th</sup> June. Mr Kemp said that Long Melford branch of RBL intend to do this.

The wedding of HRH Prince William and Miss Kate Middleton will take place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2011 and this will be a Bank Holiday. Shimpling have asked if Alpheton would like to combine for this event. They are having a pre-wedding party on the Thursday, tea after the wedding ceremony finishes on the TV and on the Saturday they will be holding races and giving commemorative mugs to the children.

The dates of meetings for this year will be as follows;  
22<sup>nd</sup> March, 17<sup>th</sup> May (Annual Meeting), 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 22<sup>nd</sup> November, all at 7.00pm

There being no further business this meeting closed at 7.40pm.

The next meeting will be Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 at 7pm.

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2011 AT 7.00PM

Present: Ken Watkins. (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Richard Kemp, Maureen Lankester Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix,  
Also present Julie Rix the Clerk and John Brand, and one member of the public.  
Apologies; There were none

John Brand was given leave to address the meeting. He thanked Alpheton Parish Council for inviting him to attend meetings for the past 12 years. Richard Kemp responded with his thanks to John for his support to himself and to the council.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as correct. (Proposed by Trevor Rix and seconded by Maureen Lankester.)

Matters Arising

The Dedication of the Community Orchard will be this Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March, at noon.

Suffolk County Council has replied regarding road mending – they have a backlog in excess of the funding available, but will do patching in the new financial year.

The clerk will try emailing regarding the siting of grit boxes as her telephone call brought no information.

The 30mph repeater signs have brought mixed reactions from residents in Church lane. The police ran a demonstration speed check for some residents one Saturday morning in Church Lane, unfortunately on the day of Alpheton Barn Wedding Fayre.

An article regarding speeding has also appeared in the village magazine, which was not written by the council, but may be read as such. The Council was not informed in advance of this appearing, nor given prior notice of the speed check. There is disappointment in the lack of communication in view of the fact that all residents in Church lane have had a letter – jointly from the council and the police – advising speed limits in the village. Businesses on the airfield have received a similar letter and had visits from Suffolk Constabulary.

Our plea for speed checks on the motor bikes which speed through our village on Sundays has come to nothing as the camera van operates only from Monday to Friday.

Planning

Application B/11/00001/FUL

Elliot's Cottage, Shop Hill, Alpheton, CO10 9BU

Erection of detached stable block and associated works

(existing redundant pig rearing building to be demolished). Granted

Application B/11/00003/FHA

Elliot's Cottage, Shop Hill, Alpheton, CO10 9BU  
Erection of first floor extension over existing flat roof single-storey extension,  
(existing single-storey rear lobby extension to be demolished.) Refused

#### Chairman's Report

Mr Watkins has put an article regarding dog fouling in the village magazine.  
He has also asked the new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator for speeding figures, but has received nothing so far.

A map of the area will be needed to proceed with registering village land.  
Shimpling are organising several Royal Wedding events and have asked for a contribution towards the Children's Tea. This was agreed.

#### County & District Reports

Richard Kemp gave his report for Suffolk County Council and Babergh District Council and was thanked.

#### Police

PCSO Hannah Partington arrived and was invited to speak. She said that between 25<sup>th</sup> January and 22<sup>nd</sup> March there have been no crimes in this parish. She warned against complacency however, as neighbouring villages have had break ins to insecure vehicles. The oils thefts are now diminishing. Suffolk Constabulary is offering farmers visits to their properties to give security advice and to check what is being held there. She also commented that the person who parks his camper van occasionally on the Green overnight is not a danger to anyone.

#### Clerk's Report & Correspondence

The clerk drew to the attention of the councillors the consultation periods for items 4,5 and 7.  
( please see Agenda & Correspondence.)

The Nomination papers and explanatory booklet have been distributed to councillors and posters put up regarding forthcoming Parish Elections.

There being no further business this meeting closed at 7.45pm.

The next meeting will be the Annual Meetings on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011 AT 7.00PM

Apologies; John Nunn, District Councillor.

Present; Ken Watkins, Chairman, Alan Ariss John Holdway, Richard Kemp, Maureen Lankester , Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix the Clerk and two members of the public.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The previous Annual Meeting's minutes were signed as correct. Proposed by John Holdway seconded by Maureen Lankester

Chairman's Report.

Mr Watkins, gave his report. The Council had purchased seven grit boxes partly with Locality Budget funding and is now awaiting siting advice. There had been action against speeding and attempts to prevent dog fouling. The pot holes have been patched but this is not a satisfactory job and the situation will be monitored. This council had appealed against the closure of Sudbury Court, but this was unsuccessful. The council endeavoured to support village events wherever possible. Planning applications had been dealt with during the year and some reduction in reserves made in accordance with the Auditor's recommendations.

Report from Steph Eady President of Alpheton & Shimpling W.I.

There are 26 members meeting alternately at Shimpling and Alpheton on a monthly basis. They have varied speakers and hold quizzes and other events occasionally. Visitors are always welcome. Mrs Eady was thanked.

Report from Chairman of the Village Hall Trustees, Peter Rix.

More general upkeep of the hall has taken place and events organised. There is a new projector with screen and the facility to link to TV or computer and show DVDs etc. This could be used for leisure or business. Mr Rix thanked the Parish Council for their support, whose assistance has been much appreciated. Mr Rix was thanked.

Richard Kemp gave his reports for both Babergh and Suffolk County Council.

As regards District level there have been many changes and cutbacks. Some services have been merged with Mid-Suffolk Council. There is a new Chief Executive for both councils. Residents have the chance to vote for remaining separate or merging with Mid Suffolk. It is important to look at all aspects of this proposal.

County Council Report – Again many savings are having to be made and these have received considerable publicity. Our neighbouring council Long Melford have lost funding for some of their projects. Within the County Council there are ongoing problems within staffing at high level. Mr Kemp was thanked.

Finance.

The accounts were presented, agreed by the Council and signed by the Clerk and Chairman. Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Return were also completed and signed. (Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance Statement.) The books have been audited internally by Ms Lyn Holt and will be sent to BDO/ for external auditing.

There was no further business to discuss.

This meeting closed at 7.30pm

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 16<sup>th</sup> May 2011 AT 7.35PM

Apologies: John Nunn, District Councillor.

Present: Ken Watkins, Chairman, Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Richard Kemp, Maureen Lankester, Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix the Clerk and two members of the public.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

Mr Watkins stood down as Chairman. Mr Ariss nominated Mr Watkins as Chairman for another year, seconded by Mr Rix and he was duly elected.

Mr Watkins proposed Mr Ariss to be Vice Chairman seconded by Mr Kemp. He was duly elected.

Councillors completed Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms and Register of Interests forms.

The minutes of March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011 were signed as correct, proposed by Alan Ariss, and seconded by John Holdway.

Matters Arising:

Most of these were dealt with at the previous meeting. The recent Royal Wedding celebrations took place in Shimpling with attendance from this village. Steph Eady was thanked for being on the organising committee. We will write to thank them. Alpheton will contribute an agreed proportion of the costs.

Planning applications:

Application No; B/11/00333/FHA/AS  
Erection of two storey side extension  
1, Aveley lane, Alpheton, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 9BH  
Permission granted.

Cheques authorised at this meeting;

No; 357£20.25 Lyn Holt – Internal Audit  
No; 358£111.00 S.A.L.C. Annual Subscription  
No; 359£1836.84 J Rix – Clerk's Salary  
No; 360£60.16 J Rix – Clerk's expenses  
No; 363£12.00 Alpheton Village hall Hire

The invoice for the Licence between the council and Alpheton Garage has been sent. There is no increase from the previous year. The covering letter makes mention of the need to keep the footpath clear in front of the cars as noted in the licence.

There will be changes to Suffolk County Council street lights, cutting their use between midnight and 5.30a.m., except for certain key areas. This will not, of course, affect this village. S.A.L.C. has sent details concerning finance.

Any Other Business

There have been and will continue to be speed traps operating at random times within the village. There is no coverage however at the weekends.

There being no further business this meeting closed at 7.45pm.

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 23<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST 2011 AT 7.00PM

Present: Ken Watkins. (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Maureen Lankester, Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix - the Clerk.  
Apologies: Richard Kemp and John Nunn.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as correct. (Proposed by Maureen Lankester, seconded by Alan Ariss.)

Matters Arising

After the delay in ascertaining whether regulations or recommendations were required for the siting of the Grit Bins we will use common sense and go ahead and site them. Peter Rix will do this for the council and Mrs Lankester will advise for Bridge St and Mr Watkins for Alpheton.

The pot hole patching has taken place in Old Bury Road and generally this has been done well. There is water seeping opposite Highcroft however. This has been brought to the attention of the County Council.

Alpheton Garage have paid the invoice that was sent, but so far have not heeded our request to comply with terms of the licence in moving the cars further back from the path. Another letter will be sent.

Police

PCSO Hannah Partington was not able to attend this meeting. She has, however carried out 3 speed checks in Church Lane and found no-one driving over the 30mph. It may be that the perception of speed is distorted by the narrowness of the road and the high hedges. The volume of traffic has risen in Church Lane recently, but this is also true of Old Bury Road. It represents an increase in business and employment in the village.

Planning

New application;

1. B/11/00579/FHA  
Elliot's Cottage, Shop Hill, Alpheton CO10 9BU  
Erection of first floor extension over existing flat roof single storey extension.
2. As above – Granted.
3. B/03/00696/OUT  
Land & Buildings at Alpheton Mill, Bridge St, Alpheton  
Outline – Erection of 2 No. detached dwellings with associated garaging ( as amended by letter dated 24.07.03 and accompanying flood risk assessment from GH Bullard and Assoc. received by Local Planning Authority on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2003)  
A non-material amendment request has been received;
  1. Change of sewage treatment plant
  2. Adjustment of boundary.

( This council replied with no objections – the owners of the Mill are happy with the better sewage disposal and the adjustment of the boundary should restore it to what it was originally.)
4. B/11/00909/VOT

No 3 Aveley Lane, Alpheton CO10 9BH  
Application for Variation of time to approved planning permission  
B/11/1876/FHA – Erection of first floor rear extension and 2 storey side extension  
(existing detached garage to be demolished) Erection of detached single garage. As  
amended by Drawing No. 1878-02/pl, received on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2009.  
NB: This last application was sent for the council's comments but a subsequent letter  
says that it is for information only.)

### Highways

The SALC Babergh Area Meeting has on its agenda an item regarding the impending eviction  
of Travellers from the Dale Farm site in Essex and the possible outcome for Suffolk.

### Finance

Cheques authorised at this meeting;

No; 364	£200.00	The Lavenham Press Ltd ( Locality Budget spending on printing of 'Alpheton Hall, Diary of a Suffolk Countryman' Memoirs of Jim Mott who lived and worked in this parish)
No; 365	£21.63	Shimpling PC – 50% of expenses for Royal Wedding Celebrations Tea
No; 366	£12.00	Alpheton Village Hall Hire
No; 367	£ 294.73	Suffolk Acre Services – Annual Insurance
No; 368	£ 25.00	Suffolk Acre Ltd – Subscription.

The clerk also pointed out the funding available from 'Suffolk Acre Supports Village SOS'.  
Launched by Big Lottery Fund ( & shown on BBC) this is a £5m funding pot for ideas for new  
community enterprises that will make a lasting difference in rural communities with a  
population of less than 3000.

### Correspondence and clerk's report.

The Royal Horticultural Society – re RHS Britain in Bloom - Read more about the campaign at  
[www.rhs.org.uk/communities](http://www.rhs.org.uk/communities)

This parish is perhaps too small to enter into this scheme in a big way. It was, however,  
decided to plant up behind the village name signs. This would give a display of colour and be  
easy to keep tidy.

There has been a review of Polling Districts & Polling Places 2011, with no change for this  
parish.

The Council has received notification of the road closure of C686 Shimpling Street, between  
A134 & C685 Mill Hill, for carriageway repairs – 30 Aug – 23 Sept (0730 hrs to 1530hrs) A  
note has been put in the Parish Magazine.

Dog Bin Data. This is a scheme we have joined which creates a free app on a mobile phone for  
dog owners to help identify location of dog bins in our area.

Babergh & Mid Suffolk Budget Challenge. Babergh is collecting views of Parish & Town  
Councils on ways to reduce the budget. All councillors have seen the documents and are asked  
to give this some thought please. It is difficult to see where cuts can be made.

The Chairman read Mr Kemp's report in his absence.

The Suffolk Preservation Society write regarding a key change in planning policy. There is the  
opportunity to respond by 17<sup>th</sup> October 2011. This is a change in National Policy proposing  
economic growth through development. There is concern that this would have damaging

consequences for the environment. Mr Watkins will speak to Mr Kemp with a view to supporting this.

Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council ask for support of proposal regarding planning guidance;

*'It seeks new planning guidance to major developers urging them, as a matter of planning procedure to*

- (i) attend our meeting to answer questions about their planning application if we so wish and to*
- (ii) provide resources (if we so wish) to enable us to assess their applications – which may be over 1000 pages long – based on a professional critique of their evidence.*

*This means that no council is **required** to do anything. The proposed guidance would **enable** us to do these things if we chose to.'*

This council will support this proposal.

Do we need a Parish Plan? Should we just sit within the District Plan?

The Chairman's Report has been covered by the items above.

#### Any Other Business

2012 will see both the Olympics in London and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. Mr Watkins has Spoken to Mr Rix, Chairman of Alpheton Village Hall Trustees with a view to arranging a joint community event next summer.

The Registration of Common land is still outstanding and the visit to Great Blakenham will be arranged.

This meeting closed at 7.50pm

The next meeting will be 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2011.

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2011 AT 7.00PM

Present; Ken Watkins. (Chairman), Alan Ariss, John Holdway, Maureen Lankester, Graham Maskell and Trevor Rix. Also present Julie Rix - the Clerk, and one member of the public.

Apologies; Richard Kemp

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as correct. (Proposed by Alan Ariss seconded by John Holdway.)

Matters Arising

The grit bins have been installed and subsequently filled. Other heaps of grit have been delivered also.

The leak in Old Bury Road has not been fixed – it will be necessary to contact SCC again. A large hole which appeared between the entrance to the Village hall and Doone house was reported and quickly attended to.

Alpheton Garage have been keeping the cars back as requested, and following a visit by the Chairman a security light which blinded traffic coming from Sudbury has been moved. (Possibly now causing a problem to traffic from Bury St Edmunds – we will check)

Police

There was no police presence at this meeting although they had been informed. They did visit Coffee Pot and brought free security items and information. The Chairman has been to a safer Neighbourhoods meeting. With reference to speeding along Church lane the only other solution is a 20mph limit which would be unenforceable.

Planning

New application;

1. B/11/01143/LBC

Primrose Hill Cottage, Bridge Street, Long Melford, Sudbury CO10 9BE

Application for Listed Building Consent – Insertion of roof light to rear elevation (retention of).

No comments.

2. B/10/01448/FUL

The Mount, Bridge Street, Long Melford, Sudbury, CO10 9BQ

Conversion and extension of existing barn to dwelling

Application refused.

3. B/11/00909/VOT/LM

3 Aveley Lane, Alpheton, Sudbury, CO10 9BH

Application for Variation of time to approved planning permission

B/11/1876/FHA – Erection of first floor rear extension and 2 storey side extension (existing detached garage to be demolished) Erection of detached single garage. As amended by Drawing No. 1878-02/pl, received on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2009.  
Application granted.

### Finance

Budget papers had been circulated with the minutes for Councillors to read. (Appended). The budget for next year was thought to be acceptable and the precept upon Babergh DC will be £2613.00.

A recent letter indicates an increase in costs of having dog waste bins and litter bins emptied. The total for next year will be £203.80.

This council will contact Ladywell Accountancy as it is necessary to register with HMRC for PAYE.

After some discussion regarding banking provision it was decided to remain with Yorkshire Bank plc for the time being as there are no cash transactions.

Cheques authorised at this meeting;

No; 369	£144.00	BDO LLP– Audit Fee
No; 370	£90.00	Eans Garden Services (Grass cutting at Bridge St)
No; 371	£75.00	Peter Rix – Installation of 7 grit bins
No; 372	£40.85	Ken Watkins – Chairman’s Expenses
No; 373	£12.00	Alpheton Village hall – Hire

### Correspondence and Clerk’s Report.

Additional correspondence;

Survey – Impact of cuts & changes to public transport in Suffolk

SCC – Budget Consultation feedback.

Information re precept

Notification of new staff appointments at Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils.

Reminder of Babergh Community Achievement Awards

Emails – Babergh Community Development Newsletter, Fit Villages ( subsidised healthy activities), East of England Conference for councillors, notification of websites for viewing information regarding the Localism Bill.

### Chairman’s report

An enquiry to the MoD regarding helicopter flights over the village at night has had a response. This is ‘Essential Training’ and with apologies areas of low population are chosen.

The Chairman has also written to Judy Terry regarding the retention of mobile libraries. He also attended a seminar at SALC about Traveller Invasions in view of the situation at Dale Farm.

The Chairman and Mr Ariss and Mr Rix attended the Babergh Area meeting and Mr Ariss gave his report on that and also that of the Babergh Development Framework Meeting they also attended, and was thanked.

Mr Kemp who (had given his apologies,) had sent his District and County Council Reports which were read by the Chairman. He was thanked.

### Any Other Business

Data Protection Act - It appears that the councillors must register if they wish to use a computer to write to a resident. The Clerk will seek clarification from SALC.

The Queens Jubilee and the Olympics in 2012 - Mr Ariss went to a meeting regarding this at Shimpling. Possible ideas were discussed. There will be other meetings.

The Hunt recently rode through the village and alarmed a resident out walking with dogs. Mr Rix gets notified as a landowner when they are coming and will inform that resident in future.

Dates for meetings in 2012 were chosen;

January 17<sup>th</sup>

March 20<sup>th</sup>

May 22<sup>nd</sup> ( Annual General Meeting)

August 21<sup>st</sup>

November 20<sup>th</sup>

**NB; These dates superseded as at meeting January 2012– please note new dates**

**March 27<sup>th</sup>,**

**May 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting**

**August 28<sup>th</sup>**

**November 27<sup>th</sup>**

There being no further business this meeting closed at 8.20pm.