

ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 2 APRIL 2019 AT 7PM

Present: Cllrs: Ken Watkins (Chairman), Richard Barraclough, Trevor Rix, Bridget Sumner and Richard Kemp. District and County Cllr Kemp, District Cllr John Nunn, and Parish Clerk Nicola Smith. No members of the public were present.

1. Welcome: Chairman Cllr Watkins welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Apologies: Cllr Maskell not present due to work commitments; and Cllr Gray was abroad.
3. Present: Present as above.
4. Declarations of interest: Cllr Rix declared an interest in item 14i – “Planning – Airfield Barns” on the basis that Airfield Barns was near to his property and he was a nearby farmer with disused buildings similar. He also had a working relationship with the owner of the land next to Airfield Barn.
5. Minutes of 5 February 2019:
Cllr Barraclough proposed and Cllr Sumner seconded that the draft Minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting. All Cllrs present agreed.
6. Matters arising:
Litter bin at the bus stop on the green – two options for discussion under item 12 of the Agenda;

Two new Grit bins – Clerk has submitted application, and photographs of the two locations and is awaiting a response;

Potholes – Clerk had followed this up extensively since the last meeting, and had been out and photographed and reported various potholes at various locations around the village. County Cllr Kemp had arranged a meeting with a Highways Officer and the Chairman Cllr Watkins, County Cllr Kemp, Cllr Gray and Cllr Sumner together with a parishioner had met with the Highways Officer in the village to look at the various issues with potholes:

Aveley Lane potholes also being looked into.

Signed.....

Dated.....

7. District and County Cllrs Reports:

District Cllr John Nunn reported that due the pending elections on 2 May 2019, and therefore the restrictions in place known as “purdah”, not much is happening at the District Council, until after the district elections have taken place.

County Cllr Richard Kemp’s report:

Council pushes forward with funding commitment to create more places for specialist education in Suffolk

Suffolk County Council’s Cabinet will discuss recommendations on Tuesday 23 April 2019.

Working together with parents/carers, education providers, partners and children to establish what support they need, Suffolk County Council wants to create more specialist education places in the county to give young people the best possible start in life with the right level of tailored support for their learning.

Suffolk faces a large demand for specialist education places due to population growth, advances in medicine and the increasing complexity of specialist educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Recommendations have been put forward for a financial investment of up to £45.6 million to support the development of a number of local specialist provisions for children and young people with SEND closer to home.

Providing more specialist education placements locally will mean that the county’s children and young people with additional needs will not have to spend unnecessary time away from their family and home travelling to a specialist provision outside of Suffolk. They will also have the opportunity to strengthen their roots within their local community, so they are able to build strong local networks as they move into adulthood.

The recommendations for the investment follows the work by a cross-party Policy Development Panel (PDP) which was established to realise the county’s local offer and identify suitable specialist education places as promptly as possible.

The work of the Panel involved a comprehensive analysis and consultation, visiting a variety of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities settings from in and around the county, considering the views of service users and their families, partners and education providers on the best way to grow Suffolk’s specialist education offer both in the short term and long term to meet future demand.

A green light to move forward with the work of the PDP was given at the Cabinet’s Committee meeting back in January this year. Further work has now taken place by the Council’s Capital Strategy Group to provide an overview of the required level of investment for individual projects.

The £45.6 million investment will create over 800 new specialist education places in the county. This will include three brand new special schools and 36 specialist units attached to existing mainstream schools. A significant number of these specialist units will be opened by September 2020.

The proposal for new schools includes a provision on the former Riverwalk site in Bury St Edmunds for complex, social, emotional and mental health needs and two schools for those with complex communication and interaction needs, one in Ipswich and one in North Suffolk.

Signed.....

Dated.....

The financial investment will support the interim work that has already taken place in the county to manage immediately the increase in demand for education places for children and young people with additional needs. A new special school in Lowestoft opened in September 2017 and a further special school for children with social and emotional needs has been approved to be opened in Ipswich by 2020. Several of the county's existing special schools have increased their numbers and work has also taken place to establish a number of specialist small groups for specific local needs.

Suffolk's Domestic Abuse Champions Network needs you

The search is on for volunteers to join a network of champions that will help spread the message of support for those experiencing domestic abuse.

The champions will be provided with FREE training to equip them with the skills to spread awareness and share information of where to go for support within their organisations and networks. The Suffolk Domestic Abuse Champions Network will offer Champions a variety of support, knowledge, multi-agency links as well as access to training and events.

What is the aim of the Champions?

- To offer a consistent response to Domestic Abuse across Suffolk and support which is rooted in the community.
- Champions will be confident in encouraging disclosures of abuse, they will respond in a professional manner giving people the tools to stay safe and get the right support promptly.
- The Suffolk Domestic Abuse Champions Network is looking for people who are passionate about domestic abuse awareness raising and who are motivated to make changes. Champions will be able to recognise the signs and the impact, whilst understanding risk and offering basic safety advice.

Email dachampions@suffolk.gov.uk for more information and to register interest.

Suffolk Record Office achieves National Accreditation

Suffolk Record Office has been awarded Archive Service Accreditation. Accredited Archive Services ensure the long-term collection, preservation and accessibility of our archive heritage. Accreditation is the UK quality standard which recognises good performance in all areas of archive service delivery.

Achieving accredited status demonstrates that Suffolk Record Office has met clearly defined national standards relating to management and resourcing; the care of its unique collections and the service it offers its entire range of users. The Suffolk Record Office has started its transition to create a reshaped service right across the county, with "The Hold: A Suffolk Archive Service for the 21st Century", project.

The new Heritage and Archives Centre in Ipswich being created as part of this project is set to open its doors in Spring 2020, replacing the existing Ipswich Record Office in Gatacre Road, whilst the Lowestoft and Bury Record Offices will remain open.

The ongoing service transformation brings Suffolk Record Office in line with the latest national guidance and the highest standard of care, for preserving Suffolk's archives.

The accreditation status awarded is provisional, and progression to full Accredited Archive Service status is subject to areas of planned development for the new, revitalised service meeting the national standards; for example the completion of The Hold building and movement of collections to improved accommodation. A review is scheduled to take place by March 2021.

Alongside a new bespoke heritage facility for the county's archives, The Hold project will provide greater access to Suffolk's archives via digital content, as well as a wide range of events and activities across the whole county, bringing people closer to Suffolk's history than ever before.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Fears more Children's centres could close
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Up to half of Suffolk's children's centres could close as part of a wide-ranging review of public services.

Suffolk County Council is reviewing the future of its 38 remaining centres.

Campaigner Anne Humphrys said the facilities, which offer advice, support and play sessions for pre-schoolers, provided a "lifeline" for parents.

The Tory-run council said its review aimed to provide "co-ordinated support for children in need".

Ms Humphrys, co-chair of Suffolk Parent Carer Network, said: "Families tell us that children's centres are often a very real lifeline to them.

Children's Centres, originally called Sure Start Centres, were built by the last Labour government for vulnerable families, but were then opened up to all parents. Suffolk originally had 47, but nine were closed during a round of cuts under the Conservatives in 2015. One of the options being considered is to close up to half of the centres, while another is to keep them all open.

In January, Norfolk County Council rubber-stamped the closure of 38 of its 53 centres as part of a £5m package of cuts.

8. Public Forum:

No members of the public present.

9. Correspondence: (all correspondence circulated to Cllrs ahead of the meeting)

- i. Email dated 22 March 2019 from Shimpling Parish Council regarding transport provision. Following discussion Cllrs felt that they would welcome improved public transport links through Alpheton and Bridge Street. The Parish Council are not in a position to financially contribute to any scheme, but Cllr Nunn indicated that the Go Start scheme had no direct cost to the Parish Council, users of the scheme paid a fair. If 2 or 3 local villages were interested then it might be that a viable service could be organised. Clerk to respond to Shimpling PC.
- ii. Email dated 27 March 2019 from Babergh District Council regarding Joint Area Parking Plan. The aim is to encourage shoppers and tourists into Sudbury. It seeks unspecified alternatives to the car. It looks at charges for parking and on street parking. Individual Cllrs to go online and complete the survey if they want to. Matter will be reviewed at a later date once an update is received from Babergh on the survey results.

Signed.....

Dated.....

10. Clerks/RFO Report:**Schedule of invoices awaiting authorization for payment**

Village Hall (hire on 02/04/19)	12.00	609	LGA 1972
Babergh DC (dog and litter bin emptying)	210.26	610	LGA 1972
N Smith (Clerks salary)	300.48	611	LGA 1972

	522.74		

11. 2019 Parish Elections:

Clerk had attended a training course organised by SALC regarding parish elections and had circulated a note to all Cllrs. Awaiting further information from Babergh regarding the date of Public Notices, and the Babergh Nomination Pack. Clerk will circulate as soon as this information is received.

Public Notice will be put up on the village notice boards. Elections will be held on 2 May 2019 and Nomination documents for each candidate will need to be submitted, in person, by no later than 4pm on 3 April 2019.

In order to comply with regulations Cllrs agreed that the APM and APCM should be on 21st May 2019.

12. Parish Cllrs Report (if any)

- (i) Chairman reported on the following:-
 - (a) He had received a request for a litter bin to be placed inside the bus shelter on the Green (the other bus shelters already have them). Clerk will get details of cost and place on the Agenda for the next meeting;
 - (b) Potholes in Church Lane and Tye Green have become quite substantial both in size and number. Clerk will photograph, report on the Highways Reporting Tool and keep a summary document and check progress;
 - (c) Planning permission at Lynwold has been refused.
- (ii) Cllrs discussed the entrance onto the Old Bury Road from the A134 being difficult to see in in the dark, as there is no residual lighting there. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk would write to County Cllr Kemp enquiring if it was possible to have some reflector leader posts at and near the entrance to Old Bury Road which would show where it is located for traffic wishing to turn off there.

Signed.....

Dated.....

13. Planning:

- (i) Application DC/19/00188 – Application for consent to carry out works to tree(s) protected by a Tree Preservation Order: Proposal to fell Ash (G5) – 061 at Green Apple, Old Bury.
Cllrs considered and no comments/objections.

Planning Decision:

Application DC/18/05346 – erection of 2 No.2 bedroom holiday lets, parking area, improvements to existing access, installation of sewerage treatment plant and landscaping. Restoration of airfield building and creation of museum room within. **Airfield Barns, Bury Road, Alpheton, Suffolk.**

Cllr Trevor Rix did not take part in any discussion or decision making on this Agenda item as he had declared an item at Agenda item 4.

Planning permission has been granted. The Planning Officers Report and Recommendation document had been obtained from Babergh and it contains an error in relation to the concrete hardstanding – it refers to the incorrect one. Cllrs considered and agreed the following action:-

- (a) *Clerk to write to the Chief Executive of BDC, and copy in Mr Philip Isbell the Senior Planning Officer and ask that as the report had been prepared by an Officer and the decision of that Officer had been made on erroneous information within the report that the matter should be put before Committee for them to determine the planning application and on the correct information. The current decision is flawed.*
- (b) *The letter to the Chief Executive to be sent Recorded Delivery.*
- (c) *The adjoining land owner should have had a notice served on them, it is a legal requirement and we are unsure that BDC have done this.*
- (d) *The issue of Cockfield PC not properly convening a meeting in order to submit a response has been ignored.*

14. Date and time of next meeting: Annual Parish Meeting on 13th May 2019 starting at 7pm followed by Annual Parish Council Meeting on 13th May 2019.

Meeting closed: 8pm