

ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 6 AUGUST 2019 AT 7PM

1. Welcome: Chair Cllr Sumner welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Apologies: None
3. Present: Chair Cllr Sumner, Cllrs Madeline Gray, Trevor Rix, John Nunn and John Moore together with the Parish Clerk. District Cllrs John Nunn and Elisabeth Malvisi present along with two members of the public.
4. Declarations of interest: None
5. Guest Speaker: Christine Thurlow (BDC – Professional Lead in Key Sites and Infrastructure) to discuss Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies. Particularly speaking about the CIL 123 monies and the framework for applying. Christine Thurlow provided a package of document relating to CIL monies for Cllrs to take away and read. Cllrs thanked her for attending the meeting and providing some insight in to what type of applications have already been approved under the CIL 123 funding applications and they would consider whether there was any projects in the village that the PC or other organisations in the village might find helpful to speak to Christine before making an application for monies.
6. Minutes: Clerk had not finalized draft Minutes of 25 June 2019. They will be available at the next meeting along with any other outstanding Minutes. All draft Minutes will go on to the PC website at alpheton.onesuffolk.net
7. Matters arising: updates provided under Agenda items at this meeting.
8. District and County Cllrs Reports:

County Cllrs Richard Kemp's Report

Small changes make a big difference

That is the message as Suffolk County Council launches a new campaign looking at our relationship with alcohol.

Four short films have been produced following the stories of characters ('Billy Binge', 'Tellybox Trish', 'Big Match Barry' and 'My Time Mandy'), speaking about when and where they drink alcohol.

The films cover different habits when it comes to alcohol consumption, weekend binge drinking, drinking at home, drinking as a reward, and excessive drinking to celebrate an event or occasion, such as a football match. The campaign offers guidance and advice about how much is too much, the benefits of reducing alcohol intake and the small changes people can make to their drinking habits, which can make a big difference to their mental and physical wellbeing.

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Evidence suggests direct links between alcohol and heart and liver disease, diabetes and some types of cancer. Alcohol is also highly calorific, contributing to weight gain. It can also influence the quality of sleep and take its toll on physical appearance over time.

The campaign highlights that as well as the health benefits, reducing alcohol consumption can also bring social benefits, such as being able to spend more quality time with your loved ones, saving money for something more meaningful and losing weight.

Suffolk County Council announces funding cuts to subsidized bus routes

Suffolk County Council has announced that 23 subsidised bus routes will no longer receive funding from the Council, in a bid to save £340,000. This means that over a third of subsidized bus routes in the county will lose their funding.

The decision to cut £340,000 from the subsidised buses budget was made in February, when the Council agreed on the budget for the current financial year. I spoke against this cut at the time, as well as other cuts that will affect bus users such as the decision to no longer print bus timetables.

More details of which routes will be affected can be found at

<http://www.suffolkonboard.com/>

The council say that they will be engaging with bus operators to determine whether the routes can continue to run without council funding. I will keep you updated if there are any further developments.

Final Council overspend on 2018-19 budget

The final outturn figure for the 2018-19 budget have been published, showing that Suffolk County Council overspent by £4.5m (0.88% of the budget). Key areas of overspend included:

Home to school transport (£1.7m), due to the increasing demand for out of county SEND transport arrangements;

Adult Care Purchasing Budget (£4m);

Early Help and Specialist Services (£4.8m), due to the increasing number of children in care, especially those requiring specialist placements.

These areas of overspend were mitigated by underspends in other directorates.

Suffolk's Health and Wellbeing Board has committed to tackling poor mental health in Suffolk

Commitment made to tackling poor mental health by signing up to the Prevention Concordat for Better Mental Health.

Working closely with Public Health England, Suffolk's Health and Wellbeing Board is making significant steps towards promoting good mental health and preventing mental health problems. One in six adults experience at least one diagnosable mental health problem in their lifetime. This is influenced by the environment in which we are born, grow, live and work, meaning many of these problems can be prevented.

Having good mental health is important because it can help us to be more resilient, feel good and function well, have more positive relationships with those around us

and deal with difficult times now and in the future. The Prevention Concordat marks the first time agencies across the community and care sectors have come together to make prevention a priority for mental health. So far, 92 organisations representing all sectors have signed up and committed to action.

The commitment from Suffolk's Health and Wellbeing Board includes work to improve people's mental health, including preventing suicide, social prescribing initiatives and a pilot for a new online resource supporting young people aged 16-24. Promoting good mental health is everyone's responsibility and can only be achieved if organisations – including local authorities, NHS trusts, businesses, local communities, and religious groups – work together at local and national level. By signing up to the Concordat, Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board is not only showing public leadership in addressing mental health problems in local communities; they are also putting effective prevention planning arrangements in place, using resources from Public Health England. As well as recognizing that mental health is as important as physical health, this represents a movement away from stigma and fear, and towards achieving a fairer and more equal society.

Cross-party call for independent inquiry into SEND services

On 14 June I signed a cross-party letter to the Chief Executive of Suffolk County Council, asking her to establish an independent inquiry into the provision of SEND services in Suffolk.

This follows the Ofsted and Care Quality Commission reinspection earlier this year, when Suffolk County Council's SEND services were deemed to have made insufficient improvement.

Reports that health visitor numbers will be cut

It was reported in the Guardian and Observer that Suffolk County Council is planning to dramatically reduce the number of health visitors in Suffolk in order to make savings.

These plans have not been shared with councilors or the public yet, however the media claim to have seen internal SCC documents showing that the number of health visitors will be reduced by 25% through redundancies in order to save £1m. health visitors would also have a reduced workload and only focus on the most vulnerable families rather than all families in Suffolk. The rest of their current workload would need to be picked up by nurses or social workers.

SCC releases breakdown of Upper Orwell Crossing spend

The final costs of the abandoned Upper Orwell Crossings project have been released, and show that Suffolk County Council spent a total of £8.1m before deciding to not build the Crossings. Of this, over £4m was paid in fees to consultants.

More details can be found at <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/assets/Roads-and-transport-planning/Upper-Orwell-Crossing-Final-Report-on-Project-Costs.pdf>

Department for Transport refuses funding for four village bypass

The Department for Transport has decided to not support the proposal for £133m four village bypass in Suffolk also known as the Suffolk Energy Gateway. The key reasons for the government's decision were:

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It is concerned about the overall value for money of the project;
It felt the council had not provided enough money for it and neither had EDF as part of the case to build Sizewell C;

There are concerns about the environmental impact of the road.

SCC misses children's care plan targets in 75% of cases

The Department for Education has published figures showing that Suffolk County Council exceeded the legal time limit of 20 weeks for issuing new education, health and care plans (EHCPs) in 75% of cases in 2018. This means that hundreds of children were left waiting for the appropriate support and is a significant increase compared to 2017, when 53% of cases went beyond the legal time limit.

Suffolk County Council has admitted that there needs to be rapid improvements to this process, and in the last few months it has managed to increase the proportion of EHCPs completed within the legal time limit to 42.5%.

District Councillor John Nunn's Report

As some may know, I have worked closely with Long Melford Primary School over the years in my various roles including District Councillor, and therefore I would like to take this opportunity to relay to you an email I have received from Mrs Woolmer the Head Teacher:

"This term we have had two inspections, one by Ofsted which has graded us as a Good school. The other from SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) which inspect among other things, our distinctiveness as a Church school. I am please to be able to tell you that the school has also been graded a Good Church school.

The Ofsted report recognizes that, 'the quality of education provided to pupils has improved considerably' and that the school has undergone 'a period of transformational change'. The report also recognizes that all the parents and carers who responded to the Ofsted online questionnaire would recommend it to others. Many of the parents took the time to write very positive comments about the school. One of the quotes that Ofsted chose to use within their report said that Long Melford was 'A fantastic school, each and every child is valued and happy. The head teacher, staff and all support staff are always available.'

The SIAMS report states that, Long Melford is a school where all feel welcomed and valued. The school prides itself on being an integral part of the local community. Clearly identified opportunities to engage in practical projects are giving pupils a deep understanding of the Christian value of service.' – this comment within the report linked directly to a conversation that a group of children had with the inspector that included discussion about the Remembrance activities that we take part in each year with the British Legion and the litter picking that the children did with Julie Thompson, both of which the children spoke about with passion as to why they were important to them.

The children were also asked about the new development around Long Melford and spoke to the inspectors about how they had been included in the early part of the

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neighbourhood plan: 'Work undertaken as part of the local neighbourhood plan has enabled pupils to be involved in shaping local service for the future and demonstrates powerfully the commitment of the school to developing pupil voice.' The inspectors were impressed that the children had been included and commented at the time that the children were lucky to live in an area that listens and takes account of their ideas and thoughts. Thank you for the support that you have given us over the last three years in your many roles!"

District Cllr Elisabeth Malvisi's Report

Councils support 2030 carbon neutral ambitions

Councillors at Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have voted on motions to support Suffolk's county-wide aim of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

At full Council meetings on Tuesday 23 July and Thursday 24 July both Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils pledged to set up a taskforce, in partnership with other public sector partners, taking a step forward in becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

The taskforce, due to be set up in September this year, will work with partners across the county and region to examine ways in which the two councils will respond to the climate challenge and fulfil its ambition to become carbon neutral.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils join other local authorities across the country in recognizing there is a climate emergency, building on its work as part of the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership.

The motions were tabled by Cllr Elisabeth Malvisi and Cllr Jessica Fleming, Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council's cabinet members for environment.

Cllr Elisabeth Malvisi, Babergh District Council's Cabinet Member for Environment, said:

"We acknowledge the role we play in protecting our environment from the effects of climate change. The approval of this motion takes a positive step forward in helping to make Suffolk the greenest county."

"The taskforce along with key public sector partners, will look at ways we can respond to the climate change challenge, and what we need to do to achieve the ambition of making Suffolk carbon neutral by 2030."

Cllr Jessica Fleming, Mid Suffolk District Council's Cabinet Member for Environment, said:

"I'm pleased this motion has been passed at full council. It will help us to work with the Government to deliver its 25 year Environment Plan and increase the powers and resources available to local authorities, with the hope of making Suffolk carbon neutral by 2030."

"We've already been working with the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership and along with Babergh have been reducing the environmental impact of our services, by re-routing our bin collection rounds, launching our tree for life scheme and leading on a EV rapid car charging project. We realise there's a lot more to do, and the taskforce will help us to achieve our aims."

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CIFCO

This week Councillors approved CIFCO's business plan for 2019/20 looking to increase the £1.4m annual income it already generates for the Districts' through property investment – its trading over the next 12 months – including the investment of a further £50m agreed by both councils back in February.

Joint Local Plan Consultation Launched

Residents are invited to have their say on the future growth across our districts as part of a second round of consultations on the new draft Joint Local Plan. It opened on Monday 22 July and will run for 10 weeks, closing 4pm on Monday 30 September 2019. Hard copies should be available in the Parish Council offices and in the Library.

Annual Litter Awareness Poster Competition

I was honoured to award prizes to pupils of St Mary's Church of England Primary School in Hadleigh who had entered the Annual Litter Awareness Poster Competition, the winning design by Imogen will be carried by several IDVerde waste collection vehicles. Children are very aware of how each of us can help fight climate change through recycling and lowering our consumption.

MIND Suffolk

This August Suffolk Mind is launching Evolve Trans – a weekly emotional support project which aims to improve the well being and health of people who identify as transgender and non-binary living in Suffolk. The service is based in Ipswich and is for adults over the age of 18 who are questioning their gender, on a transitioning journey or who have transitioned. It has a total of 30 places available to residents from across Suffolk.

Evolve Trans will be a space where individuals can feel supported in a safe environment, learn about their emotional health, and potentially make new friendships.

You can find out more on the Suffolk Mind website or by emailing Evolve Trans.

Firecrest Films

Firecrest Films are looking for families to take part in their Channel 4 Programme.

Do you and your family spend too much money on supermarket trips?

If you are looking for some advice on how to halve your supermarket bill, they would love to hear from you.....

Please contact ASAP if you would like to take part.

Email takepart@firecrestfilms.com or call 0141 530 2333 ext 270

Your application will be received by a member of Firecrest Films and they will contact you directly. Firecrest Films will process your personal data in accordance with their data protection and privacy policy. Application deadline 15/08/2019.

Free Swimming

Hadleigh Leisure Centre and Kingfisher Centre are offering free swimming this Summer.

9. Public Forum: no matters raised
10. Co-option: Parishioner Katie Jacobs had expressed an interest in being co-opted to the Parish Council and introduced herself. Chair Cllr Sumner proposed that Katie Jacobs be co-opted, and Cllr Nunn seconded the proposal. All Cllrs present agreed and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office Form was duly completed. Clerk will forward the Register of Interest form to Cllr Jacobs.
11. Correspondence (all correspondence has been circulated to Cllrs ahead of the meeting):
- i. Correspondence from FOLA who are seeking funding towards a Memorial to the 487th Bomb Group. Unclear whether or not this falls in Lavenham Parish or Alpheton Parish. Cllr Rix will investigate further and advise. It is noted that there appears to be no mention of how much funding they are seeking.
 - ii. Various emails from BDC regarding the consultation on the draft Joint Local Plan (www.babergh.gov.uk/jointlocalplan) details of which are on the Village Notice Boards. Cllrs agreed that they would like to consider the draft JLP and have an additional meeting specifically for them to consider any response.
Meeting now fixed for 11th September 2019 starting at 7pm in the Village Hall.
 - iii. Email regarding consultation on removal of BT payphone outside of Amicus, Old Bury Road. Following discussion it was agreed that for historical purposes the PC would purchase the phonebox for £1, and thereafter give some thought to how best utilise the space.
12. To consider Street Naming for the new development of four homes at Newmans Lodge, Bury Road.
Historically villagers knew this area as Paradise Row, and therefore Cllr Rix proposed and Cllr Moore seconded that the PC requested that the four homes be known as 1-4 Paradise Row. All Cllrs present agreed.
13. To consider and discuss installation and funding of a Speed Indicator Device.
County Cllr Kemp had advised that he would be supportive of a Vehicle Activated Device for the village and that he would have circa £2500 for this project. Cllrs agreed that they would wish to go ahead with this, Clerk will liaise with relevant Highways Officer as they will need to come out to the village and advise of locations they would agree to have the VAD located.
Cllr Moore asked if the issue of speeding along the Old Bury Road would be discussed at the next meeting and Clerk agreed to place it on the Agenda for the meeting on 1st October 2019.

14. To consider and if appropriate approve, portfolio roles for the Parish Councillors

Portfolio	Councillor(s)
Planning	ClIr John Moore and ClIr Trevor Rix
Footpaths and Highways	ClIr Madeline Gray, ClIr Katie Jacobs and ClIr Trevor Rix
Website Manager	ClIr Trevor Rix
Asset Managers	ClIr Bridget Sumner and ClIr Madeline Gray

ClIrs agreed contact details that they were happy to have on the parish website so that they could be contact by parishioners. Clerk confirmed that portfolios could be added to as and when various projects arose.

15. Clerks/RFO Report:**Income**

HMRC VAT return 88.24

Schedule of invoices awaiting authorization for payment

Alpheton VH	hire for PC meeting	12.00	616	LGA 1972
Babergh DC	uncontested election costs	104.78	617	LGA 1972
N Smith	Clerk's salary	225.36	618	LGA 1972

		342.14		

All ClIrs present approved the payments.

16. Parish ClIrs Reports (if any) none at this meeting17. Planning:

- i. Application DC/19/03124 – Highbury House, Church Lane, Alpheton, CO10 9BL – Erection of two bay garage outbuildings. No objections.

18. Date and time of next meeting – Additional Meeting 11th September 2019 (to discuss draft Joint Local Plan) and thereafter next scheduled meeting on 1st October 2019. Both meetings to start at 7pm in the Village Hall unless otherwise advised.

Meeting ended: 8.30pm

Signed.....

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