

ALPHETON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT ALPHETON VILLAGE HALL ON 1 OCTOBER 2019 AT 7PM

1. Welcome: Chair Cllr Sumner welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. Apologies: Cllr Nunn sent his apologies.
3. Present: Cllr Madeline Gray, Cllr John Moore, Cllr Katie Jacobs, Cllr Trevor Rix, County Cllr Richard Kemp and District Cllr Elisabeth Malvisi, together with the Parish Clerk. No members of the public present.
4. Declarations of Interest: Cllr Rix declared an interest in any Agenda item or discussion involving the Lavenham Airfield, due to proximity of land that he owned.
5. Minutes: Cllr Moore proposed that the draft Minutes of the additional meeting on the 11 September 2019 were true and accurate. Cllr Gray seconded, all Cllrs present at that meeting agreed. Chair duly signed and dated the Minutes.
6. Matters Arising:

Matter Arising	Update/Outcome
PC response to Joint Local Plan consultation	Cllr Moore prepared response as agreed by Cllrs and Clerk has submitted this to BDC. We will await further updates on this consultation process.
Friends of Lavenham Airfield request for donation.	Update under "correspondence" on Agenda, and it will be for the PC to decide at this meeting whether they make a donation. The PC has the power under the War Memorials (Local Authorities Powers) Act 1923 s1. In the meantime Clerk has emailed Christine Thurlow at BDC and included FOLA representative and Cllr Nunn in those communications to see whether the project may be suitable for FOLA to submit a CIL123 application.
Naming of four new properties at Newmans Lodge	Clerk had been advised by the relevant Officer at BDC that they had made an error and a new street name is not required. Instead the 4 properties would be part of Bury Road numbering.
BT Payphone	Advised BDC that Alpheton PC would like to adopt the BT Payphone which is located outside of Amicus, Old Bury Road, Alpheton as they consider it to be part of the heritage landscape of the village. Form completed and submitted. 90 day consultation commenced on 9 July 2019 and will therefore conclude shortly. Clerk has sent an email to planning officer and BT requesting an update when the 90 days expire and also requesting a paint pack (free of charge) if the adoption of the phonebox is successful.
Speed Indicator Device	Update under Agenda item 13.

Signed.....

Dated.....

7. District and County Cllr Reports:

Report from County Cllr Richard Kemp:

Hundreds of children still unsure about school transport arrangements

In September 2019, Suffolk County Council's new Home to School transport policy will be implemented. Children moving to a new school will only receive free transport from the council if it is their nearest school and more than 2 miles from their home. All eligible parents were asked to opt-in and apply for transport, and those who were not eligible for free transport were offered the opportunity to buy a spare seat on SCC school buses.

However, 472 applications for home-to-school transport remained outstanding at the end of August, with families unsure of whether they would be allocated a seat on an SCC school bus in time for the start of the new school year.

First stage of Boundary Commission Review

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is currently undertaking a review of Suffolk County Council, to determine both the number of councillors and the boundaries between divisions.

For the first stage of the review, the Liberal Democrat, Green and Independent Group submitted a proposal to keep councillor numbers in Suffolk at a minimum of 75, with the potential for an increase to 80. This was based on the need to ensure proper local representation and encourage diversity amongst councillors, which consequently requires a more manageable workload. Furthermore, given the predicted population growth in Suffolk and the reduced funding that local government is receiving, it is likely that councillor workloads will only continue to increase in the future.

The Conservative and Labour Groups submitted a joint proposal asking for a reduction to 70 councillors. The next stage of the review will determine the new division boundaries and will include two public consultations. The review is expected to be completed by July 2020.

Pension fund begins to move away from fossil fuels

Suffolk Pension Fund has agreed to move £150m into a UBS Climate Aware World Equity Fund. Although a very small proportion of the £2.9 billion fund, this is the first step the Council has taken to move investments away from fossil fuels.

Signed.....

Dated.....

This will be followed up by a valuation in November to check the performance of the fund, with the hope that a larger amount can be transferred into the climate-aware fund.

New model for specialist speech and language education

The Cabinet also agreed a new model for the provision of specialist speech and language education services.

The model focuses on early intervention and diagnosis, by training early years and primary school staff to identify speech and language needs and providing a specialist outreach service to schools. For children with the most complex needs, a new “Communication and Interaction” education pathway has been established for children aged 4 to 16 years, consisting of specialized units and new special schools. This will replace the current speech and language units which only cater for 5 to 7 year olds.

Carbon strategy agreed

Following the Council’s declaration of a climate emergency in March, the Cabinet has now agreed a strategic framework for meeting its commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030.

The report clearly states that in order to be effective, measures to cut carbon and mitigate climate change will need to be made across every department. It also includes a renewed commitment to become the Greenest County.

A cross-party policy development panel will begin in September, tasked with investigating how the Council can meet its objectives and what investment is needed to ensure the Council is carbon neutral by 2030. It is expected that the panel will report back to Cabinet in early 2020.

Keeping Suffolk villages safe with Lorry Watch

Two new Lorry Watch schemes have launched aimed at reducing the number of HGV drivers ignoring weight restrictions on the county’s roads. The village of Fornham All Saints (near Bury St Edmunds) and Barnham (near Thetford) join nine other similar schemes across Suffolk, set up in conjunction with Suffolk County Council’s Trading Standards and Suffolk Highways.

Suffolk’s Lorry Watch started in 2012 and to date has reported nearly 3,000 incidents of HGV vehicles exceeding weight limits, where clearly marked restriction signs are in place. The existing schemes have been a great success with only four repeat offenders being issued with a warning, meaning that drivers are taking notice when they are first contacted.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Weight restriction orders make it an offence to drive a vehicle through the restricted area where the vehicle exceeds the weight limit imposed unless they are exempt, for example when delivering or collecting within the restriction zone. If drivers from the same haulage company are being reported, that firm will receive advice on training their staff. The offence remains with the driver unless the haulage firm has caused the offence. Trading Standards can enforce weight restrictions orders under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

If you are interested in joining Lorry Watch in an area which HGVs are abusing a weight restriction, contact lorrywatch@suffolk.gov.uk or **01473 264859** (option A).

Sudbury Care Home Crowned Olympics Champion

Red House Residential Home in Sudbury has been crowned 2019 Suffolk Care Home Olympics champions. They beat 38 other care homes from across the country to win the title. The annual competition, now in its third year, aims to give care home residents a fun and enjoyable experience of sport whilst highlighting the importance of physical activity within social care settings.

428 residents in 39 care settings across Suffolk completed 3 sports (Boccia, fishing and curling) for a total of 239 hours over the winter and spring months with the top three homes then competing in a “super-final” to decide the outright champions.

The Suffolk Care Home Olympics is delivered by social enterprise Elatus Sports in partnership with the Suffolk County Council led Most Active County Partnership.

Report from District Cllr Elisabeth Malvisi:

Councillors asked to consider renaming District

At a special meeting on Tuesday 22 October, councillors will debate whether to change the name of the district council from Babergh District Council to South Suffolk Council – making the council geographically consistent with neighbouring authorities in Suffolk. Find the full story online.

Babergh seeks proposals for Belle Vue House

Babergh District Council is seeking formal expressions of interest and proposals for the future of the landmark Belle Vue House in Sudbury. After inviting interested parties to view the building in September, groups have until 1 November to submit their plans. Further guidance on the information required as part of the submissions is also available as part of an information pack the Council is providing online. Read the full story on our website.

Signed.....

Dated.....

First Sudbury Silk Festival a hit

The first Sudbury Silk Festival was held on Saturday 7 September, attracting crowds and gaining both national and local media attention. Included in the Festival was the launch of Babergh's own Sudbury Silk Stories archive, a collection of interviews both on camera and microphone detailing the history of the Sudbury silk industry and what it like to work in the town's world leading silk mills. The archive is online along with a short film showcasing the history and stories uncovered. Find it on the Sudbury Silk Stories website.

Joint Local Plan consultation closes.

Thank you to all our Town and Parish Councils, and to all residents, who took part in our Joint Local Plan consultation. This has now ended, with the deadline for responses arriving yesterday (30 September). Our Strategic Planning Team will now be going through all of the comments received and considering how to amend the draft plan accordingly. We will of course keep you up to date with next steps going forward, and you can find all the information on our Joint Local Plan on our website.

Ground broken for new pool in Hadleigh

Work is underway, after ground was broken on Thursday 26 September on the new £2.4m swimming pool at Hadleigh pool and Leisure. As part of a £2.4m investment by Babergh District Council, with £200,000 of funds provided by Hadleigh Town Council and a Sports England grant (£150k), Hadleigh Pool and leisure will have a new pool, expected to be completed in summer 2020. Read the full story in our press release.

Summer free swims come to an end after outstanding take-up

With the summer holidays over our Free Swim for under 17s have come to an end. The offer saw outstanding take-up in Babergh, with 12% of under 17s in the district registered. A total of 1,918 people registered, with 3,288 free swims at Kingfisher Leisure Centre and 1,205 at Hadleigh Pool and Leisure. Keep and eye on our website over coming weeks for plans to run the scheme during future holidays.

Residents invited to tour Suffolk's Energy from Waste facility

Did you know Suffolk's general waste helps to power the equivalent of 30,000 homes? You can encourage residents in your ward to head to a Suffolk Energy from Waste facility tour to find out how. All they need to do is book a space via their website.

Sporting Memories project comes to Babergh

A new lottery funded project has launched in Babergh, bringing together older residents over their shared sporting memories. A range of partner organisations, volunteers, and sports fans all came together in Sudbury Town Hall on Thursday 26

September to launch the new project, which will see Sporting Memory Groups meet in Glemsford, Lavenham, Long Melford and of course Sudbury. Find out more on our website.

Recycling information at your finger tips

June's parish briefing included information about the renovation of the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in Gt Blakenham as well as helpful online links to find up to date information on recycling in Suffolk.

With recycling high on the agenda for the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee this month, and in line with our 2030 carbon reduction and greenest county ambitions, we've highlighted below the key online resources available to our parishes and residents 24/7 when navigating the dos and don'ts of recycling.

You can find the key links:

- What can go in recycling bins – including the changes which saw Tetra Pak drinks cartons and metal pots, pans and trays no longer being accepted in curb side recycling bins, but still accepted at 11 of Suffolk's Recycling Centres
- Recycling leaflet – available for parishes to print if they wish to choose a paper copy
- Where to recycle glass bottles
- Recycling centres in Suffolk
- Home composting
- A-Z of recycling

Please do share this information with your parish newsletter editors to encourage the use of the online resources available to residents.

Hot topics on social media

- Council Tax scam warnings
- Belle Vue House viewings
- Kingfisher Leisure Centre refurbishments
- Sudbury Silk Festival

Meetings

- 9 October – Planning Committee
- 10 October – Cabinet
- 11 October – Licensing and Regulatory Committee
- 21 October – Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Signed.....

Dated.....

- 22 October – Full Council (including Extraordinary Meeting)
- 23 October – Planning Committee

For agendas and minutes, please visit the Democratic Services homepage.

8. Public Forum: no members of the public present.
9. Correspondence: (all correspondence has been circulated to Cllrs ahead of the meeting)
 - (i) Emails regarding Friends of Lavenham Airfield (FOLA) project to build a War Memorial. Request for donation. Cllr Rix declared an interest. Cllr Jacobs proposed a donation of £250 and a letter of support for the project. Cllr Moore seconded. Motion carried.
 - (ii) Email regarding Local Government Boundary Commission and email regarding proposed change of name for Babergh District Council to South Suffolk District Council. Cllr Moore will prepare a response with regards to proposals for the change of name. Given that BDC are making cutbacks it does seem to be a waste of money seeking to change the name of Babergh, and the PC was not convinced that it would only cost approximately £10,000 as indicated in the communication from BDC. With regards to the Local Government Boundary Commission review – County Cllr Richard Kemp had provided information about this in his report (see above). Cllrs generally agreed that to reduce the number of County Cllrs was not prudent, as it would spread County Cllrs thinner and mean that residents were not represented so well. Clerk will send response for the boundary review. County Cllr Kemp confirmed that there were no proposed changes to the boundary of the Long Melford Ward (of which Alpheton and Bridge Street are part of).
 - (iii) Email from Citizens Advice Bureau providing Impact Report 2018-2019 and request for any donations from Parish Council to assist with funding. Cllrs discussed and felt that given the Alpheton and Bridge Street are Hamlets and the Precept is a very limited budget that they would not forward a donation.
 - (iv) Email regarding a Media Release from BDC on its pledge to protect wildlife. This has been uploaded on to the PC website at <http://alpheton.onesuffolk.net/news>

10. Clerk/RFO Report:

- i. Schedule of items awaiting approval

Income

Precept (2 of 2)	1654.50
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Signed.....

Dated.....

Schedule of invoices awaiting authorization for payment

Alpheton VH	hire for 2 x PC meeting	24.00	chq619	LGA 1972
CAS	PC Insurance (annual)	207.48	620	LGA 1972
	Chq cancelled as written with errors on it			621
N Smith	Clerk's salary	300.48	622	LGA 1972

In addition

Friends of Lavenham Airfield Authority Powers) Act 1923 s1	250.00	623	War Memorials (Local

	781.96		

Cllrs approved expenditure.

ii. Schedule of income and expenditure from 1 April 2019 to date:

INCOME

Precept (1 of 2)	3502.62
VAT refund	88.24
Precept (2 of 2)	1654.50

	5245.36

EXPENDITURE

VH hire	12.00
BDC – dog & litter bins	210.26
Clerk – salary	300.48
Glasdon – new bin for bus stop	58.68
Clerk – salary	375.60
VH hire	12.00
SALC (annual subscription)	137.17
VH hire	12.00

Signed.....

Dated.....

BDC – uncontested election costs	104.78
Clerk – salary	225.36
VH hire	24.00
CAS – PC Insurance	207.48
Clerk – salary	300.48
FOIA – donation WM	250.00

	2230.29

11. To consider draft Precept

	2019-20	2020-21
<u>INCOME</u>		
Precept	3309.00	3455.00
Recycling credits	200.00	200.00
Garage licence	950.00	950.00
	4459.00	4605.00
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Clerk's salary	1995.00	1995.00
Clerk's expenses	80.00	80.00
Audit fees	0.00 (Cert of Exemption)	0.00
Hire of Hall	120.00	120.00
Insurance/subs SALC/CAS	390.00	400.00
Grass cutting	1100.00	1100.00
Donations	50.00	50.00
Village Magazine	150.00	150.00
Dog and litter bins	220.00	230.00
Chairs expenses	50.00	50.00
Training	200.00	200.00
Parish Election costs	104.00	30.00

Signed.....

Dated.....

Contingency	0.00	200.00
	4459.00	4605.00

Following discussion, it was agreed that the cost of purchasing the Speed Indicator Device would need to be looked at carefully. County Cllr Kemp was going to provide a sum of money towards purchase but the PC may need to budget in further monies depending on what device they purchased.

12. Approve meeting dates for 2020

The following dates were approved by the Parish Council:

4th February 2020

7th April 2020

5th May 2020 – Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting

4th August 2020

6th October 2020

1st December 2020

13. Update on Speed Indicator Device

General discussion about possible locations. Clerk now has the forms that need to be completed and submitted to highways. Cllrs Rix, Gray and Jacobs agreed to meet with the Clerk and go around the village looking at various locations which may be appropriate to site the SID, taking into account various criteria on the forms. Update at next meeting.

14. Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Clerk reminded Cllrs that there is a CIL payment of £1,848.12 as advised by Babergh earlier in the year. Cllrs asked if the criteria list for spending could be obtained from the relevant officer at Babergh and they will consider the matter further thereafter.

15. Parish Cllrs Reports: no reports at this meeting.

16. Planning: no new planning matters.

17. Date and time of next meeting: **3rd December 2019 at 7pm in the Village Hall**

Meeting closed: 8.30pm

Signed.....

Dated.....