

CULFORD, WEST STOW AND WORDWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Culford, West Stow and Wordwell Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 18th October 2018

Present: Clr Joy Childs, Clr D Fisher, Clr A Self, Clr R Salt, Clr M McQueen, Clr Susan Glossop (St Eds BC), J Milward (Clerk) and 2 members of the public.

Public Discussion Discussion centred on traffic issues and in particular in West Stow following an accident. Speeding remained an issue and will again be referred to SCC through Clr Rebecca Hopfensperger. The subject of a community speedwatch was raised but as was pointed out the council had opted for the use of a VAS instead.

Officers' Reports Borough Councillor: Clr Susan Glossop reported on the following:

a. The results of the warding within West Suffolk Council will be given out shortly. Risby will remain the same except that it will now include Icklingham.

b. Briefing was given on the civic leadership position within the new council to be formed in 2019. Consultation is already open. This will decide whether or not the new council will apply to become a Borough which in turn will decide whether or not the council could have a mayor.

c. The subject of road marking at Rats Hall Corner was raised by councillors. Clr Glossop agreed to take the matter up with Highways. Clr Self reported a second accident that had occurred on the Elveden road. Both of these items to be referred to Clr Hopfensperger by the clerk.

d. Clr Childs asked for details relating to the annual Christmas fayre.

County Councillor – Clr Rebecca Hopfensperger was not present but had submitted a written report which is included as Annex A. .

Parish Council Agenda

1. Apologies Clr Murdoch

2. Declaration of Interest: Clr Self declared an interest in one of the planning applications.

3. Dispensations: As interest was non pecuniary Clr Self was given dispensation to remain.

4. Minutes: Unanimously agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 26th July 2018 be accepted as a true record. Proposed by Clr Fisher seconded by Clr Salt

5. Clerk's Report

a. Most info on emergency planning now to hand. Clerk to arrange meeting with Clr Salt.

b. Update on mobile phone network sites in churches. Hoping that new legislation will see work being carried out.

c. Purchase of Defibrillator for West Stow. Proposed by Clr Self and seconded by Clr Fisher that the purchase go ahead with grants from Clr Glossop and Clr Hopfensperger and balance from council funds. Clerk to liaise with Paul Hickling.

6 Highways

a. Clr Self gave full details of HGV which passes regularly through West Stow. Although supposedly taking material to bottle bank this is suspected of not being the case since smell emitting from the vehicle suggests something more like animal waste. Clerk to write to firm.

b. Clr Salt had reported poor white lining at the junction of Bury Road and Timworth Road.

c. Woodland at Triangle, West Stow. Letter to be written to Headmaster with copy to trustees.

7. Co-option to council Vacancy now advertised and decision can be taken at next council meeting

8. SALC AGM. Meeting to be held on 6th November. Clerk and Clr Salt to attend.

9. Finance Payment of following cheques agreed :

Clerk's Wages (£480), Royal British Legion (£25), Clerk's Expenses (£59.24)

10. Planning

Application Number – DC/18/1933/TCA – Trees in conservation Area – Approved

Application Number DC/18/11737/TCA – Trees in a conservation area – Approved

Application Number DC/18/1738/TCA – Tree in a conservation area – Approved

Application Number DC/19/2033/TCA – Trees in a conservation area – Approved

Application Number DC/18/1709/HH – Single storey extension and exterior cladding to existing front and rear elevations – Approved

Application Number DC/18/2014/FUL – Installation of lavatory and disabled-friendly lit pathway to allow access - Approved

11. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda.

a. Arrangements for the remembrance service at the war memorial on 11th November 2018 were discussed and agreed.

b. Noted that lighting at hockey pitch at Culford school seems to have changed. Clerk to write to Borough Council for clarification with regard to possible need for planning application

c. Hedge at Forest Edge now a renewed problem since it impedes view of drivers approaching junction from Culford. Issue to be raised with SCC.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm. Next meeting 22nd November 2018

Annex A to minutes of 18th October 2018

Footpath work – West Stow

I have tried hard to push for this work to happen quickly, I have now received a date for the work which is October 22nd – October 26th, which will mean that the work will be finished before the clocks go forward.

Petition to Matt Hancock MP – HGVs

I received a copy of the petition for which I thank Bruce for, I hope that Matt has replied I am not sure. Unfortunately the number of signatures doesn't meet the number of signatures of 3,675 for me to be able to present it formally to Full Council, Cabinet or Scrutiny Committee. I have however drawn the cabinet member for highways attention to the petition and letter and asked her what options are available to the parish. It is likely that any options will need to be funded and from my highways budget but I have no money left for this financial year and I only receive £6,666 for the whole of my division per year. But I will await what Mary and highways come up with.

Defibrillator

I know that Susan has pledged £500 towards purchasing a defibrillator and I am happy to pledge a further £500 towards it.

Budget Consultation

Suffolk County Council are carrying out a consultation on their budget proposals here are the details if the parish wishes to respond :- The consultation can be accessed by visiting www.suffolk.gov.uk/budget2019

The web page features an introductory video from the cabinet member for finance and offers a smartphone-style interactive tool that enables residents to see how much services cost and learn more about how the budget process works. There are a number of links on the page to the short survey that we hope as many people as possible will complete to offer their feedback on which services are important to them.

It's worth noting that 70% of the council's budget is spent on two areas of work which is the Children and Young Peoples and Adult Care directorates for which we have statutory responsibility, the rest of the money has to be shared between all other directorates including highways.

Highway Depot Visit

I had a very successful tour of the highways depot at Rougham with Fornham All Saints parish council, if the parish council is interested in a visit which will allow them to see how

they highways work and respond to reports when they are logged and also will give them a chance to talk to engineers about any particular highway issues that they wish to unblock, please let me know and I will get it organised.

Window now open to apply for primary and secondary school places

Parents and carers can now apply for primary and secondary school places for September 2019.

The deadline for applications to secure a place at a Suffolk secondary school is Wednesday 31 October 2018. For a primary school it is Wednesday 15 January 2019. Secondary schools include high and upper schools and primary schools includes infant, junior and middle schools.

Last year, Suffolk County Council received over 15,000 applications from parents and carers indicating which school they would prefer their child to be educated at. 93% of applicants received offers for their first preference school and more than 98% of applicants received an offer for one of their top three preferred schools.

This year, parents and carers will also need to consider the changes to Suffolk's School Travel Policy, which were agreed by Suffolk County Council's Cabinet on 19 June 2018. The new policy will assess eligibility for funded school travel to the nearest suitable school with a place available. More information about the changes is available at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions.

Parents and carers should apply online at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions as, that way, they will receive confirmation that their application has been received. If for any reason parents and carers are unable to apply online, they should apply on a paper CAF1 application form. Suffolk County Council is unable to acknowledge receipt of paper applications and therefore suggest that proof of posting is obtained.

A completed application must be submitted for every child wanting a secondary school place or a primary school place from September 2019. If parents and carers are planning to move house, or think their circumstances may change before September, it is still important to make an application on time. Advice and guidance about this process is available at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions.

Those who apply online will be able to log on to the Online Service on the National Offer Day, Friday 1 March 2019 for secondary school places and Tuesday 16 April for primary school places, to see their offer of a school place. They will receive an email to confirm this offer on the same day. Offer letters will be sent by second class post to applicants, who made a paper application.

Information to help parents and carers make their application is available at www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions.

Search on to find Suffolk's most active communities

On 12 September, Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Association of Local Councils launched their annual search to find the most active town and villages in Suffolk.

The idea behind the competition, now in its fifth year, is to recognise and celebrate the hard work that communities across Suffolk, both large and small, do to encourage their residents to be active.

It seeks to find the most active town, most active large village (population of more than 1,000) and most active small village (population of less than 1,000).

Besides the honour of being named as the most active town or village in Suffolk the winner from each category will receive an engraved brass plaque as a permanent recognition of their achievement.

In 2017 the award winners were Mendham and Withersdale Street, (who triumphed for the second year running) Shotley, Stradbroke and Kesgrave.

Entry forms for this year's competition can be downloaded from www.mostactivecounty.com. The closing date for entries is Wednesday 17th October 2018.

Shortlisted communities from each category will be invited to the SALC AGM on the 6th November 2018 where the winners and runners up will be announced.

New approach agreed for the development of specialist education placements in Suffolk

On 11 September, Suffolk County Council's Cabinet agreed a recommendation to introduce a new approach to the development of specialist education placements for children and young people.

The need will be met in Suffolk by developing a combination of new specialist support centres and new special schools, using independent placements from private providers for only a small number of very specialist needs.

A policy development panel will be established immediately to realise these local education places as swiftly as possible.

The demand for specialist education places in Suffolk is rising rapidly due to the county's population growth, advances in medicine and increasing complexity of special educational needs. The challenges Suffolk is facing mirror the national picture.

Work has already taken place in the county to deal with the increase in demand for specialist education places.

A new special school in Lowestoft opened in September 2017 and following Department for Education approval another special school will open in Ipswich in 2020.

Several of the county's existing special schools have expanded and a new campus with additional space for Riverwalk School in Bury St Edmunds opened this September.

Work has also taken place to establish a number of additional specialist small groups for specific local needs.

