

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 9 December, 2019 at the Methodist Church Hall

- 12.19.00 **PRESENT:** Alan Newman in the chair, Stan Coram, John Sones, Andrew Woodgate, Fiona Watt, Andrew Morton, District Councillor L Jamieson, and the clerk was present.
- 12.19.01 **APOLOGIES:** Nick Bird, County Councillor R Lindsay.
- 12.19.02 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** No declarations of interest.
- 12.19.03 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 28th October were signed as an accurate record.
- 12.19.04 **MATTERS ARISING:** John Sones confirmed that unfortunately the WI had ceased.
- 12.19.05 **5.1 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** Robert sent his report which was read at the meeting - **Impact of general election moratorium** which started on 6 November, has meant a number of decisions and meetings at Suffolk County Council have been delayed-Budget scrutiny, the long-awaited children's centre consultation similarly, the council will not be able to publish the first draft of the Ipswich Northern Bypass business case until after the election. Meetings of the Climate Emergency Policy Development Panel have been postponed until the new year as well as a meeting between Robert and cabinet member for transport over bus subsidy cuts.
- Plans for civil parking enforcement across Suffolk** – This is expected to be rolled out across Suffolk from 31 January 2020. Currently Ipswich Borough Council is already responsible for parking enforcement, however the police are responsible for the rest of Suffolk. Under the new plans, West Suffolk Council and East Suffolk Council will take on the responsibility of parking enforcement in their own areas. IBC and WSC will also cover the Mid-Suffolk and Babergh area on an agreed operational split: WSC will operate in the northern two-thirds of Mid Suffolk and the western half of Babergh, and IBC will operate in the remaining areas. A consistent approach is being planned, to ensure that fines are the same across the whole county
- Rights of Way Improvement Plan published** Suffolk County Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2020-30) was agreed by the Cabinet on 6 November. The delivery plan focuses on four key areas: managing green access infrastructure; improving green access infrastructure; promoting green access; and developing healthy and sustainable communities. Measures proposed by the plan include creating a digital map of the county's footpaths and bridleways and a new system to prioritise maintenance of highly-used routes. The plan also focuses on sustainable travel choices and the health benefits of walking and cycling.

5.2 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Leigh gave his report **Community Infrastructure Levy funds handed out** Communities across Babergh and Mid Suffolk have received a £791,000 funding boost for local projects including a community gallery at Gainsborough's House in Sudbury, as well as a new car park and bus shelter.

Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding totalling £492,425 was collected between April and September this year and has now been handed over to 51 town and parish councils across the districts to support local community projects. Two parish areas that are governed by a parish meeting also received funds to spend in their areas. This year, both councils also approved bids to give a further £299,160 to seven local infrastructure projects funded through District CIL.

Joint Local Plan Working group Meetings have now started to review the comments received on the Joint Local Plan. Approximately 5,500 comments have been received from over 1,300 respondents. The comments related to all aspects of the plan including strategic policies regarding housing, settlement hierarchy, spatial distribution, infrastructure, the economy and climate change. A Number of the representations also focused on affordable housing, supported and special needs housing, environmental protection, landscape. However, the majority of representations were on sites and settlements. All comments are available to view on-line. The working group is an advisory body made up of a number of councillors and officers who will look in detail at specific areas of the plan. The comments received will aid the council in drawing up a final draft.

- 12.19.06 **VILLAGE HALL UPDATE:** Members of the VHMC were unable to attend the meeting but sent the following update - Their next meeting in January will determine whether preschool can start up again and then plans for what to do with the pavilion.
- 12.19.07 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE:** The chairman reported that the Referendum for the Neighbourhood Plan had been held on 7 November and was approved with a majority vote which means it has full force and merely awaiting formal adoption by Babergh. **Post meeting note** the parish council has now been informed that the neighbourhood plan has been formally adopted by Babergh District Council and to be used as their Policy document when deciding planning applications.
- 12.19.08 **RECESS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There was a recess for public comments. Discussion mainly on the potholes and markings on the road.
- 12.19.09 **CORRESPONDENCE: Cuts to Bus Services** – the results of correspondence held between parishes that may be affected was discussed. Ringshall PC had collated all the responses and forwarded them to all those who took part. As the parish council does not know what the position will be in the new financial year with regard to subsidy it was agreed to wait until that time to make a decision on the way forward.

12.19.10 **LOCAL NEEDS HOUSING SURVEY:** Chairman reported that he and Andrew Woodgate had met with Community Action Suffolk who have got funding from Babergh for the project. They will support the parish council with publicity and provide all the questionnaires, then do the analysis of the results. It will be the job of the parish council to deliver the questionnaires. Members of the council agreed that the survey should go ahead. The clerk to formally request that Community Action Suffolk begin the process.

12.19.11 **SPEED DETECTION SIGNS:** Members of the parish council had carried out some research and contacted other councils who have the equipment. It was highlighted that the signs need to be regularly moved to different safe locations to be effective. Batteries need to be checked and replaced on a regular basis and the data needs to be recorded. Some members of the council were of the opinion that in the long term the benefits were negligible and therefore not cost effective and that the CIL money could be spent on something else.

After discussion it was agreed that we should contact the County Council to have a trial run before making a final decision.

12.19.12 **FINANCE:** Accounts Due – invoices were verified and cheques were signed as shown below.

Payee	Sum	Purpose	Powers for expenditure
A Newman (reimbursement)	£60.00	Website Hosting by Suffolk Community Action	LGA 1972

Reconciliation – Under the terms of the financial regulations the clerk produced an up to date bank reconciliation, showing the current bank balances. (attached).

Precept and budget. The clerk had prepared a draft budget (attached). It was agreed to include a sum of £600 for a replacement computer and the necessary software. It was agreed to set the precept the same as last year and request a sum of £10,400 from Babergh DC.

It was also agreed that the clerk should put a note in the newsletter asking the views of residents as to what they might like to see some of the CIL money being spent on which would benefit the whole community. CIL is Community Infrastructure Levy which is money collected from developers by Babergh when new houses are built and in turn passed on to the Parish Council for them to determine how the money should be spent.

12.19.13 **PLANNING:** DC/19/05648 - 16 Ipswich Road, Elmsett, - erection of rear conservatory. After discussion the Parish council resolved that they did not wish to restrict the grant of permission.

Applications approved by Babergh - DC/19/04735 - Erection of replacement garage (following demolition of existing) and erection of glass house - Rookery Farm, Manor Road, Elmsett

DC/19/04780 - Listed Building Consent - Demolition, rebuild and widen a chimney to the gable end Wall Farm, Ipswich Road, Elmsett

Application withdrawn - Outline Planning Application (including vehicular access all other matters reserved) - Erection of 1no. dwelling. Little Wings, Whatfield Road, Elmsett.

12.19.14 **DATES FOR NEXT MEETINGS** 20 January, 2 Mar, 20 Apr, 1 June, 20 July, 7 Sept, 26 Oct, 7 Dec, 18 Janu 2021.

The meeting closed

Signed:-..... Dated:-.....
Chairman