

Little Waldingfield Parish Council

Clerk Christine Hargan 4 Northfield Road, Onehouse, Stowmarket IP14 3HF

Tel: 01449 674727

Email: clerk.littlewaldingfieldpc@hotmail.co.uk

Approved Minutes of the Council Meeting held at the Parish Room Little Waldingfield at 7.30pm on Thursday 9 December 2021

Present: Cllr Chris White (Chair), Cllr Stewart Braybrook, Cllr Matt Foster, Cllr Robert Wheeler

In Attendance: SCCllr Phillip Faircloth-Mutton, DCllr Margaret Maybury, DCllr Clive Arthey Christine Hargan (Clerk) and 9 members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Tim Sheppard and his absence was approved.

2. Declarations of Interests by Members and Requests for Dispensation

There were no interests declared or requests received by any of the members

3. Public Forum

To include updates from District and County Councillors

Reports from the District Councillors, and questions relating to their reports are attached in the annex to these minutes.

Other than The Swan Pub, discussed under Item 4 there were no further issues raised by residents.

4. Future of the Swan Pub

The owner of the pub had provided a progress update. Residents voiced concern at the lack of progress in restoring the village pub which has now been closed for 4 years. It was acknowledged that the owner has experienced Heritage Planning problems in progressing his schedule of improvements to the building which has a "Grade II Listed" status.

Members of the village considered forming a working group to explore ways in which progress might be advanced, if required. Any further discussion would take place outside of the Parish Council meeting.

5. Planning.

The Clerk informed Councillors that Planning Application DC/21/06540, The Grange, had been received too late to be included in the meeting and that an extension to the response deadline had been sought from Babergh to allow discussion at the next meeting on 4th January.

6. Village Maintenance Schedule

The Chair presented a draft maintenance schedule regarding village assets and general maintenance around the village.

The list was amended to add defibrillator, dog bins and streetlights.

Suffolk County Council's programme to upgrade streetlights with LED bulbs was discussed, however as village assets, the streetlights are outside the scheme and would not be upgradeable. Cllr Faircloth-Mutton offered to investigate the cost of replacement and it was agreed to consult the views of residents and impact on wildlife prior to making a decision.

Budgeting impact on maintenance work was discussed and members agreed to initially seek voluntary help from villagers.

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7. Use of social media to communicate with the public.

Currently only the Village website and more recently the Box River News were used to relay Parish Councils news. Possible additional means of communication were considered. Following discussion on the options it was agreed to investigate using the village Facebook page and that if used all posts would be made by the Clerk and accord with the SALC Social Media Policy.

8. Suffolk PCC Consultation

The Clerk informed Councillors the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner Consultation was now closed.

9. SCC Lorry Route Map Review

The Clerk informed members that neighbouring Parishes had been contacted regarding a coordinated response.

It was agreed to submit three responses relating to excessive HGV traffic through the village. Two responses to cite that the road width and bends at either end of the village make the B1115 unsuitable for HGV traffic and a general coordinated comment that the current favoured routes through Lavenham, Great Waldingfield and Monks Eleigh towards Needham Market and Stowmarket are unsuitable for modern large HGV's and should therefore have a weight limit imposed.

10. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

It was resolved that there should be a village event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. In collaboration with other organisations in the village.

A commemorative gift for all children in the village was discussed together with other possible commemorative features for the village.

District Councillor informed the meeting of her Platinum Jubilee 'Village in Bloom' competition, full details can be found on the village website.

11. Noise Pollution

The issue with the generator has now been resolved, Thanks were extended to BDC Environmental Enforcement for his diligence and keeping residents fully informed and members of the community and District Councillor for their assistance.

12. 2022/2023 Budget Proposals

The latest Tax Base figures from Babergh DC show a 5.9% increase due to the increase in new houses. It was resolved to accept this increase and not raise the Precept on condition that it did not raise Council Tax bills for the village.

The draft budget for 2022/23 was agreed on that basis.

13. Agree payments

It was resolved, by the councillors to pay the following:

- a. Hire of Village Hall for December
- b. Clerk Salary for October and November

14. Questions to the Chair

Councillors were informed that the Neighbourhood Plan has been approved and will go to villagers for referendum in February 2022. Full details of the Plan would be posted on the village website.

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15. Agree Dates and Venue for Meetings in 2022

Dates for 1st Tuesday in 2022 are:

Tuesday 4th January

Tuesday 1 March

Tuesday 3 May

Tuesday 5 July

Tuesday 6 September

Tuesday 1 November

The meeting was closed at 10:40pm

Christine Hargan

clerk.littlewoldingfieldpc@hotmail.co.uk

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Date

Clerk Report

What	Who	Complete
Village Maintenance schedule to gain voluntary help from the public	All	
Village in Bloom competition, to add to future agenda for consideration	Clerk	
Research possible gifts for the children of the community as part of Jubilee Celebration	All	
Payments to be made	Cllrs White and Foster	
Establish raise in precept income would not impact on rates for the villagers	Clerk	
Post details of neighbourhood plan on website.		
Acquire social media policy from SALC and ensure that it meets Parish Council requirements.	Clerk	

ANNEX A – County and District Councillors reports

DCC Clive Arthey

BDC engaging further with PCs re Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) applications and Neighbourhood CIL spend. Babergh Joint Local Plan Examination hearings resumed after the summer break, but now postponed again and will resume in the spring.

SWP (Suffolk Waste Partnership) new campaign to reduce glass in blue (recycling) and black (residual) bins.

SWP also continuing to work on the likely provisions of the Environment Bill -implications for separate collections, particularly food waste.

Refuse freighters now running on HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil) – timely given recent derv supply issues!

New CCTV system in Sudbury and Hadleigh now operational.

Solar carports with EV chargers on their way for Kingfisher car park in Sudbury.

You will have received your indicative Tax Base figures showing an increase of 5.9%. Good news for you when considering your precept and budget setting.

Current Housing Land supply position for BDC is 6.86 years. I'm sure you are all aware how important it is that we can show more than five years.

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) on their way for Babergh and whole of Suffolk. Draft expected Dec'21/Jan'22.

Implementation date for revised charges at BDC car parks in Hadleigh and Sudbury pushed back again. Currently no new date proposed.

Questions raised:

Question from Cllr Wheeler Is HVO is cleaner and what's the source, Cllr Arthey noted that it is manufactured using vegetable oil which has been processed.

Cllr Wheeler asked if the cycling and walking infrastructure plans include public rights of way. The response was yes.

DCC Margaret Maybury

November District Councillor Report - Cllr Margaret Maybury

- BDC have released their latest Housing Land Supply figures at 6.86 years.

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- The Joint Local Plan has been adjourned for six months whilst BDC take on board reservations from landowners and others on site allocations.
- The BDC Taxi Policy which includes new legislation for statutory training for the trade’s licensees has been passed to Cabinet.
- The Gambling Policy for BDC was approved at Council. Sadly, I could not attend the meeting due to ongoing infection concerns.
- A lot of emails have been “toing and froing” over the withdrawal of car parking charges from January 2022 for Babergh residents within Sudbury and Hadleigh. I feel this is good news whilst the district recovers from the effects of covid on public movement and the survival of businesses. I add, I was not canvassed for my opinion before media coverage happened.
- A new political group has been formed with the Labour Councillor
- joining forces with the Green Party.

Other Ward News:

- I attended the tour of Chilton Woods alongside Lady Hart, and others. It gave great appreciation of the scale of the site and the size of the operation. Concerns were raised over the PRowS (Public Rights of Way) which will be disturbed during the construction of the site.
- I also, during the tour, gave, again, my call for a bund (a heap of land) with wildflowers on it to the north and northeast of the site to protect Newmans Green and Acton from noise transference over the flat landscape of the old airfield.
- I made the headlines at the last meeting of the Sudbury Chamber of Commerce with my success with the 20mph speed limit on the new Chilton site and the 3m wide pedestrian/cycling routes – all reported by Taylor Wimpey themselves.
- I have made strong representation against the new name of the overall site of Chilton Woods to *Maiden Fields*, suggesting instead:
Ciltona Fields
which is the Old English name of Chilton and roughly its meaning is the land of the favoured one ie the second son of an ancient prince or tribe.
- This afternoon I am attending the official handing over of the keys for the affordable housing at Chilton Place. (15th November.) Interestingly, this was one of the first sites I asked for specific affordable housing for the parish. Andersons (the developer) took this on board, agreed to it and now with each new development they approach in other parts of the South and East of England, this policy is part of their planning application. I feel I have had some success ...
- Chilton have a new Notice Board in the parish on the border of Great Waldingfield and I consider it to be very impressive.
- Great Waldingfield have now, finally, received a land transference from BDC whereby the green at Green Acre becomes part of the Parish Council land estate.

Please note I still have funds available from my 2021/22 Locality Budget to help with local projects, requests need to be received before March next year.

Cllr Faircloth Mutton

Cabinet met regarding pavements and have been granted £3.3M per year to help with flooding and drainage. There is to be an initiative regarding the enforcement of 20 and 30mph speed limits throughout the County. Consideration is being given to a scheme whereby Local Speed Indicator Devices can be upgraded with Automatic Numberplate Recognition camera systems. The benefit for the community is that it will escalate the importance for highways improvements, if approved the cameras would be moved between SIDs. 130 sites have been earmarked across the county and the scheme runs for 2 years.

Some of the standard streetlights maintained by Suffolk County Council in your local area are set to be upgraded to more efficient and environmentally-friendly LED lanterns as part of a project being delivered during 2021/22 by Bouygues.

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Date