

Minutes of the Elmsett Annual Parish Council meeting held via Zoom on 18 May.

- 05.20.00 **PRESENT:** Mr A Newman, Nick Bird, Stan Coram, John Sones, Andrew Woodgate, Fiona Watt, Andrew Morton, District Councillor L Jamieson, County Councillor Robert Lindsay and the Clerk.
- 05.20.01 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN:** There being no other nominations – Alan Newman was unanimously elected as Chairman. **Election of Vice Chairman –** there being no further nominations – Nick Bird was unanimously elected. **Village Hall Rep** –Stan Coram. **SALC Rep** – Agreed to have a revolving representative.
- 05.20.02 **DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:** The chairman signed an acceptance of office.
- 05.20.03 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** There were no declarations of interest.
- 05.20.04 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the zoom meeting held on 24 April were signed as an accurate record.
- 05.20.05 **5.1 COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT:** The report which had been circulated to members.- **Household Waste Recycling Centres re-opened using online booking system May 14.** This is to try to avoid risk of infection. please visit [www.suffolk.gov.uk/recyclingcentres](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/recyclingcentres) or call 0345 606 6067. **Green waste bin collection to restart from May 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Supply of PPE** Suffolk County Council are supplying emergency PPE to all primary care providers who are unable or struggling to source their own supplies. More information on who is eligible to order PPE, and how to make an order, is available at: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolks-response/personal-protective-equipment-for-frontline-workers/> Questions about ordering PPE should be sent to [PPE@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:PPE@suffolk.gov.uk)

**Funding from Government** Suffolk County Council has received £34.7m from the government to help with the council’s coronavirus response.

However, the council is currently forecasting that the financial impact of the crisis will be £75m (due to both extra expenditure and lost income) by the end of March 2021, and so more support from the government will be needed.

**Space for distancing to protect walkers/cyclists from infection** The transport minister announced on May 9 that he was providing £250m emergency fundin to implement measures such as road closures, pop up bike lanes, pavement widening and 20mph limits during lockdown, all using planters and temporary bollards.

Now there is funding and a sense of urgency Elmsett might want to consider whether to request any measures, eg Does the shop need outside space carved out for waiting shoppers with bollards/planters? School and pub?

**Delay to review of Suffolk County Council boundaries** any new boundaries will not be imposed until 2025.

**Cost of post-16 Home to School transport increases by £90** Plans to increase post-16 school transport fares were approved by the Chief Executive using delegated decision-making powers, because the Cabinet were unable to meet.

The cost of mainstream post-16 school transport has been increased by £90, whilst the cost of post-16 transport for SEND students has increased by £30.

**Increase in social worker pay** Suffolk County Council has agreed to increase the pay of children's social workers to match the remuneration offered by neighbouring councils, in order to attract and retain skilled social workers in Suffolk. It is estimated that the pay increase will cost £1.4m and will be funded from council reserves. I am pleased that the council has taken this step, because my group proposed this exact policy as part of our budget amendment in February.

**5.2 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** The report had been received and previously circulated to members. **Helpline for the most vulnerable - 0800 876 6926 free to call 7 days a week, from 09:00 to 17:00**

**Use of Temporary Accommodation in B&MSDCs** As of the 27<sup>th</sup> April there were no families in B&B and of the 25 families with children in Temporary Accommodation, only 2 are sharing facilities.

To achieve this, 17 people have been moved around to facilitate more flow of Temporary Accommodation. This has included moving people into permanent offers of accommodation or more suitable temporary accommodation. Our tactic has been to create as much 'movement' within Temporary Accommodation as possible. Since w/c 16.03.20 ('lockdown') Building Maintenance have brought 43 voids back into use; enabling people to either be rehoused where they were at risk of homelessness or to move from temporary accommodation into a permanent housing offer. In turn 45 new households have also been accommodated in Temporary Accommodation - effectively managing our limited Temporary accommodation stock. Many other Councils and Registered Providers have struggled to bring their voids forward and move people on effectively. Our approach will have saved significant costs as we would almost certainly have had to procure an additional hotel.

**Business Innovation and Growth fund** Councillors have agreed a £300,000 funding programme for small businesses in towns and villages across Babergh and Mid Suffolk to be allocated over the next three years. Small businesses

from start-ups to those looking to expand, will be able to apply for a grant from one of four different funding streams.

- Growth and increased Productivity Fund
- Enterprise and Innovation Fund
- High Street Premises Enhancement Fund
- Environmental Sustainability Fund

The new scheme will provide a much needed boost to businesses to help sustain and create jobs, provide opportunities to grow and innovate, as well as react to the changing business landscape.

**CIFCO – Financial Impacts Covid-19** As mentioned previously Babergh and Mid Suffolk established a joint company (CIFCO Capital) that borrows money from the Councils (currently up to £100m) which it then invests through the purchase of commercial properties. In the recent 2020/21 budget it was estimated that the interest received from the initial investment of £26M would be £1.162M for each Council, with Babergh receiving a Net Return of £0.566M after loan interest repayments. The second investment of £21M was expected to produce a Net Return of £0.488M after loan interest repayment. Due to Covid 19 the loss of income is estimated to be 50% from CIFCO for full year 2020/21. For both BDC and MSDC the income from the initial investment would drop from £1.162m to £640k each, a loss of income of 522k each in 2020/21 While only a portion of the second investment (£3.16M) has so far been paid the income would drop from £181k to £99k each, a loss of income of £82k each in 2020/21. The 50% reduction would affect cashflow for 2020/21 but would still be owed by CIFCO and repayment would be profiled into subsequent financial years.

05.20.06 **HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY:** It was agreed that now is not the right time to proceed and that we should review again in the autumn.

05.20.07 **FINANCE:** Accounts Due invoices were verified and cheques to be signed as shown below.

A Newman(reimbursement)	14.39(signed previously)	Zoom Subs	LGA1972
A Newman(reimbursement)	89.99	McAfee Renewal	LGA1972
T Hitchcock	240.00	Grass cutting	Open Spaces
SALC	351.98	Annual Subs	LGA1972

The clerk confirmed that the first precept instalment of £5,200 had been received from Babergh and that £7,526.00 CIL payment had been received.

The Councillors approved Section 1 of the Annual Governance statement. The clerk confirmed that SALC were carrying out the internal audit and all paperwork was being collated to send electronically.

Councillors approved the CIL statement for the year ending March 2020. The clerk to forward to Babergh and upload to the council's website.

05.20.08 **PLANNING:** DC/20/01363 Creation of replacement commercial garden nursery Shrubland Park Nurseries, Maltings Farm, Whatfield Road. The parish council discussed this application in the light of the outline permission DC/17/05204 setting the base line and agreed to forward the following comments to Babergh

Whilst the parish council does not object to the approval of this application, it considers there are a number of issues that need to be resolved before permission can be given.

1. The general rambling nature of the site also we wondered why a caravan was needed and were concerned that it should not be used for residential purposes.
2. Concern was expressed that all the previous outline conditions that related to the commercial nursery element of the outline should be re-imposed on this application should you be minded to grant consent.
3. In addition a condition discussed in the outline application committee report in paras 5.11 and 5.12 should be imposed to control the retail element and most importantly the size of vehicles allowed to visit the site.

We are aware that the use applied for is not as a garden centre but as a commercial nursery with some element of retail. We would appreciate your view as to the means of controlling retail and thereby traffic prior to finally signing off the parish council comments. Please note that the condition discussed at para 5.12 was omitted from the outline and we wish to see this error rectified.

We are also concerned that the width of the road has not been detailed but it is clear for a 7.5 tonne light vehicle and an ordinary sized car to pass a road width of 5.5m will be needed. The access road radii also needs attention.

Resolving access to the site from Whatfield Road should be a key element of the decision and the full visibility splays of 2.4m x 60m in both directions from the centre line of the access should be available for safe use, that access, roadway to the site and the footways shown should be available prior to the use commencing.

We are aware that we have asked for some details to be resolved and we would be obliged if you could discuss these matters with the applicant and get back to us prior to the application. If you consider that a meeting (virtual if necessary) with the applicant and yourselves would be of assistance we would be pleased to attend.

**DC/18/00799 Land at Hadleigh Road, Aldham. Ipswich Elmsett IP7 6NF**  
Variation of Condition 3 (Approved Plans and Documents) on outline planning

permission to allow phased development - **Councillors discussed the application and agreed to submit the following to Babergh DC**-- The parish council is concerned that the proposed amendment could lead to an unsatisfactory situation.

Visibility Splays of 2.4 x 43m are specified and must be adhered to. We are concerned that the visibility splay for plots 1 and 2 should be central to the revised access position. We also consider that access to plot 2 through plot 1 has potential for social conflict and may result in a later application for independent access to plot 1. We are also concerned for the well-being of the neighbouring properties because moving to self-build could mean that the development time will be extended and self-build often results in weekend working to the detriment of the amenity of the neighbouring properties. We consider that if approved strict conditions should be applied to prevent this nuisance

05.20.11 **DATES FOR NEXT MEETINGS:** If the situation remains the same agreed to hold the next meeting in six weeks time via Zoom – 29 June 2020.

The meeting closed

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