

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2019 at the Methodist Church Hall

- 07.19.00 **PRESENT:** Alan Newman in the chair, Nick Bird, Stan Coram, John Sones, Andrew Woodgate, Fiona Watt, Andrew Morton, District Councillor L Jamieson, County Councillor R Lindsay the Clerk, and 10 members of the public.
- 07.19.01 **APOLOGIES:** None
- 07.19.02 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** None
- 07.19.03 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14 May were signed as an accurate record
- 07.19.04 **MATTERS ARISING:** John Sones attended the recent Police Forum and confirmed there were no issues affecting the parish.  
Andrew Morton reported on the SALC forum he had recently attended when Mary Evans, SCC highlighted the council's approach to verge cutting and how it is prioritised. Also new systems and technology being introduced to detect road defects and relaxing the threshold of when a pothole is a pothole. (see attached report of the meeting from Andrew Morton)
- 07.19.05 **5.1 COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Buses to lose subsidy**  
The county council announced last week that 23 routes would lose their subsidy (about a third of the subsidised bus routes in the county) in order to save £430,000. Routes include the 461 and 462 from Hadleigh to Stowmarket, the latter going via Elmsett. Also the once weekly 120 from Whatfield via Elmsett, to Ipswich.

Full details of affected routes are here <http://www.suffolkonboard.com/>

Both these routes are operated by Hadleigh Community Transport (HCT). Officers tell me that are talking to HCT and other operators to see whether they can run without the subsidy. HCT is writing to parishes along the routes of these buses to ask for a contribution of around £500 each to keep them going until March, in the hope that new funding or extra passengers can be found by then. Some passengers with bus passes have voiced their willingness to pay at least some of the fare. It is possible for buses to ask for voluntary contributions from passengers, even when they have a bus pass and one that runs into Beccles follows this pattern. This would be unlikely to offset the entire amount of the subsidy however.

**Restrictions on recycling** The amount of goods that can be recycled in Suffolk has reduced, with TetraPak cartons and metal items such as pots and pans no longer being accepted in recycling bins. This decision was made by the Suffolk Waste Partnership following a refurbishment of the Material Recycling Facility near Great Blakenham, because the new sorting equipment that is being installed will not be able to separate out cartons. Cartons and metal items will need to be taken to household recycling centres. I have asked how this change will be publicised and am told that there will be a marketing push once the new machines are up and running.

## **Ofsted rates Suffolk County Council Children's Services "outstanding"**

After a week-long inspection in April, Ofsted have given Suffolk County Council Children's Services an "outstanding" rating, an improvement from the previous rating of "good" in 2015. Suffolk County Council is one of only seven in the country to achieve this rating, and the positive report is testament to the hard-working frontline staff at the council.

**5.2 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Council structure** The formation of the council is now complete with the Cabinet being made up of four Conservative councillors, three independents and one Lib Dem.

**Joint Local Plan** The draft Joint Local Plan document was approved for consultation last week by the council and is available to view on the Babergh Mid Suffolk webpage below <https://www.babergh.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/new-joint-local-plan/> The consultation period starts later in July and should be open by the 22<sup>nd</sup>. This period will run for 10 weeks, and I encourage members of the Parish Council and village to take the time to view this document and send in any comments that they feel are pertinent.

**CIL 123** The next bidding round for CIL 123 funding will open on the 1<sup>st</sup> October

07.19.06 **RECESS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:** The chairman opened the meeting to the public. A number of residents attended who were concerned about the announcement from Suffolk County Council that they were considering cutting the subsidy to the bus service. The parish council heard all their concerns and the hardships it would cause and agreed to write to the County Council and copy to the local MP asking them to reconsider the proposal. Both the County Councillor and District Councillor said they would also lend their support and had made representations to that effect. Hadleigh Community Transport had also written to the parish seeking a donation to enable the service to continue until March. As the County Council is making its final decision at the end of the month it was agreed to wait until after then to decide the best way forward.

07.19.07 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE:** The Chairman confirmed the Plan is still with the Examiner. A number of clarifying questions have been received from her which have all been answered. We are expecting her report and recommendations very shortly. It would then be for the parish council to prepare the plan for printing a referendum draft taking into account any modifications recommended by the Examiner. As far as finance is concerned there are still funds available.

We have seen the draft Joint Local Plan (Babergh/Mid Suffolk) and the reference to Elmsett and are pleased with the way the JLP dovetails with our Neighbourhood Plan.

07.19.08 **VILLAGE HALL UPDATE:** Unlikely now to be a new build as it is not viable, but some refurbishment and possibly a replacement pavilion incorporating a meeting room, but it is up for re-discussion.

05.19.09 **CORRESPONDENCE:** Clerk confirmed that the membership to Community Action Suffolk had been renewed.

Council Insurance – notification that Community Action Suffolk have negotiated with a new underwriter. There should be no difference to our policy.

Whatfield Road, Maltings site. Representations had been made to County Council following concerns from residents about the condition of the road. The developers have been contacted.

Bus service cuts – dealt with in Recess above.

The clerk had been notified that there are some changes to bin collection days but those residents concerned should have been notified. (post meeting note the bin day has been changed from Thursday to Tuesday).

Housing Needs Survey – This is now likely to go ahead in the early Autumn.

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

invoices to be presented for payment 1st July

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Sum</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Powers for expenditure</b>
T Hitchcock	120.00	Grasscutting 2nd & 28 May	Open Spaces Act 1906
A Newman	56.73	HDMI Leads	LGA 1972 (reimbursement)
A Newman	8.15	Stamps	LGA 1972 (reimbursement)
SAIC	55.20	Training	LGSA 1972 s111

Audit: Confirmation that the exemption certificate had been received.

Donation to SARs – it was agreed to send a donation of £55.00

05.19.11 **PLANNING:** Approvals – **DC/19/01949** - Mill Farm, Hadleigh Road, Elmsett - Erection of 2no detached dwellings following demolition of 3no vacant outbuildings.  
**DC/19/01945** - Erection of garden storage shed and covered patio area. Willow Barn, Manor Road. **DC/19/01898** - Erection of a single storey rear extension; side extension; and front porch extension. 1 Sawyers, Elmsett.

**Outline Planning Application - DC/19/02658** (including vehicular access all other matters reserved)- Erection of 1no. dwelling. Little Wings, Whatfield Road, Elmsett. The parish council sent the following comments to Babergh Planning - Approval of the application would lead to a gross over development of the site as a whole. A

two-storey development squeezed in between the two existing bungalows would be out of character within the immediate neighbourhood. The existing property has already been divided into two and the loss of the garden would be to the long-term detriment of the neighbouring properties. The proposed development would lead to road safety dangers over the life of the property because of its restricted site frontage and visibility from the proposed access.

**Application DC/19/02793** - Discharge of Conditions Application pursuant to Planning Permission B/16/00447. Condition 5 (Materials), Condition 6 (Surface water drainage), Condition 7 (Landscaping) and Condition 9 (Screen walls and fences), The Maltings, Whatfield Road. The parish council had no comments to make.

**Application DC/19/02963 for Listed Building Consent** - Red House Farm, Flowton Road, Elmsett. The parish council had no comments to make.

05.19.12 **DATES FOR NEXT MEETINGS:** It was agreed to move the next meeting to 12 August (post minute note as the council was unable to get quorum for this date it was agreed to revert to 5 August). Next meeting dates being 16 September, 28 October & 9 December.

The meeting closed

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