

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 10 December, 2018 at the Elmsett Methodist Church Hall.

PRESENT: Mr A Newman, Mr Nick Bird, Mrs M Hinton, Mr G Hinton, Mr S Coram, Mr A Woodgate, District Councillor A Ferguson, County Councillor R Lindsay, the Clerk and 1 member of the public.

12.18.01 **APOLOGIES:**

12.18.02 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** - There were no declarations.

12.18.03 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the Parish Council meetings held on 29 October were signed as an accurate record.

12.18.04 4.1 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT Latest £11m cuts proposed from next year's budget. Period Poverty – part 2** A commitment of funding from Suffolk County Council will be vital to ensure we eradicate period poverty across the whole county. **Single use plastic motion unanimously passed** – and persuading business and organisations to do the same to create a 'plastic free Suffolk' network. **Carbon reduction budget motion rejected** on the grounds that they could not afford to do the admin. **New highways boss** After a long search, a new head of Growth, Highways and Infrastructure, Mark Ash has been hired and will start in February. He is currently Director of Waste and Environment at Essex County Council, where he does flood and water management, sustainable drainage services, management and promotion of the natural environment and renewable energy. **Road closures signage and diversions** Having changed the pothole policy, new cabinet member for highways is also looking to see if Highways can improve the co-ordination of road closures to stop over-runs and improve signage. They are looking seriously at the option of a permit scheme for road closures, similar to the one Essex already operates. **Abandoned and unremoved signs** I have raised this issue with Network Assurance. They are urging you to please report signs that are abandoned on networkassurance@suffolk.gov.uk and if at all possible with photos because utilities can be fined for this.

4.2 **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** Alan Ferguson reported **Boundary Commission** - The new ward has been confirmed as SE Cosford to which Alan has been adopted as Conservative candidate. He has also been appointed to the Planning Committee. **Private Sector Housing** - Babergh DC now **has a 5 year land supply** for the private sector housing, but will be no consolation to the Parish when seen against the recent decision to give outline planning permission the building of 18 houses at Shrubland Nurseries. The challenge now is to convince more members of the Planning Committee that the next application (for another 42 dwellings) will be unacceptable for reasons of **cumulative effect** when viewed against the permission granted in the

last two years. **Merger of Babergh & MSDCs** I was assured that it would not be on the agenda before May 2019 when we have the next local elections. Watch this space. **Car Parking in Babergh** John Ward leader of Babergh has assured Alan that he does not see a case for bringing in car parking charges in Babergh. **Disposal of Corks Lane Buildings** The recommendation for redevelopment of the old Babergh Council offices (about 56 houses/flats) will go before the Planning Committee in January 2019. I will keep you advised.

- 12.18.05 **MATTERS ARISING:** The clerk reported that the request for licencing the siting of the grit bins had been made to SCC. The Chairman confirmed that he had spoken to a local tradesman to erect the seat at the agreed location at the entrance to the Methodist Church. He had also spoken to him about the condition of the floor of the bus shelter which had been reported by a member of the public. It was felt that as it had been brought to the attention of the council as a possible hazard, remedial work should be undertaken immediately.

Anglian Water has almost finished the works but the carriageway has erupted which they will rectify. The parish council agreed that a letter should be sent to them thanking them for the very helpful and courteous manner in which the work had been carried out by their workforce.

- 12.18.06 **Sale of Corks Lane** – Members of the parish council discussed the issue of the possible loss of the car parking facilities adjacent the old council offices. It was felt that this would be a valuable asset for overflow car parking in the town and should remain and resolved to object to the application on that basis.

- 12.18.06 **VILLAGE HALL UPDATE:** Officers of the village hall committee were unable to attend but reported. The village hall continue to meet regularly and are working hard to benefit the community. Recently Mrs Justine Page has stepped down from the post of Chairperson, therefore Mrs Burdiss is acting chair.

They continue to work on the project for a new hall and are awaiting a report from Mr Sean Jeffries regarding the costings which give them some concern so they will be seeking further quotations.

The shopping evening has been popular with over 85 tickets sold. Also we have had an excellent response from outside stall holders with over 14 attending and are hopeful for a successful evening.

Stan Coram agreed to take over the role of village hall rep from John Sones.

12.18.07 **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE:** The chairman confirmed that the consultation period had now finished and the steering group were examining all the comments made and will move to suggested amendments flowing from the consultation. The draft plan will be presented to the parish council at the next meeting for approval prior to it being submitted to Babergh District Council.

The chairman also said that they had received comments from Natural England stating that along with other neighbourhood plans Natural England had advised us of potential remedial problems relating to RAMS. This is being investigated by the District council as well our consultant.

12.18.08 **RECESS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There was a recess for public comments – no comments received.

12.18.09 **PLANNING:** Approval notice from BDC - Erection of a single storey attached annex and rear extension. 23 Sawyers., Elmsett. Approval notice from BDC - Erection of a single storey side extension -. 2 Elmsett Hall Cottages, Offton Road, Elmsett. Approval Notice BDC - Outline Planning Application (Access to be considered) Erection of a detached dwelling and garage. Aldham End, Hadleigh Road, Elmsett.

The Chairman reported that the application for 42 dwellings Whatfield Road was being considered at BDC planning meeting on 12 December and that he would be attending to speak on behalf of the council. He invited other members of the council to also attend.

12.18.10 **FINANCE: Accounts due -** Cheques were signed in favour of Playground Projects Ltd – Play equipment on the meadow in conjunction with school and village hall - £1,920.00. Winsor, Clarke, Brackenbury - £491.60 Printing of neighbourhood plans and response forms etc –(NP), Places4People Ltd £5,643.00, Consultation fees for Neighbourhood Plan (NP), Hitchcock £120.00 grasscutting 7/10 & 8/11. A Newman - £141.88 clerk's salary.

Precept – The clerk submitted a proposed budget which was discussed. It was proposed to set a precept for the year of £10,400 which was approved with Andrew Woodgate voting against.

12.18.11 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:–** 21st January, 2019.

The meeting closed

Signed:-

Dated:-.....

Chairman