

Tattingstone Parish Council

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 5th March 2018 at 8.00pm in Tattingstone Village Hall

Present: Cllr. Gipps [chair], Cllr. Tweedy, Cllr. Hawes, Cllr Clark, Cllr Clarke

4 members of the public was present.

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr. Mendel, Cllr. Wood, Cllr. Stanger, Cllr. McCraw

2. Declaration of interest:

Cllr .Gipps declared an interest in item 9 as she had commented personally upon planning DC/18/00615

3. To consider requests for dispensations

Interest noted and Cllr. Gipps would not take part in discussion on DC/18/00615

4. To approve minutes of meeting held on 8th February 2018

The minutes were agreed and then signed as a correct record by Cllr. Gipps

Proposed: Cllr. Hawes

Seconded: Cllr. Tweedy

Passed unanimously

5. Clerk's Report

- Course attended on Community Infrastructure Levy and brief report given.
- Most allotment rents have been paid and a reminder letter sent to those still unpaid.
- The survey by Suffolk Highways on parish help with highway maintenance had been completed. The Parish council stated they had no funds or resources and could only help with sign cleaning within 30mph zones.
- The clerk had written to Anglian Water about the closure of Church Road without sufficient notification to residents.
- The clerk has been led to believe that an editor of Tattingstone News had come forward. This was queried by Cllr. Hawes who will contact Mr Plumley for further information. Agenda item for April.

6. Matters arising from the minutes

- The clerk had written to Cllr D. Clarke about his non-attendance at Council meetings. Cllr. Clarke was at the meeting and stated that when he took on the role he had informed the late Cllr. Collins that he would only be able to attend meetings now and again. He was waiting for Cllr. Wood to speak to him as previously promised. Cllr. Gipps reminded him that being a councillor required more than just attendance at occasional meetings.
- Agreement has been reached between residents of The Close and Openreach about the removal of the offending telegraph poles. Cabling is now to be put underground; the cost being borne by residents of The Close.

7. Open Forum for members of the public

- Hedges on the road up from Lemon's Hill Bridge are now dangerous to high sided and wide vehicles. Clerk will write to the landowner again.
- A car is parked on the opposite side of the road to everyone else on Church Road. This is causing difficulties for traffic and was extremely difficult during the snow as the snow plough could not clear the road there. The clerk will write to the owners.
- There is a large amount of dog faeces on reservoir paths. The clerk will write to Anglian Water.

8. Reports from District and County Councillors

The reports had been circulated prior to the meeting and were re-capped by Cllr. Gipps. The reports are attached to the minutes.

9. Planning

- **DC/17/06963**

Homeleigh, The Heath, Tattingstone, IP9 2LX

Erection of 2 cartlodges.

New plans had been received from Babergh DC. Although putting the cart lodges in front of the houses would lessen light to them, the lodges would not affect light to neighbouring housing. The distances from the road was sufficient for the required visibility splay.

Application recommended.

Proposed: Cllr. Hawes

Seconded: Cllr. Clarke

Carried unanimously

- **DC/18/00615**

Wheatsheaf Inn, Church Road, Tattingstone. IP9 2LY

Erection of ground floor and first floor extensions to public house and landlord's accommodation.

Cllr. Hawes took the chair for this item. [see item 2]

Application recommended.

Proposed: Cllr. Clarke

Seconded: Cllr. Tweedy

Carried unanimously

10. Correspondence requiring immediate discussion at the discretion of the Chairman. [Cllr. Gipps in chair]

- The monthly AONB report had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.
- A letter had been received about remembrance of the end of WW1. More discussion will be held next month. A local farmer has said a beacon could be lit on one of his fields. The school and church may be contributing too.

11. Finance: report from R.F.O. Finance: to consider and approve.

- Bank Balances: Balances not received by date of the meeting.
- To approve for payment :
 - Clerk's wages and expenses: £230.62
 - Tattingstone Village Hall [hire]: £208.00
 - Babergh DC [Dog bin and litter emptying]: £198.19
 - Suffolk CC [street lighting]: £138.54
 - D Connell-Smith [licence for software wages]: £39.60

Approved and signed

Proposed: Cllr. Tweedy

Seconded: Cllr. Clark

Carried unanimously.

- The summary of income and expenditure for period ending 28th February 2018 was presented.

12. Report from Playing Field representative.

Cllr. Tweedy was unable to attend the meeting but a report from the Parish council had been sent.

13. To arrange distribution and collection of the Village Survey,

Cllr. Gipps expressed her thanks to those people who had helped put the surveys into the envelopes and to label. The clerk will divide these up based on the role of electors and give out to Councillors to distribute

during the coming week. Cllr. Gipps will supply boxes in the given locations for collection.

14. To finalise items for internal audit at end of financial Year

The Clerk presented two documents for adoption for the financial year ending 31st March 2018.

- Risk assessment and Assets
 - Statement of internal control.
- These were formally adopted by the Council
Proposed: Cllr. Gipps
Seconded: Cllr. Clark
Carried unanimously.

15. To consider The Parish council website

Cllr. Hawes and the clerk had done a great deal of work putting all the necessary information on the village website. However, the site is maintained by others very infrequently and a great deal of the information relating to other organisations is out of date. It is also insecure and other people could alter items or documents on there. This is not advisable for important documents from the Parish Council such as Minutes or financial statements.

It is proposed that a new site, independent of the village site be set up just for the Parish Council. Cllr. Hawes and the Clerk will work on this and present a new platform at the next meeting.

16. To receive report on recent AONB extension meeting

Cllr. Gipps and Cllr. Tweedy attended this meeting. The proposed extension abuts land owned by Shotley Holdings so further extension of their workings in that direction would be difficult in the future. Being in an AONB does not stop development in that area although it would be considered more carefully.

17. To arrange style and date of the annual Parish Meeting

Deferred to April meeting.

18. Any other urgent village matters

- Thanks were expressed to Mr. Russell Abbot for all his hard work clearing roads during the snow. The Clerk will write a letter of thanks to him and to his parents.
- Volunteers are needed to help with the Fete in September.
- The recent use of a drone in the village which caused concern, was being flown by a resident over their own property.

DONM 9th April

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Items for next Agenda

New Parish councillor

Battles Over

Audit arrangements

Tattingstone News

Parish Council Website

Report from D. Cllr. McCraw

Council Tax figures are all complete now.

SCC +4.99%, PCC +6.8%, Babergh +3.4% (£5 the maximum), Tattingstone's precept increase eventually worked out at +0.27% due to increase in the Tax Base.

Congratulations, you're a bargain!

The overall increase works out at +5%. Band D Council Tax in Tattingstone will be £1,634.13 for the year 2018/19.

Babergh would have had a £329,000 deficit but this is being transferred from Reserves to balance the budget.

I attended the public open day for the AONB Boundary Review Consultation at the Lawford Venture Centre. They appear to have had a steady flow of interest and I'll continue to promote this.

Although strictly speaking it's outside my role, I had a last few days push on the recently closed School Transport Consultation. This would have a massive impact within Brantham and a serious one for Heath area in Tattingstone. I believe some extra responses were generated.

Babergh/Mid Suffolks Boundary Commission Review is going to be delayed. Some of the population data seems to have been in error, and I've challenged some of the growth forecasts myself. An additional six week Consultation period is expected to take place. I'll keep you informed.

The Telephone polling that Babergh/Mid Suffolk had already paid for concerning a possible merger is complete. Councillors will be receiving a Report and Presentation later this month. The Q & A session afterwards promises to be 'robust'.

For more immediate information, anybody is welcome to join our Facebook Group. Alton Alastair McCraw & Harriet Steer. Another resource that takes news and information from across the peninsula is Shotley News and Features .com I draw your attention to their new campaign to encourage pubs and premises to stop using plastic straws and try a modern paper alternative (rather stronger than the ones we used to use!). An economic source of these has been found in Norfolk.

Parish Report February 2018

Councillor

David Wood

Triangle



Stutton CEVCP School saved from closure

It is a great relief to hear that Stutton Primary School is no longer at risk of closure. The community has really pulled together to save our village school. It has been a difficult few months for all involved, and I can't praise the efforts of parents, teachers and governors enough. They have worked incredibly hard to come up with a solution.

I am pleased that the school will now be able to join a successful multi-academy trust. The additional support and expertise that ASSET can provide will ensure that Stutton Primary School flourishes in the future.

Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Boundary Review

For many years there has been a local desire to extend the Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (SC&H AONB) southwards into Essex, which has been supported by the AONB Partnership and local authorities. A consultation has been launched and will run until 20 April 2018. I would encourage you all to respond to the consultation.

More information is available at:

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/natural-england/suffolk-coast-and-heaths-aonb/>

Budget for 2018-19 confirmed

On Thursday 8 February, the Council met to debate the budget proposals for 2018-19. As I explained in my previous report, the Liberal Democrat, Green and Independent Group were concerned by a number of the proposed cuts. These included a £12m cut to adult care, funding reductions for Citizens Advice and Trading Standards, and cuts to rural bus services. Therefore, we were unable to support the budget.

An amendment by the Labour group, which focused on reversing minor cuts, was voted down by the Conservative administration. The budget proposals were subsequently passed in full, but were not supported by any opposition councillors.

The budget for 2018-19 includes a 4.99% increase in council tax.

Concerns raised over accountability and transparency of Suffolk Public Sector Leaders Board

The Suffolk Public Sector Leaders Board (SPSLB) is made up of council leaders and chief executives from across Suffolk, as well as the PCC, chief fire officer and representatives from Suffolk's Clinical Commissioning Groups. The SPSLB controls a large pot of money, made up of £7.447m from the Suffolk business rates pool and £3.23m of central government funding received as part of the Transformation Challenge Award.

The Liberal Democrat, Green and Independent Group are very concerned about the accountability and transparency of the SPSLB. Their meetings are held in private with no minutes and neither residents nor councillors are made aware of the group's decisions, financial or otherwise. Given the vast amount of money they control, this secrecy is very concerning.

At the end of January, we met with the Interim Chief Executive at Suffolk County Council to query why there is so little accountability within the SPSLB. I have been informed that, on the basis of our queries, the SPSLB will be reconsidering its governance arrangements. I will keep you informed of any further updates.

Next phase of "Raising the Bar" strategy announced

The Cabinet has approved the Raising the Bar 2018-20 strategy. This is the third phase of the programme, which began in 2012 and is focused on improving educational standards throughout Suffolk. The new strategy will focus on three priorities:

1. Exceptional leadership and governance across the education sector
2. Excellence in teaching and learning, driven by system led improvement and innovation
3. The best opportunities for every child and young person

The strategy also includes the very ambitious goal to place the education system in Suffolk among the top 25% nationally. No other "shire" authority has achieved this, and the report acknowledges that it would likely take several years to reach this goal.

I am concerned that no new funding has been allocated to this phase of the Raising the Bar programme. The goals of the strategy are ambitious and will not be achievable without adequate investment, and so I question whether the Cabinet are fully committed to improving educational outcomes in Suffolk.

Suffolk to set up an outcomes-based contract to support adolescents on the edge of care

Suffolk's Cabinet has agreed to set up a new outcomes-based contract, to provide intensive therapeutic support for adolescents at the edge of care via a private service provider. The idea is to reduce the need for and costs of adolescents coming into the care

of Suffolk County Council, by providing intervention services that seek to keep children safely with their families. Payments will only be made if children are not taken into care, or are returned to their families.

The contract will be funded by a Social Impact Bond: this means that private investors will provide the start-up capital and running costs for the service, and will receive a return on investment if the service is successful at keeping children out of care. A similar contract and service exists in Essex, and a small number of local authorities across the UK are beginning to implement similar contracts

I am concerned about the use of a payment by results contract when vulnerable children are involved, given the risk of putting profit ahead of the wellbeing of these children. Suffolk County Council have assured me that the authority's team of social workers will oversee the service and prevent this from happening, but the administrative costs of doing this properly could be substantial.

The contract is due to be awarded in Summer 2018, with contract mobilisation from Autumn 2018.

New drone technology for managing blue light service incidents

On 15 February, it was announced that emergency services across Suffolk would have access to two Small Unmanned Surveillance Aircrafts. The technology, commonly referred to as drones, has been developed and funded by Suffolk Resilience Forum for use across the county.

As part of a multi-agency Air Support Unit, the drones will be used by Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, Suffolk Constabulary, Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue and Norfolk & Suffolk 4x4 Response. The drones will provide a range of aerial surveillance options to support these emergency services and voluntary organisations.

Update on Ipswich's Upper Orwell Crossings

Suffolk County Council have announced the preferred alignments of Ipswich's Upper Orwell Crossings.

The main crossing is proposed to connect to the existing highway at the Rapier Street roundabout on Wherstead Road, west of the river, and at a new junction, north of Cliff Lane on Holywells Road, east of the river. The bridge crosses the river at an angle and incorporates an opening section over the navigation channel. The second crossing will provide a new vehicular link to the Wet Dock Island site and is proposed to be accessed from Felaw Street. The third crossing is a refurbishment of the existing swing bridge over the lock for use by cyclists and pedestrians.

A public information day will be held on 6 March between 12-7pm in the ground floor foyer of Dance East. This will be a drop-in event and a chance to ask any questions about the project.

