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Tattingstone Parish Council

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4th
November 2019 at 7.30pm in Tattingstone Village Hall.**

**Present: Cllr. Wood, Cllr. Mendel, Cllr. Dearing, Cllr. D Clarke,
Cllr. S Clark,**

Ms A Proctor – Tattingstone Speedwatch

Members of public: 4

1. Apologies for absence.

Cllr Hawes, Cllr Tweedy, Cllr. Gipps, D. Cllr. Gould

2. Declaration of interest.

Cllr. Wood, being a County Councillor, declared an interest in item 16, boundary change.

3. To consider requests for dispensation.

Granted – non pecuniary

4. To approve, as accurate, minutes of meeting held on 7th October 2019

Proposed: Cllr. Mendel

Seconded: Cllr. Dearing

Carried unanimously

5. To receive Clerk's Report.

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- A request had been received from St Mary's Care Home to put a link to them on our web site. This was discussed and although it was felt that this might set a precedent for other establishments, it was agreed by council – 3 to 2
- The Clerk had received a request for volunteers for AONB work – the request was circulated around village to possible interested parties.
- CAS circular for village halls was sent to D Brown as Chair of the Village Hall committee.
- Bridleway reported last meeting is now clear
- The Clerk asked for a couple of people to meet up about Suffolk Mineral and Waste Local Plan. Consultation ends 18th Nov. Cllr Mendel and Cllr Dearing will attend
- AONB report circulated by the Clerk

6. To consider Matters arising from the minutes.

The clerk had written a strong letter to Suffolk CC about the withdrawal of bus services from Tattingstone.

Cllr Gipps had been working with others from surrounding villages and had presented a petition to Suffolk CC. A bus has been reinstated to Ipswich in the early morning and from Ipswich in the afternoon to enable students to attend college in Ipswich. The general public could also use this bus. A Connecting Communities service might be available, to be booked at least a week in advance; this might be available 3 days a week. The service would connect with the 93 bus from Capel St Mary. Bus passes are not accepted on Connecting Communities transport.

Cllr Wood will have further meetings with transport portfolio holder in the near future to discuss this.

7. Open Forum for members of the public.

There were no comments from members of the public

8. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Both reports are attached to these minutes.

9. To discuss progress on village Speedwatch and to consider feedback from working group on possible traffic calming measures on A137.

Ms Proctor addressed the meeting. There are now 9 volunteers in the village Speedwatch group. In the last month, they had registered 67 drivers exceeding the speed limit during their patrols. Costings for a range of traffic calming measures are still being sought but in the main are far too expensive. A SID is the most cost-effective way of deterring drivers from excess speed. Six possible sites for a SID have been identified around the village. £2035 has already been raised to fund this and other funding is available from the County Council locality fund. The Parish Council proposed that they would buy the SID and VAT be reclaimed.

Proposed: Cllr Mendel

Seconded: Cllr. Clark

Carried unanimously

It was suggested that further funds from the Parish Council might be available next financial year. The Chair and RFO would meet before next meeting to discuss budgetary implications. C. Cllr. Wood would meet with Ms Proctor to discuss further.

10. To discuss, recommend, not recommend or update on Planning Applications:

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None received

11. Correspondence requiring immediate discussion at the discretion of the Chairman

- The clerk had received an email from the headteacher at Tattlingstone CEVC Primary School about a grant to help build a shelter. The clerk will contact the headteacher and ask for a formal request be sent to the Chairman.

13. Finance: to consider and approve.

- **Bank Balances:** At 31st October – statements had not been received

- **To approve payment :**

- Clerk's wages and expenses: £290.99

[incl. £39.23 expenses]

- Tattlingstone Playing field committee: £2.285.00 [refund VAT]

Proposed: Cllr. Mendel
Seconded: Cllr. Dearing
Carried unanimously

Expenditure to date 2018/19 presented. Bank reconciliation agreed and signed.

14. To receive Report from Playing Field Representative.

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The clerk read the report from Cllr. Tweedy in her absence. See attached.

15. To consider application[s] for the position of Parish councillor and co-opt if appropriate.

An application from Mr Simon Page had been received. Mr Page addressed the Council and answered a few questions about himself. It was proposed that Mr Simon Page be co-opted onto Tattingstone Parish Council. This was carried unanimously.

The clerk would meet with Mr Page to complete necessary documentation.

16. To receive report from group considering revised Boundary changes for Suffolk County Council

Cllr. Mendel and Cllr Dearing met with the clerk. It was proposed to recommend that Peninsula Ward was extended to also include Wherstead. Boundary of ward to be extended along A137 to Bourne Bridge roundabout and along B1456 along Orwell estuary.

Wherstead is rural village and is the entrance to the peninsula on the northern boundary. Wherstead is also in the catchment of Tattingstone CEVC School. It has more characteristics with the rest of Shotley peninsula than with the suburban sprawl of Belstead Brook.

Proposed: Cllr. Mendel

Seconded Cllr. Dearing.

Carried – 1 abstention

Clerk will submit this proposal.

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17. To consider budget requirements for financial year 2020-21

The budget for next financial year will be presented for approval at the December meeting. Cllr. Wood and Clerk/RFO would meet to discuss requirements and draw up budget allowing funds to be used for traffic calming [SID].

18. To consider appropriate memorial to Robert [Bob] Scarpe for his work around the village.

It was agreed that this is not a matter for the Parish Council but it is more appropriate for it to be arranged by villagers by public subscription. However, the Parish Council's permission would be needed for a memorial, perhaps a tree, to be put on public land.

19. To discuss emptying of litter bin by bus shelter opposite church and consider need for a dog bin in this location.

The clerk presented costing for emptying of litter bin and also costing for purchase of dog bin and its emptying. The council agreed for the emptying of litter bin to be included in the Parish Council's contract.

The Council agreed that there was a need for a dog bin in the area but felt that so close to the bus shelter was not appropriate. The clerk would contact the Village Hall committee to suggest that a bin be placed at the Village Hall.

20. to discuss arrangements for VE Day 2020

8th May 2020 is a public holiday. Cllr. Wood has booked the village hall and a band/singers for the event. As 2020 is also 100-year anniversary for the opening of the village hall. Cllr Wood will liaise with Mr D Brown and suggested a working group be formed, tasked with arranging the events that day.

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21. Any other urgent village matters

The Fete committee was congratulated on their successful Fete. The accounts and list of contribution made to various organisations had been published in Tattingstone News and on the website. The Clerk will write a letter of thanks to the Fete committee for all their hard work.

Next year they will not be organising the village fete. But a similar day is being organised by another group in the village.

The fete committee is considering putting on several other events during the year.

22. Date of next meeting

2nd December 2019

23. Items for next agenda.

Update on A137

VE day

Budget

Update on phone box

Boundary changes

The meeting ended at 21.00.

Signed minutes of previous Parish Council Meetings are available for inspection by contacting the clerk

01473 327865 or email: tatt.pc@gmail.com

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Parish Report - November 2019

Councillor
David Wood

A portrait photograph of Councillor David Wood, a middle-aged man with grey hair, wearing a dark suit jacket, a light blue shirt, and a yellow patterned tie. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera.

Cabinet reshuffle at Suffolk County Council

On 15 October, there was a major reshuffle of the Suffolk County Council Cabinet. The key changes are:

- Cllr Gordon Jones is the new Cabinet Member for Finance

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- Cllr Mary Evans remains as deputy leader and is the new Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills
- Cllr Andrew Reid is the new Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Rural Affairs
- Responsibility for the council's policy on Sizewell C moves to Cllr Richard Rout (Cabinet Member for Environment and Public Protection)
- Responsibility for the council's property portfolio and assets moves to Cllr Nick Gowrley (Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Housing and Enterprise)

35% cut to Health Visitors

Earlier this year, there were reports that Suffolk County Council planned to cut 25% of Health Visitors. We have now learned that the council has in fact reduced Health Visitors by 35%, without informing either the public or councillors. The staffing cuts were made as part of an internal restructure of the 0-19 Healthy Child Service in order to save £1m.

In England, it is mandatory for families to receive five visits to check on the health of children/parents during pregnancy early childhood, and the guidance states that these checks should be undertaken by health visitors. However, as a result of these staffing reductions, in Suffolk only three of these visits will be undertaken by specially trained health visitors, with staff nurses expected to take on the other two checks.

My group proposed a motion at Council on the 17 October, asking the administration to reconsider these cuts, which unfortunately was voted down.

Boundary review - extension of consultation

The Boundary Commission has extended the deadline for their consultation on new division boundaries for Suffolk County Council until 2 January 2020.

As part of this review, the Boundary Commission are proposing to reduce councillor numbers in Suffolk from 75 to 70.

You can find out more information and respond to the consultation here: <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/18495>

Review of school transport policy confirmed

Cllr Mary Evans, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills, has apologised to families affected by the new school transport policy and has confirmed that there will be a review of the policy. However, it is likely that this review will only focus on the implementation of the new policy, rather than the inherent problems with the policy itself.

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Since the introduction of the new policy, there has been a large increase in the number of transport appeals: 141 appeals were submitted from 1 July - 18 October, compared to an average of just 21 for the same time period in previous years. Furthermore, over 70% of these appeals have been decided in favour of parents who had initially been refused transport by the council.

£7.5m investment in Great Blakenham Mixed Recycling Facility

The Cabinet has agreed to a capital investment of £7.5m in the Great Blakenham Mixed Recycling Facility, which will be funded through the Public Works Loans Board. The expected annual borrowing cost is £900,000.

Suffolk County Council is currently charged £79.61 per tonne of mixed recycling waste it brings to Great Blakenham, but the new investment would reduce that to £58.20 per tonne. This reduction in “gate fees” is expected to generate net savings of £6.6m over the life of the nine-year contract, which will be shared between Suffolk County Council and the other district/borough councils within the Suffolk Waste Partnership.

Report for Tattingstone Parish Council from Jane Gould, Babergh District Councillor

Meeting date: 4 November 2019

Babergh Name Change

The extraordinary council meeting planned for the 22nd October was cancelled at the request of Cabinet leader John Ward. Councillor Ward, who has been the main driver behind the name change, decided to withdraw the motion for now. It was felt that it was unlikely to get the 2/3 majority that would be required.

By withdrawing the motion the idea can be kicked into the long grass and resurrected at a later date. Councillor Ward is still keen on the idea and feels that the name change would be beneficial for the district, bringing it into line with the other districts in Suffolk. Cllr Ward said: “We have received valuable feedback both for and against the proposals over recent weeks that will help in our future discussions and we are extremely grateful for the free publicity we have received in the meantime, both nationally and internationally, that has helped people understand exactly where Babergh is located, and how to pronounce it!”

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Paperless council

The environmental task force that was set up after the July Climate Emergency motion has now sat for the first time. The first decision that has been made was to ensure we are digital first. Senior staff and councillors are being challenged to go paperless for council and committee papers. Distributing hard copies of these papers' costs more than £50,000 a year.

Having a digital first approach is an expectation that will also be an ask for all staff in their day to day roles and the council will continue to encourage residents to self-serve via the 24/7 resources available online. Our public council and committee meetings provide a great platform to set an example about how we work in a digital way.

The task force is a joint committee between Babergh and Mid Suffolk and is due to sit monthly until March.

Parking Motion

During last Tuesdays council meeting a motion was put on notice to review the parking in the Hadleigh/Sudbury district. Concerns were raised by Robert Lindsay and the Green Party that extra capacity should not be the default setting and it is the level of capacity that should be considered. Before increasing the parking and ultimately the cars on the road we should be looking at what options are available to provide residents with a serious alternative to driving. This will include public transport and cycling, particularly for residents of the towns, who may not need to drive every time.

Robert, with the backing of all the other parties, including the Conservatives, amended the motion slightly to bring these alternatives to the forefront. This motion will now go before Cabinet for consideration.

Free Swimming – Hadleigh, Sudbury & Stowmarket

Both councils extended their free swims offer during the October half term and plan to do this again during the Christmas holidays. This follows a successful summer take up, which saw thousands of under 17s take part, equating to more than 14,000 swims across the two districts.

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Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils are extending their free swims offer for under 17s to help promote healthier and active lifestyles in the districts.

Free swimming will now be available during the Christmas holidays from 20 December to 5 January 2020 inclusive at the following centres:

- Kingfisher Leisure Centre, Sudbury
- Hadleigh Pool and Leisure
- Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre, Stowmarket
- Stradbroke Swimming Pool and Fitness Centre

New users in Babergh will need to sign up for an Abbeycroft Leisure Free Swimming Membership in order to claim their free swim.

PLAYING FIELD REPORT

October 2019

There were no members of the public present

David Edevane from the Football club was present. He said how well the football club was doing and was very pleased indeed with their progress this season so far.

David explained how he had cleared the rubbish from the old bin and removed the bin since it was overflowing and people were not carrying away the rubbish. I said that I felt it was not his responsibility and that the rest of the clubs should share in this chore.

I brought up the matter of the changing rooms and the toilets in the pavilion which I had been to look at and was most displeased with their appearance. I feel that the showers and the toilets are the responsibility of all the clubs using them particularly the Cricket Club and the Football c Club. David had cleaned the showers and the toilets as best he could but I feel this should not be his responsibility alone but be shared by the

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Cricket Club who used the showers and the toilet all through the summer.

It is felt that if the clubs are not able to share this work then we must employ someone to clean them on a weekly basis. The cost to be shared by the clubs using them. The renovation of the showers and toilets cost a considerable sum and they cannot be allowed to fall into disrepair.

There was no representative present from the Cricket Club.

The Chairman was going to inspect the showers and toilets and we would discuss further at the next meeting.

Sheila Tweedy

3rd Nov 2019