

## Tattingstone Parish Council

### Minutes of meeting: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 via Zoom

Present: Cllrs. Wood [Chair], Mendel, Clarke, Clark, Hawes, Page, Wills, Tweedy

D Cllr. Gould, Ms A Proctor [ Speedwatch]

3 members of the public

| Item |   | Detail  | Action |
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| 1    | Apologies for absence                                       | none  |        |
| 2    | Declaration of interest                                     | Cllr Clarke expressed a pecuniary interest in item 12. Planning DC/21/00730<br>Cllr Hawes expressed a non-pecuniary interest in item 12   |        |
| 3    | Requests for dispensation                                   | Cllr Hawes request was approved.  |        |
| 4    | To approve minutes of meeting 1 <sup>st</sup> February 2021 | Minutes of Zoom meeting emailed out to councillors. Approved by email.<br>Proposed: Cllr. Mendel<br>Seconded: Cllr. Page<br>Carried unanimously   |        |
| 5    | To receive Clerk's report                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Forwarded AONB news to councillors</li><li>• Details of COVID-19 Funding Application Workshops Available sent to Mr Chadburn</li><li>• CAS newsletter forwarded to Councillors and other interested parties</li><li>• Forwarded details of Walks in Suffolk to Cllr. Hawes for inclusion in The Tattler</li><li>• Forwarded Online Arthritis Support from Arthritis Action details to Mr Chadburn And Mrs Connolly to be included in new Good Neighbours leaflet.</li><li>• Replied to any prospective candidates for SCC that an opportunity to speak to Council will be given at our April meeting as per advice from BMSDC Law and Governance dept.]</li><li>• Forwarded notice from SALC regarding virtual meetings</li></ul> "SLCC has approached the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) directly to voice your concerns regarding the legislation giving the |        |

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|   |  | <p>power to conduct remote meetings ending in May. We are also working closely with colleagues at the Association of Democratic Services Officers (ADSO) and Lawyers in Local Government (LLG) who, having sought legal counsel, are preparing to seek a Declaration from the courts to provide a 'straightforward solution' and give councils the option of holding remote meetings beyond 7th May. We will keep you updated on any new information as soon as it is available and will issue guidance to members accordingly."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received email from Gemma Mark about vacancy for Parish councillor. Clerk has asked for a CV and formal letter of application for discussion at April meeting.</li> <li>• Sent details of Zoom to members of public who requested it.</li> <li>• Have received notice of refilling of grit bins. Councillors agreed to check on the bins in their immediate locality and report back to the clerk</li> <li>• Forwarded request about using playing field to chair of Playing field committee</li> </ul> |  |
| 6 | To consider matters arising from minutes     | None that are not agenda items  |  |
| 7 | Public Forum                                 | The three members of the public had no comments.  |  |
| 8 | Reports from County and District Councillors | <p>Reports circulated via email Attached to these minutes.</p> <p>D Cllr. Gould had allocated all her locality money in the constituency.</p> <p>CC Cllr Wood confirmed that the budget had all been passed and that many aspects of county council work was being scaled down because of the forthcoming Local Election.</p>   |  |

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| 9  | To receive update on Tattingstone Speedwatch             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Proctor reported that from 29<sup>th</sup> March, lockdown restrictions being lifted, Speed monitoring can take place. Villagers have reported that speeding has increased during corona virus lockdown, especially on The Heath.</li> <li>• Ms Proctor had contacted SWARCO regarding the warranty on the SID and had had it extended for 12 months as it has not been used yet.</li> <li>• The erection of the village and gates may have to be delayed until after County council election in May as they may be used for electioneering purposes.</li> <li>• The Poles have now been ordered.</li> </ul> | AP<br>JCS     |
| 10 | To receive update on The Tattler.<br>Cllr Hawes reported | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Tattler had been contacted by the churchwarden about putting a village survey, regarding the importance of the church to villagers, in with the next issue. The church will fund the printing of this questionnaire.</li> <li>• Cllr. Hawes had received several articles and the next edition is well under way. She requested more village focused articles.</li> <li>• Cllr Hawes will continue to contact local firms with a view to advertising.</li> <li>• Monies are available to fund publication for 2021.</li> </ul>  | DH<br><br>JCS |
| 11 | To consider any planning applications received           | <p>DC/21/00626, Lodge Cottage, Church Road, Tattingstone IP9 2NA<br/> <a href="#">DC/21/00626   Householder Planning Application- Erection of garage (following removal of existing timber shed).   Gate Lodge Church Road Tattingstone Ipswich Suffolk IP9 2NA (babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk)</a></p> <p>The erection of the garage was discussed fully. A concern was raised about the height of the garage.<br/> This planning was <b>recommended</b> for approval.<br/> Proposed and seconded and passed with 1 abstention.</p>   |               |
| 12 |  | Cllr. Clarke, having a pecuniary interest in this item was removed to the Zoom waiting room for the duration of this discussion.   |               |

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|  |  | <p>DC/21/00730, Orion, Church Road, Tattingsstone, IP9 2LY<br/> <a href="#">DC/21/00730   Householder - Erection of one and a half storey side extension with 2no dormer windows and juliet balcony to front elevation and single storey rear extension.   Orion Church Road Tattingsstone Ipswich Suffolk IP9 2LY (baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk)</a><br/> Prior to discussion on this application an email that had been received from a Tattingsstone resident appertaining to this matter was read to the councillors.</p> <p>The application was then fully discussed by those present.</p> <p>They concluded that they thought the proposed extension would be an overdevelopment of the site, as the proposed extension comes extremely close to the boundaries of the property. They also noted that there would be restricted entrance to the rear of the property and that access to the proposed garage would be impossible or extremely complicated as they thought the turning space was completely inadequate, They noted that access to the property is already compromised because of the owners existing vehicles and concern was raised that this could make exiting from the Limes more dangerous than it is at present.</p> <p>The applicant had stated in his application that there would be no loss of trees but it had been brought to the councils attention that an approach had been made to a neighbour with regards the felling of a tree thereby allowing more light through the proposed dormer window.</p> <p>It was then proposed and seconded that the council recommends Refusal of this application. All councillors were in favour with the exception of one abstention.</p> |  |
|  |  | <p>Cllr Clarke re-joined the meeting</p>   |  |

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| 13 | Correspondence requiring immediate discussion | A letter of thanks has been received from the headteacher at Tattingstone CEVC Primary School for the grant of £300 from the Parish Council towards the erection of the outdoor learning gazebo.   |     |
| 14 | Finance to consider and approve               | <p>Bank balances:<br/>Not received by date of the meeting.<br/>Bank reconciliation screen shared and approved.</p> <p>The following payments were approved:<br/>Proposed: Cllr. Wood<br/>Seconded: Cllr Tweedy<br/>Carried unanimously</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clerk's wages and expenses: £304.93</li> <li>• Tattingstone CEVC Primary school: £300</li> <li>• David Wood [ reimburse for purchase of litter equipment: £47.94</li> <li>• Babergh DC [additional dog bin]: £7.80</li> <li>• Colchester Press Ltd [The Tattler]: £235</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RFO has received details from SALC about Audit procedure for financial year 2020/2021. Again it will be done virtually. They are having webinar about it on 11<sup>th</sup> March. This costs £25 +VAT. The clerk asked if she could book a place. Cllr. Page also requested to attend the online course. Permission granted.</li> <li>• Hopefully the Council will be exempt this year. The clerk will present necessary paperwork formally at our next meeting.</li> <li>• Cllr. Mendel now has access to online banking. Cllr. Wood will contact the bank about online banking also. It was agreed that both Cllr. Tweedy and the clerk would become signatories on the account.</li> <li>• Sufficient safeguards are in place for the Clerk/RFO to be a signatory.</li> </ul> | JCS |

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| 15  | To consider possibility of village shop.  | An article was put in the last edition of The Tattler and so far a couple of villagers have come forward to look into the possibility. The greatest difficulty is where a shop could be located. Cllr. Hawes will pursue and it will be an agenda item in May 2021   | DH |
| 16  | To consider the problem of litter in the village.   | Equipment to collect litter safely has been purchased. Cllr Wood has been litter picking in the White Horse area of the village. An article will appear in the next edition of The Tattler asking for volunteers.  | DW |
| 17  | To consider problems that may be caused by Anglia Water Carparks becoming pay and display from 01.04.21 | Correspondence has been received from a member of the public and this was read out. The Clerk had contacted Mr Taylor, Anglia Water, to invite him to this meeting, to explain Anglia Water's actions. Mr Taylor had replied but he had commented on another carpark at Stutton and not those in Tattingstone. The Council discussed this and decided little else could be done at present except to monitor the situation once charges are in force and to see how this impinges on surrounding roads in the village. | DW |
| 18. | To consider the formation of a group to begin to formulate a Neighbourhood plan.                        | This is proving difficult at present as more volunteers are needed to form a steering group. The need to engage more villagers is vital and this is difficult until a presentation can be given in the village hall.<br>To be an agenda item in May 21   |    |
| 19  |   | This item has been moved to Part 2.  |    |
| 20  | To consider possible plans for Parish council AGM and Annual Parish council meeting.                    | At the present time the council do not know when the village hall will be able to open for meetings of more than a few people. The following advice has been received from SLCC<br><i>SLCC has approached the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) directly to voice your concerns regarding the legislation giving the power to conduct remote meetings ending in May. We are also working</i>   |    |

Commented [JC1]:

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|    |  | <i>closely with colleagues at the Association of Democratic Services Officers (ADSO) and Lawyers in Local Government (LLG) who, having sought legal counsel, are preparing to seek a Declaration from the courts to provide a 'straightforward solution' and give councils the option of holding remote meetings beyond 7th May.</i><br>This will be an agenda item April 21. |               |
| 21 | To comment on any other urgent Village Matters | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a broken tile on the bus shelter roof opposite the Wheatsheaf. Cllr. Wood will investigate.</li> <li>• A villager has offered to empty the bins at the bus shelter opposite the Wheatsheaf.</li> <li>• The clerk will inform Babergh DC.</li> </ul>   | DW<br><br>JCS |
| 22 | Items for next agenda                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update regarding SID and speed restriction measures</li> <li>• Presentation of candidates for Suffolk CC elections</li> <li>• Playing field report</li> </ul>  |               |
| 23 | Date of next meeting                           | 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2021 via Zoom<br>This date was agreed even though it is a bank holiday.   |               |

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Minutes of Part 2 Confidential item sent separately.

**Parish Report – March 2021**

**Councillor**  
*David Wood*

Triangle  
Ipswich Road



#### **Suffolk County Council Budget**

The Suffolk County Council Budget was voted through Full Council on February 11<sup>th</sup>. This year's budget is based on a 12-month financial settlement from government, rather than the 3 or 4 year agreement which is usually offered. Key points include:

- A council tax rise of 3.99% (1.99% basic council tax and 2% Social Care Precept), representing an increase of £53.55 for a Band D property, from £1,343.61 in 2020-21 to £1,397.16 in 2021-22.
- A council tax shortfall of £7.9m less than expected, to be met by using reserves.
- Planned spending is £597.9m, 7.4% more than 2021-21.
- £15.3m of spending to address ongoing COVID-19 costs.
- No proposed reductions in council services or personnel.

### **LDGI Group Budget Amendment and Group Leader's Speech**

The LDGI Group submitted a Budget Amendment to Full Council on February 11<sup>th</sup> alongside the administration's Budget. The amendment would have authorised the use of the full 3% social care precept to avoid impacting SCC's reserves and generate an extra £3.452m for social care at a cost of only £13.41 per year to a Band D household. The extra income would have provided funding for a wider service offer for Suffolk residents, including a new officer for the flooding team to unlock more government funding, and the re-enablement of concessionary bus passes on community transport. The amendment was unfortunately not passed.

Cllr Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw, Leader of the Liberal Democrat, Green and Independent Group and proposer of the motion, gave the following speech:

"After 13 years of cuts to local government, which has starved this council of government grant funding, this council is no fit state for the financial and environmental challenge it faces. Raising council tax is the least progressive form of taxation, but we are left with no choice. This Government cut taxes for the rich and then cut funding to local councils to pay for it. As leader of the largest opposition group I can firmly say we, the Greens, Lib Dems, and Independents, had no part of this plan to tax the poor harder and give tax breaks to the rich. Everyone in this chamber today is being forced into a position by the government where we have no option but to vote for raising council tax."

"Our amendment would have taken the full amount of precept allowed for social care, meaning that money is not being taken from general council funding. If we don't take the extra 1% then we lose almost three and a half million for social care this year and every year into the future. That money will have to be made up by reducing services elsewhere."

### **Suffolk & Norfolk County Council submit joint bid for £6m flood funding**

Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils have submitted a joint bid to the £200 fund for Flood and Coastal Resilience, requesting £6m to invest in flood protection schemes across both counties. The proposed projects would also capture water for reuse. If the bid is successful town and parish councils will be encouraged to get involved through measures like permeable paving, water butts and 'rain gardens' that can cope with occasional flooding. These projects would be in place by 2027 if the bid is approved.

### **Consultation on proposed A12 improvements from A14 Seven Hills to A1152 Woods Lane**

Suffolk County Council is currently consulting on proposed improvements to the A12 between A14 junction at 'Seven Hills' and A1152 at Woods Lane, with the aim of increasing highway capacity in the area and preventing future congestion. Government predictions suggest that traffic will increase by 25% in this area by 2040.

The improvements will include traffic lights on every roundabout but Seckford, and have an estimated cost of £60m. The lights would monitor congestion and use 'intelligent flow' to adapt to changing levels of traffic.

Cllr Caroline Page, speaking on behalf of the LDGI Group, gave the following quote:

"I am anxious about the number of roundabouts with traffic lights. This is the trunk road all the way to Lowestoft, are they going to make life more simple or easier for anyone doing this journey? It's going to cause people to stop

and start. There are lots of areas on the A12 that are narrow and in need of improvement, so I would really question why it is so highly invested in the stretch here. These proposals are also at odds with the climate emergency declared by the Council. We are supposed to be reducing road traffic, but we seem to be enabling it here".

The consultation is open from 9 February to 19 March 2021, and can be commented upon at the link below:  
<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/consultations-petitions-and-elections/consultations/a12-improvements/>

### **LDGI Group opposes Government's last-minute approach to local authority grants**

Suffolk County Council will receive £27m for highways repairs, maintenance and drainage in 2021-22, a reduction in from £31m the previous year. This has necessitated the use of £2m of reserves to top up the grant. In the view of my Group, these cuts in Government funding make it impossible to plan long-term for road maintenance and repair. Due to the uncertainty as to whether this grant would materialise at all, some vital work has already been postponed.

Cllr Stringer, speaking on behalf of the LDGI Group, gave the following quote:

"It's a bit like someone telling you that they're going to punch you twice in the face and then expecting you to be grateful if they only punch you once."

### **LDGI Group submits response to Post-16 Travel Policy consultation**

The LDGI Group has submitted a joint response to Suffolk County Council's consultation on the Post-16 Transport Policy, which manages transport to schools and education for young people after the age of 16. The LDGI Group's views included:

- Support for the expansion of the post-16 travel eligibility criteria for sixth form students and adult learners aged 25 and under with EHC plans, reflecting the change in age range for compulsory school attendance.
- Support for keeping prices lower for SEND students.
- Use of buses and trains for school transport must be supported. The needs of students and the numbers currently forced to use taxis or private cars to reach their schools must be taken into account when considering public transport. Students should be steered towards buses first, and the school transport service should support our local bus network in maintaining services to rural areas.
- The Travel Training Scheme must be better funded, so that it can expand and promote its services.

**News and information from Jane Gould, Babergh District Councillor to the Parish Councils and residents in Orwell Ward March 2021** Locality grant I'm pleased to be able to report that all my locality grant for last year has now been allocated; any community projects wishing to apply for some of this years' funding should speak to me in the first instance and I will move it forwards if the project meets the criteria. Babergh District Council's budget for 2021/22 agreed The budget agreed at February's Full Council increases Babergh's share of council tax by 2.96%, the equivalent of less than 10p a week or £5 a year, for an average band D property. The increase is part of a package of measures that will allow the council to meet the medium-term financial challenges presented by the pandemic; help meet its ambition to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030; and maintain services for residents and communities. Councillor Leigh Jamieson, one of my Green Party colleagues, put forward an amendment to the Housing Revenue Account to ensure progress is made in the retrofitting of Babergh's housing stock, the amendment was however not accepted by council. Cllr Jamieson also put forward amendments to the General Fund in four areas to help our communities overcome the effects of the current pandemic and recover effectively and to help the council meet their commitment to net zero climate emissions by 2030, this amendment was not accepted either. It is interesting to note that conservative councillor, Peter Beer, Chair of the Planning Committee at Babergh voted against the budget. Babergh District Council leader and cabinet member for finance, Cllr John Ward said: "We have supported businesses and the most vulnerable in our communities throughout the pandemic and will continue to do so supporting the local economy and helping our district through this crisis and beyond. However, this is not without

cost. We have also made climate change commitments that we must be able to afford to meet not just for Babergh's residents now, but for generations to come and there are still ongoing challenges as all councils become independent of Government financial support." In addition to the council tax increase, the draft budget will also include a proposed increase of £2.50 a year to the annual brown bin garden waste subscriptions, taking the cost from £52.50 to £55 – the equivalent of an extra 10p per collection. As part of the council's wider Carbon Reduction Management Plan, it already intends to move its vehicle fleet, including 35 waste lorries, to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO). This would cut approximately a quarter of councils' total CO2 emissions, but also comes at an initial cost of around £50k, with a further £56 - £97k per year to cover fuel costs. Motion of no confidence Labour councillors for Sudbury, Trevor Cresswell and Alison Owen put forward a motion to the February council meeting calling for the immediate resignation of Conservative leader John Ward. In the submission, Mr Cresswell highlighted four issues which had prompted the motion, the abandoned plans to change the council's name to South Suffolk District Council, plans to pursue a hotel on the former swimming pool site at Belle Vue Park in Sudbury, the move of the customer access point in Sudbury and the recent controversial decision to reduce free parking across the district that will come into force later in 2021. The motion saw 10 votes in favour of his resignation, 20 against and two councillors abstaining. The Green group voted with the labour motion because we feel strongly that Cllr Ward's choice of cabinet members shows poor leadership. In the last District Council elections in 2019 the Green Party got 23% of the votes cast and Cllr Ward has repeatedly refused to give a cabinet seat to the Green Party, democracy is at stake here. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any issues that you think I can help with and all the very best to you all. Jane Gould Babergh District Councillor Orwell ward [Jane.gould@babergh.gov.uk](mailto:Jane.gould@babergh.gov.uk) 07548 153777 01473 78077