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NEWBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the Annual Parish Council Meeting

Annual Parish Meeting 14/05/2018 7pm

1. Minutes from previous year 07/05/2017- Minutes from previous year all agreed by Lionel Scott and Mick Frost
2. Chairman’s annual report
3. **CHAIR’S REPORT 2017 - 2018**

The period covered by my annual report has seen another year of stability with parish councillors, combined with the appointment of two new councillors who have completed over a full year of council membership; David Milbourne and Charlotte Gammons and our Clerk Laura Naunton who has completed another full year.

Laura has this year been active in securing our village deliberator and delivering essential repairs to the village play area and continuing to support the parish council with all the necessary updates and administration to keep us running smoothly. Laura has also put together some details of village resources and names of villagers that can support us and our elderly in case of a village disaster – which is a fantastic idea. With the challenging weather conditions earlier in the year, the support from villagers and communication around the access of roads was extremely heart-warming and I thank all those involved for their help and kindness.

The play area does require regular safety check for which we can thank Councillor James Wicks who does a great job keeping us abreast of issues and helping us to maintain a safe environment for those who come and enjoy the facilities.

Our County Councillor Patricia O’Brien and our District Councillor Susan Harvey and both attended our monthly meetings on a regular basis, providing useful and relevant updates and ongoing awareness into matters that affect our village, the wider county including their views on these issues. They have also channelled funds from their available community funds to assist with various improvements, for which we are very grateful.

Our relationship with the village hall and its committee continues to be an excellent one, managed by a small but undoubtedly hard working team. A huge thank you to them for maintaining our lovely village hall and for the pleasure it provides all its users.

The police still have safe neighbourhood teams but we do not regularly receive these updates which are a shame, however, these updates are now available on line on the official Suffolk Constabulary website. It does appear that rural crime and fly tipping has been less of a problem this year but sporadically effect the village and we would continue to urge residents to be vigilant, note down and report any suspicious or strange activity or vehicles in the Newbourne area.

As with last year, regarding our financial position, a fair proportion of our £5k income is used to cover unavoidable expenditure such as insurance fees, clerk’s wages, grass cutting and other maintenance fees. The parish council is always trying to source best value for money with its limited finance availability.

I would personally like to thank the small group of people associated with the parish council and village hall management committee who have ensured the two bodies function in an efficient manner. You all do a great job, giving up your own time and it is a pleasure to serve our local village and community with you.

I hope my first year as Chairman has been positive for the rest of the Parish Council and Village Hall management team and I am looking forward to another year with you all.

Many thanks again to all of you for your contribution.

**Charlotte Gammons**

**Chair**

1. Patricia O’Brien’s annual report

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2017/2018

We are all aware that we are in a time of change, not just locally but nationally, globally and I have continued to report, over the past year, the changes that are taking place within the county council services.

Local authorities, across the country, continue to face significant challenges to meet front line service requirements. Suffolk is no exception. One of the most significant ways SCC has adopted, to gain savings, is to work in partnership with other authorities and organisations. Having sufficient resources to deliver frontline services in a climate where there is less money, remains a challenge, thus change is inevitable.

Savings from ‘blue light’ ie police and ambulance services, through collaboration, is working most effectively.

Making the best use of property by sharing buildings with public sector partners.

Use of digital technology.

Efficiencies within Trading Standards and Health and Safety are being pursued.

Drone technology is being used as part of a multi-agency Air Support Unit by Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service, Suffolk Constabulary, Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Lowland Search and Rescue. Drones provide aerial surveillance options to support emergency services and voluntary organisations across a range of incidents.

County elections took place in May 2017 and the Conservatives gained a considerable majority; 52 Conservative councillors out of a total of 75. I was re-elected for Martlesham Division gaining 2,542 votes with a majority of 2,084. Training of new councillors took place together with placement on committees and outside bodies.

SCC agreed to a council tax rise of 4.99% - 2.99% for County Services and 2% increase in Adult Social Care precept. Savings in the region of £23.9m have been identified. The council’s transformation programmes, that will change the basis of service provision, will be key to delivering these savings. Working with partners is fundamental to the effective and efficient delivery of services. Leadership and organisation are key.

SCCs efforts, to raise standards in education, are producing results. The ‘Raising the Bar’ programme has led to more students achieving the expected standard in English and Maths. 87% of Suffolk schools have been judged ‘Good’ or ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted, an increase of 12% from 2015. Suffolk has risen 26 places in national league tables (83rd out of 151). – We still have a way to go.

Suffolk CC Highways have been re-structured, as of September 2017, and a new Highways Senior Leadership Team have set in train the transformation programme. Staffing levels have been reduced and new ways of working introduced. The good news is that government has given a funding boost to Suffolk Highways of £2.5m for pot hole repairs. This comes as a welcome relief in the wake of the recent bad weather and Highways are bringing in additional gangs to tackle, first the major roads and then the minor.

The consultation into home to school transport has ended and analysis is taking place. £21ml is spent per year on school transport and during the past two years SCC has managed to save £2.6ml from its school and post 16 travel. However, despite this, the budget is overspent by £3ml. A report will be coming to Cabinet in June.

The recent meeting of the Police & Crime Panel, which I chair, had considerable publicity. The main issue was the visibility of the police. It is acknowledged that the public would like to see more police, especially in rural areas, but the days of ‘bobbies on the beat’ are no longer possible due to limited finance and an increase in ‘hidden crime’ such as cybercrime and domestic violence. The Panel recommended that there is greater effort to communicate more widely through social media and other channels.

After many years of objection to 2,000 houses at Adastral Park SCDC gave the go ahead at a meeting where I was permitted 1min 30secs to ‘sum up’ my final view! I was totally disgusted with SCDC’s lack of consideration for the views of myself and the people I represent.

Finally, SCC has engaged Republica, an analytical firm that will look at the best way for Suffolk to deliver public services; either through a unitary authority ( eg Buckinghamshire) or a 2 tier unitary (Dorset).

PATRICIA O’BRIEN

1. Susan Harvey’s annual report

Kirton Ward Annual Parish Report 2018

This has been another very busy year but I think a good one and thank you to everyone who gets in touch with me to keep me up to date on what is concerning you in your villages. I try to attend all the Parish Council meetings in my Ward but unfortunately due to clashes and other meetings I have to miss a few. I do however make sure you get a monthly report and I am always available should you have a problem.

The Council has now settled down well in it’s new building at Riduna Park at Melton.

I have picked out just a few interesting things which have happened in the last 12 months.

June: Official opening of the new Council Offices at Riduna Park Melton. This move was to save rate payers money. It is a modern building, easy to heat etc.

July: The Review of the Core Strategy which will go up to 2035 was underway and comments were invited.

The merging of the Council with Waveney District Council is still moving forward for 2019. The number of District Cllrs will reduce from 90 to 55 representing about 3800 people per Cllr.

I was made Interim Vice Chairman of the Planning Committee due to ongoing illness of the present Vice Chairman.

September: The Beach Hut review took place which caused quite a stir. I objected to this as it had not been fairly done. Fortunately the Beach Hut association became involved and were indeed listened to. The Deben Leisure Centre in Woodbridge was closed for refurbishment. It should reopen soon.

October: An excellent apprenticeship scheme was introduced which resulted in 43 young people being trained since 2012 with 70% of them remaining with the Council to develop their careers. The A12 4 villages bypass consultation went out which I supported.

Speedwatch was very active in our villages. I bought these cameras for use in Kirton Ward. The Melton Hill old Council offices planning application came forward and was approved. There was a lot of opposition but in the end this will be a spectacular development whether people like it or not.

November: 60 town and Parish Councils responded to the Issues and Options Document which was excellent. The Bell Lane application appeal for 300 houses failed and the Council had a 6 year housing land supply.

December: I was invited to a Highways Open Day. Having been critical about highway issues I thought I should attend. Their new way of working sounded very good but I have to say we have been experiencing difficulties with getting pot holes dealt with locally as we are all aware. Just keep reporting them on the Highways web site. If they don’t know that problems exist they will not be dealt with. To be fair I don’t think Suffolk is any worse than any other county, I have been driving a lot recently and they all seem to be as bad. The M25 is appalling in places.

January: Sajid Javid was ‘minded’ to support plans for merging the two District Councils. This is a major cost saving operation. Our Council is working towards being financially independent as more and more government funds are being reduced. Suffolk Coastal announced that they would be charging £43 for green waste collection. This caused a lot of consternation, however, the Council had carried this cost for the previous 3 years and it was decided to bring us in line with other Suffolk District Councils. The Adastral Park planning application was unanimously approved by the planning committee on 15th January. I have to thank all those Parish Councillors who met with officers and had their input into this initially very contentious application. They made many representations which will have a valuable impact locally when this development gets underway.

February: Council tax was raised by 3.15% for 2018/19, this equates to less than 10pence a week for a band D house. The entire Suffolk Coastal district jointly with Waveney will be Re-Warded with agreement of the Boundary Commission. The new Wards will be in place ready for the local elections next May 2019.

March: Suffolk Coastal Planning Committee arranged to attend a Waveney District Council Planning Committee and Waveney Cllrs attended one of ours. I felt this was a very important thing to do as when the 2 Councils merge officially next year dealing with planning applications is a major part of the Council work. Many Cllrs including myself want our planning applications to be dealt with locally. We are elected to serve our people and I don’t think any of us want local planning decisions to be made remotely. I shall be supporting a move for at least 2 planning committees in order to represent our local people. We now officially have a building land supply of over 7 years so the Council is in a position to defend applications by speculative developers. We are now building over 465 houses a year. I attended a course at Warwick University for Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of Planning Committees. Many counties were represented and we learned a lot from them Statistics were listed and I have to say that Suffolk Coastal came out in a very good position. We get the majority of applications dealt with within the correct timescale and we win a very good proportion of our appeals.

My Community Enabling Budget of £6,500 delivered 2 Static Speed Cameras, so watch out they will be operating around the villages of Kirton, Waldringfield and Newbourne. I have supported refurbishment of the toilets at Kirton Village Hall, 2 Access ramps for Bucklesham Village Hall, The extension of a trial dial a ride ferry for all year round use from Felixstowe to Bawdsey. This is in anticipation of the Coastal Footpath locally. I also supported a CCTV camera for the Kirton recreation Ground.

Starting in May I hope to encourage the idea of a community shop/hub. The group I am working with are looking at the possibility of one on the Village Green in the form of a new container which has been suitably clad to make it fit in. I am getting a design drawn up along with a photo montage to show what it could look like. When Paddock Close was applied for I requested £10,000 towards a Community Shop, I am determined that this should not go back to Taylor Wimpey without making a huge effort to use it.

That’s the year in a nutshell, albeit a rather large nut.

Susan Harvey

1. Financial report

Revelry Account 2017 -2018

10/05/2017 SCL Invoice 2155 Chq 100037 £30.00 £3951.11

13/06/2017 SCL Invoice 2172 Chq 100039 £130.50 £3820.61

08/08/2017 SCL Invoice 2191 Chq 100040 £130.50 £3690.11

15/08/2017 SCL Invoice 2214 Chq 100041 £60.00 £3630.11

26/09/2017 Proasis Chq 100043 £2670.00 £960.11

10/10/2017 SCL Invoice 2233 chq 100042 £30.00 £930.11

22/11/2017 SCL Invoice 2068 Chq 10044 £30.00 £900.11

22/11/2017 SCL Invoice 2297 Chq 100045 £30.00 £870.11

Community Account 2017-2018

£3318.93

26/04/2017 Precept in 2474.37 £5743.30

10/05/2017 SCL Invoice 2156 Chq 100347 £30.00 £5713.30

24/05/2017 SALC Invoice 18804 Chq 100348 £18.00 £5695.30

13/06/2017 SALC Invoice 2017/2018 Chq 100350 £132.43 £5562.87

13/06/2017 SCL Invoice 2173 Chq 100351 £60.00 £5502.87

13/06/2017 Clerks wages Chq 100353 £552.50 £4950.37

08/08/2017 SCL Invoice 2192 Chq 100352 £60.00 £4890.37

15/08/2017 SCL Invoice 2215 chq 100354 £60.00 £4830.37

22/08/2017 Village hall Chq 100355 £365.00 £4465.37

29/09/2017 Precept in +£2424.37 £6889.74

06/10/2017 SALC £18.00 Chq 100356 £6871.74

30/10/2017 Village hall Chq 100357 £598.89 £6272.85

03/11/2017 HMRC VAT REFUND +£1155.36 £7428.21

10/11/2017 Chq in from village hall +£2752.83 £10181.04

14/11/2017 Clerks Wages £552.50 chq 100362 £9628.54

15/11/2017 B & M Concrete 05856 £1141.29 chq 100359 £8487.25

22/11/2017 SALC 30.00 Chq 100360 £8457.25

22/11/2017 Flooring £2752.83 £5704.42

11/01/2018 wages £552.50 chq 100365 £5151.92

19/01/2018 Community action Suffolk 550614 £60.00 chq 100361 £5091.92

07/02/2018 BDO 42.00 Chq 100364 £5049.92

22/02/2018 SCL 30.00 Chq 100358 £5019.92

13/03/2018 270.00 Playground inspection £4749.92

23/03/2018 +£740.00 COMMUNITY ENABLING BUDGET £5489.92

12/04/2018 £5489.92

SAVING ACCOUNT

14/04/2017 £4006.43

04/12/2017 70P INTEREST £4007.13

05/03/2018 £2.00 INTEREST £4009.13

13/04/2018 £4009.13

1. Newbourne Village Hall Annual report

Summary of accounts October 2016-September 2017

Income £7908.36

Lettings £5640.00

Fundraising £888.47

Donations 1373.89

= £7902.36

Balance loss £761.71

Community account £3185.72

Business Account £5004.41

Expenditure £8664.07

Caretaker £1040.00

Repairs £2361.55

Replacements £1980.00

Insurance £1197.79

Utilities £1955.94

Sundries £28.79

Petty cash £100.00

= £8664.07

Chairman’s Report

The takings £5640.00 we raised £608.97 at the Christmas bazaar. £279.50 from the joint flea market with the church. We £2752.83 on the new floor which we had not paid at the time of this report.

The ladies and I are happy to continue as the committee for the village hall and would welcome any new members.

8.

Newbourne Thurday’s Club

We are a small club who meet on the 3rd Thursday in the months of March, April, May, June, September, October and November at 7.30pm in the Village hall.

New members are always welcome and costs £20.00 for the year or guests £3.00 per visit. Our Speakers this year are raising a pup to be a guide dog, entertainment by lady on cello, talk on Suffolk punch horses and a talk on essential oil and burners. June we have a summer meal in the village hall and December we have a Christmas meal in the Newbourne Fox.

Pat Frost

Orwell Astronomical Society 2018

2017 was a notable year for the Orwell astronomical Society. It marked the 50th anniversary of our founding in 1967.To mark the golden jubilee we held a one day conference at the university of Suffolk waterfront building in Ipswich at the end of July, The event consisted of a stream of lectures by well-known astromers, including our own president, Dr Allan Chapman. There was also an exhibition by a number of national and local groups and organisations in September we held a celebratory meal which attracted a number of former members who were originally founding the society.

The society itself continues to fulfil its constitutional aim to promote astronomy. This was accomplished by organising a number of public outreach events at various venues around Suffolk including a number of country shows and village fetes.

Public interest in the Orwell park observatory continues with many adult and youth groups organising visits. We also hope to restart the annual public open weekend this coming Autumn after a few years break. This will provide an opportunity for all residents of Newbourne and surrounding areas to visit the fine Victorian observatory.

Other society activities include making the most of the relatively few clear evenings we had last year at our dark sky site in newbourne village hall. We particularly invite new members, who may be new to astronomy, to bring along their telescopes, where we will offer help and advice on how to use them and what they can look at. Newbourne is also the venue for our monthly workshops, at which a member leads discussions on a particular subject of astronomy, and our annual BBQ.

Finally, a number of members travelled to America last August to observe the total eclipse of the sun, while others travelled north to view the Northern lights.

Paul Whiting FRAS

Chairman

Martin Richmond-Hardy

OASI@ Newbourne

9. Crime report – No crimes recorded online for crime in Newbourne March/April



Annual Meeting of the parish council 7.30pm

14/05/2018

Attended Charlotte Gammons, Lionel Scott, Michael Frost, Sue Pollard, Jim Wicks, Tony Finch, Erica Pattison, Susan Harvey and Patricia O’brien.

Apologies – Kwini Lusher

Public time – Members from the public can to discuss the Super Sips Planning.

1. Apologies Kwini Lusher   
2. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary interest- None

3. Erica Pattison has decided to stand down from her position of parish councillor with immediate effect. The parish council would like to thank Erica for all her hard work that she has done for the parish council.

4. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 09/04/2018

5. Reports from Patrica O’brien and Susan Harvey given in Annual meeting

6. Planning – Newbourne Business, Mill road, Newbourne – An appeal has been made to the secretary of state by Mr L Crossley against the decision of Suffolk coastal district council to refuse planning permission for variation of condition C/93/0176 – change of use from packing station to light engineering. Comments need to be made by 16th May – Comments The parish council have decided to comment and reiterate the previous comments that were made previously.

As

* No changes since last comments made
* Working outside hours
* Loading and working outside the premises
* Burning plastics

DC/18/1602/Ful Use of land for stationing 2 holiday lodges (resubmission) The Firs, Jackson Road, Newbourne Comments by 13th May have contacted council for extension.

1. Too cramped on area they want to put holiday lodges
2. Not going to be connected to main sewage
3. Jackson road in a bad state already without adding more traffic.

7. Finance /Budget Report full yearly report on annual minutes.

Cheques

* **SCL Landscape management £60.00 – Revelry**
* **SCL Landscape management £60.00 – Community**
* **SALC 136.25 – Community**

8. Clerks correspondence – community infrastructure levy – will complete.

**9. Date of next meeting – 02/06/2018**