

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF WOOLPIT PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Mr Guyler (Chairman), Mr Hardiman, Mr Howard, Mrs Ewans, Dr Geake, Mr Wheatley, Mrs Jenkins and 2 members of the public.

Public comment: Mrs Parker advised that she is working with CAS to get the Good Neighbour Scheme set up. 17 people have signed up to the scheme so far. The Coronavirus Emergency team has met and is active again for a second lockdown. Notices will be put on the notice boards and in the next Diary.

Mr Howard advised that the light outside the Health Centre needs replacing, this will be reported.

Mr Hardiman advised that the roadworks in Church Street are behind schedule but should be completed on Friday. A revised programme for all the works should be sent to WPC shortly. A complaint has been received from a resident on Steeles Road that a loose grid is rattling. This will be reported to SCC. *Action: the Clerk*

Mr Howard advised there have been two power outages in the village recently, one lasting over 3 hours.

Mr Guyler has noted that a planning approval in Elmswell was contributing £55k towards a cycle path to Woolpit. Dr Geake said that additional funding will be needed from other developments as the total cost will be in the region of £500k.

Mr Guyler has been in contact with suffolkonboard as they are responsible for putting up signs for to notify changes to bus stops during roadworks. They are looking into why there have been no signs in Church Street and the village centre during the current roadworks. If signs do not appear the matter will be referred to County Cllr Storey.

County Councillor's report. While Suffolk County Council did not provide the Government-funded vouchers to schools for Free School Meals over the half term week, they were keen to support families and children in need so that no child would go hungry. The Suffolk Support and Advice Line has been set up to help address issues regarding finance, housing etc. It can help with debt advice, budgeting, mortgage, rent or credit card problems and employment queries. The Suffolk Community Foundation has many grants available that are there to help community groups (charity and volunteer groups) and also to provide grants for any number of consequences of Coronavirus, for all types of organisations. 14 October marked the launch of Adopt East, a regional adoption agency which has been established to recruit adopters across the East of England. Councils in Suffolk are helping administer a Government scheme to provide financial help to those on low incomes and benefits who must self-isolate. If you have been contacted by NHS Test and Trace and told to self-isolate, you are under a legal obligation to do so, and could be eligible for a £500 Test and Trace Support Payment. As we go into lockdown again I want to pay tribute to all those members of our communities that went above and beyond during the previous lockdown and who are preparing to do the same again. We have only 6 months until the County Council elections in May. There will be a 6 week moratorium period before the election. Some parishes have bids in to the Locality Budget process already. The budgets are unlikely to be carried over so I would request that bids are put in as soon as possible.

District Councillors' report. An extraordinary Council meeting has been called for 11th November when both the Joint Local Plan and the revised CIL charging schedule will be discussed. Following the decision at the last full Council meeting, a cross-party group from both Councils have been working with officers on the Joint response to the Government white paper on planning reform. Whilst there are aspects of the proposals which can be supported, such as greater emphasis of pre-application working and greater community engagement, there are other suggestions which are not considered favourable. The 40-page response highlights the need to ensure that all development needs to be appropriate to its surroundings and that safeguards are in place to protect our countryside, market towns and villages. In

response to the new Government regulations on CIL spending, a cross-party working group is reviewing both Council's CIL expenditure framework for 2021. Alongside that review the group has also made recommendations to Council about new CIL charges and the instalment schedule for developers. The current proposals suggest a fee structure which aims to promote development of brownfield sites over greenfield sites within the districts. Babergh and Mid Suffolk car parks have become digital, with the introduction of MiPermit system. Virtual tickets are available online, via the MiPermit app, by phone or by text, so this should reduce paper waste. A cash payment option is still available. The winners of the new Innovation Awards will be announced on 3rd November, at a virtual event. 28 businesses have been shortlisted, and the winners will be rewarded with both a cash prize and some bespoke professional advice, support or training. We have chased up the enforcement query about HGVs at Corern Industrial units. The query from Woolpit PC was investigated and there was found to be no planning breach. The case was closed in March 2019. There were no conditions relating to numbers of HGVs in the original planning consent and SCC Highways made no objection to the traffic movements to it is unfortunately not an enforcement issue. If a reply was not sent back to the clerk at that time, the officer sends his apologies.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Moore and Mr Aldis.

2. To receive declarations of interest

Mr Guyler declared a pecuniary interest in the planning application for 1 Briar Hill as he lives opposite and Mr Wheatley declared a pecuniary interest in the planning application for Rags Lane as a nearby resident.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings 5 October 2020.

The minutes were approved.

4. Planning – to consider current applications and receive MSDC decisions.

Mr Guyler left the meeting at 8.07 p.m.

20/04445 Erection of first floor side extension over existing ground floor and application of weatherboarding. Replace flat roof door canopy with tiles lean-to pitched roof. 1 Briar Hill – support.

Mr Guyler rejoined the meeting at 8.08 p.m.

20/04485 & 20/04486 Minor internal alterations and replacement of rear first floor window and associated works as detailed within the Access & Heritage Statement. Monks Close, Masons Lane – support.

Mr Wheatley left the meeting at 8.10 p.m.

20/04290 Submission details (Reserved Matters application) for outline planning permission 19/02688 – Access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the erection of 5 detached dwellings associated garages and vehicular access. Land South side of Rags Lane – object. Route through centre of village for construction traffic unsuitable, solar panels indicated on north facing elevations, should be more environmentally sustainable, no part of meadow should be used during construction.

Mr Wheatley rejoined the meeting at 8.24 p.m.

20/04753 & 20/04754 Replacement of window to rear elevation with a pair of glazed French doors. Evergreen House, The Street – support.

20/04288 Application for non-material amendment – amendment to wording of Condition 2 of permission 1636/16 (as amended) to provide for a separate phase for the provision of drainage infrastructure to serve the proposed self- build plots. Land south of Old Stowmarket Road. MSDC decision – acceptable.

20/04086 Notification of tree work in a Conservation Area. 1 Hawthorn reduce height by 2m (reduce shading) 1 Field Maple reduce height by 2m (reduce shading) 1 Field Maple reduce by 4m (reduce shading). Green Hill, The Street. MSDC does not wish to object.

20/04087 Notification of tree work in a Conservation Area 1 Beech reduce height by 2m (reduce shading) 1 Ash reduce by 2m (reduce shading). Sunnyridge, Rags Lane. MSDC does not wish to object.

20/03643 Discharge of conditions 2112/16 Condition 18 (Gateway feature) Condition 24 (lighting scheme for all public areas). Land off Green Road. MSDC decision – Condition 18 refused proposed elevation drawings not received, Condition 24 acceptable.

Mr Guyler advised that the existing entrance and village name signs are on the Rattlesden Road side of Woolpit and therefore there should not be a gateway by the Green Road development.

A letter will be sent to MSDC planning officer.

Action: the Clerk

Mrs Jenkins left the meeting at 8.33 p.m.

5. Clerk's Report

Street lighting – parish council owned lights are now going off at 11.30 p.m. and coming on at 6.00 p.m. except for the 3 in the centre of the village.

Lifeline– Jo Burnett, Bury Rural co-ordinator has been in contact as she is receiving referrals from Woolpit Health Centre some of whom are elderly or isolated. Jo would like us to include an item in Woolpit Diary. This was considered appropriate.

A14 Junction 46 to 47 – roadworks for resurfacing will take place between 8pm and 6am 26 October – 11 December.

Oak tree Steeles Road – crown has been uplifted by MSDC.

Damaged pavement Heath Road – this has been damaged by large vehicles due to the temporary traffic lights. David Wilson homes have been contacted.

Creative programme with Make, Do and Friends – information has been put on the website and will be put in the December/January Diary.

2021 meeting dates – the Clerk will circulate.

6. To receive correspondence/communications and deal with any matters.

Rural Services Network Rural bulletin 6. 13. 20. 28 October, Funding Digest October. **SALC** Covid-19 community response update, Local Electricity Bill parliamentary debate 14 October, success in House Of Commons – Local Electricity Bill, latest SALC Covid-19 ebulletin 12, 19 October, Remembrance Sunday guidance, Community Champions, new event – a conversation about anti-social behaviour 12 November, SALC ebulletin 27 October, email invitation from Suffolk Community Foundation celebration of the Heroes of Suffolk Voluntary Sector 11 November, planning white paper NALC response. **Suffolk Police** update from Suffolk Police & Crime Commissioner. **Suffolk Preservation Society** Suffolk View Autumn 2020. **County Cllr Storey** free school meals what SCC has done. **Resident** response to our submission of comments to planning application Lawn Farm. Copy responses to planning appl The Swan 1, Rags Lane 1. Copy letter from resident regarding time changes to Post Office opening times.

7. To approve accounts for payment.

Urban Forestry £630.72 tree condition survey, Mr K Harknett £59.32 litter picking October, Mr Guyler £59.99 reimbursement for heater for the Clerk's office, PFK Littlejohn LLP £480.00 limited assurance review of accounts 2019/20, Laura Bayly £44.00 Millennium Garden October, Suffolk County Council £286.96 pension payment, Woolpit Institute £416.00 office rent November-January inclusive. All accounts were approved. A payment to Business Services at CAS £718.20 for insurance renewal was ratified.

Payments by Standing Order Mrs Fuller £893.96 October salary, Mr Balk £186.13 October salary.

8. To receive a monthly financial report.

The balance of the Community Account at the end of October was £164,827.43 which includes the year's second receipt of CIL of £21,853.63. This figure needs to be reconciled with the bank statement which has not yet been received.

9. To consider a request from MSDC for areas of land available for tree planting and take any necessary action.

The corner of Briar Hill behind the bench will be put forward. *Action: the Clerk*

10. To consider registering interest in Community funding for Quiet Lanes and take any necessary action.

It was agreed not to respond.

11. To consider the recommendations from the Urban Forestry Tree Condition Report and take any necessary action.

There is some confusion on the comment supplied for T4 at Lady's Well in the report and clarification will be requested from Urban Forestry. The Clerk was asked to get three quotes with and without felling tree T4. *Action: the Clerk*

Mr Howard left the meeting at 9.13 p.m.

12. To receive a recommendation from the Clerk for an accounts package and take any necessary action.

The Clerk has had demonstrations from Scribe and Rialtas and recommends the Scribe accounts package. It was agreed to set up a committee with delegated functions to review Scribe at £288.00 per year and place an order for the package if suitable. Members of the Committee are Mr Guyler, Mrs Ewans, Dr Geake and the Clerk. *Action: accounts committee*

13. To receive a report on the allotments and take any necessary action.

Renewal letters have been sent to the tenants of plots 1-16. Renewal for the farmed plot will be sent shortly with a letter reminding Mr Howlett that the additional area which was allotments needs to be made ready for cultivation by November 2021. Some plots are weedy and a letter will be sent to these tenants once it is known who is renewing their tenancy. *Action: the Clerk*

14. To receive a report from the Litter Picker.

Mr Harknett has recommenced litter picking.

15. To receive a report from the Village Hall and Playing Field Committees.

The committees have held their AGMs. Mr Belham remains as Chairman, with Mr Holland as Vice-Chair. New officers have been appointed, Carole Moore as Secretary and Helen Ansell as Treasurer. A virtual meeting of the committees will take place in early November.

16. Date and time of the next virtual Parish Council meeting – Monday 7 December 2020 at 7.30 p.m. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.44 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....