

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 – Public Meeting commenced at 7.30pm at the Village Hall**

**Present:** M Clements (Vice-Chair), K Goudy, N Hardman, M Reeve, K Hall-Price, (Clerk), District Cllr R Eburne, District Cllr K Welham, County Cllr A Stringer (arriving late), 0 members of the public.

- 1. Welcome & Apologies:** The Vice- Chairman welcomed everyone to the September 2021 meeting. Cllr J Miller (Chair), Cllr Helliwell, Cllr Baker, Cllr Ratcliffe and Cllr Harbidge have sent their apologies for this evening's meeting. Cllr M Clements (Vice-Chair will Chair tonight's meeting.
- 2. Dispensations and to receive any declarations of personal/prejudicial interest.**
  - a) To consider any requests for dispensations – No new requests received.
  - b) To note existing dispensations. The standing dispensation for Cllr Clements in respect of the proposed development land between Silver Street and Finningham Road and Cllr Reeve in respect of the proposed development of the Greenacres Site.
- 3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2021.** It was proposed by Cllr Goudy and seconded by Cllr Hardman to accept the minutes as true and accurate, and they will be signed accordingly by the Vice-Chairman.
- 4. Clerks report following July meeting.**
  - The village website has been updated to include all minutes and information approved.
  - Finance review with Cllr Hardman to be done twice a year prior to finance review meeting (Nov) and commencement of audit (April). Suggested we look at meeting in Sept / October and again in February / March
  - Cllr Goudy still needs to have his parish council email set up.
  - ANPR Site suitability form has been approved. We are now awaiting confirmation of a date for the project to be set up in Old Newton. Clerk has chased these following concerns of speeding vehicles especially through the village centre and by the school however dates are still not confirmed.
  - There was another report from a village hall committee member regarding the playground area that had still not been strimmed when the grass was cut. Clerk chased and this has now been rectified.
  - BMSDC have found a number of bins throughout the district that are obscured or partially obscured due to vegetation growth. Clerk asked all Cllrs and included in the Crier for everyone to check our dog waste and waste bins in our parish so that we can complete any vegetation clearance as required. Cllr Clements cleared the Silver Street bin.
  - Cllr Stringer has confirmed that the traffic survey on Falconer Avenue to monitor the numbers of vehicles using the road as a cut through from Silver Street will commence from 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021. This has been instigated by residents complaining of vehicles using the route as a “rat run” and will give us some definitive evidence to support or refute the claims.

**Correspondence Received**

- Email – Resident Kay Ewan
- MSDC – Off street parking order
- MSDC – Parking Strategy consultation
- MSDC – Virtual tours Suffolk Energy from waste 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> September
- MSDC – Dog & Litter bins
- MSDC – Hackney Carriage / Private Hire vehicle & Driver consultation
- MSDC – Gambling Act 2005 – Revision of statement of Principles

**Police Report** – (Crime map stats are always going to be circa 6 weeks out of date).

- May – 1 x Anti-social behaviour (Nr Falconer Avenue)
- June – 3 x violence / sexual offence (Nr Brown Street), 1 x theft (Nr Wassicks Lane)
- July – 1 x burglary (Nr Greenacres)

- Police are appealing for information after a mobility scooter was damaged in Stowmarket at the end of last week. Sometime between 8am on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> & 8.30am on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September the lock was damaged on a mobility scooter parked outside a residence in Violet Hill Road.
- Police have arrested two females after a man was found unconscious in Stowmarket. The incident occurred at some point before 6.10pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, in a park, known as Big Park, near Creting Road East in the Cedars Park area of the town. A man, who is aged in his 40s, was found unconscious near the basketball court after it is believed he was involved in an altercation with a group of teenagers.
- Suffolk Constabulary has teamed up with six other police forces in the eastern region in an effort to tackle hare coursing. The borders between the forces, which include Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Kent, have been removed when using certain tactics, making apprehending and prosecuting offenders easier. The agreement, which been completed with the support of the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), means the forces become one when using certain powers. This will assist with the use of automatic number plate recognition (ANPR), the seizure of dogs and the sharing of all interactions and movements of people suspected to be involved in hare coursing. This move supports the ongoing national initiative - **Operation Galileo** – which aims to tackle hare coursing.
- Police are encouraging dog walkers to act responsibly whilst out with their dogs, particularly when around livestock. It follows a recent incident in the Holbrook area on Saturday 28 August where a black cocker spaniel was being walked off the lead by a teenage girl. The dog entered a field and chased some sheep in a nearby field leaving some of them exhausted and shocked. If livestock are being worried by dogs it is a criminal offence. Dog owners have a responsibility to ensure that their animals are kept under control and whilst it is appreciated that the vast majority do so, there are a few that are still not getting the message
- Over 1,900 motorists caught speeding as part of campaign. More than 1,900 motorists were caught speeding in Suffolk during a two week-long enforcement campaign. The campaign, which was co-ordinated by the National Police Chiefs' Council, saw an increased amount of speed related checks and enforcement across both counties. Officers spent the duration of the campaign highlighting and informing drivers of the risks of speeding and the consequences that driving above the limit can have through education and enforcement. During this year's campaign, held between Monday 26 July and Sunday 8 August, a total of 1,924 motorists were caught speeding, 1,832 of which were caught by fixed/mobile cameras while the remainder were caught by police officers on patrol. Of those caught speeding, 1,844 were cars, 58 were vans, 18 were lorries, three were motorcycles, and one was a bus. See below for a further breakdown of the number of offences and the speed limits that were exceeded:

30MPH	881
40MPH	288
50MPH	524
60MPH	99
70MPH	132

Help us keep our communities safe.

- Police advice on a variety of subjects can be accessed via <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice>
- To report something, or to otherwise contact Police, use the link <http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us>
- To report something anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or visit [www.crimestoppers-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppers-uk.org)
- Alternatively call **101** for non-urgent matters.

**Always call 999 in emergencies, or if an immediate police response is required.**

Police Connect Team

## 5. Financial matters & Financial report

**Online banking** – All invoices for payment for the July payments were paid through the online BACS system. The accounts for July payment were approved and accepted by email from Cllrs as there was no meeting in August. Payments were submitted for payment on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2021, approved by Cllr Miller on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> August.

**VAT reclaim** from November 2019 – June 2021 is for the sum of £1,547.85 and has been manually submitted for payment.

**External Audit** - There was some additional information required to complete the audit as the auditors picked up on the fact that we underspent in the previous accounting period by more than 15%. They required breakdown by costs to understand the reasons, the narrative alone was not enough. This has been submitted with no further issues being raised.

**Bank Account Balances:**

- Barclays Statement Balance = **£35,904.33** (30.07.2021)
- Barclays Statement Balance = **£31,955.22** (27.08.21)
- Scottish Widows 60 Day account balance = **£3,378.88** (01.04.21)
- Scottish Widows Deposit account = **£253.51** (01.04.21)
- Public Works Loan – Balance outstanding = **£17,495.65** (08.04.2021)

**Accounts for payment – July 2021: Approval and payment in August 2021.**

EXPENDITURE	CHQ/BACS /SO/DDR		NET	VAT	TOTAL
Karen Price	BACS	Salary £971.89 less tax £-15.40, NI £20.99, pension £38.88 plus expenses £54.44	£981.86		£981.86
HMRC PAYE	BACS	Employee NI £20.99, Employee Tax £-15.40, Employer NI £32.41 less employment allowance £32.41	£5.59		£5.59
Nest Pension	DDR	Employee £38.88, Employer £29.16	£68.04		£68.04
Adam Alexander	BACS	Grass Cutting Cemetery – July 2021	£405.00		£405.00
PWLB	DDR	Loan repayment – 26.08.21	£2,613.62		£2,613.62

**Accounts for payment – August 2021:**

EXPENDITURE	CHQ/BACS/SO/DDR		NET	VAT	TOTAL
Karen Price	BACS	Salary £767.92, holiday pay £92.69 less tax £-6.60, NI £7.63, pension £34.43 plus expenses £67.01	£892.16		£892.16
HMRC PAYE	BACS	Employee NI £7.63, Employee Tax £-6.60, Employer NI £17.06 less employment allowance £17.06	£1.03		1.03
Nest Pension	DDR	Employee £34.43, Employer £25.82	£60.25		£60.25
GDPR/Data Protection	DDR	Annual payment DDR – 21.09.21	£40.00		£40.00
Adam Alexander	BACS	Grass Cutting Cemetery – August 2021	£234.00		£234.00
Old Newton Village Hall	BACS	Hire of the village hall – July, September, October, November and December	£57.50		£57.50
CAS – Parish Protect Insurance	BACS	Insurance renewal long term agreement expires 30/09/2022	£580.68		£580.68
CGM grass cutting	BACS	Village hall, play area and front of village hall	£329.44	65.89	395.33

Cllrs approval required to submit the above for payment through the online BACS system. Proposed by Cllr Goudy and seconded by Cllr Reeve.

RECEIPTS -July	Payslip			
COOP	100135	Cemetery fees Ashes – Gloria May Smith	£75.00	£75.00
COOP	100135	Cemetery fees Memorial Wall – Gloria May Smith	£50.00	£50.00
Perfitts	100135	Cemetery fees Ashes (non-resident) – Kenneth Jordan	£150.00	£150.00
Perfitts	100135	Cemetery fees Memorial Wall (non-resident) – Kenneth Jordan	£100.00	£100.00
RECEIPTS - August	Payslip			
Hanchets	100136	Cemetery fees – Headstone – Pamela Plummer	£50.00	£50.00
COOP	100137	Cemetery fees – Ashes Nancy Doreen Eldred	£75.00	£75.00

**6. To receive District Councillor's Report – Mrs Rachel Eburne / Mr Keith Welham.** All Cllrs have received the report prior to the meeting.

- **Afghan refugees**- Following the Government announcement of its new resettlement scheme for Afghan refugees, councils in Suffolk, including MSDC, have expressed their commitment to assist. We have already helped a small number of Afghan interpreters and their families to resettle in Suffolk. There will be ongoing work to support unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and other refugees entering the UK
- **Devolution** - Together with other councils in Suffolk, MSDC have written to the Secretary of State responsible for local government to indicate a desire to discuss a possible devolution deal for Suffolk. It is important that any deal should avoid an extra tier of government and extra costs to our council tax benefits.
- **Gateway14** - The development proposals have been granted planning permission with a number of conditions. One of these is a financial commitment towards community and recreational facilities.
- **Development of Needham Market former HQ site** - This development of homes for private sale is progressing well and show homes can now be viewed by potential buyers. This is the first phase of housing development being carried out by as a Public/Private Joint Venture. Further development will include a small supermarket and affordable homes for shared ownership and for social rent
- **Covid and MSDC Council meetings** - There are no signs that the Government will renew the legislation to enable virtual or hybrid meetings. Committee meetings are being held in the Council Chamber and it is anticipated that the full Council meeting on 23 September will be held in the Chamber.
- Staff are continuing to work from home but, when necessary, access to workspace in Endeavour House can be booked by staff and councillors.
- **Taxi licensing** – no encouragement given to switch to electric vehicles - The Conservative administration missed the opportunity to improve Mid Suffolk's environmental credentials when they put forward a new taxi licensing policy at the Council's recent Licensing Committee. Despite the fact that no new diesel or petrol car can be purchased after 2030, the ten year policy included no provisions to encourage cab drivers to move to electric vehicles and contained none of the incentives other councils use. The policy, without mention of any efforts to reduce emissions, was approved on the Chair's casting vote.
- **Cycling and Walking** - Babergh and MSDC have set up a Joint Task and Finish Group to prepare a Local Cycling and Walking Improvement Plan (LCWIP) to prioritise locations across the Districts for new or improved cycle and pedestrian provision. Keith is a member of the group.
- **Solar Carport in Stowmarket** - MSDC has let a contract for the construction of a solar carport in the Stowmarket Leisure Centre car park; works are expected to begin shortly and be complete by spring 2022. More than half of the cost is being met from the Government's Getting Building Fund
- **Compost Giveaway** - The date for collection of free compost from Mill Meadow, Needham Lake has been changed and will now be Sunday 19 September from 9.00 to 12.00.
- **Locality Awards** - There is still funding from the annual locality awards. Amounts of £250 or more are available to local community groups and organisations. Please encourage groups in the village to contact us for an application form or telephone for further information and help in applying.

**7. To receive County Councillor's Report – Mr Andrew Stringer.** All Cllrs have received Cllr Stringer's report prior to the meeting.

- **Suffolk Climate Emergency Plan** - This document was released in June by the 'Suffolk Leaders Group' (County, District and Borough Council leaders) as a follow up to the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership report of 2019. This sets out broad goals for change in behaviours and technology to achieve zero carbon by 2030 by means of measures of: 'transitioning to a fully decarbonised heat supply for homes; improving energy efficiency; behavioural change to use less energy; low carbon travel; reducing car use; more efficient freight transport; reductions in commercial and industrial carbon use; improvements in renewable energy production and a flexible grid' among others. The Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group on Council will be putting a motion forward to the next Council Meeting to require the Council to set specific benchmarks and targets each year up to 2030 to encourage the modal shift in behaviour and technology required as without this we believe that the targets set out, laudable though they are, are unlikely to be achieved in practice. For example: In July 2020 the Government's Gear Change paper called for a doubling in the amount of journeys walked or cycled. This spring, Suffolk Conservative's county council election manifesto said "we have identified over £20m of upgrades for our cycle network". We will ask for this money to be allocated to specific projects to improve our cycle & walking network.
- **Review of SEND provision** - Suffolk County Council commissioned an independent review into Special Educational Needs and Disability provision which has now been completed. The report, with any recommendations, is due to be published this month on Suffolk County Council's website, shared with those

who contributed to it and also scrutinised, in public, by the council's Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee. We await it with interest.

- **Suffolk's expression of interest in discussions with Government on Devolution for Suffolk** - A 'levelling up' white paper is to be produced by Government and Robert Jenrick MP (Sec of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government) has invited Councils to express interest in involvement in this. The aim appears to be to allow local 'leaders groups' to have more power in local decision making including 'greater financial efficiency, administrative streamlining and/or more joined up services'. It is not necessary to be a unitary authority although Government want evidence of working together. It is not clear yet what the benefits and draw backs or any details of these proposals are yet. The 'Suffolk Leader's Group' (Leaders of County Council, District Councils, Ipswich Borough Council, and Police and Crime Commissioner) have written to the Government expressing interest in this proposal.
- **Zero Carbon battle bus visiting Suffolk** - The purpose of the Zero Carbon Tour is to discuss the concept of net zero carbon and why it is critical for businesses. Suffolk's businesses, organisations and community groups will share their stories about how they have started their journeys to net zero. This will inspire and give confidence to those considering how to reduce their carbon emissions. Steve Malkin, Founder and CEO, Planet Mark, said: "There is no doubt, we are living in a seminal and historic moment in time. 2020 – 2030 has been coined the Decade of Action, a period in which we need to tackle the climate crisis and halt biodiversity loss. The global pursuit of net zero carbon emissions is a huge undertaking, and only possible with help from businesses and communities alike. "We are excited to bring the net zero message to Ipswich, and share the 'carbon stories' of organisations, community groups and individuals playing their part in creating a sustainable future for Suffolk, the United Kingdom and beyond." This event and others are taking place across Suffolk in the lead up to COP26, as part of Suffolk's collective campaign of Creating The Greenest County, and be net zero by 2030. As part of the Suffolk Climate Emergency Plan, these events look to encourage collaborative action by educating and engaging with residents and businesses to develop net zero journey.
- Other events which are being planned in Suffolk in the lead up to COP26 include:
  - 1 September – Zero Carbon Tour visited Ipswich
  - 12 October – Ten Steps to Net Zero (Suffolk Chamber of Commerce)
  - 21-22 October – Local Energy Showcase (Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council)
  - TBC October - A Greener NHS day
  - 12 November – Greenest County Awards (Suffolk County Council)
  - 23-25 November – Low Carbon Homes
  - All events are subject to change, visit [www.greensuffolk.org](http://www.greensuffolk.org) for the latest details and information about starting your journey to net zero.

#### **Cllrs Comments –**

- Potholes have been re-reported. Footpath has been photographed and Cllr Stringer will reinforce the complaint logged today by the Clerk. Cllr Stringer left the meeting at 8.09pm

#### **8. Planning Applications**

- **DC/21/04715** | Householder Planning Application - Erection of a rear extension and addition of store to garage. | 5 Trafford Close Old Newton Suffolk IP14 4EH. Comments required by MSDC **by 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021**. *Cllrs felt that the proposals make the property look a better aesthetic shape and will be out of sight from the front of the property as all the work will be at the back. Cllrs couldn't see any reason to object to this application. Proposed by Cllr Hardman, seconded by Cllr Goudy. All Cllrs present were unanimously in favour of approval at Parish Council level. Clerk to respond accordingly by the deadline of 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021.*
- **DC/21/04701** | Planning Application - Change of use of agricultural land to garden land associated with Mill Hill Cottage North, Erection of garage/studio outbuilding (following demolition of existing garage) and erection of garden room Location: Mill Hill Cottages North, 66 Church Road, Old Newton, Suffolk IP14 4ED We invite your comments on the application described above by **15<sup>th</sup> September 2021**. *It was agreed that this property stands back away from the road, the proposed garden room will look out over the fields and Cllrs believe that this application will not have any adverse impact on any neighbouring properties. The design is acceptable to Cllrs and Cllrs couldn't see anything that warranted an objection from the Parish Council. Proposed to accept by Cllr Goudy and seconded by Cllr Reeve. All Cllrs were in favour of approval at Parish Council level. Clerk to respond accordingly by the deadline date of 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021.*

**9. Planning Decisions –**

- **DC/21/04388 | APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CARRY OUT WORKS TO TREE(S) PROTECTED BY A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER - DC/21/04388** Proposal: Application for works to trees protected by Tree Preservation Order MS396 - Canopy lift/thin 1No Sycamore by 1m and by maximum 10-15%, lifting and thinning to enhance aesthetic and enhance tree structure whilst keeping wounds to a minimum (2-3"). Reduce and re-shape 1No Maple by 2-3 metres to maintain aesthetic value and improve overall balance. Reduce and re-shape 1No Fruit tree (stated as Norway Maple by 3-4m to encourage new growth which will improve overall balance and shape. Remove ivy and cut back overhang to multi stemmed Holly Tree and monitor for root damage. Location: Blackberry Cottage, Finningham Road, Old Newton, Suffolk IP14 4EU. Comments required by MSDC by *26th August 2021*. No deadline extension has been approved and our comments are now too late for submission. MSDC have granted permission for these works.
- **DISCHARGE OF CONDITION(S) TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990.** Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/20/03735 - Condition 3 (Action required following removal of roof coverings) (Part discharge for manufacturer's literature of roof coverings), Condition 4 (Action required following removal of render) (Part discharge for manufacturer's literature of lime render and plaster), Condition 5 (Action required following removal of plasterboard and gypsum) and Condition 6 (Submission of large scale drawings and manufacturer's literature). Location: Yew Tree Farm, Ward Green, Old Newton.

**10. Defibrillator -** The Defibrillator is currently non useable – It is displaying a X rather than the tick. Clerk requested the ambulance service to advice the Parish Council who can service and repair the defibrillator as a priority. Ambulance service have offered to drop by to check it in the first instance. It is currently not registered as operational with the ambulance service. Clerk has put a notice up on the facebook – spotted in old newton page. It was discussed if the case is still fit for purpose and whether some prices for replacement should be sourced.

**11. Cemetery – Update**

- Cllrs in attendance felt that a decision regarding this contract should be made tonight and not held over for another month. All the tenders were provided as part of the clerks report and discussed and Ian Hammond was believed to be the Parish Council's best option and kept the costs to within its current budget. It was agreed that as he has been doing this work with largely no complaints received it made sense to continue with the current status quo but directly rather than through Adam Alexander – It was proposed to award the tender to Ian Hammond by Cllr Hardman – seconded by Cllr Goudy – all Cllrs present were in favour. The Parish Council wish Adam Alexander the very best wishes for his future and thank him for his service as our maintenance contractor for the cemetery. Ian will take over directly with immediate effect. Clerk to confirm the council decision to all contractors who submitted tenders.
- Cllr Reeve has looked at purchasing a seat for the cemetery that is durable and weather resistant. Looking at where to place the seat, it was agreed that up by the memorial wall between the hut on the bank so that it isn't in anybody's way and can be used by all and will give an excellent view of the cemetery for individuals to reflect. Agreed – Proposed by Cllr Hardman and seconded by Cllr Goudy.
- The WWI soldier that needs to be added onto the inscription on the war memorial is Mr William Bowers Codd. It was confirmed that his name is already on the memorial and nothing further is required to be added. Clerk has not received the invoice yet for the completion of the initial masonry works.
- Tender requested for the maintenance of the cemetery shed, doors, guttering, facias and the painting of the gates at both ends of the cemetery has still not received a response. Clerk to continue to advertise for these works.

**12. Footpaths – Committee Update**

- Cllr Helliwell and Hardman met on 23rd August and got a bit further, particularly with the 3 paths to develop in more detail. The committee are still waiting to hear from Libby Brookes regarding the new tree warden. Nicola gave a report and provided 4 potential routes. Clerk to email the notes and map from the last meeting once received.

- Trip hazard reported at the boardwalk on the Downs footpath has been repaired and should be useable again as of 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Cllr Clements reported this initially and Cllr Stringer chased this as this is our only safe walking route to school and was considered a severe trip hazard. The wooden plank has been repaired on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Also clerk has received an additional complaint received regarding the requirement to replace the wire mesh on the boardwalk as this will be slippery when the wet weather arrives. Cllr Stringer is aware and has taken photos today and will report again. Clerk has reported today using the SCC reporting tool.

**13. ANPR Project Update.** ANPR Site suitability form has been approved. We are now awaiting confirmation of a date for the project to be set up in Old Newton. Clerk has chased these following concerns of speeding vehicles especially through the village centre and by the school however dates have still not been confirmed.

**14. Councillors Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council** – Nothing raised in addition to what’s been covered on the agenda.

**15. Public Forum – no-one present.**

**16. Additional Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the October meeting.**

- Cemetery
- Footpaths
- ANPR Project.
- Phone Box / Community Library

**17. Date of the next Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 – 7.30pm at the Woodward Room in the Village Hall.**

Meeting closed at 20.53hrs