

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – Public Meeting commenced at 7.30pm at the Village Hall**

**Present:** Cllr J Miller (Chair), M Helliwell, K Baker, N Hardman, W Ratcliffe, K Hall-Price, (Clerk), District Cllr K Welham, District Cllr R Eburne, County Cllr A Stringer (arriving late), 0 members of the public.

1. **Welcome & Apologies:** The Chairman wished everyone a very happy new year and welcomed everyone to the January 2022 meeting. Cllrs M Clements (Vice-Chair), M Reeve, and K Goudy have sent their apologies for 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 1<sup>st</sup> December 2021.** It was proposed by Cllr Baker and seconded by Cllr Hardman to accept the December minutes as true and accurate, and they will be signed accordingly by the Chairman. Cllr Helliwell asked for assistance in order to print the data from the SID information. Cllr Hardman and Cllr Ratcliffe both offered to help.
4. **Report following December meeting.**
  - **School Hill repairs** – Chairman updated the meeting regarding the repairs to School Hill, that they would include the water and drainage issues. The repairs took place and the issues with the drainage were still an issue. Cllr Stringer took up the mantle for us and reported again. SCC spent several days investigating and have confirmed what we already know that the drainage has collapsed and this is still on-going. Cllr Stringer will have an update as part of his report. Cllrs felt that the number of individuals in attendance was excessive and for the repairs still not to be complete was a waste of tax payers money.
  - The Clerk replied to SCC regarding the Christmas lighting for the lights to remain on all night Christmas Eve and New Years Eve.
  - The village website has been updated to include all minutes and information approved. The village hall website has been updated to include Marian as the booking clerk and the new revised costs for hire of the hall.
  - ANPR dates are still not confirmed.
  - Vacancy for Cllr has been advertised and has today 5<sup>th</sup> January been confirmed by MSDC that we are clear to co-opt. The Clerk intends to advertise for co-option in the Feb edition of the crier and on the spotted in old newton facebook page. Co-option to be an agenda item for the February meeting.
  - Clerk received notice of a purse/wallet found in the cemetery by a resident, with the post on the facebook page the owner and wallet were re-united.
  - There has been a survey request to update community support information available within the village. Clerk has updated the survey with current DONG details.
  - **Your report reference number is: 00346525 - STOWMARKET ROAD, OLD NEWTON**  
**Description:** the road sign on the B1113 opposite the Shoulder of Mutton crossroads has fallen down.
  - **Your report reference number is: 00346524 - OLD NEWTON FOOTPATH 047, OLD NEWTON.** **Description:** Farmer has ploughed field not reinstating the footpath, as reported by a resident who walks this footpath regularly
  - FGBT Charity Commission Annual Audit report has been submitted. The trustees have distributed £50 to 10 residents this year. This makes up for no donation being issued for 2020 due to covid. The clerk is now looking to open a charitable bank account as the Nationwide have no closed the bank account held. Remaining cash is now secured with the Clerk to open a new account with the trustees.
  - Cleansing grant for the qtr ending December 21 has been applied for £106.92, once received will be put forward for payment to Onwoods/ONEG at the February meeting.
  - Clerk has had reported that a resident of our village has been identified fly tipping on Sandford Road and they have accepted a fine by SCC, what is saddening is that this is from one of our own residents.

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

- September – 4 x violence / sexual offence (Nr Chapel Road)
- October – 1 x violence / sexual offence (Nr Cross Green). 1 x criminal damage / arson (Nr Sports & Social Club)
- November – 1 x criminal damage / arson (Nr Finningham Road), 1 x anti-social behaviour (Nr Chapel Road)

**5. Financial matters & Financial report**

**Online banking** – All invoices for payment for the November payments were paid through the online BACS system. The accounts were approved and accepted by Cllrs and payments were submitted for payment and approved by Cllr Miller on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December following the meeting.

**Budget** - Following recommendations to full council at the December meeting no further changes have been made and the precept forms are presented to be approved and submitted to MSDC by end January 2022. Paperwork for the precept has been drafted. The precept to be applied for this year is £28,604.79 paid in 2 instalments to be paid in April 2022 and in September 2022. Proposed by Cllr Baker and seconded by Cllr Ratcliffe, all Cllrs in favour, chairman signed in presence of the meeting with Cllr Ratcliffe as the second signature.

**Bank Account Balances:**

- Barclays Statement Balance = **£42,787.89** (30.12.2021)
- Scottish Widows 60 Day account balance = **£3,378.96** (01.07.21)
- Scottish Widows Deposit account = **£253.52** (01.07.21)
- Public Works Loan – Balance outstanding = **£17,495.65** (08.04.2021)

**Accounts for payment – December 2021: Approval and payment in January 2022.**

EXPENDITURE – December	CHQ/ BACS/ SO/DDR		NET	VAT	TOTAL
Karen Price	Bacs	Salary £920.18, holiday pay £111.07 less tax Nil to pay, NI £28.11, pension £41.25 plus expenses £50.05	£1,011.94		£1,011.94
HMRC PAYE	Bacs	Employee NI £28.11, Employee Tax £NIL, Employer NI £40.61 less employment allowance £40.61	£28.11		£28.11
Nest Pension	DDR	Employee £41.25, Employer £30.94	£72.19		£72.19
Ian Hammond	Bacs	Grass Cutting Cemetery – December 2021	£165.00		£165.00
<b>RECEIPTS – Dec</b>	Payslip				
		Nothing received to bank in December			

Proposed by Cllr Baker seconded by Cllr Helliwell to pay the accounts by BACS transfer. Cllr Miller to authorise the payments on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

**6. Correspondence Received**

- MSDC – Dog and litter bin charges 22/23
- Mutton Meadow parking email received raised as part of the clerk report
- Salc Subscription new calculation model for subscriptions from April 2023
- Arthritis online action group – notice
- SCC – Licence applications for attachments to streetlighting
- **Your report reference number is: 00345908 - SANDFORD ROAD, OLD NEWTON :** This ditch has been reported previously but landowners have still done nothing to reinstate the ditch. It is so overgrown now that its a hazard as its not clear for passing vehicles to know that the ditch is even there anymore. SCC have investigated and this does not warrant remedial action in their opinion but will be kept on their routine inspection list.
- **Your report reference number is: 00345907 - SILVER STREET, OLD NEWTON. Description:** The ditch is not cleared and hasn't been cleared for many years - It is no longer functioning as a ditch and caused flooding on this stretch of road. SCC are considering the action they are prepared to take

- **Your report reference number is:** 00345909 - **HUNDRED LANE, OLD NEWTON.**  
**Description:** Drain reported on Hundred lane required jetting / flushing as it is blocked. SCC have investigated and this does not warrant remedial action in their opinion but will be kept on the routine inspection list.

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

**MSDC Annual Monitoring Report** - This report gives details of housing completions and outstanding permissions and other data related to housing development in Mid Suffolk. 672 new dwellings were built in Mid Suffolk District last year, which represents 131% of the current annual target set (513 dwellings) by the national standard methodology. In Mid Suffolk the total outstanding planning permissions (as at 01/04/21) stand at 7,444 dwellings, which are either not started or under construction. Mid Suffolk District Council has made a total of £1,017,746.36 CIL payments to town and parish councils. In Mid Suffolk affordable housing accounted for 29% of all net new completions. 29% of all residential completions (gross) were delivered on previously developed land, compared with the target (50%) set out in the adopted Core Strategy and Core Strategy Focused Review. The report states that in the year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 in Old Newton a total of 3 dwellings were completed.

**Joint Local Plan** – The Inspectors paused the examination for the Joint Local Plan to allow officers to re-consult and further clarify the spatial strategy and review part of the evidence base. A meeting was held between the two parties on 16<sup>th</sup> December to clarify this. It was agreed that the Plan will be split into two parts – Part 1 covering all the social, environmental and economic policies and Part 2 covering those relating to housing numbers, distribution etc. It is expected that Part 1 will move forward while work is being done on Part 2. The Inspector acknowledged that 90% of Mid Suffolk's housing target is already allocated (either via existing permissions or sites allocated via Neighbourhood Plans) and that this is central to future policies. The Inspector also asked that work be done on whether a lower or higher housing number should be put forward and the rationale for either. We do not have any confirmation of timing for this process as yet.

**Planning Applications** - A committee date of 26 January has been set provisionally for determination of the reserved matters application for the development of land between Finningham Road and Silver Street. The application for development on land at Bush's Farm has been withdrawn.

**Babergh and Mid Suffolk Overview and Scrutiny Committee** - The Joint Overview & Scrutiny Committee has set up a task and finish group to review rural transport. The review of the Citizens Advice provision in Babergh and Mid Suffolk was carried out in December. Concerns around future funding and closer working with the district council around housing debt were highlighted.

**Locality Budget** - There is still a small amount left in the budget. This needs to be allocated by the end of January. Please make local groups aware and ask them to contact Keith.

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

**Cabinet Meeting** - The Cabinet met on the 7<sup>th</sup> December and voted unanimously to approve additional investment in highway drainage and footway infrastructure. £10m has been approved to replace broken pipes, as well as new installations, and £10m has been approved to increase the maintenance of selected footways. The Cabinet also voted to approve Suffolk County Council's new Housing Joint Venture. The Council wish to enter a contractual agreement with a private developer, aiming to deliver up to 3,000 new homes across Suffolk. School Hill has been investigated and the recommendation is that drainage will need to be replaced completely. Although this was identified over 3 years ago at least now it looks likely that this will be finally dealt with.

**Scrutiny Meeting on SEND Report** - The Education and Children's Services Scrutiny Committee met to discuss the damning SEND report, which outlined the various failings of the local service in dealing with children with special needs and disabilities. A new report from the SEND services was presented, which included the progress of improving the service. This included extended training, newly appointed managerial posts, and new accountability structures to help deal with the issues outlined in the previous report. Our Group brought up issues of a lack of opportunity to represent our ideas, we have asked for a wider pool of representatives.

**Significant Investment in Firefighting Equipment** - Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service has recently added to its lifesaving kit – cementing the service's commitment to protecting its staff and Suffolk residents. A significant

investment has enabled improved digital radios, smoke hoods and smoke curtains to be provided to every crew in the county. This equipment can be used in a range of incidents, with it already proving invaluable in Lowestoft, when two occupants were rescued after a kitchen fire. Although crews are ready to attend emergencies with this new kit, it's important that every home has its own lifesaving equipment – smoke alarms, which should be fitted and tested regularly. For more information, visit: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/show/significant-investment-in-firefighting-equipment-secures-safer-future-for-suffolk>

**Free Bus and Taxi Services for All Travelling for a Vaccination** - Stuart Keeble, the Director of Public Health at Suffolk County Council, expanded the 'Vaxi Taxi' service to all members of the public. The original campaign was for those who were strictly eligible, but the Council has opened up the offer to anyone who needs it, in order to get to their appointment for a first, second or booster vaccination. For a list of the taxi companies who have signed up to the scheme, please visit [www.suffolk.gov.uk/GetVaccinated](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/GetVaccinated) - or for further information, go to <https://sneevaccine.org.uk/>

**'Support Social Care' Campaign** - A new campaign was released in December aimed to help the public understand more about the Social Care sector in Suffolk. The campaign wants to celebrate the care professionals and asks the public for a little patience and flexibility whilst the Council navigates through another tough winter. Every day, Suffolk receives on average 550 calls from people on adult social care, and on Christmas there will be around 1,200 care home staff working to ensure Residential and Nursing Homes have a good Christmas. You can support for Social Care on social media by using the hashtag #SupportSocialCare, or by offering to collect a neighbour-in-need's prescription, or simply paying them a visit.

## 9. Planning Applications

- **Station Rd proposed planning development** – Elizabeth Beighton – Boyer. Email communication has been ongoing. Ms Beighton would like to address the parish council with her client's proposals, parish council meeting dates have been provided but a date has not been confirmed.
- **DC/21/06460** | Householder Application - Erection of single storey side extension including solar panels to roof slope (following removal of shed). | 4 Sandford Road Old Newton Suffolk IP14 4PW. This application arrived too late for inclusion on the agenda for the December meeting, an extension has been applied for and granted due to the Christmas holiday dates. Accepted responses confirmed by 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

The clerk has not received any comments from members of the public regarding this application. Cllrs felt that the family are a young family and the cottage could benefit from the extension to accommodate a more modern family lifestyle. Cllrs felt that the extension would not be visible or too different from the existing outlook and would have little or no impact to neighbouring properties. The design is sympathetic and in-keeping with the existing property. Proposed to accept by Cllr Helliwell, seconded by Cllr Baker. All Cllrs unanimous. Application approved at Parish Council level.

## 10. Planning Decisions

- **DC/21/03499** | Erection of 1no. dwelling and cart-lodge (following demolition of barn) | Land Adjacent Bush's Farm Stowmarket Road Old Newton Suffolk IP14 4EB. **Application has been withdrawn.**
- **DC/21/05459** - Planning Application - Erection of 1no. two storey dwelling, cart-lodge and 2no. double garages (following demolition of existing garage), alterations and extension of existing bungalow to form two storey dwelling at 27 Church Road, Old Newton, Suffolk, IP14 4ED. Application has been granted by MSDC.
- **Application. No:** DC/21/05886 Blacksmiths Cottage Silver Street Old Newton Suffolk IP14 4HF | Status: Pending Consideration
- **Application. No:** DC/21/06262 | Browns Place Farm Brown Street Old Newton Suffolk IP14 4QB | Status: Pending Consideration.

11. **Defibrillator / New Cabinet** – The new cabinet is steel and not polycarbonate as preferred by Cllrs has been delivered and is awaiting installation by the electrician. Cabinet will be left with Cllr Miller after the January meeting who will meet with the electrician when he is available to complete the installation. Electrician has indicated Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January providing access and under 5's can be accommodated / worked around. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after 12pm.

12. **Phone Box / Public Library** – Philip Groom has cleared some of the growth and recycled the elder tree. As soon as the weather is better the glass will be cleaned and the security panel can be removed and discussions with Philip to decide the best way forward for the library to make it far more acceptable.
13. **Queens Jubilee Beacon** – Stowupland used a company called Leander Architectural at a cost of circa £8-£9k. They have confirmed that it can be done for June if required. There is an element of CIL money that could be used to purchase the beacon. Breakdown of quote as follows:

Item	Qty	Description	Unit Price	Line Total
1	1.00	Brazier basket - c/w inner firebasket and mounting bracket. Design as per "Battle's Over" tribute. (Ready to fit to either 200 x 200 steel post or 300 x 300 oak post).	£1,850.00	£1,850.00
2	1.00	300 x 300 Oak Post - prepared for installation.	£2,025.00	£2,025.00
3	1.00	Installation of complete Beacon assembly to site.	£3,870.00	£3,870.00
4		1 no - Foundation 1300mm x 1300mm x 1300mm (depending on location, if structural engineers agree - this could reduce & overall cost reduces)		
5				
6				
7		SHIPPING TO SITE included with installation. Brazier basket shipping only - £95		
8				
<small>This is a quotation on the goods named, subject to the conditions noted below.            Load bearing items/Structures: These are quoted as per client requests. Unless specifically requested otherwise, designs will not have been validated by a structural engineer. Although based on best practice, unless specified otherwise, Leander can not provide any warranty as to the technical suitability &amp; is indemnified against any and all claims that may arise. It is recommended that the design is validated by professional consulting engineers against and loading criteria etc.</small>			Subtotal	£7,745.00
			Carriage	
			VAT/Sales Tax	£1,549.00
<small>Enquiries will not proceed into production until the client has approved our "Order Confirmation" document, that will follow formally ordering the item(s) mentioned above.</small>			Total	£9,294.00

**Thank you for your enquiry!**

SALC Queens Jubilee beacons (item 17 on the agenda) is information and guidance on how to take part if we are taking part on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Ask the village hall if they would be prepared to have it on the site of the playing field. Investigate if we could trim the costs by locally sourced materials. Make a decision at the February meeting.

14. **SCC Community Emergency Plan** - Emergency Planning documents are very basic, but the Chairman and Clerk have updated them, and they will be re-issued following Cllrs approval / comments at tonight's meeting. Agreed to include in the plan the church, Methodist chapel and the school as possible places of safety.
15. **Cemetery – Update**
- The family asked to remove their plaque from the new wall until the old wall was complete have been informed and allowed to reinstate their plaque when its ready on the new wall as the old wall is now complete.
  - The Clerk has asked Ian Hammond Cemetery maintenance contractor to in-fill the graves of Harry Clarke, Charles & Dorothy Cook, Arthur George Smith and Emmeline Haywood. This will be completed early January.
  - The gravestones that need re-setting cannot be done by our cemetery maintenance contractor and this is the responsibility of the family / owners of the graves / stonemasons and not something the Clerk can arrange. This will need to be identified in one of the letters to be attached to the headstones.
  - Cllr Hardman has completed her plotting of the cemetery records for the Clerk to move forward with. Cllr Hardman has offered to input if the clerk can forward the other half of the maps and photos. Cllr Miller and Hardman are now plotting the new part of the cemetery.
  - The clerk will issue revised cemetery policy and notices to the cemetery committee this month.
16. **Footpaths – Committee Update** – School narrative required for the information to be included on the footpaths map, Cllr Baker apologised and will get something sorted as soon as possible. The four proposed paths have now been walked by Cllrs Helliwell and Hardman. A large map as seen in Finningham has been identified as potentially a good idea. Cllrs to be emailed the 4 paths so they can walk them and provide feedback.

#### **17. Greenacres /Mutton Meadow / Falconer Avenue**

- Cllr Clements has been asked about the car parking spaces in Mutton Meadow, if they were assigned to individual properties, similar to Greenacres, Cllr Clements has been in contact with District Cllr Keith Welham who has made inquiries on our behalf within MSDC. As some properties are possibly now privately owned it's not yet known, if parking spaces were included in the sale. The inquiry came from a resident who lives in one of the council bungalows in Church Rd, backing onto Mutton Meadow, it is believed the concern is the number of vehicles now parking along the front of the bungalows in Church Rd. and could the use of the car park at the back of Mutton Meadow be used without causing problems with other residents. Reminded again that all issues should be put forward to the clerk. Cllr Welham has said he has had a different perspective on the request and has asked the planning team if there are specified spaces available to the properties on Mutton Meadow.
- The grass verges are now really churned up and very muddy on both Greenacres and Falconer Avenue. Clerk has drafted a letter for distribution to residents of Greenacres for comment before issue. Suggested comments and amendments from Cllrs to be received before the clerk will issue to residents.

#### **18. Councillors Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council**

- Potential burglary in Knights Close last night was posted on FB page but nothing reported officially.
- Ward green towards and into Wassicks lane and lorries / HGV vehicles at night is causing considerable damage to the verges all the way down and even one has fallen into the ditch. Possibly vehicles to Old Bells Farm. Clerk asked to report the verges on the SCC reporting tool.

#### **19. Public Forum – No members of the public present**

#### **20. Additional Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the February 2022 meeting.**

- Co-option
- Footpaths
- Jubilee beacons
- Cemetery
- Phone Box / Community Library
- Mutton Meadow – Cllrs please direct any queries through the Clerk.
- SID Data

#### **21. Date of the next Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 – 7.30pm at the Woodward Room in the Village Hall.**

Meeting closed at 21.13 hrs