

Wednesday 1st June 2022 – Public Meeting commenced at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Present: Cllr J Miller - Chair, M Clements – Vice-Chair, Will Ratcliffe, S Moore, M Helliwell, N Hardman, K Hall-Price, (Clerk), District Cllr K Welham, District Cllr Eburne, County Cllr Stringer and 2 members of the public.

1. **Welcome & Apologies:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the June 2022 meeting. Apologies received from, Cllrs M Reeve, K Baker, K Goudy. Cllr Stringer is attending Mendlesham meeting first but will be in attendance later.
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 meetings held on 4th May 2022** - It was proposed by Cllr Clements and seconded by Cllr Ratcliffe to accept the May minutes as true and accurate, unanimously agreed and they will be signed accordingly by the Chairman.

4. Clerks Report following May meeting.

- **Cllr Training** – Clerk has confirmed the following training events have been booked:

7th June – Mid Suffolk Area Forum – Cllr Mark Clements

15th June – Cllr Mod 2 – Powers, duties and finance – Cllr Nicola Hardman

22nd June – Cllr Mod 3 – Effective meetings – Cllr Nicola Hardman

24th June – Clerks Networking - Clerk & RFO Karen Hall-Price

20th July – SALC AGM – Zoom – Cllr Mark Clements

17th October – Cllr Mod 1 – Roles and responsibilities – Cllr Nicola Hardman

If any Cllrs would like to attend any of the training offered through SALC please let the clerk know as all training has to be booked via the online training portal that only the Clerk has access to.

- **The village website** has been updated to include all minutes and information approved. The Clerk has included the latest District and County reports on the website.
- **The website accessibility statement** has been reviewed by Cllr Stephen Moore and admin access rights to the website have been provided. Cllr Moore has tested the website and identified some changes and amendment's need to be made moving forward, once agreed and actions complete the statement will be made public on the website. Cllr Moore needs to confirm date the website was tested and whether the council should accept this statement and issue. Proposed by Cllr Clemetns, seconded Cllr Helliwell.
- **Planning responses** were issued / uploaded onto BMSDC website by the deadline dates specified.

Police Report – (Crime map stats are always going to be circa 6 weeks out of date).

- March 2022 – 3 x violence / sexual offences on or near Greenacres / 1 x theft and 1 x violence / sexual offence on or near Cross Green / 1 x theft and 2 x violence / sexual offences on or near Knights Close.
- April 2022 – 1 x possession of weapon on or near Silver Street / 1 x Violence / sexual offence on or near Greenacres / 1 x public order offence on or near the playing field / 1 x theft from a person on or near Wassicks Lane.

National Volunteers' Week takes place between 1 and 7 June and Suffolk Constabulary will be taking the time to say a big thank you to all its volunteers. As life returns to normality after the pandemic the force has a number of events organised to help acknowledge the valuable work the Special Constabulary, the Suffolk Cadets and all our Police Staff Volunteers (PSV) contribute to.

Burglary – Stowmarket. Stolen push bike, taken from inside of a home in Stowmarket when the occupants were out. The incident occurred between 13:30hrs and 19:30hrs on Sunday the 22nd of May 2022. It is believed the suspect(s) gained access to the residential address on Mallard Way via a back door and then took the push bike.

A week of intensified action carried out by Suffolk police as part of Operation Sceptre resulted in seven arrests as officers stepped up activities to tackle knife-enabled crime and violence across the county. Officers conducted a series of tactics, with activity including high visibility patrols, weapons sweeps and intelligence-led stop and searches. A total of seven warrants were executed across the county, with four people arrested for knife-related offences.

Police are releasing images of a number of bicycles that are believed to have been stolen. Officers also found a quantity of lead. The items were found and seized at an address in Stowmarket following an attempted arrest of a man who was wanted in connection with other offences.

Police are appealing for witnesses to a road traffic collision in Stowupland. The collision happened on Monday 9 May at around 11.05am on Church Road. Officers were called to the collision that involved a red Peugeot 107 and a black Smart Fortwo. Police, the fire service, ambulance and the air ambulance attended the scene and the road was closed for several hours. The driver of the Smart ForTwo, a woman in her seventies, was taken to West Suffolk Hospital by air ambulance having suffered serious, potentially life-changing leg injuries. Police would like to hear from anyone who may have witnessed the collision, or saw the vehicles moments before the collision, or anyone with dash cam footage of the collision.

Burglary in Bacton - Detectives are appealing for witnesses and information following a home on Church Road broken into sometime Tuesday 31 May sometime between 11am and 4.10pm. An unknown suspect or suspects gained access to the home by jemmyming the rear glass doors. An untidy search was undertaken, and jewellery was stolen.

5. Financial matters & Financial report

Online banking – All invoices for payment for the May 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 Goudy on Thursday 5th May 2022 following the meeting.

Clerk met with our internal audit control Cllr - Cllr Nicola Hardman on Friday 6th May 2022 before the internal audit meeting with Mr Trevor Brown. Cllr Hardman reported to Council.

Internal Audit meeting with Mr Trevor Brown took place on 27th May 2022. All Cllrs have received copy of the internal audit report prior to the meeting. Submission date for the external audit is 1st July 2022 whereby the accounts and AGAR were put forward for approval at tonight's full council meeting for submission to PKF LittleJohn. Results arising from the audit are that we need to review the fidelity insurance cover which will be done at the insurance review and finance review meeting in November. And an underpayment of HMRC NI contributions that was noted during the audit that the payroll system had incorrectly applied the Employment Allowance in respect of the NI Contributions due to be paid by the Council, as the Employer. The Moneysoft Payroll System is largely used by the private sector, to which the Employment Allowance applies. The Employment Allowance does not normally apply to public sector bodies. The Clerk/RFO agreed that the Employment Allowances incorrectly claimed within the payroll system (amounting to £995.12) will be paid to HMRC at the next bacs payment bank run. Cllrs agreed for the Clerk to submit the three outstanding amounts reference the financial year that they represent. Proposed by Cllr Helliwell, seconded by Cllr Hardman.

20-21	£377.75
21-22	£462.69
22-23	£154.68
TOTAL	£995.12

The Parish Council also needs a website accessibility policy that the clerk is currently working on as a result of this being picked up as part of the audit.

For the purposes of the External Audit and AGAR submission – The clerk read out the Annual Governance Statement to the Cllrs who acknowledged the parish council responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including the arrangements for the preparation of the accounting statements. The period for the exercise of public rights from Monday 27th June – Friday 12th August inclusive and all relevant information and public documents will be available on the website. This is in line with the local audit and accountability act 2014 and the transparency code. Cllrs agreed for the Clerk to submit the audit to PKF LittleJohn before the 1st July deadline.

The internal auditor confirmed that the FGBT funds should not be included in Parish Council funds but could be invested in a separate savings account that would provide a separate bank statement for the account. Clerk to investigate if Barclays will allow us to open an additional account for this purpose.

The internal auditor also confirmed that this year will be his last year before retirement and will therefore not be available to act as our internal auditor for the next financial audit. Clerk to investigate alternative internal auditors to be put forward to the finance committee prior to the finance review meeting in November.

Bank Account Balances:

- Barclays Statement Balance = **£44,899.70** (31.05.2022)
- Scottish Widows 60 Day account balance = **£3,379.14** (01.04.22)
- Scottish Widows Deposit account = **£253.54** (01.04.22)
- Public Works Loan – Balance outstanding = **£12,636.51** (06.04.2022)

Accounts for payment – May 2022: Approval and payment in June 2022.

EXPENDITURE	CHQ/BA CS/SO/ DDR		NET	VAT	TOTAL
Karen Price	Bacs	Salary £1,227.96 – May, holiday pay £148.21 less tax £65.60, NI £73.29, pension £55.05 plus expenses £93.58	£1,275.81		£1,275.81
HMRC PAYE	Bacs	Employee NI £73.29, Employee Tax £65.60, Employer NI £93.03	£231.92		£231.92
HMRC PAYE	Bacs	Employment allowance incorrectly claimed financial year 20-21	£377.75		£377.75
HMRS PAYE	Bacs	Employment allowance incorrectly claimed financial year 21-22	£462.69		£462.69
HMRC PAYE	Bacs	Employment allowance incorrectly claimed financial year 22-23 to date	£154.68		£154.68
Nest Pension	DDR	Employee £55.05, Employer £41.29	£96.34		£96.34
CGM	Bacs	Grass cutting 13/04/22 & 27/04/22	£186.60	£37.32	£223.92
Realise Futures	Bacs	4 x Jubilee benches	£2289.67	£457.93	£2747.60
Ian Hammond	Bacs	Cemetery maintenance	£405.00		£405.00
Mor-Tech	Bacs	Email hosting – Annual invoice	£180.00	£36.00	£216.00
Martin Reeve	Bacs	Grass Cutting – Ward Green	£100.00		£100.00
Trevor Brown	Bacs	Internal audit services	£195.65		£195.65
MSDC	Bacs	Litter & Dog Bin emptying	£744.66	£148.93	£893.59

RECEIPTS	Payslip			
		Non Received in May		

Proposed by Cllr Clements, seconded by Cllr Hardman to pay the accounts by BACS transfer. Cllr Miller to approve.

6. Correspondence Received

- **East Anglia GREEN consultation – Closes on 16th June 2022.** – Cllrs and parishioners could ask as part of the consultation that the corridor be pushed to the east or west and give reasons for listed buildings etc.

From District Cllr report & comments received from Mrs Mary Moore

This proposal for grid reinforcement cables from Norwich to Tilbury is in the pre-consultation scale; councils, businesses and residents have an opportunity to give their views on the scheme. The route passes north-south through Stowupland on 50 metre high pylons which will be clearly visible from parts of Old Newton and Gipping. The draft route linking Norwich with Tilbury passes to the east of Gipping and to the west of Saxham Street. We understand that if the wires go over a residential property it must be vacated and the property purchased by the Electricity Network so by and large the route snakes about avoiding housing, passing over fields. The Network has a list of things to avoid such as listed buildings and RAMSAR sites but the list is not exhaustive as it omits commons & nature reserves. The huge pylons are bigger than those we are used to although there are a few examples about e.g. at ASDA near Ipswich for you to get an idea of scale.

In Nationally Designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), the cables will be laid underground. There are no AONBs in the Mid Suffolk section of the proposed route; the nearest is the Dedham Vale. There have been calls for the whole of the route to be laid underground, but this has significant problems, not just due to the higher cost. In particular, the works would cause disruption along the whole of the route for many months and the swathe of land which would need to be disturbed in order to lay the cables would take many years to return to its present condition. A far better solution may be to lay cables undersea with connections from the various windfarms to Tilbury. It is the view of Green Councillors that the consultation is flawed because very little information is readily available in respect of alternatives to the proposed route; also, no details of an undersea option are available for comparison. Clearly, the environmental and visual effects of an undersea option would be much less than the current proposal. MSDC Cllrs have urged the Parish Council, individual Councillors and residents of Old Newton to make their views known by **16th June**.

Online forms are available on the website – nationalgrid.com/east-anglia-green or email EastAngliaGREEN@nationalgrid.com

Cllr Comments: - Costs – Lowest costs is the preferred government option and policy. The sea option does not appear to be considered. Environmental impact of undergrounding is higher impact and will have a minimum 50meters wide underground. The coastal route would be preferred by many. When looking at the maps the overhead lines that feed Suffolk – These larger structures will be feeding London and will be in addition to what already exists. It is believed that they are trying to go down the path of least resistance, but they will be overshadowing many listed properties. If Sizewell can be connected to Kent then why can't this be connected via the sea. Say No notice was provided by Mrs Moore. Clerk to publicise on the spotted in old newton Facebook page. Both District and County are against these plans. Cllr Moore to ensure the Facebook post is circulated again.

- **Temporary Footpath 47 Closure Notice** – Cllrs would like to see if the footpath could be diverted around the site without touching the B1113 or going near the road as this route is dangerous and Cllrs felt unsafe. Cllrs are very unhappy that the footpath appears to be being closed prematurely, when work cannot even begin until the outline planning has been approved. Clerk to write to SCC and copy Cllr Andrew Stringer.

The circulars folder was circulated to all Cllrs in attendance at the meeting.

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

Annual Council Meeting - 26 May 2022 - Once again, the Green and Liberal Democrat group put forward suggestions for working together with the Administration. We remain a group of 17; the Conservatives have 16 and there is one independent. The Conservative leader refused all our requests and decided not to accept our offer to cooperate. This will result in the Chairman needing to use his casting vote on many occasions. We feel that this is undemocratic and will continue to hamper our desire to improve services to residents.

Proposal from National Grid for overhead cables through Mid Suffolk - This proposal for grid reinforcement cables from Norwich to Tilbury is in the pre-consultation scale; councils, businesses and residents have an opportunity to give their views on the scheme. The route passes north-south through Stowupland on 50 metre high pylons which will be clearly visible from parts of Old Newton and Gipping. In Nationally Designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), the cables will be laid underground. There are no AONBs in the Mid Suffolk section of the proposed route; the nearest is the Dedham Vale. There have been calls for the whole of the route to be laid underground, but this has significant problems, not just due to the higher cost. In particular, the works would cause disruption along the whole of the route for many months and the swathe of land which would need to be disturbed in order to lay the cables would take many years to return to its present condition. A far better solution may be to lay cables undersea with connections from the various windfarms to Tilbury. It is the view of Green Councillors that the consultation is flawed because very little information is readily available in respect of alternatives to the proposed route; also, no details of an undersea option are available for comparison. Clearly, the environmental and visual effects of an undersea option would be much less than the current proposal. We urge the Parish Council, individual Councillors and residents of Old Newton to make their views known by 16 June.

Mid Suffolk Cabinet Meeting on 6 June – Cabinet will be discussing the National Grid proposals on 6 June. We have an opportunity to speak and/or send written comments for consideration by Cabinet members. We welcome views of Councillors at your meeting on 1 June.

Cabinet will also be discussing a 5-point plan to help residents deal with the problems arising from the cost of living crisis. The proposals are as follows:

1. Co-ordinating Government Support to ensure it reaches those people who need it.
2. Exercising discretion when providing welfare support and advice to support those people who could potentially fall on hard times.
3. Maximise partnership working and established systems to provide targeted support in localities where there is a particular trend and need, implementing a targeted family-first approach.
4. Helping people maintain good health.

Ensuring everyone has access to food and nutrition – whether that be participating in healthy eating exercises/initiatives, organising a community garden to grow produce, setting up of a Community Larder or providing extra support to local food banks to meet any unmet need.

Local Planning Issues

- **Development east of Greenacres:** We have continued to discuss this application with the planning case officer to press for amendments to be made to the layout. As a result a revised layout drawing has been provided by Keepmoat and this was presented by the developer for discussion at the virtual meeting on 30 May.
- **Moat Farm Development:** We have heard nothing further from planning officers and no date for a decision has been set.
- **Station Road:** We have not received any indication that a planning application is to be made.

Locality Funding - We would welcome applications from any local club or organisation in need of funding towards the cost of a local project.

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

Latest SCC information is available here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

For information on supporting Ukrainian refugees in Suffolk, email: refugeesupport@suffolk.gov.uk

Welcome Guidance for Ukrainians arriving in the UK: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/welcome-a-guide-for-ukrainians-arriving-in-the-uk>

- **Motion Passed, Further Commitment to Suffolk Rivers** - Full Council convened on the 19th May. Our Group proposed a motion for greater commitment towards improving rivers in Suffolk. Currently, all Suffolk rivers have been reported by the Environment Agency to have failed government standards. Increased pollution comes from a rise in sewage discharges, as well as chemicals used in agriculture that run off into waterways. Our motion committed SCC to improving rivers, investigating what more can be done to enhance waterways, and increase engagement and support with farmers and environmental groups in any future strategies. Our motion was passed unanimously. Below is a picture of our Group campaigning a successful protest outside Endeavour House:

Successful Protest on Suffolk Rivers



- **Current petition for in-house Suffolk Highways maintenance contract** - Our Group has started a petition, demanding that SCC produces an in-house bid for the new Suffolk Highways contract. The contract, which will have been held by Kier for 10 years, is up for renewal next year. Since Kier's arrival, our Group has seen astronomical prices for the maintenance of Suffolk's highways. Some of these prices include £5,000 for a pair of dropped kerbs, £7,500 to cut down a single tree, and £10,000 to design (not build) four humps in a road. Our Group believes an in-house bid from SCC to take back control of Suffolk Highways is needed to get things done. The bid would also provide a necessary benchmark for any competitive bid coming from external companies, making sure Suffolk taxpayers money is not exploited. We need 3,675 signatures to bring this to debate at the Council. Please sign here (ensure you make you name public, or it won't count!): https://www.petitions.net/for_suffolk_county_council_to_develop_an_in-house_bid_for_suffolk_highways_maintenance
- **National Grid consultation** - National Grid have released proposals to increase pylon networks across Suffolk's countryside, in light of the Government's strategy to grow the East of England's offshore electricity generation. Our Group are strongly against the development of more pylon networks impacting Suffolk's rural landscape and cultural heritage. The proposals are even criticised by Conservative MPs Dan Poulter and James Cartledge. Our Group will put pressure on this Council to respond to the consultation, in collaboration with Essex and Norfolk, stressing the significant need for sea-level cables that reduce the community impacts of National Grid's proposals. Our Group will respond ourselves if the Conservative fail to address our concerns. If you would like to voice your opinion on the matter, click here (Deadline is the 16th June): <https://eastangliagreen.participatr.io/index.php?contentid=13>

9. Planning Applications

Reserved Matters application (Ref: DC/22/01159 – KeepMoat application on Greenacres Site) Following Mondays meeting (online) submitted to MSDC for determination. This was an informal meeting meant to open dialogue and that as of yet no revised plans have been submitted for consideration or comment. Initial summary was provided to all Cllrs via the clerks report and Cllrs additional comments and discussion points at the Meeting are detailed below:

- Residents have made complaints / concerns that works have already commenced on the site, however this has been confirmed that only works completed have been eco works and some archaeological works. It was confirmed that the site has been made secure and James Whelan will investigate if the blue panels are temporary or ongoing. It was also reported that the access gates to the site have been opened onto the road and it was asked if this could be potentially opened into the site and even pushed back to allow for off road access / parking prior to gates being opened as this stretch of road is a busy stretch of road particularly at school drop off and pick up as it is the major route to school for both vehicles and pedestrians. Advised by Keepmoat that movements should now be minimal until construction works commence.
- The public footpath was confirmed as open and will remain open. There is the possibility of a footpath temporary closure order whilst actual building works take place, but a diversionary route will be provided. Within 24hrs of this being confirmed on the virtual meeting the footpath closure order had been issued. Cllrs believed Keepmoat when we discussed the footpath closure and yet the closure had already been applied for and granted. This approach does not bode well for opening a positive and constructive dialogue between both parties. Councillors believe there is no requirement to close the footpath as yet as without detailed planning permission no building works can be started. Councillors would like to see the footpath closure delayed until absolutely necessary and the footpath diverted within the confines of the site, as has been done with developments in Stowupland. Cllrs are unhappy with the proposed diversionary route, which is along the B1113, an un-paved road which is a very busy road and a designated lorry route. Andrew Stringer to take up with appropriate individual within County Council. Furthermore, Councillors would ask that Keepmoat consider how the footpath, once the development is built, could retain more of its current 'country' aspect, as opposed to being simply a passage along paved streets.
- It was confirmed at the virtual meeting that there will be a separate site manager for the two developments in our village and the District and Parish Council will have contact names / email addresses made available. Any questions raised were promised that they can always be raised after any meeting – they are keen to keep lines of communication open.
- Some of the design and layout queries raised have been addressed and once heritage have come back a new revised map and re-consultation may be submitted for comment. The draft layout shown may change due to any changes required with the parking bays and also to possibly incorporate any Heritage concerns.

- Councillors are concerned at the level of tandem, triple and remote parking within the development. They do not believe that this is sustainable and will lead to congestion as individuals seek to park as close to their homes as possible, as per existing developments within the village that have remote parking provision. The Parish Council would like Planning to consider the suitability of the suggested parking arrangements, as nearly 80% of the proposed homes have either tandem or triple parking. It was noted that the maisonettes only have 1 parking space and not 2 spaces as per the other properties, but this is within planning permissions for 1 bedroomed properties. Cllrs firmly believe that parking will be an issue if car parking spaces are not adjacent to the properties. The Parish Council would like to request that the appropriate vehicle tracking software be run for the development to include refuse collections, delivery lorries etc. It was asked whether it is possible to run this with an assumed level of on-road parking, rather than pristine and empty roads, to make the result more realistic.
- Councillors are concerned that the developers are not seeking to have the road adopted, which they believe is driven by a wish to reduce costs. This will have a long-term detrimental impact on the amenities and utility of the estate, and the village as a whole. The council would like Keepmoat to consider reversing this decision. Cllrs also questioned who will install and maintain any streetlights and maintenance of the roadway if this road is not adopted.
- It was confirmed that Electric points will be provided regardless of where the spaces are as per regulations and guidance and has been done on other developments.
- Councillors are concerned at the density of the development. They would like Keepmoat and Planning to consider whether a slight reduction in the number of homes built, even if this means that there is a drop in the number of affordable homes, would produce a more sustainable, attractive and marketable development. Cllrs firmly believe that the number should be reduced as they have moved 4 new homes closer to the biodiversity areas that they kept mentioning. The only way to maximise biodiversity opportunities is to reduce density of the buildings not to increase it.
- Councillors would like Heritage to re-review the impact the development will have on neighbouring properties, especially the listed buildings, and those within their curtilage, making particular reference to the recent update to Chapter 16 of the NPPF which gives clearer protection to heritage assets, especially where their setting is affected by a new development, through supporting wider green spaces and the removal of properties close to, in the line of sight of, or near listed buildings. Councillors do not believe that the current draft layout, properly protects the setting and aspects of the heritage assets it neighbours. Any issues regarding line-of-sight etc to any listed buildings are awaiting heritage comments and revised drawings / re-consultation will be issued once these are received. Cllrs don't agree that the listed property has a clear line of sight to the views. That's the developer's assumption (in Cllrs views their comments at the virtual meeting made light of the importance of this building), they can still see 64 new homes! Only the property owner can confirm the impact of the development on what they see from their windows and garden. Making statements about this without the facts is pointless by Keepmoat. Therefore, an immediate reduction of property numbers should be called for. Cllrs asked if Heritage could look at this application again with the understanding of the development being within the curtilage of listed buildings.
- A detailed drainage design plan would be welcomed by Cllrs to include any ditches etc.
- Nothing was discussed about individual house design at this meeting, just about the layout design. The property design must be discussed to ensure we have an opportunity to have something that adds value to the village in terms of appearance and heritage rather than a bland estate like the one in Haughley called Eve Meadow. The Parish Council would welcome a discussion, along the lines of the one held on 30th May, to consider how the design could be brought more in line with the designs suggested within the National Character Area Profile for South Norfolk and High Suffolk Claylands and the Suffolk Design Guide.
- There is a desire for amending the landscape plan to boost the biodiversity of any green spaces and planting and wildlife to be taken into consideration, but no detailed landscaping has been provided and the trees to be planted will need to be mature trees not saplings that will take 30 years to be established. Cllrs thought Keepmoat's suggestion that the original plan did not detail the full planting scheme suggests that their eye on the detail is lacking somewhat. Cllrs counted four plans in total all slightly different with wild variations in planting. The only 'mature' tree in front of the open space has now gone from the online plan shown at the virtual meeting. They added some new trees along the field boundary, but we need to pin them down on what these trees are. This is a developer that bangs on about their biodiversity creds but are not too great when it comes to protecting trees and planting on their new developments (see this news story - <https://www.gedlingeye.co.uk/news/gedling-news/anger-over-amount-of-trees-cut-down-for-new-housing-development-in-gedling/>)

- Councillors were pleased to see that Keepmoat was attempting to redesign the layout of the development to accommodate the setting back of properties from Church Road. The Parish Council feel that if this open space could remain as meadow-like as possible, it would provide a link to the history of the site, and help maintain some of the biodiversity of the current meadow.
- They also commented that the fence and hedging was completed with ecologists signing off at every stage. Parishioner, who attended the council meeting, remains adamant that Keepmoat have cut-back/removed his hedging, disturbing a sitting hen pheasant.
- Overall Councillors are disappointed with the level of Keepmoat's engagement with the Parish Council, particularly as they have two development sites within the Parish. The 30th May meeting was the first attempt by Keepmoat to engage directly with the Parish Council, despite the planning progress having been ongoing for some time. The disgusting hoarding and the removal of nesting hedging in spring amongst other things shows scant regard for the local community. Cllrs are concerned regarding the attitude of the developer towards this site and are hopeful and want to encourage further discussions and consultations moving forward to ensure the parish council concerns are addressed and listened to. Cllrs want to ensure we pin the developers down on the detail of their proposal with robust arguments that support the community and the future of the village to ensure we don't end up with yet more ugly new development.

10. Planning Decisions from MSDC

- **DC/22/01934** | Householder Application - Erection of single bay cartlodge, home office and loft store (following the demolition of existing garage). | Peony Cottage 6 Sandford Road Old Newton Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 4PN. *Planning permission has been granted by MSDC.*
- **DC/22/01633** | Application to determine if Prior Approval is required for a proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to Dwellinghouses (C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for conversion. Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development)(England) Order 2015 (as amended) Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q - Conversion of former poultry/livestock barn to 1no. single storey dwellinghouse. | Agricultural Barn Land South Of Old Newton Hall Sandford Road Old Newton Suffolk IP14 4PL. *Prior Approval from MSDC has been refused.*

11. Phone Box / Public Library – Nothing new to report. Remove off the agenda until September meeting.

12. Cemetery – Committee Update. The new revised version of the cemetery policy has been issued. All Cllrs accepted the revised policy document and approved – Clerk to issue and make publicly available on the website. CAD drawing of the cemetery needs to be added by Cllr Miller but can be done when available. Next priority for the committee is to update the pricing.

13. Footpaths – Committee Update. Cllrs Baker and Hardman have walked the Dagworth route and will provide detailed comments to Cllr Helliwell.

14. Locality funding application towards costs of Projector & Screen – This would be for use in the Woodward Room of the village hall. Clerk to get some prices and include on the agenda for the July meeting.

15. Queens Platinum Jubilee Benches / Trees – The benches have been delivered and are being stored at Chapel Farm, Gipping ready for Jon Hines when he is available to install the concrete bases. Cllr Mark Clements and Cllr Stephen Moore to visit each site to decide the exact location of the bases and measurements required to be forwarded to Jon Hines for the work instruction. Clerk to obtain prices for various trees for the July meeting.

- Tyrell Oak – MSDC have provided confirmation of approval for the bench to be positioned.
- Village Hall – Committee have approved the bench to be sited by the older children's play area.
- Cemetery outside the memorial gates opposite side to the noticeboard
- Ward Green – Parish Council to discuss with Cllr Reeve and Martin re siting of the Ward Green bench.

16. Councillors Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council

- Cllr Clements apologised but he still has not been reconnected to landline or internet from his house move. He will inform the Clerk once this is rectified.

17. Public Forum – Nothing from the public gallery.

18. Additional Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the July 2022 meeting.

- Footpaths
- Jubilee Benches update / Trees - pricing
- Cemetery pricing
- SID Data
- Projector & Screen pricing

19. Date of the next Parish Council meeting

- **Wednesday 6th July 2022 – 7.30pm at the Woodward Room in the Village Hall.**

Meeting closed at 21.21hrs