

Wednesday 7th September 2022 – Public Meeting commenced at 7.30pm at Old Newton Village Hall

Present: Cllr J Miller (Chair), M Helliwell, K Goudy, M Clements (Vice-Chair), S Moore, N Hardman, M Reeve, K Baker arrived at 7.41pm, W Ratcliffe, K Hall-Price (Clerk & RFO), District Cllr R Eburne, District Cllr K Welham and County Cllr A Stringer arrived at 8.34pm - 2 members of the public.

1. **Welcome & Apologies** - The Chairman welcomed everyone to the September meeting of the Parish Council and apologies have been received from Cllr Andrew Stringer who will arrive late following attendance to Mendlesham monthly meeting first.

2. **To receive any declarations of personal/prejudicial interest & to note dispensations**

Declare from Cllr Miller / Baker for the management committee for the village hall request for CIL funding.

- a) To consider any requests for dispensations – No new requests received.
- b) To note existing dispensations. The standing dispensation Cllr Reeve in respect of the proposed development of the Greenacres Site.

3. **To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 6th July 2022** – Proposed by Cllr Clements and seconded by Cllr Hardman – All Cllrs in favour to approve the minutes.

To approve the extra planning meeting of 20th July 2022 – Proposed by Cllr Goudy and seconded by Cllr Clements – All Cllrs in favour to approve the minutes

To approve the extra planning meeting of 10th August 2022 – Proposed by Cllr Hardman and seconded by Cllr Helliwell – All Cllrs in favour.

4. **Clerks report following previous meeting (to be received as read – Cllr questions)**

- **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. This was tested on 17th April 2022 and approved at the 1st June 2022 meeting. The statement has now been uploaded onto the parish website.
- Comments have been received regarding the way we booked the Church Hall meeting room – Clerk has spoken with the bookings clerk who has confirmed that this is not an issue, and we are to continue what we have always done.
- **Ward Green – Wildflower plan** – Clerk has applied for the free wildflower grant from MSDC. Meeting scheduled with MSDC Richard Parmee for Friday at 2pm with Cllrs Moore and Hardman to see if the scheme is viable.

Police Report – (Crime map stats are always going to be circa 6 weeks out of date). PC Stefan Hendrikson – Community engagement team for Stowmarket SNT was in attendance.

- 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.
- May 2022 – Nothing reported
- June 2022 – Nothing reported
- July 2022 – Stats not yet available
- There is a police public meeting scheduled for 6th October at Cedars Hotel, Stowmarket if any Cllr would like to attend there is no need to book just turn up. Meeting starts at 6.30pm.
- Suffolk Constabulary's new police station in Ipswich opens for business on Tuesday 6 September. The building located on Princes Street in the town, (postcode is IP11QJ) will be accessible to members of the public with an enquiry office open from Monday – Saturday (9am – 5pm) (excluding Bank Holidays). The base, shared with the Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service and their staff, means the Museum Street base will be closed to the public.
- The force is holding its first face to face recruitment event for the Specials since the start of the pandemic. Taking place on Saturday 17 September at Police HQ, Martlesham, the event will cover what it's like being a volunteer police officer in Suffolk, the recruitment process, including discussing the application form and the new College of Policing Assessment Centre.

- Police are appealing for information after tyres were slashed and paintwork was scratched on two vehicles in the town. An unknown person has damaged a BMW vehicle parked on a driveway in Finborough Road sometime between 8am Wednesday 24th and 8am Sunday 28th August. Ref: 37/55505/22. An Audi vehicle parked on a driveway in Tylers Way was damaged between 5pm Saturday 27th and 11am Sunday 28th August. Ref: 37/5513/22.
- Suffolk Constabulary has been congratulated by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Service (HMICFRS) for the way it has responded to the challenges of the past year. In the HMICFRS' latest PEEL (Police Effectiveness Efficiency and Legitimacy) report, published today, Suffolk is said to have improved in many areas since its last inspection in 2019.
- Police are appealing for information following a burglary at a home in Stowmarket. Entry was gained to the home in Crown Street sometime between 11.59pm Tuesday 16th & 7.30am on Wednesday 17th August. A Nintendo Switch and a mobile phone were stolen from inside.
Police are urging owners of commercial vans to stay vigilant following a series of reported thefts or attempted thefts from commercial vans across west Suffolk. From Monday 25 July to Wednesday 3 August there have been 17 such reports across the west Suffolk area. 15 incidents saw actual thefts from vehicles and in all cases a variety of power tools and DIY equipment were taken, while the other two incidents saw two incidents of interference with motor vehicles. All of them took place overnight and six incidents took place in Stowmarket, five in Bury St Edmunds, three in Sudbury two in Haverhill and one in Cavendish. In five of the incidents the lock of the vehicle had been drilled before the items were taken. Enquiries into the crimes are on-going and police are linking them.

New police station in Stowmarket opening next year but will not have a front desk or be open to the public. Data on accidents will only be recorded if accident and injury has occurred.

5. Financial matters & Financial report.

Bank Account Balances:

- Barclays Statement Balance = **£35,385.29** (29.07.2022)
- Barclays Statement Balance = **£31,025.85** (30.08.2022)
- Scottish Widows 60 Day account balance = **£3,379.22** (30.06.22)
- Scottish Widows Deposit account = **£253.55** (30.06.22)
- Public Works Loan – Balance outstanding = **£12,636.51** (06.04.2022)

Accounts for payment – July 2022: Approved by Finance committee / Cllrs due to not having a monthly meeting in August as agreed by Cllrs over email. Payments made on 2nd August 2022 authorised by Cllr Miller.

EXPENDITURE	CHQ/BA CS/SO/ DDR		NET	VAT	TOTAL
Karen Price	Bacs	Salary £1,030.88 – holiday pay £124.43, less tax £21.40, NI £14.22, pension £46.22 plus expenses £60.19	£1,133.66		£1,133.66
HMRC PAYE	Bacs	Employee NI £14.22, Employee Tax £21.40, Employer NI £59.79	£95.41		£95.41
Nest Pension	DDR	Employee £46.22, Employer £34.66	£80.88		£80.88
CGM	Bacs	Grass cutting 06/07 & 20/07/22	£186.60	£37.32	£223.92
Ian Hammond	Bacs	Cemetery maintenance July	£210.00		£210.00
PWLB	DDR	Streetlights loan repayment	£2,613.62		£2,613.62
SALC	Bacs	Cllr Training – Cllr S Moore x 6 sessions	£156.00	£31.20	£187.20
RECEIPTS	Payslip				
		Nothing received / banked in July 2022			

Accounts for payment – August 2022:

EXPENDITURE	CHQ/BACS/S/SO/DDR		NET	VAT	TOTAL
Karen Price	Bacs	Salary £917.18 – holiday pay £110.70, tax refund £4.20, NI NIL, pension £41.12 plus expenses £74.28	£1,065.24		£1,065.24
HMRC PAYE	Bacs	Employee NI £NIL, Employee Tax Refund £4.20, Employer NI £40.62	£36.42		£36.42
Nest Pension	DDR	Employee £41.12, Employer £30.84	£71.96		£71.96
CGM	Bacs	Village Hall – Grass Cutting INV 250149 15/08/22	£93.30	£18.66	£111.96
Martyn Reeve	Bacs	Ward Green - Grass cutting June, nothing in July and August	£200.00		£200.00
Onwoods / ONEG	Bacs	Cleansing Grant – litter picking qtr 1 June	£185.25		£185.25
Methodist Chapel		In principle -Hire of hall costs – 10.08.22	£9.00		£9.00
RECEIPTS	Payslip				
MSDC	DC	Cleansing Grant – Qtr 1 June 22	£185.25		£185.25

Proposed by Cllr Clements seconded by Cllr Helliwell – All in favour – Cllr Goudy to authorise.

6. Correspondence Received / Circulars

- Ken Larcombe – Footpaths Rights of Way Officer – Update on Footpath 047 – charity walker’s cup
- Booking of Methodist Church Hall – Comments received regarding the manor in which the hall was booked. Clarification from the booking clerk has confirmed that a telephone call is accepted. Invoice to follow.
- James Wheelan – Gates issue on Church Road development. 3rd or 4th time we have had to deal with this issue. We can’t call the police out and we dealt with it. The wind rattles across the field and needs to be moved to open inwards or vastly greater secured. They are upsetting the neighbours with the marker pins on the neighbour’s property and the developer says they are restricting their development access. Copy planning enforcement and record it as an unsafe structure. Highways emergency number if the gates are opening onto the road. 0345 6066171 Report immediate issue / danger for the public.
- Police – Neighbourhood Watch Association Letter
- Household food savy and planning ahead tips – Forward for inclusion in the Crier.

7. District Councillor’s Report (to be received as read – Cllr questions) – Mrs Rachel Eburne / Mr Keith Welham

- **Cabinet Meeting on 5 September** - Cabinet will be considering financial monitoring reports. Mid Suffolk expects a £782,000 underspend in the current financial year. £500,000 of this will be kept in a reserve to deal with any inflationary pressures. The inflation impact is particularly expected on staff costs, the waste service and the leisure centre. Electricity costs for the latter are expected to more than double. The Council’s housing service already carries a deficit due to inflation and materials for repairs increasing in some cases by 130%.
- **MSDC Biodiversity Action Plan** - As part of their Biodiversity Action Plan, Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have been working with specialists to map existing tree coverage and habitat networks across their districts. The aim is to identify and protect existing places where biodiversity is thriving, while also locating areas with low coverage or gaps where it could be strengthened. The survey found that just over 8% of Mid Suffolk is covered by trees, ranging from 6% in the Stow Thorney ward to 12.8% in the Claydon and Barham ward. Increasing tree coverage will help tackle biodiversity loss and climate change. No specific planting projects have yet been identified.
- **What’s Next for Stowmarket** - A new pop-up exhibition coming to Stowmarket will showcase a range of projects and proposals that will shape the future of the town. The ‘What’s Next for Stowmarket’ exhibition, will take place from Thursday 22 to Saturday 24 September at the John Peel Centre, and will include projects and developments including proposals for a new sport, leisure, education, wellbeing and leisure hub on land surrounding Stowmarket High school, an update on Gateway 14 and plans for a new Skills and Innovation Centre at the site, the Stowmarket Culture Group and plans for a new creative wayfinding project in the town. There will also be an opportunity to hear about exciting developments at the John Peel Centre and Old Fox Yard as well as from organisations including the Virtual High Street and the Mid Suffolk Disability Forum.

- **Solar Together Suffolk** - Solar Together Suffolk, a group-buying scheme which has helped over 1,500 homes in Suffolk to install solar panels and batteries, is open for new registrations. The scheme helps homeowners feel confident that they are paying the right price for a high-quality installation from pre-approved installers, whilst increasing their independence from the grid and reducing their carbon emissions. Solar Together Suffolk is supported by Suffolk County Council and all local borough and district councils, including Mid Suffolk District Council.
- **Cleaning up pavements** - MSDC is one of three district councils who have succeeded in gaining a total of nearly £60,000 in funding to remove chewing gum stains on pavements.
- **Planning Enforcement** - We had a virtual meeting with the Chief Planning Officer and Head of Planning Enforcement last week to consider how best to deal with current enforcement issues in our ward, some of which date back for a year or more. Only a few are in Old Newton; we would like an opportunity to discuss these in the near future. **3 live cases in Old Newton – Cllrs might need to review them and agree if these should be pursued or considered to be revoked.**
- **Local Planning Issues** - There is no firm date for either the Finningham Road or East of Greenacres applications to be considered by committee, but 28 September is now a likely date for both of them to be considered. Hybrid meetings are being set up and it might be possible to represent the parish council and could do so virtually.
- **Communities and Wellbeing** - This service area has recently been reorganised with managers appointed for: community grants and development; leisure, sport and wellbeing; community safety and resilience. Locality officers have been appointed; each will be available to a group of parishes to provide advice on a range of issues. The Locality Officer for our ward is Joshua Holmes.
- **Locality Funding** - We still have funds available and would welcome applications from any local club or organisation in need of funding towards the cost of a local project

8. Planning Applications

- **DC/22/03985** | Planning Application. Erection of B8 Storage and Distribution Warehouse together with associated works. | E J Farrow Haulage Ltd Bridge Farm Stowmarket Road Old Newton IP14 4PA

Cllrs comments were that the yard is a very big yard and a very tidy space and is well considered and well utilised. The proposed warehouse is in a hollow and will be shielded behind the existing warehouse. The site has good access to the roads, is protected from neighbouring properties and Cllrs did not have any objections to this application – This application was proposed by Cllr Hardman and seconded by Cllr Baker and all Cllrs were unanimously in favour of this application.

- **DC/22/03567** | Planning Application - Installation of Glen Farrow biomass boiler and log dryer. | Old Bells Farm Wassicks Lane Haughley Part In The Parish Of Old Newton IP14 3NP

The application states that the biomass boiler will be fuelled by the site's current activities – but Cllrs are concerned if this is actually sustainable. Questions were asked as to how the wood will get to and from the site. Cllrs are concerned that if this is to increase production, then this will increase the amount of vehicle movements as the company currently offers delivery within a 15-mile radius. They have already destroyed the verges and embankments along Silver Street, Ward Green and Wassicks Lane as the access to this property is restricted and Cllrs feel very strongly that vehicular movements should not be increased. The only access to this business is via Silver Street / Ward Green / Wassicks Lane and this remains a narrow single tracked access road that is not suitable for greater and larger vehicle movements. Previous applications for this business and site have promised to use short wheel-based vehicles but this has never been enforced or adhered to.

The Parish Council do not object to the applicants trying to make their business viable or sustainable, but they do object on the grounds of increased vehicular movements to and from the site if this application is approved. It was proposed by Cllr Goudy and seconded by Cllr Clements to object to this application on the above comments, there was 1 abstention with all other Cllrs voting in favour of the objection. Application refused at Parish Council level.

- Correspondence Received / Update – **DC/22/01159** - DC/19/02878 dated 12/02/2021. Town and Country Planning 2015. Submission of details for Appearance, Layout and Scale for the Erection of 64No dwellings (including 22 affordable).

Additional meeting to be arranged prior to the 28th September. Agree comments to be made and they do not go over 3 minutes. Keepmoat have agreed to keep lines of communication open and yet they have not offered an additional meeting. Sub-committee meeting arranged to discuss both Keepmoat applications– Tuesday 20th September. Clerk to book village hall and forward original submissions and comments to all Cllrs.

9. Planning Decisions from MSDC

- **DC/22/03364** | Householder Application - Construction of vehicular hardstanding in front garden with associated footpath crossing and dropped kerb for a disabled person. | 14 Church Road Old Newton Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 4ED. **Planning permission from MSDC has been granted.**
- **DC/22/03345** | Full Planning Application - Severance of garden and erection of 1No detached dwelling (following demolition of existing garage) | Rosemary Cottage 60 Chapel Road Old Newton Suffolk IP14 4PP. **Planning permission from MSDC has been refused.**
- **DC/22/03354** | Planning Application - Erection of 1No detached dwelling (revised scheme to DC/21/03499) | Land At Bush Farm Stowmarket Road Old Newton IP14 4EB. **Planning permission from MSDC has been refused.**

Cllrs should be aware that BMSDC are using reasons for refusal on many applications as heritage harm, unsustainable location and residential amenity. The proposals are located in the countryside in a less sustainable location. Future occupants would foreseeably be likely to be reliant upon the private car to access services, facilities and employment. MSDC has evidenced supply of land for housing in excess of nine years.

10. Cemetery – Update / Pricing Review

Funeral that took place last week used the consecrated ground as a car park. Cllr Miller didn't feel that that was right – the chain has been removed and not replaced – Should we consider roping off the area that is consecrated, Cllrs feel that using the area for parking could be seen as disrespectful. It isn't safe for access and egress from the site which is why the plans to use this as an entrance has been scrapped. Only maintenance vehicles should continue to have access with no public parking – access for maintenance vehicles only sign as this is Consecrated Grounds to be sourced.

Pricing review schedule by Cllrs. Cllr Hardman to forward the excel version and the Clerk will update and upload onto the village website. Proposals submitted to accept the reviewed pricing by Cllr Clements, seconded by Cllr Moore – all in favour. Clerk to update the cemetery policy documents and the website.

Internments (excluding all charges for labour)

In graves for which an exclusive right of burial has been granted. Period of 75 years. For any interment at a depth not exceeding 7 feet, the body of: -

	Current Fees		Suggested Fees		Stowupland		Resident BACTON
	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident	Resident	Non-Resident	
A still-born child	£10	£20	Nil	£30	Nil	£50	
A person whose age at the time of death does not exceed 12 years (Stowupland changes at 18)	£35	£70	Nil	£50	Nil	£50	
A person whose age at the time of death exceeded 12 years (Stowupland changes at 18)	£200	£400	£275	£600	£300	£675	£345
Internment within an existing exclusive rights plot	£100	£200	£150	£300	n/a	n/a	
For the interment of an urn containing cremated remains in an existing grave	£40	£80	£100	£200	£150	£545	
For the interment of an urn containing cremated remains on the memorial pathway	£75	£150	£125	£250	£150	£545	£145
For the interment of an urn containing cremated remains in an existing plot on the memorial pathway	£75	£150	£100	£200	n/a	n/a	
For the scattering of ashes	£10	£20	£30	£60	n/a	n/a	n/a
For the exclusive rights of burial to be extended a further 25 years at the end of the initial 75 years exclusive	£75	£150	£75	£150	£75	£75	n/a

Monuments, Gravestones, Tablets and Monumental Inscriptions

For the right to erect and place

	£50	£100	£75	£150	£75	£425	£85
A Headstone not exceeding 4ft 6" (135cm) in height, or other fixed monument at head of grave, not exceedi	£50	£100	£75	£150	£75	£425	£85
A plaque on the Memorial Wall 12"x 8" (30cm x 20cm) to be sympathetic with existing tablets. Preferably in	£50	£100	£75	£150	£50	£150	n/a
Further inscriptions	£25	£50	£25	£50	£25	£125	£33
A 6" x 5" (15cm x 13cm) marker to the left of the memorial wall	£40	£80	£40	£80	n/a	n/a	n/a

11. County Councillor's Report – (to be received as read – Cllr questions) - Mr Andrew Stringer

Update on Ukrainian Refugees in Suffolk. Suffolk County Council has provided an update with how many Ukrainian refugees are currently in Suffolk and awaiting to be granted status to our county. Below is a table showing how many arrivals also currently have sponsors (as of 23rd August 2022):

Lower Tier Local Authority	Number of Visa applications	Number of Visas issued	Number of arrivals in the UK by sponsor location
Babergh	204	192	156
East Suffolk	418	400	327
Ipswich	142	115	90
Mid Suffolk	265	254	204
West Suffolk	375	348	282

14. **Village Hall – Request for CIL money donation towards new kitchen.** Units / flooring / fitting have not been budgeted for within the current grant funding available. Cllrs feel it is important to support this project fully including financial support that can be gifted through CIL money received already. It was proposed by Cllr Clements to make an offer of £5k towards ongoing costs of the village hall refurbishment as this facility greatly benefits the village and its parishioners. This was seconded by Cllr Hardman and agreed unanimously for the Clerk to raise and put forward for payment at the October meeting.
15. **Projector and screen** – Cllr Miller to investigate and provide costings and prices for next month and request the village hall if we could paint a screen area on the wall.
16. **Phone box – Community Library** – Cllrs Miller and Clements will earmark some time to clear out and clean the phone box. Measure up and arrange for some shelving to be installed. Cllr Clements suggested that “The Man Shed” could be approached to possibly make / provide the shelving. Cllr Clements to investigate if this is at all possible and what costs may be incurred.

17. **Queens Platinum Jubilee Benches / Trees – pricing costs breakdown**

Cost of 4 x benches Realise Futures	- £2,747.60
Estimated costs of installation – Jon Hines circa £330.00 per bench x 4	- £1,320.00
TOTAL for benches	<u>- £4,067.60</u>

Clerk to email Jon Hines regarding the start for the base work. Agreed to place the bench where we originally wished on the outside the gates opposite side to the noticeboard.

Trees to be looked at another time.

Trees x 4 from East of England Apples & Orchards circa £20.00 per tree	- £ 80.00
Tree guards x 4 circa £95.00 each	
(Trees would need to have tree guards to protect them whilst growing)	- £ 380.00
ESTIMATED TOTAL for trees	<u>£ 460.00</u>

TOTAL COSTS ESTIMATED **£ 4,527.60**

18. **Ward Green – Wildflower plan – Cllrs Moore & Hardman.** Clerk has applied for the free wildflower grant from MSDC. Meeting scheduled with MSDC Richard Parmee for Friday at 2pm with Cllrs Moore and Hardman to see if the scheme is viable. Report back at the October meeting.
19. **Councillors matters to be brought to the attention of the Council.**
- Cllr Baker – Water leak on Chapel Road despite the dry conditions. Nothing has been done again. Clerk to report to highways again.
 - Cllrs to make certain that any communication with the public is copied to the Clerk.
20. **Public Forum** – Nothing raised
21. **Additional Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the October 2022 meeting.**
- Phone-box
 - Footpaths Map
 - Wildflowers – Ward Green
 - Projector & Screen Costings
22. **Date of the next meeting** – Wednesday 5th October 2022.

Meeting closed at 22.09hrs