

MINUTES OF COOKLEY & WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE PAVILION 21 JULY 2014

Present: Cllrs. David Cask (Chairman) (DC), David Whitwood (DW), Nick Jarvis (NJ), Ian Newton (IN), Mike Porter (MP) In attendance: Raymond Catchpole (Clerk). No public present.

Apologies: Cllrs. Anne Thomas, Bill Camplin, Zoé Mair (ZM), John Winter (JW), District & County Cllr Stephen Burroughes, PCSO Julie Hinton.

14/104 Declarations of Interest: MP declared continuing pecuniary interests in Cookpole and Walpole & Cookley Playing Field Trust matters, but is permitted to discuss and vote on these matters by clerk and members through a previous resolution. IN declared a pecuniary interest in matters relating to Bucks Farm, but is permitted by clerk and members to discuss these matters, opting to decline to vote.

14/105 Public Participation: Cllr Stephen Burroughes had provided his **County Council Report**, circulated to members and reproduced below:

NEW TEAM TO SAFEGUARD SUFFOLK PEOPLE

Organisations responsible for safeguarding vulnerable adults and children in Suffolk are to form a new, single, team. This will make sure information needed to keep people safe is held, and immediately accessible, in one place. By the end of the summer, the organisations, including SCC, the police, health services, district and borough council housing services, education, Probation and the Youth Offending Service, will have come together to create Suffolk's Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). The MASH is being implemented in stages to make sure that the high standards of safeguarding already in place in Suffolk don't suffer during the transition from current arrangements. Once fully operational, the MASH will be made up of approximately 60 professionals from across the county. The majority of these staff will be located at Landmark House in Ipswich. Members of the public who are concerned that a child, young person or adult is at risk of abuse, harm or neglect, should still contact Customer First on 0808 800 4005 (free from landlines and most mobiles). Further information about the Suffolk MASH is available at www.suffolk.gov.uk/MASH.

BURY RESIDENTS CELEBRATE OPENING OF THE NEW MALHOUSE BRIDGE

SCC, its partners, and the local community, are celebrating the opening of the new cycle bridge across the A14 in Bury St Edmunds. Malthouse Bridge was officially opened by Graham Newman, including local councillors, Sustrans, Department for Transport (DfT), Highways Agency, local cyclists and pedestrians. The scheme was designed after SCC secured £1.5m funding from DfT Cycle Safety Fund, which is managed by Sustrans. The bridge provides pedestrians and cyclists with improved access to Bury town centre. Works associated with the bridge installation have included resurfacing of Malthouse Lane and the northern section of Northgate Avenue to provide an all-weather surface for pedestrians and cyclists, alongside new lighting, foot path widening and an enhanced route.

OPTIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF SUFFOLK RECORD OFFICE TO BE DISCUSSED

SCC's cabinet is to consider options for an enhanced Suffolk Record Office service. The consideration comes as part of a longer-term strategy for preserving, collecting and providing access to the recorded history of the county. Each of the options being presented addresses the projected shortfall in storage capacity at current facilities. In addition, the options shape the way for further heritage services collaboration through shared working with University Campus Suffolk, creating an improved and more efficient service for Suffolk. The options presented include a single-phase replacement of Ipswich Record Office and the potential to phase the build programme over the longer term, building on partnership arrangements with

UCS. A full business case on the preferred option or options will be developed by December 2014, with the urgently needed storage in place by 2016.

LOWESTOFT: CONSULTATION ON LAKE LOTHING CROSSING OPTIONS UNDERWAY

As part of an ongoing consultation about options for a new Lake Lothing crossing in Lowestoft, three revised options are now on display. Following earlier engagement events with local stakeholders and councillors, the three options have been refined by urban planning and engineering experts WSP and will now form the next part of the consultation which includes a public display in the town. The options for the new crossing were originally detailed in the Lowestoft Transport and Infrastructure Prospectus (LTIP) which was launched in 2012. They are: west of the Bascule Bridge; west of Silo Quay; and, near to Brooke Business and Industrial Park. Once a preferred broad location has been identified, there will then be further technical work and public consultation to look at specific design options. A final report expected by the end of the year. The options are available to view online, and are now also on public display at the Marina Customer Service Centre where people will be able to take a look at the proposals for the next three weeks.

COUNTY COUNCIL WINS AT HEALTH AND SAFETY AWARDS

SCC was awarded Silver at the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) Occupational Health and Safety Awards 2014. The awards celebrate the excellence of occupational health and safety practice across businesses in the UK. SCC has worked hard continually to improve the safety, health and wellbeing of its staff, service users and the people of Suffolk. In recognition of this, the council won a RoSPA Occupational Health and Safety Silver award. Key performance measures have been established and monitored over the year by the Suffolk Health and Wellbeing (SHAW) Board. Also the majority of senior managers and county councillors received specific health and safety training relevant to their roles.

BIGGEST EVER OFF-SHORE WIND-FARM GIVEN THE GO-AHEAD OFF SUFFOLK COAST

Suffolk's place at the centre of the off-shore wind industry has been assured this week, after the green light was given to one of the world's biggest ever schemes. The East Anglia One project has been approved by the government, opening the door to an estimated £500million boost for the regional economy and the potential for over 1,600 new jobs. The planned development, for up to 240 wind turbines, is the largest to be approved in the UK and is predicted to generate enough power to meet the equivalent annual electricity demands of around 820,000 homes. The project, a joint venture between ScottishPower Renewables and Vattenfall, could see construction begin in 2017 with power being exported in 2019. Suffolk is rapidly-becoming a world leader for renewal energy creation. The benefits to the county are staggering and will see new jobs created, fresh business opportunities opened and extra investment made in our local economy.

CALL FOR NEW MEASURES TO TACKLE WORST EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL IN SUFFOLK

Suffolk's Health and Wellbeing Board is calling for a fresh look at the county's relationship with alcohol, as a new report unveils the long-term damage caused by excessive consumption. Around 182,000 working days are lost each year in Suffolk through over-indulgence, and the cost to the NHS in Suffolk for 2009/10 was £48million, with a further £15m as a result of alcohol-related crime. These figures form part of the first integrated alcohol strategy for Suffolk, bringing together local councils, health, the voluntary sector, police and the alcohol industry to promote sensible drinking and tackle the negative impacts of excessive alcohol use. The key themes include: establishing safe and sensible drinking as the norm; preventing further increases in levels of ill health caused by alcohol; improving the health of problem drinkers; reducing the incidence of alcohol-related crime and anti-social behaviour; and developing a Suffolk public health responsibility to work with local producers and suppliers of alcohol.

SUFFOLK PEOPLE INVITED TO GET ON THEIR BIKES

This month sees a celebration of cycling, with a new report calling on people to take to their bikes, and a three-week cycle challenge inviting people to compete with others to win prizes. Suffolk's first cycling strategy sets out a vision for cycling, aiming to increase the number of adults who cycle regularly every week from the current 13%. The strategy highlights the health benefits of cycling and commits to creating a safe environment for people to enjoy cycling. Meanwhile, SCC's public health team, together with Livewell Suffolk, Suffolk Sport, East Coast

Community Healthcare and partners, is encouraging people to sign up to the challenge, record their indoor and outdoor cycles, challenge others and keep track of progress online at www.cyclesuffolkchallenge.co.uk The challenge runs until Friday 4 July 2014 and participation is free.

NEW £6M CARE HOME TO OPEN DOORS

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the official opening of a new £6 million state-of-the-art care home in Mildenhall has taken place. Members of the community along with representatives from SCC and Forest Heath District Council joined with officials from Care UK for the grand opening of Mildenhall Lodge. The new 60 bed care home is the first of ten across the county which is being rolled out by Care UK, as part of their £60million investment in care facilities in Suffolk. Among the first people to move into the new home are those at the town's existing care home in Wamil Court, which will close up on the transfer of all the existing residents at the site, where it will be handed back to SCC.

A CALL TO WORK INDEPENDENTLY FOR SUFFOLK COUNCILS

Four Suffolk councils have been recruiting independent people interested in helping maintain the high standards of conduct of councillors. Up to four members of the public have applied to fill these important roles within SCC, Ipswich Borough Council, and Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils, helping deal with any complaints about councillors' conduct and to advise any councillors about whom complaints are made. The councils have been looking for those who are fair, pragmatic and committed to high standards of behaviour. They are also keen that those appointed should reflect the profile of the local community. To ensure the independence of their role, there are some restrictions on those who have previously been employees or councillors of the councils involved. A small annual allowance is paid to successful applicants as part of the role, together with a case fee and expenses.

MP regretted that the report item about cycling was out of date and the online map had made no reference to the National Cycle route passing through the parish.

Cllr Burroughes had also previously supplied a **District Council Report**, circulated to members and reproduced below:

NEW CHANGES TO REGISTERING TO VOTE

From 10 June 2014 Individual Electronic Registration (IER) is being introduced throughout England and Wales and it will be the responsibility of everyone to ensure they are registered to vote instead of using the previous householder form for applying to register. This is the biggest change to the way people register to vote for over 100 years and it is hoped that this will make the whole process more personal and direct. The Government who are behind the changes are hoping that it will make the way people register to vote more secure and convenient. Everyone will receive a letter from Suffolk Coastal District Council (who have responsibility for maintaining the electoral register) in early August confirming whether you have been successfully transferred over to the new system, or if there is anything you still need to do.

CHANGES TO BIN COLLECTIONS

From Monday 21 July the waste collection service is changing with collection times starting earlier from 6am and some collections happening on different days. All homes will be notified of the proposed changes via a 'bin hanger', a small card attached to their bins telling you which days to put your bins out. These are put there by the collection operators. The type of bin presented will not change, and in some areas your collection days will remain the same. The reason for the changes are to make the service more effective with a longer collection day. Suffolk Coastal remains one of the highest performing collection authorities in the country with well over 80% of it's waste being recycled – impressive!

SUFFOLK COASTAL RECEIVES GOVT SUPPORT FOR FLOOD DAMAGE

The Government has published it's guidance on the support packages available to communities who may be at risk of flooding events due to severe weather events or winter storms. Local councils are being asked to oversee the schemes by providing:

- 100% Business Rate Relief – Businesses which have been flooded will qualify for 100% business rate relief for a period of 3 months dependant on the severity of damage.
- Council Tax Exemption for flooded homes or damaged properties also for 3 months.
- A £5,000 'Repair & Renew' grant scheme for replacement of goods and property.

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR KIDS DURING SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Suffolk Coastal is offering an exciting range of activities for 6-16 year olds during the educational summer break this year. From 28th July to 29th August, events will be taking place at Felixstowe, Rendlesham, Saxmundham and Woodbridge such as 'Smart Cycling' for sport riding and handling skills etc. 'Animation' a 2D modelling workshop and filming session. A 'Teddy Bears Picnic', get sticky making cup cakes. 'Arty pops' celebrity portrait painting and monster making. Also a 'Summer Fitness Camp', getting fit & staying healthy. So there's no excuse for youngsters being bored!

Members had no questions arising from this report.

In the absence of PCSO Julie Hinton, there was no **Police Report**.

The chairman took the meeting into council mode.

14/106 Approval of Minutes: minutes of the parish council meeting on 16 June 2014 were approved and signed by the chairman.

14/107 Matters arising: None.

14/108 Planning: (a) **DC/14/1968/FUL Bucks Farmhouse, Halesworth Road, Cookley:** conversion of redundant barn to holiday let. (b) **DC/14/1969/LBC Bucks Farmhouse, Halesworth Road, Cookley:** Listed Building Consent: conversion of redundant barn to holiday let. This application was presented by the applicant, Mr Ian Newton, having declared his interest at the beginning of the meeting. The scheme was considered to be good use and enhancement of an otherwise derelict barn and unanimously approved by show of hands subject to there being a prohibition on sale of the completed development other than as part of the whole hereditament. (c) **South View, Church Hill, Walpole:** MP had circulated and tabled photographs of fencing constructed around the site to a height of around 2.1ms. Clerk will take this up with planners.

14/109 Finance: (a) RFO Report: clerk presented his report and financial statement. The following invoices were approved and paid:

Clerk's Expenses	£ 39.26
Will's (grass cutting)	£ 650.00
Porter's Farms (Walpole) Ltd (driveway)	£2,553.60

Balances to carry forward were submitted as under, taking into account the above:

Community Account	£3,443.97	
Business Saver	£1,094.65	£4,538.62

Financial statement was approved unanimously by show of hands.

NJ asked if grass could be collected after cutting; MP advised as to increased cost and difficulties in locating a grass dump in view of high pollutant potential.

14/110 Highways: (a) MP reported pot hole in The Street had now been filled together with one in Halesworth Road. However a dangerous post office manhole cover still remained unrepaired on the Halesworth Road by the Rockstone turn and the llamas. (b) MP referred to the large number of hedgerows which should be cut back this winter and suggested a letter be sent to householders requesting their co-operation. Clerk will draft a letter and investigate logistics of delivery as well as posting something on the website. (c) Clerk reported overhanging grass from the churchyard had been noted by SCDC and action promised. In the absence of a PCC, clerk will press the matter of whole churchyard maintenance with SCDC who have responsibility for the closed churchyard. Concern was expressed at the continuing existence of a hole in the retaining wall, the possibility of land slippage and ragwort growing wild in the churchyard. (d) DC referred to speeding from Heveningham through Walpole and out along the Halesworth Road. There should be concern as to the effect of the new Marsh View residents exiting on to this same stretch of road. DC thought the emphasis should be on safety, not necessarily speeding. DC & MP suggested speed humps, but DW thought this may not be possible as B1178 was a main through road. Clerk will investigate. (e) MP felt an annual visit to the parish by Highways was overdue. Clerk will chase up. (f) Letter received from residents about speeding was noted, but deferred in the absence of Cllr Burroughes, the police and the residents. (g) General discussion ensued as to speeding and road safety; we are lucky only to have near misses, not fatalities. Clerk will press the safety aspect with police and Highways. (h) MP referred to hedging on Peasenhall Road, largely in the ownership of Heveningham Hall and confirmed he had taken this up with the estate manager. It was not just the beech hedge that caused problems. (i) It had been observed that overgrowing buddleia outside West House, encroaching upon the highway, had been cut back by Highways, but adjacent overgrowth needs attention; about a metre of highway has been lost. Clerk will follow up.

14/111 Footpaths: deferred in the absence of a report.

14/112 Trees: MP said trees on the Green should be pruned and there is a need to plan this. MP will discuss with ZM.

14/113 Cemetery: (a) Clerk reported he had now been referred to the bishop's office to arrange a date for consecration, but had been warned a date might be some months away. (b) Clerk had circulated suggested cemetery fees based on comparisons with SCDC, Waveney and Peasenhall, but the matter was deferred until such time as a full meeting of members was possible.

14/114 Cookpole: CEA and Allotments Reports were not available so the item was deferred.

14/115 External Meetings & Training: Meeting dates and the current SALC Training Courses were noted. Clerk reported that the previous Deputy Chief Executive of SALC had left and established a new support service for parish councils. Clerk will see if training can be brought to Walpole for new and existing councillors after which, if satisfactory, an annual subscription might be taken up.

14/116 Future Agenda: nothing beyond those matters already raised and minuted.

14/117 Next Meeting: The parish council had taken note of the difficulties experienced by County & District Councillor Stephen Burroughes in regularly attending our parish council meetings. Clerk had established that Tuesdays may be better for his attendance. Accordingly it was unanimously agreed that parish council meetings should change to the Third Tuesday in each month, excluding August and December when there will continue to be no meeting. This change will become effective from Tuesday 16 September, the following meetings being held 21 October and 18 November 2014. Clerk will announce the changes.

The meeting closed at 8.52pm

Chairman

Date