

Wednesday 6th June 2018 at Old Newton Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs J Miller (Chair), M Shave, M Reeve, K Goudy, K Baker, R Lawson, T Arnold, J Harbidge, M Clements (Vice Chair), K Hall-Price (Clerk), District Cllr Keith Wellham, County Councillor A Stringer and 2 members of the public.

1. **Chairman's welcome and to receive any apologies for absence** – District Cllr Jill Wilshaw has sent her apologies for this evening's meeting. Cllr Stringer will be late as he is attending Mendlesham meeting first.
2. **Dispensations:**
 - a) To consider any requests for dispensations – None 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 receive any declarations of personal / prejudicial interest.** Cllr Baker – Planning Application at Gate Farmhouse as this is a neighbouring property.

Cllrs agreed to miss item no 8 until Cllr Stringer is in attendance.

4. **To approve the minutes of the May meeting held on 2nd May 2018.** It was proposed and seconded to approve the minutes and they were signed accordingly by the Chairman.

5. Clerks report following previous meeting.

- Crier submission was submitted for June 2018 edition.
- RTI submission was submitted for the month.
- Nest Pension submission was completed.
- All cheques for payment have been issued.
- All information, minutes and agenda have been uploaded onto the village website.
- Planning responses were issued to MSDC by the deadline for comments.
- Training - The joint planning training with Bacton took place on 24th May with good representation from both councils. The second date is still to be arranged and will be hosted by Bacton.
- Realise Futures installed the safety struts to the double noticeboards when they installed the benches.
- Glyn French – SCC Footpaths. Clerk has not been able to speak to Glyn regarding possible dog mess signage for the village so this is still ongoing.
- For information NALC have released the wage increases for pay-scales from April 2018, there is a small back pay from April of £15.36 and the new rate of pay has gone from £11.054 - £11.275 an increase of £0.22 p/hr.
- CIL payments – Following on from the information provided to all Cllrs last month it is apparent that we need to look at this in more detail and should we wish to apply for any additional funds from the 123 CIL pot from MSDC we need to discuss this, especially if we intend to apply for extra funding towards the cemetery improvements. Clerk is suggesting that we hold a separate meeting to discuss the CIL money and the projects the parish council wish to include moving forward. The meeting to be a public meeting and therefore allowing the public to have their opinion voiced if necessary. MSDC encourage public consultation / participation in deciding how to spend CIL money and identifying projects for consideration moving forward.
- Mr & Mrs Walls of Old Newton rang the Clerk to ask permission to tidy the bus shelter area. They have repaired and painted the bench, swept and cleaned the area inside the bus shelter and planted a few additional plants similar to the village sign. The Clerk has thanked Mr & Mrs Walls and mentioned and thanked them for their efforts in the Crier.

Police Report

The latest newsletter has been printed for Cllrs information and can be found on the Stowmarket SNT website.

Cllr Arnold attended the police liaison meeting on 9th May at 10am at Stowmarket Police Station. Cllr Arnold invited to provide a summary of the meeting and any update for the parish council.

The next Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 11th July 2018 at the Cedars Hotel, Stowmarket. Any Cllrs wishing to attend to inform the Clerk.

PC Stefan Henriksen has been appointed the Engagement Officer for Mid Suffolk Area and has asked if we can let him know of any public events we may be holding and where possible he will endeavour to attend. The clerks police connect group is now up and running that the clerk has signed up for and is now receiving text messages similar to the public police connect service already in operation.

MONTH	DETAIL OF INCIDENTS / CRIMES
February 2018	1 x violence and sexual offence on or near Greenacres 1 x Burglary on or near Netherall Close
March 2018	2 x Burglary on or near Brown Street
April 2018	1 x Criminal Damage / Arson on or near the sports and recreation area 1 x Violence / Sexual offence on or near Greenacres 1 x Violence / Sexual offence on or near Trafford Close 2 x other crimes on or near Trafford Close 1 x Violence / Sexual offence on or near Elm Tree Close 1 x other theft on or near Church Road
May 2018	Data not yet available

Cllr Goudy commented that there hasn't been any police presence in Stowmarket for the last 6 weeks. Questions at the police and crime commission meeting on 11th July. Cllr Goudy, Clements, Arnold, Miller and the Clerk all wish to attend.

6. Data Protection Officer - Update - Information from NALC is that we need to still register with the ICO and the fee will be chargeable dependant on the number of employees. Old Newton qualifies for a tier 1 fee of £40.00. We have been paying £35 and are not due to renew until September when our registration expires.

7. Financial matters & Financial report – Trevor Brown – Internal Auditor has completed our internal audit and the report is to be read to the parish council at the meeting. The governance statement also needs to be declared and documented with the accounts being signed off prior to submission to PK Little John for completion of our external audit.

The internal audit went well. We do need to look at renewing the standing orders and the financial regulations again as legislation and GDPR has come into effect. Clerk to look at this over the summer with a view to tabling it as an agenda item from September. Cllr Clements and Baker both wanted to minute thanks to the Clerk for the level of work and time the Clerk has put in towards the completion of the audit not just for the audit but for the whole accounting year.

For the purposes of the External Audit and AGAR submission – The clerk read out the Annual Governance Statement to the Councillors 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.

Accounting Statements Financial Year Ending 31.03.18 (Taken from the Audit Summary Sheet – Whole figures only)

Balances bought forward	£20,442
Annual Precept	£22,810
Total Other Receipts	£ 4,255
Staff Costs	£ 9,636
Loan / capital repayments (Streetlights)	£ 5,227
All other payments	£11,861
Balances Carried Forward	£20,783
Total Fixed Assets	£67,873
Total Borrowings	£31,435

Bank Account Balances:

- Barclays May Statement Balance **£28,849.37** (30.05.18)
- Scottish Widows 60 Day account balance = **£3,377.86** (01.04.18)
- Scottish Widows Deposit account = **£253.39** (01.04.18)
- Public Works Loan – Annual Statement – Balance outstanding - **£31,434.72**

Accounts for payment – May 2018:

- KAREN PRICE - Salary May includes holiday pay, expenses and less tax & NI and pension = **£893.86**
- HMRC – PAYE NI & Tax – Employee £23.21, Employer £26.69 = **£49.90**
- NEST Pension Contribution **DDR** – employee 3% £21.49, employer 2% **£17.91 = £39.40**
- Realise Futures – 2 x village benches **£972.00**
- Adam Alexander – Cemetery Maintenance May **£375.00 (includes 4 hrs on old part of cemetery)**
- Trevor Brown – Internal audit - **£170.70**
- Jon Hines – Lay concrete slabs for 2 x village benches **£290.00**
- CGM – Grass-cutting – **£341.93**

Monies Received – May 2018:

- Andrew Bingham – Cemetery fees for Heather Ager (payslip 100103) **£75.00**

Proposed and seconded to pay the accounts. All Cllr's present agreed. The cheques were signed accordingly.

- 8. Stowmarket Tourist Information Closure** – Resident letter received and read to the meeting. It is assumed that the decision was taken in camera and therefore not well known. We would like to propose that the decision be revisited and if not achievable then a page for tourist information needs to be addressed either via an interactive page or a web page as part of the MSDC new website. Cllr Wellham pointed out that the Stowmarket hub is available and appointments can be made for someone to come out to you but Cllrs feel that MSDC are failing to provide a service to the public. The council are becoming further removed. Observations that the tourist information could be possibly moved to another premises owned by MSDC. General feeling that there is no consistency and the Clerk asked to write to Cllr Jill Wilshaw and cc Keith Welham (present at the June meeting) to register our disappointment.
- 9. Bus Route 456 & 459** – Resident letter received. Cllr Stringer apologised that SCC had behaved badly in how they provided the information on the website as this was not easy to navigate. **Cllr Stringer reported that -** Since the last meeting, the changes to the Bus timetable brought about by the surrendering of one of the routes by Galloways, have now taken place. It has not been a simple transition, the changed timetable was only published on the “changes” section of the county council website, this did mean that many (including Cllr Stringer) believed the timetable had hardly changed when in fact it had. Cllr Stringer has circulated the correct timetable and will continue to work with the officers to try to get the best offer for all concerned.
- 10. Correspondence Received & Circulars:**
 - Letter from Philip Groom – Dog walking policy of the village hall – Play area and gates being left open is also being addressed. Possible to clear some of the trees to allow the dog walk area to be used properly. The Village hall committee are keeping a close eye on it.
 - SCC – 40mph Speed Limit Order. Any comments to be made by 29th June. The panel looked at that section by the double S bends and due to the visibility thought that this was not necessary. Comments raised regarding whether this should go further. Clerk to respond requesting that this goes beyond Hundred Lane towards Bacton. The chevrons are missing on the first bend coming from Old Newton towards Bacton. The chevrons coming out of Old Newton are overgrown. Clerk to report.
 - SALC – Next area meeting scheduled for 21.06.18
 - Dog Walk – Glenham Hall – 30th September – Request to display notice / include in the Crier
 - NALC – Employment Briefing
 - Eye Town Council Letter Re: Planning (for information)
 - Haughley Parish Council Neighbourhood Plan.

Various circulars received for information purposes. File circulated during the meeting.

- 11. To receive District Councillor's Report – Miss Jill Wilshaw (Bacton Ward)** - There is lots going on, MSDC are concentrating on the Strategies for Housing Development, Communications, Customer Access, Tourism and Open for Business. These will all be published hopefully by the end of the year. Babergh and Mid Suffolk Councils are looking for local heroes. There are 17 categories split between community awards and business accolades. Organisations or individuals can be nominated for a whole host of reasons, but the common denominator must be their dedication to serving the community – going the extra mile or boosting the district's economies. The awards will be presented by Mark Murphy from BBC Radio Suffolk on October 18th at St Mary's Church in Hadleigh. To nominate your Stars go to eadt.co.uk/news/nomin/te

your-community-heroes-for-the-new-stars-of-babergh-and-mid-suffolk-scheme-1-5544117. Closing date is midnight on Friday 28th September.

12. To receive County Councillor's Report – Mr Andrew Stringer

Overwhelming public opposition to Suffolk County Council's school transport plans - Leaked documents from Suffolk County Council show overwhelming public opposition to proposed school transport changes. Of the 3600 responses to Suffolk County Council's home-to-school transport consultation, 85% "strongly oppose" the proposals and a further 5% "oppose" them. This is the most responses received by a Consultation in recent years, and it is clear that parents, teachers and communities have very serious concerns about the proposals. The Cabinet is due to make a decision on changing the school transport policy on Tuesday 19 June. Cllr Stringer, along with his Group, have opposed the proposed changes since they were first announced in September and Cllr Stringer will continue to raise our concerns at the Cabinet meeting, as he firmly believes this will not deliver the savings needed, at the expense of educational attainment.

New Council Leader elected - Following a leadership challenge in the Conservative Group at the Council, Cllr Matthew Hicks has been elected as the new Leader of Suffolk County Council, replacing Cllr Colin Noble. His Deputy will be Cllr Mary Evans, the former Chair of Scrutiny. Cllr Hicks has promised a "new era" of politics at the Council, with a focus on mutual respect, collaboration and co-operation.

'Outstanding' schools in Suffolk have not had Ofsted inspections for years - The National Audit Office has revealed that over 1600 schools in the UK have not been inspected by Ofsted for 6+ years. In Suffolk, 23 outstanding schools - almost half of those rated 'outstanding' - have not been inspected for at least 6 years. For 6 of these schools, their last inspection was over a decade ago. This means that whole cohorts of students have gone through school without a single Ofsted inspection. My Group's Spokesperson for Education, Cllr Penny Otton, raised the issue and her concerns at a Council meeting on 24 May. The Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Education, Gordon Jones, assured her that he shared her concerns and would raise it with the head of Ofsted. Ofsted have said that the majority of 'outstanding' schools are exempt by law from inspections. However, if a number of concerns or complaints are raised against a school, they would have the power to carry out an inspection.

Unitary discussions on hold - In March, it was announced that Colin Noble had commissioned the think-tank Respublica to produce a report outlining the options for a unitary council in Suffolk. This news was not well-received by the District and Borough Councils, who had not been consulted by Cllr Noble. However, in the lead up to the Conservative Group leadership election in May, Cllr Noble announced that work producing the report had been suspended. It is not yet clear whether this work will resume under the new leader, Cllr Hicks.

Bus Timetable Changes (discussed at item 8 on the agenda)

New development with affordable homes in Cockfield - On 15 May, the Cabinet approved proposals for the development of a 4.5 acre site near Cockfield, which is owned as part of its County Farms estate. The development will be comprised of 51 units, including 12 affordable rented homes. There will also be homes specifically for first-time buyers, affordable shared ownership homes, and self-build plots. This project is being treated as a pilot for future developments on Council owned land. The County Council is planning to work closely with design and property partners, and there will be a particular focus on local needs and benefits for the local community. The council will also benefit from financial returns as a result of developing the land. I have booked a meeting to discuss the possibility of the Bacton Middle School Site following a similar path.

Cllr Clements – 7.5t road signs asking for some form of warning signs that they are entering a 7.5t weight restriction. There is an issue that SCC can't find a suitable place to put up any warning signs. There is a cross road sign on the approach, Cllrs asked if this could be used?

Cabinet committees being replaced by policy committees. Local matter of footpath cutting – normally they are cut by a contractor and so far we have not had anything cut. Cllr Stringer advised that anyone can report using the online tool. Clerk to report.

13. Broadband Update – Cllr Arnold. Sandford Road area – not sure if fibre is working yet. Wifi is now available at the village hall. Password to be published by the village hall.

14. Planning Applications Received

- **DC/18/01958 & 01959** – Application for Listed Building Consent. Demolition of entrance canopy and erection of a single storey extension and replacement entrance door and kitchen window, installation of boiler at Hill House, 62 Church Road, Old Newton, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 4ED. **Comments:** Cllrs could not see any issues with what is being proposed. The majority of the proposed works are behind the property and will not change the outlook of the property from the roadside. There is no impact to the front elevation. Cllrs felt that the proposed works were in-keeping and appropriate with the existing property. The Parish Council has not received any comments from members of the public regarding this application. It was proposed and seconded to support this application with all Cllrs voting in favour. Application supported.
- **DC/18/01931** – Householder Planning Application – Erection of two storey side extension and single storey front porch extension at 25 Falconer Avenue, Old Newton, Stowmarket, Suffolk, IP14 4JP. **Comments:** There have been no objections from neighbouring properties and no comments made to the Parish Council. Cllrs thought that the proposed development will fit quite tight but it does fit in and is in keeping with other properties. There is an issue in general with parked vehicles on the road and Highways statement was read and accepted and the Parish Council would like to reinforce the Highways recommended conditions with the applicants giving due consideration for parking and access whilst the building work is being completed and after. It was proposed and seconded to support the application reinforcing the Highways points. All Cllrs were in favour. Application supported.
- **DC/18/02284 & 02285** – Householder planning application & Listed Building Consent – Demolition of existing garage and erection of two bay timber framed cart-lodge with external steps and small balcony leading to playroom in attic space at Gate Farmhouse, Stowupland Road, Gipping, Stowmarket, IP14 4PT. **Comments:** There have been no comments received from members of the public. Cllrs felt that the proposed development was in keeping with the listed building and more in-keeping than what is currently in existence. Cllrs would like to emphasise the point that this will enhance rather than detract from the listed building immediately adjacent to it. Proposed and seconded to support this application, all Cllrs were in favour. Application supported.

15. Planning Decisions from MSDC

- **DC/18/01353** – Discharge of conditions for application 0292/17 allowed under appeal ref APP/W3520/W/17/3183649 – condition 4 (materials) and condition 5 (foul water drainage) at Colt Meadow Farm, School Road, Old Newton. **MSDC planning have accepted the materials and colours as appropriate to the existing character of the site and its setting.**
- **DC/18/01393** - Erection of agricultural storage building at Old Newton Hall Farm, Sandford Road, Old Newton, Suffolk. **MSDC Planning permission has been granted.**
- **DC/18/01524** - Outline Planning Application (Access and Landscaping to be considered) Erection of up to 5 dwellings at Land North of Bush's Farm, Stowmarket Road, Old Newton, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 4EB. **MSDC Planning permission has been refused.**
- **DC/18/01186** – Full planning application for extension to existing balcony at Stowmarket Golf Club. **MSDC planning permission has been granted.**
- **DC/18/01030** – Householder planning application – Erection of two storey rear extension (following demolition of existing single storey extension) at 1 Farfield, Brown Street, Old Newton. **MSDC Planning permission has been granted.**
- **DC/17/03267** | Outline Planning Application (Access to be considered) - Erection of 23 dwellings (including 8 affordable homes). | Land Adjacent Greenacres Old Newton Suffolk. Planning Meeting attended by Cllrs – Awaiting official response from MSDC.
- **DC/18/00800** – Listed Building Consent to remove existing sand cement render and the metal lath substrate and replace with traditional lath and 3 coat haired lime putty / sand render at Bush Farm, Stowmarket Road, Old Newton. **Listed Building Consent from MSDC has been granted.**
- **DC/18/01354** – Erection of single storey side and rear extensions and erection of first floor side extension over ground floor utility room at Robine, Station Road, Old Newton. **MSDC planning permission has been granted.**

Cllr request whether the parish council had an update regarding the Finningham Road Application. There is nothing new online. Parish Council will be notified by MSDC if there is anything new to report.

Cllr Arnold asked if the council could have a summary of what happened at the planning consultation meeting for the Greenacres Site. Cllrs in attendance at the meeting confirmed that the conditions the parish council wanted to put over were conveyed and Cllrs spoke afterwards to the agent developing the site. The access to the site is on such narrow roads congested with parked vehicles. Our district Cllr gave a good presentation, only one Cllr was allowed to speak for 3 minutes. They didn't like the line of the footpaths.

- 16. School Parking / Infrastructure / Road Signage** - Walk to school week made a massive difference. The weather has helped and many of the children have continued to do it. It has made a difference. Wednesdays are busy as the pre-school and school link up for the September intake. Consideration for CIL money to put a proper footpath in to walk to the school. The meeting included all the things discussed last March and Cllr Baker previously felt quite positive but left the latest meeting feeling quite disappointed. There is follow up to be done and Cllrs Baker, Harbidge and Clements to keep on it. Paul Gant was the SCC officer attended – He was honest and didn't give the parish council false hope but some of the requests had been promised previously – Told almost to scrap it and start again. Chairman of Governors to write to Cllr Stringer. Cllr Baker to ensure this happens.
- 17. Highways / Speed Monitoring** - Cllr Clements to provide reports soon – Possible to do the same test of keeping it running but turning the flashing lights off again in the Summer to see how the data compares. Cllr Clements to investigate if we can have another pole for use by the school and additional costs if allowed by highways.
- 18. Benches – Working Party Update / Completion of project** – The benches are in place and are being used. We possibly need some additional rubbish bins by the side of the benches. This is being monitored and possibility to purchase some if needed to be considered for the 2019 budget. Thanks to Cllr Clements for his work on this project.
- 19. Councillors Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council**
- Signage towards the railway – Warning signs have been turned around. To be reported. The footpath sign is still in the middle of the hedge and there is no access there due to overgrowth. 30mph sign on Station Road towards the Shoulder of Mutton is impossible to see again due to overgrowth. To be reported.
 - Grit bins are now stored for the summer by Cllr Arnold.
 - Vote of thanks to Mrs Arnold for cutting the downs footpath with Cllr Clements and Arnold – The cemetery maintenance contractor have offered to include this in their works however Cllrs felt this would have financial implications and best to leave it as Cllr volunteer / land owner responsibility.
 - Last meeting the defib was checked and is fine. Proposed that we check every monthly meeting. Check from the defib makers that we are allowed to use adult pads on youths – We have the pre-school and other youth organisations that all use the village hall facilities. If additional junior pads are required clerk to ascertain information to report back to the parish council.
 - Cllrs interested if SCC are still cutting the junctions and the verges. Cllr Stringer stated that he thought they should be done in August. Members of the public can't touch someone else's land. Any complaints / concerns need to be reported using the online tool.
 - Old footpath plan of Old Newton. To be updated and prices obtained for re-printing. Cllr Stringer asked for a copy to speak to Glyn French to check accuracy before re-printing.
- 20. Public Forum**
- Keith Wellham – Update from Stowupland – 346 new homes have been approved in Stowupland. This is already having an impact in parishioners using the back roads through Old Newton and Haughley to get to the A14. 6 different sites being brought forward. Stowupland exhibition on 14th June in the village hall 2.30 – 6.30pm. The Stowupland neighbourhood plan is on the website but their consultation won't be available until after the 14th June. Cllr Wellham wanted to promote working together. Suggested that we use our District Cllr for assistance when completing the PIP prior to submission for CIL money.
 - Walker Cup – 9th September this year.
- 21. Additional Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the July 2018 meeting.**
- CIL
- 22. Date of the next Parish Council meeting** – The July meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 4th July 2018 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 22.04hrs