

Wednesday 3rd October 2018 at Old Newton Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs J Miller (Chair), M Clements (Vice Chair), K Baker, T Arnold, J Harbidge
K Hall-Price (Clerk), and District Cllr Keith Wellham and 0 members of the public.

1. **Chairman's welcome and to receive any apologies for absence** – County Cllr Andrew Stringer has sent his apologies, he will be arriving late for this evenings meeting. District Cllr J Willshaw has sent her apologies and Cllrs K Goudy, M Reeve, M Shave, R Lawson have also sent their apologies this evening.
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.** Nothing received.
4. **To approve the minutes of the September meeting held on 5th September 2018.** There was one amendment on pg 617 regarding a duplication of accounts for payment that was not paid in relation to CGM invoice for July. 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 October 2018 edition.
 - RTI submission has been submitted.
 - Nest Pension submission has been submitted.
 - All cheques for payment have been issued.
 - All information, minutes and agenda have been uploaded onto the village website.
 - Clerk has emailed back parishioners who wrote to the parish council regarding dog fouling and tree issues.
 - Trees on Knights Close have been reported to MSDC for assessment. Awaiting response.
 - District Cllr Wilshaw has agreed that we can apply for some funding from her locality budget. Clerk to officially request the amount required circa £250.00 towards the cost of a new VAS pole £150 plus fitting for Church Road and a new dog bin on Knights Close. Quoted same price as last time from Glasdon £86.52 + VAT with free delivery. There will be an additional collection charge from MSDC for the extra dog waste bin to be added onto the route and possibility of including 2 extra salt bins onto the application. Clerk to apply for the locality award before ordering any of the above.
 - ONEG funds for payment are December 2017 £107.94, June 2018 £80.46. There is an outstanding payment for March 2018 of £117.75 but this has not been received by MSDC yet so have withheld payment to ONEG.
 - District Cllrs Wellham and Eburne have said they would like to attend some of our meetings moving forward with the boundary review and redistribution of parishes.
 - Cllrs Miller and Arnold are booked to attend the next Parish Liaison Meeting with MSDC at Needham Market Community Centre on 9th October at 10am.

Police Report / Crime Map Statistics

The latest newsletter is not available today (03.10.18). It can be found on the Stowmarket SNT website but the latest one available at present is the September one. Police Connect have informed the Clerk that garages and sheds are being targeted and that parishioners should ensure their outbuildings and sheds are secure.

MONTH	DETAIL OF INCIDENTS / CRIMES
May 2018	2 x public order offences on or near Greenacres 1 x violence / Sexual offence on or near Greenacres 1 x possession of weapons on or near Church Road
June 2018	Nothing reported
July 2018	1 x Burglary on or near Church Road, Old Newton 1 x Criminal Damage / Arson on or near Wassicks Lane, Old Newton 2 x crimes (1 x Theft Other and 1 x Vehicle Crime) B1113 towards Bacton

August and September data not available for the meeting (03.10.18)

6. Financial matters & Financial report

PKF Little John Audited Accounts report has been returned.

Bank Account Balances:

- Barclays September Statement Balance **£31,161.86** (30.09.18)
- Scottish Widows 60 Day account balance = **£3,377.94** (01.07.18)
- Scottish Widows Deposit account = **£253.40** (01.07.18)

- Public Works Loan – Annual Statement – Balance outstanding at 31.03.18 - **£31,434.72**

Accounts for payment – September 2018:

- KAREN PRICE - Salary September includes holiday pay, expenses and less tax & NI and pension = **£658.24**
- HMRC – PAYE NI & Tax – Nil to pay
- NEST Pension Contribution **DDR** – employee 3% £15.32, employer 2% **£12.77 = £28.09**
- Adam Alexander – Cemetery Maintenance September - **£180.00**
- CGM – Grass Cutting August £341.93 and September £341.93 = **£683.86**
- ONEG / Onwoods – Litter picking **£187.86**
- PKF Little John – Audit of accounts **£240.00**

Monies Received – September 2018:

- Ashes Scattering – G Green **£10.00 payslip 100106**
- MSDC Precept £12,076.49 and litter pick funds £80.46 = **£12,156.95**

Finance review meeting to discuss possible banking online moving forward. Proposed and seconded to pay the accounts. All Cllr's present agreed. The cheques were signed accordingly.

7. Correspondence Received & Circulars:

- ONGAA – Email regarding permission for bonfire on allotment land. Permission on an annual basis ok with the Parish Council if ok with the Landowners
- MSDC – Cil letter received regarding the village hall CIL Bid
- HMRC – New way to reclaim VAT. Clerk to set up government gateway.

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

8. To receive District Councillor's Report – Miss Jill Wilshaw (Bacton Ward)

Apologies for not being there but here is my report:

The Lullaby Concerts - City of London Sinfonia, one of the country's leading professional chamber orchestras, will be performing two Lullaby Concerts at the United Reformed Church, Stowmarket on Friday 26 October 2018. Specially designed for children aged 2 – 7 and their parents and carers, the concerts will feature an exciting blend of audience participation, fun and fabulous orchestral music, all woven together by charismatic presenter Claire Henry. In this year's concert, entitled The Musical Puzzle, the young audience will be at the heart of a musical puzzle as they are joined by the musicians from City of London Sinfonia in an exploration of shapes, puzzles and orchestral music. Claire will work with the children to complete their challenges and celebrate the success of their musical quest. The team will be joined for a second year by co-presenter Ruth Montgomery and all performances will be BSL interpreted. Following each concert children will be able to try a range of orchestral instruments for themselves. For more information contact: Stuart Bruce, Partnership Manager, Orchestras Live 07831 272123 stuart@orchestraslive.org.uk

Nine much-needed community infrastructure projects will receive funding boosts totalling over £232,000, following decisions by Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils. Mid Suffolk District Council approved six bids in Stowmarket, Botesdale, Laxfield and Stowupland, totalling £156,000. The funding will go towards bus stop improvements in Stowmarket and Laxfield as well as enhancements to Stowupland Village Hall and Sports and Social Club.

One bid totalling £98,000 was agreed as part of a larger spend by the NHS and GP practice for Botesdale Health Centre, which totals over £552,000. The money will go towards an extension and improvements at the centre to increase capacity and provide palliative care for residents in the area. Money for the approved projects will be released soon and it will be crucial that all efforts continue to be focused on delivery of infrastructure to support new housing and growth going forward. Decisions to approve bids will be taken every six months in line with the CIL Expenditure Framework.

The Stowmarket building previously occupied by Aldi, has been acquired by Mid Suffolk District Council. The site which includes a building and car park, sits within a prominent location in the town centre. The purchase will allow us to ensure this key site is brought back into use after lying vacant for more than a year, following the retailer's departure. The car park situated in Gipping Way will now be operated by Mid Suffolk District Council and a new tenant will be sought for the building. This acquisition forms part of the Stowmarket Vision for Prosperity - a wider five-year action plan, which aims to revitalise the town centre with the aim of attracting more businesses and visitors.

Don't forget the Locality Award budget. If any club/association etc. would like some money towards something specific, please get in touch and I will send an application form, there is still money available.

9. Planning Applications Received

- **DC/18/04142** – Erection of grain store at Whitehall Farm, Whitehall Road, Old Newton. Comments due by 8th October 2018. All Cllrs present at the meeting felt that the erection of a grain store at Whitehall Farm would have little impact and therefore did not wish to object to this application. Upon voting the Cllrs voted unanimously in favour to approve the application. It was mentioned that the access roads are getting hammered and the parish council were wondering if the access could be made better giving consideration to the village. Proposed to accept the application, seconded and approved all in favour with the comments regarding the roads to not be included in the response to MSDC but mentioned to the applicants separately.
- **DC/18/04027** – Full planning application – Erection of entrance gate and increased height of front boundary wall (retention of) at Lodge Works – 2-6 Stowmarket Road, Old Newton. Comments due by 11th October 2018. Cllrs felt that the business units within the site need the security provided by the existing gate and Cllrs felt that this was an acceptable and well-maintained security measure, protecting the business units on the site. Retention was felt to have no material impact on highway safety or visual amenity and Cllrs agreed with these points in the planning statement provided by Phil Cobbold. Cllrs could see no valid reason to object to this application, it was proposed to accept, seconded with all Cllrs present unanimously in favour. Application Approved at Parish Council level.
- **DC/18/04229** – Application for the modification of a section 106 planning obligation – Amendment to shared ownership on land north of Church Road, Cross Green, Old Newton. Comments due by 12th October 2018. Cllrs initially struggled to understand what this S106 would mean to our residents. It was felt that this would make the properties easier to move on / sell. Removing some of the shared stock of houses will have an impact on our affordable housing. It was understood that exception sites are the only way to provide and keep social housing for our parish. The change in the agreement means that the village could lose the affordable housing element although it was recognised that the shared ownership schemes are difficult. The parish council would like to see more good value rentable houses being bought to availability but felt to object to this application was not in the interest of our residents. Upon Voting Cllrs proposed to accept and approve the application, this was seconded, all Cllrs were in favour. Application approved. Clerk asked to include the comments and thoughts as detailed above in the response to MSDC.
- **DC/18/04241** – Notification of works to trees protected by tree preservation order MS328 – Crown reduce 3No mature walnut trees by 25% and crown lift to 3m on land opposite 9 Cross Green, Old Newton. Cllrs felt that the trees are very large trees that are in need of the proposed works within the application. It was proposed and seconded with all Cllrs unanimously in favour – Application Approved.

10. Planning Decisions from MSDC

- **DC/18/00422** – Erection of 2No flats over village shop at Old Newton Village Shop, 18 Finningham Road, Old Newton. **MSDC Planning permission has been refused.**

11. **SALC Report** – Cllr Clements provided a report from the meeting, one of the spokespersons was the CEO from Ipswich and Colchester Hospitals. They are looking at pushing more people to local surgeries rather than providing transport to the hospital. SALC trying to bring their remit back to Suffolk. Needham park have had some fitness machines for adults to use and SALC are trying to promote young members to get involved within parish councils. Cllr Clements asked if he had permission to attend the AGM next month. There is usually a charge for the dinner. Cllrs agreed that Cllr Clements to attend and the Clerk to ensure paperwork is completed and forwarded to Cllr Clements.

12. **Grit Heaps / Bins – Review.** We have invested in 4 x new bins. Anyone who uses them must register their name with the Clerk. 4 bins have been allocated and permission is required from residents / householders if we put grit bins near to their properties. We have 5 identified sites and will need to purchase and additional bin. To move forward we need to get land / property owners permissions. Cllrs Baker, Arnold and Miller to visit properties where grit bins are identified to be placed. Clerk to ensure email regarding grit bin guidance and procedure

emailed to Cllrs. Once permission forms are complete – return to the clerk for submission on behalf of the Parish Council by the Clerk.

- Mill Hill – Cllr Miller
- Stonebridge Lane Cross Road / Sandford Lane / School Hill – Cllr Baker
- Hundred Lane / Brown Street Junction / Cotton Hall by Westholme – Cllr Arnold
- Netherhall Close – Cllr Miller

13. B1113 Speed Restriction Update. - From Cllr Stringers report: It is with great sadness Cllr Stringer reported that the legal process to make the 40mph limit on the B1113 did not progress in its entirety, the northern section was ruled out in a secret meeting between the Portfolio Holder for Highways Mary Evans and the Director of Highways Mark Stevens. To say I am upset over this is an understatement, particularly when there were no objections following on from the consultation. It is now agreed to look at it again in isolation. They would like from us any additional information from the SID. Speak to Sgt Wakeling and Clerk to ask if the police would support us in our application for 40mph on the north side of the village.

14. To receive County Councillor’s Report – Mr Andrew Stringer.

Budget update – overspend in 2018/19, more cuts planned for 2019/20. The first quarterly budget report has revealed a projected overspend of £8.6m on the 2018/19 budget, which equates to 1.7% of the overall budget. The key areas of pressure are within Adult and Community Services (net overspend of £1.5m), Children’s Services (net overspend of £4.9m) and Corporate Services (net overspend of £1.8m).

Adult and Community Services

- Main area of concern is the Care Purchasing Budget, which is forecasting a £4.4m overspend. This is due to a 1% increase in the number of people receiving care, as well as increases in prices for residential care homes above the standard published rates.
- The overspend is currently being offset by underspends due to issues with recruitment and vacant posts.

Children’s Services

- The base budget overspend is due to pressures within Corporate Parenting, Specialist Social Care Teams and SEN Home to School Transport budgets.
- The Dedicated Schools Grant budget overspend is due to increasing demand for special school places and alternative education provision.
- These overspends are partially offset by vacancies, savings and underspends in Directorate Management, the Education and Learning Help Service, and the Early Years Service.

Corporate Services

- There are pressures in achieving income targets in Corporate Property, Finance, IT, Strategy and Scrutiny & Monitoring. In particular, there is a reducing level of income from schools. Specific action is underway to promote services to schools through Schools Choice.
- The overspend is being mitigated by not recruiting to vacancies, leading to a £0.5m underspend on pay costs. Furthermore, Cllr Richard Smith (Cabinet Member for Finance) has announced that there will be a further £25m of cuts in the 2019/20 budget. Although the details of the proposed budget will not be known until November, Cllr Smith has confirmed that no area will be immune from cuts.

Rise in schools rated inadequate or requires improvement - Data published by Suffolk County Council has revealed a sharp rise in the number of schools rated inadequate or requires improvement by Ofsted, to 1 in 5 Suffolk schools.

The Cabinet Member for Children’s Services and Education has admitted that some academies in Suffolk are not improving as quickly as he would like, or have deteriorated further. This is reflected in the data, which showed that only 65% of academies achieved “good” or “outstanding” ratings, compared to 79% of maintained schools. This has raised questions over the Council’s “Raising the Bar” strategy, which was launched in 2012 with the express aim of ensuring all schools in Suffolk were rated “good” or “outstanding”.

Urgent need for more specialist education placements in Suffolk recognised by Cabinet - Suffolk County Council’s Cabinet has agreed a recommendation to introduce a new approach to the development of specialist education placements for children and young people between the ages of 5 and 25 in Suffolk. In Suffolk, it is projected that there will be an 18% rise in the number of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) between 2018 and 2020, compared to only a 4% rise in the overall population of children. These will mostly be moderate learning difficulties, ASD and speech/language needs. Suffolk currently has insufficient

specialist education placements and cannot meet current or future demand. Many children have long waits for specialist education or are placed far from home in out-of-county placements, which leads to expensive home-to-school transport costs for the Council. Furthermore, the Council currently commissions many placements in expensive independent provision across the country. The report to Cabinet suggested that Suffolk will need to develop a further 300-400 places. Following a public consultation, it was decided that the best way to develop these places in Suffolk was through a combination of new specialist support centres (attached to mainstream schools) with some new special schools, using independent placements for a small number of very specialist needs. A cross-party Policy Development Panel has been set up to develop the new policy, which is expected to be agreed by the Cabinet in January 2019.

Suffolk County Council abandons stake in Barley Homes - Suffolk County Council have agreed to pull out of the commercial housebuilding company established in partnership with West Suffolk Councils in 2015, Barley Homes. Barley Homes was originally set up to deliver much-needed homes during a housing crisis as well as generate income for the councils involved. However, after three years the joint venture company has not secured planning permission or built any homes. The Council will transfer its 50% shareholding to St Edmundsbury Borough Council and Forest Heath District Council. SCC has contributed £250,000 working capital to Barley Homes, but will be reimbursed in full (including interest) for the capital loan.

Future of Upper Orwell Crossings project - In July it was announced that the Upper Orwell Crossings project had been put on hold following concerns about escalating costs. Since then, Suffolk County Council has commissioned an independent review of the costs associated with the project. This analysis corroborated the Council's concerns and concluded that there will be a £43m funding shortfall which will need to be addressed to take the project forward from this point. A report will be going to Cabinet on Tuesday 9 October, seeking support for officers to investigate additional external funding opportunities ahead of a report back to Cabinet in December.

Thanks to Cllr Baker for raising the issues around the school and the footpaths.

15. **CIL / Piip.** Notice picked up from other parish council for possible use within our Crier. Agreed to identify what the parish council feel are priorities for the village. Next meeting to arrange to pull our thoughts together. Tuesday evening over the next 2-3 weeks. Tuesday 9th & 16th at Cllr Bakers Home address. Clerk to co-ordinate.
16. **Cemetery** – Cemetery committee have met and the names on the memorial wall have suffered with frost erosion and also agreed to include the name of the individual on the war graves. New plaque to go on the bottom with Stonemasons and prices to deal with – Cllr Miller to action. Also discussed the child's grave and we now need to write to them regarding the contravening of the rules and give them time to remove and reduce it. Also looked at the cost of a second internment on an existing exclusive right plot of £100.00. Clerk to reissue the pricing to reflect this, no other changes to the policy. Proposed and seconded all in favour.
17. **Councillors Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council**
 - It has been noted that the footpaths have been cut a second time. Much appreciated.
 - Broadband password to be published on notices in the village hall imminently.
 - Cllr Arnold reported in April this year the flooding of the drain outside Yew Tree Farm, Cllr Arnold has now received confirmation that works will take place over the next 20 days!
 - Cllrs asked if Cllr Welham could feed in request if the new Gateway 14 could make provision for a lorry park, it was felt this would be very well received. Cllr Welham agreed he would feedback on our behalf.
 - Cllr Baker mentioned that the Village Hall AGM has taken place and the same committee have been appointed with a fund-raising committee set up for organising the Christmas fayre etc.
 - The Primary School will be participating in another walk to school week is scheduled for after half term. The parking is still bad with illegal parking on the junction and blocking neighbours' driveways causing majority of issues. It is acknowledged that at present there is no answer.
 - Remembrance Sunday. Cllrs asked if a wreath from the school could be placed. Advised for the school to speak to Elaine Miller who is holding the service this year but Cllrs couldn't see an issue with the request.

18. Public Forum

District Cllr Wellham advised as the Chair of scrutiny at MSDC any comments / information regarding CIL / PiiP he may be able to assist the parish council if required. The 5 year land supply has been determined as not justified at 344... The debate is what is deliverable and MSDC interpretation of the policy framework and what is deliverable. Cllrs also reminded that the minimum request for funds on the locality budget is £250. Nat West Bank – John Peel Centre – Planning permission has been approved.

19. Additional Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the November 2018 meeting.

- CIL / PIIP
- Grit Bins
- Budget
- MSDC Report Parish Liaison Meeting

Cllr Harbidge offered to join the finance committee as an additional signatory. Clerk to obtain forms from the bank for Cllr Harbidge to sign and return and to include Cllr Harbidge in the finance review meetings.

20. Date of the next Parish Council meeting – The November meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 7th November 2018 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 22.07 hrs