

Wednesday 7th November 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, M Shave, K Goudy K Hall-Price (Clerk), and District Cllr Keith Wellham, Cllr Jill Wilshaw 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. Cllrs M Reeve, R Lawson have sent their apologies this evening. Cllr Shave has offered his apologies for the December and January meetings.
- 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.** None received.
- 4. To approve the minutes of the October meeting held on 3rd October 2018.** It was proposed and seconded to approve the minutes and they were signed accordingly by the Chairman. The Clerk also put forward to approve the finance review minutes from 5th November. These were also proposed and seconded to approve and were signed accordingly by the Chairman.
- 5. Clerks report following previous meeting.**
 - Crier submission was submitted for November 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.
 - The Clerk has pulled together our first draft of the Parish PIIP following the first meeting.
 - The Clerk has spent a considerable amount of time on the finance and budget spreadsheets ahead of the finance review meeting.
 - The laptop has been to Gordon at Faxbase and has an all over maintenance check and is now running much better. Invoice presented for payment tonight.

Agreed Dates 2019 Parish Council Meetings

January	- Wednesday 2 nd January 2019
February	- Wednesday 6 th February 2019
March	- Wednesday 6 th March 2019
April	- Wednesday 3 rd April 2019
	- Wednesday 24 th April 2019 – Parish Annual Meeting
May	- Wednesday 8 th May (AGM) Meeting to follow the election.
June	- Wednesday 5 th June 2019
July	- Wednesday 3 rd July 2019
August	– No scheduled meeting
September	- Wednesday 4 th September 2019
October	- Wednesday 2 nd October 2019
November	- Wednesday 6 th November 2019
December	- Wednesday 4 th December 2019

Police Report / Crime Map Statistics

The latest newsletter can be found on the Stowmarket SNT website and has been printed in our circulars file and can be found on the village shop noticeboard. The latest information issued to the Clerk via the police connect service is that a recent restructure means that SNT's will receive an additional 100 police officers. The extra resource is to ensure the ability to respond to the increasing demands and the public desire to see more visible policing. In order to achieve this the numbers of PCSO's has been reduced.

Crime Map Figures for August 2018 show 3 x Violence / Sexual offence on or near Greenacres, 1 x Burglary on or near Greenacres and 1 x Violence / Sexual offence on or near Rookery Way. September and October data not available (07.11.18)

It has been reported that on 18th October a shed was targeted but a neighbour does have CCTV footage and it has been reported to the police.

Clerk to ask the Editor of the Crier to update the police contact details.

6. Financial matters & Financial report

Financial review meeting took place on 5th November at Cllr Lawson's home address. The committee would like to recommend that the Parish Council use Trevor Brown as the internal auditor again for our internal audit 2018/2019. This was seconded and approved by the Parish Council.

The asset register was updated to include the new noticeboards and benches and the VAS Unit and poles. These have also been quoted to be added onto the insurance and there is an increment and additional fee of £44.93 to be paid. (Quote was valid of today 07.11.18, so could alter slightly). Is it the councils wish to include these items on the insurance policy and incur the additional charges? Proposed and seconded and majority in favour. Clerk to action.

There are some bank forms that need to be signed off – Clerk needs all Finance Committee members to complete one section of the form.

Proposed draft budget papers have been circulated to all Cllrs for comment. To be raised again at the December meeting and signed off at the January meeting to approve the precept figure. Cllr Arnold highlighted that there is nothing in the budget for a new laptop and maintenance of the Parish Council laptop. Also suggested about a projector for the village hall. Clerk to investigate putting in for some locality budget funds and investigate costs.

Clerk has received confirmation that the dog and litter bin charges for next year are due to increase to £41.00 per dog bin and £35.00 per litter bin, this has been calculated for the purpose of the budget at £462.00.

Bank Account Balances:

- Barclays October Statement Balance **£28,626.04** (30.10.18)
- Scottish Widows 60 Day account balance = **£3,377.94** (31.09.18)
- Scottish Widows Deposit account = **£253.40** (30.09.18)

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

Accounts for payment – October 2018:

- KAREN PRICE - Salary October includes holiday pay, expenses and less tax & NI and pension = **£852.19**
- HMRC – PAYE NI & Tax – **£23.42, £26.93 = £50.35**
- NEST Pension Contribution **DDR** – employee 3% £21.54, employer 2% £17.95 = **£39.49**
- Adam Alexander – Cemetery Maintenance October - **£225.00**
- Ben Stearn – Ward Green Autumn Management and removal of fallen tree **£144.00**
- Faxbase Ltd – Maintenance on Parish Council Laptop **£120.00**
- Poppy Wreath £20.00

Monies Received – October 2018:

- No money paid into or received at the bank account during October.

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

7. Correspondence Received & Circulars:

- MSDC – Consultation under Reg16 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regs 2012 (as amended) Stowupland Neighbourhood Development Plan 2016-2036
- MSDC – Electoral Services Estimate of charges for election 2019
- MSDC – Notice of increase to Dog Bin and Waste Bin charges 2019, Prices included within our budget calculations.
- CAS – Zurich Insurance Quote to include additional items purchased during year added onto the Asset Register (As discussed during the finance review).
- 30.11.18 – Jo Churchill hosting Older Persons fair 10am – 12pm at Needham Market Community Centre.

- SALC Membership subscriptions
- ONGAA – AGM Notice – 19.11.18 7pm at the Village Hall
- Letter asking for participation with the Christmas Carol Service on 6th December. Cllr Baker offered to do a reading and will return the form.

Various circulars received for information purposes. File circulated during the meeting. Cllr Shave asked if Old Newton be included on the MSDC final boundary reviews.

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

Strategic Property and Land Investment Fund approved - Mid Suffolk’s Cabinet has allocated £3m to the Strategic Land and Property Fund, intended to allow the council to act swiftly and efficiently when opportunities to acquire key properties in the district arises. The decision, made at the Cabinet Meeting on 8 October, will make funds available to secure properties that represent outstanding opportunities for the council and community before they are purchased by private bidders.

English Oak Trees planted to commemorate the Fallen of the First World War. A memorial of seven English Oak trees has been planted in Debenham to commemorate the role played by the people of Mid Suffolk in the First World War and to remember all those who gave their lives in sacrifice our of freedoms today. Mid Suffolk lost just over 1,600 people in the First World War one hundred years ago, and the oak trees that have been planted in remembrance will live to well over one hundred years, allowing their legacy to stand through to the second centenary of the First World War and beyond. The trees were planted on The Meadow, off Wells Way in Debenham. The trees that were chosen were fastigiate oaks, which will grow in a columnar shape and the leaves of which will turn a fiery red in the autumn.

LGiU awards - I am pleased to announce my colleague Councillor Glen Horn was awarded a “Special Mention” for his work on the Public Realm.

Locality Budget - Don’t forget the Locality Award budget. It has now been reduced to £6000 per councillor as each person has donated £250 towards helping the Mix for a trailer which was stolen, and the insurers won’t pay out until after the season has finished which means lots of money for the Mix will have been lost. If any club/association etc. would like some money towards something specific, please get in touch and Cllr Wilshaw will send an application form.

The Finningham Road application has still not progressed further. Cllr Miller is checking regularly but nothing further has been submitted. 2017 – Awaiting decision.

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

Highways Improvement and Innovation Board – new approach to pothole repairs, coordinating road closures and working with Parish Councils. A highways Improvement and Innovations Board was established in June and has met three times. The Board recently announced that Suffolk Highways will be piloting a new approach to prioritising pothole repairs over the winter, specifically for services coming out of the Ipswich Phoenix House depot. If successful, the new approach will be rolled out to other depots. The new approach will mean more potholes in a single area will be repaired together, and potholes of 200mm width will also be included. The pilot aims to tackle more potholes at once, rather than later returning to the same area to repair nearby potholes. It will also aim to reduce the number of temporary repairs, which also have to be returned to at a later date. This should reduce the travelling time of maintenance crews, and result in more potholes being filled. The Board has also been looking into improving the coordination of road closures, reducing the number of roadworks which overrun, and exploring ways for Suffolk Highways to work closer with town and parish councils. A progress report from the Board is expected at Scrutiny later in the year.

Speed Limit Success (again) - The proposed new 40 mph speed limit north and south of Old Newton is now to go ahead as originally planned after all. The Cabinet member and Director of highways had vetoed the extension to the south, thus leaving Finningham Road and beyond national speed limit. I protested at this injustice as no one had objected during the consultation period, and the decision was based on the discredited original Police comments. I have sanctioned the finances to be made available to bring this forward as soon as possible.

Council signs up to 100% nuclear energy deal - At the Council meeting on 18 October, I put forward a motion calling on the Council to recognise the benefits of renewable energy, commission a report into smart grids, and commit to ensuring at least 50% of the Council’s energy comes from renewable sources by 2025. Unfortunately, the Conservative administration amended the motion to remove any clear actions or targets. It was also revealed that the Council have

recently signed off on a 100% nuclear energy deal for the next three years, to commence in March 2019. This represents a major step backwards for Suffolk County Council, whose current energy contract includes 18.7% renewables.

No funding to help end period poverty - The Labour Group proposed a motion to Council on 18 October, asking for a commitment of £15,000 in the budget to help tackle “period poverty”. Many girls suffer and frequently miss school because they are unable to afford sanitary products. The motion therefore asked the Council to fund free sanitary products in all local authority maintained schools in Suffolk, and to encourage academies to implement similar measures. Unfortunately, the Conservative administration once again amended the motion, removing all funding commitments. It was claimed that this was because the level of funding in the original motion was too small and unfairly favoured girls at maintained schools. However, a later amendment from my political group, which proposed increasing the funding commitment in the motion to include all schools in Suffolk, was rejected.

New Home Care operating model - At Cabinet on 9 October a new Home Care operating model was agreed. It was acknowledged that the previous model had not been a success and had caused unnecessary stress to both care providers and residents receiving home care. We were assured that “lessons had been learned” from this previous experience, and that greater care had been taken to develop the operating model in partnership with stakeholders. A call-in of the decision was received and so the model received further scrutiny from the Council’s Scrutiny Committee. However, the majority of the Scrutiny Committee voted to proceed with the new model rather than asked Cabinet to reconsider their decision.

Budget consultation and reduction in overspend - Suffolk County Council is currently consulting on the 2019/20 budget and is asking the public to share their ideas for potential savings. The consultation runs until 5pm on Friday 16 November, and can be found at: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/consultations-petitions-and-elections/consultations/a-tough-call-to-make-budget-20192020/>. We will get our first look at the 2019/20 budget proposals on Thursday 22 November, when they are presented to the Scrutiny Committee. At the end of Quarter 1 the council was predicting an overspend on the 2018/19 net budget of £8.6m. This prediction has now reduced, at the end of Quarter 2, to a £7.5m overspend. Although an improvement, it is unlikely that the overspend will be reduced completely by the end of the financial year, and the council will still need to make use of reserves to cover the funding gap.

School admissions consultation - Suffolk County Council is consulting on its school admissions policy for 2020/21, available at: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-places/consultation-on-admissions-to-schools-in-suffolk-for-the-20202021-school-year/>. The consultation is open until 12 November 2018. No significant changes are proposed for 2020/21. However, the council are also seeking views on potential future changes to the oversubscription criteria, in terms of the removal of catchment area priority. If they decide to progress with this change, there would be another consultation October 2019 and any changes would then apply from 2021/22.

10. Planning Applications Received

DC/18/04773 – Outline Planning Application (Access to be considered) - Erection of up to 65no. dwellings including means of access into the site (not internal roads), parking, pedestrian / cycle bridge and associated highway works. Location: Land to the west of Fishponds Way, Haughley, Suffolk.

Cllrs had read that Haughley parish housing needs had identified that the site could accommodate approximately 20 houses although this planning application appears to be significantly higher. Cllrs felt that the access considered was quite close to the Windgap Lane junction. The Windgap Lane junction is already quite difficult with poor visibility. The road does not appear to be wide enough as it is, however Cllrs wondered if this could be widened as part of the application. Cllrs also were unsure if the road was substantial enough to accommodate and sustain an increase of 65 houses. Infrastructure in the village was also a concern in terms of the school capacity and that of the medical and health care facilities in the vicinity. Overall Cllrs were pleased with the proposed environmental additions for the pedestrian paths and cycle paths and bridge. Clerk to respond by the deadline of 21st November 2018.

11. Planning Decisions from MSDC

DC/17/05765 Appeal Decision. Erection of 5 dwellings and provision of extension to school car park. The appeal is dismissed.

DC/17/05683 Appeal Decision. Erection of two self-build dwellings on land adj. Oak House, Church Road, Old Newton. The appeal is dismissed.

12. MSDC – Parish Liaison Meeting Report – The meeting was attended by Cllrs Miller and Arnold and Cllr Arnold provided a summary report for the meeting, kept on file by the clerk. Overall the meeting was felt to be poorly planned and poorly delivered and the emphasis was felt to be on Babergh not Mid Suffolk.

- 13. SALC Report – Cllr Clements.** Cllr Clements attended the AGM on Tuesday 6th November and provided a summary report to the Parish Council. Cllr Clements felt that this was yet another disappointing meeting. Pushing some work away from the hospitals towards the health centres. Even using community village halls etc to run surgeries local in the community. SALC are trying to be more Suffolk focused.
- 14. Grit Heaps / Bins – Review.** All forms have now been received by the Clerk. We have 6 sites to apply for. A total of 4 bins so 2 bins will be included on the locality award application form for Cllr Wilshaw. The Clerk will ensure this is done as a priority as we head into the worse months for the bad weather.
- Mill Hill
 - Stonebridge Lane Cross Road
 - School Hill
 - Hundred Lane / Brown Street Junction / Cotton Hall by Westholme
 - Netherhall Close
 - Ward Green
- 15. B1113 Speed Restriction Update.** - Clerk spoke to our local policing team and they felt they were not in a position to comment. It would need to be referred back to the relevant department. In the meantime, Cllr Stringer has managed to get the decision overturned and we are to get the speed restriction at both ends of the village and Cllr Stringer will pay for the new signage from his budget. Thanks to Cllr Stringer for his hard work on this project.
- 16. CIL / PIIP.** Cllrs met on 16th October to brainstorm our PIIP and the clerk has drafted our first attempt that has been circulated to all Cllrs for comment.
- 17. Councillors Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council**
- Christmas Fair – Bonanza is a two-day event this year on Friday 7th December evening and Saturday 8th December.
 - Remembrance Sunday service starts at 10.45am. All Cllrs are welcome. Apologies received from Cllrs Goudy and Shave.
 - Last Saturday the need for an ambulance took 2 hrs to get to the sports and social club to attend a serious injury. Not sure what the Parish Council can do but advised that the sports and social club should raise this to the ambulance service as a complaint.
- 18. Public Forum**
- Cllr Wellham – Tree for life scheme. Any child born in the village 1st Jan – 31st December 2018. MSDC website – online application form to request a tree. Clerk to look at getting this included in the Crier. Our request for Cllr Wellham to report our suggestion for a lorry park on the A14 has had a report back that this is probably not likely to happen. Needham Lake – visitor attraction update – Facilities for café and toilets and investment.
- 19. Additional Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the December 2018 meeting.**
- CIL / PIIP
 - Grit Bins
 - Budget / Precept
- 20. Date of the next Parish Council meeting** – The December meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 5th December 2018 at 7.30pm. This will be our Christmas meeting and you are invited to stay after the meeting for light refreshments.

Meeting closed at 21.54 hrs