

Wednesday 2nd January 2019 at Old Newton Village Hall commencing at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs J Miller (Chair), M Clements (Vice Chair), K Baker, T Arnold, K Goudy, K Hall-Price (Clerk), and County Cllr Andrew Stringer and 4 members of the public.

- 1. Chairman's welcome and to receive any apologies for absence** – Cllr Shave submitted his apologies for the December and January meetings at the November meeting. Cllr Reeve and Cllr Harbidge and Cllr Lawson have sent their apologies due to illness.
- 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. Cllr Goudy – Item 14 – Allotments. Cllr Baker does not believe that her interests need to be declared as a neighbour on the planning application for Mayhews Farm.
- 4. To approve the minutes of the December meeting held on 5th December 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 January 2019 edition.
 - RTI submission has been submitted.
 - Nest Pension submission has been issued.
 - All cheques for payment have been issued.
 - All information, minutes and agenda have been uploaded onto the village website.
 - Draft PPIP has been amended and re-issued to all Cllrs for approval and submission as a working document to MSDC.
 - Cemetery Pricing has been updated and issued to our local funeral directors and stone masons. The revised document has also been uploaded onto the village website.
 - Cllr Stringer has chased on our behalf an update on our application for grit bins but no reply has been received yet by the Clerk or Cllr Stringer. Cllr Stringer will chase again and hopefully have an update. Comments to Cllr Stringer to state how disappointed we are to not have received anything from SCC.
 - Adam Alexander has no hrs for payment this month as the ground has been too wet.
 - Elizabeth Ling – MSDC Community Housing Enabling Team has been provided with the meetings dates for 2019 and invited to attend one of our monthly meetings. Awaiting confirmation of the date she would like to attend.

Police Report / Crime Map Statistics

Crime Map Figures for October 2018 show 1 x Antisocial behaviour on or near Lodge Close, 1 x burglary on or near Netherhall Close, 1 x criminal damage / arson and 1 x theft on or near B1113. November 2018 show 2 x Violence / Sexual offence on or near Falconer Avenue. December figures not available yet.

Police Connect messages have included:

- Make sure when you are not at home that your property is secure. The police would like to encourage you to check that your home security is the best it can be. Most burglaries are committed by opportunist thieves who will search a neighbourhood for homes that look empty or dark, with access to back gardens. They also look out for windows that have been left open and unlocked doors. Thieves are predominately looking for jewellery or cash to steal. We would like to remind you to check your security when you leave home or go away and use the guidance provided to help keep your home secure:
- Police were called on Sunday 9 December at 2.45 pm to reports of hare-coursing in progress in a rural location near Burgate. Officers were quickly despatched to the location and arrested a 33-year-old man from the Surrey area on suspicion of offences under the Hunting Act. He was also arrested on suspicion of driving with excess drugs, possession of an offensive weapon and driving a vehicle with no valid motor insurance. Officers also seized a Toyota Hilux vehicle, under the Hunting Act. The man has now been released under investigation whilst enquiries continue.
- Motorcyclists across Suffolk are being given the opportunity to improve their riding skills and to have better awareness and ability while on the road at 'Safe Rider' motorcycle workshops to be held in 2019. Safe Rider is a

joint initiative between Suffolk and Norfolk Constabularies aimed at reducing the number of motorcycle casualties across the counties. To date in 2018, 14 people have been killed on Suffolk's roads, two of which were motorcyclists. In 2017, a total of 34 people died on the county's roads, five of which were motorcyclists. The two-day workshops will run from April through to October, the months when it is considered the number of motorcyclists taking to the roads increases due to more clement weather.

- Police are appealing for information after a home was broken into in Woolpit yesterday, Thursday 13th December. The home in Wrights Way was broken into sometime between 8.10am & 7.20pm after a glass door panel was smashed. Once inside, an untidy search was carried out and items of jewellery were stolen. A patio door was also damaged. Officers are keen to hear from anyone who may have seen or heard anything unusual or suspicious during the times given.
- An operation to target criminals using Suffolk's roads has seen more than 70 vehicles stopped in Ipswich. Officers from the Scorpion Teams Specialist Operations including Suffolk Roads and Armed Policing Team, the Road Casualty Reduction Team, the Dog Unit together with partner agencies DVSA, HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) and the Gangmaster Licensing Agency. The checks took place at Sainsbury's on Hadleigh Road in Ipswich on Friday 14 December. Four arrests were made after a total of 71 vehicles were escorted to the site for checks during the day. The aim of the operation was to disrupt criminal activity, to catch those committing driving offences, to remove unsafe vehicles from the road, fuel testing, drug checks and vehicle examinations all being carried out. Three drivers were arrested for drug driving offences, a fourth was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting after a warrant was previously issued for his arrest.

6. Financial matters & Financial report

The bank forms that needed to be signed off have been returned to the bank. The precept has been put forward at £24,877.00 to be paid in two instalments of £12,438.50 each in April and September. The forms were signed off by two Cllrs and the Clerk at the meeting. Proposed and seconded all in favour.

Bank Account Balances:

- Barclays December Statement Balance **£26,266.38** (28.12.18)
- 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 – December 2018:

- KAREN PRICE - Salary December includes holiday pay, expenses and less tax & NI and pension = **£714.80**
- HMRC – PAYE NI & Tax – **Nothing to pay**
- NEST Pension Contribution **DDR** – employee 3% £16.68, employer 2% £13.90 = **£30.58**
- ONEG / Onwoods – Cleansing Grant 2nd Qtr ending Sept 2018 = **£235.50**

Monies Received – December 2018:

- MSDC – Cleansing Grant 2nd Qtr ending Sept 18 **£235.50**

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

7. Correspondence Received & Circulars:

- Cllr Baker – Downs footpath Email
- MSDC - 2018 Review of Polling Districts
- PCC Tim Passmore - Council Tax Precept message
- MSDC – Exacom Public Facing Module Launch
- MSDC – Community Energy and neighbourhood planning workshop – 24th January 2019. Forward information to Phillip Groom, Libby Brookes, ONGA representatives.
- SCC – 2018 Riparian Ownership in Suffolk Booklet now available.

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

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

Cabinet Supports Funding PCSOs in District - Mid Suffolk's Cabinet has voted to approve funding of £149,200 across two years to fund two Police Community Support Officers in the district. This extra resource will help deal with ongoing concerns from Town and Parish Councils, local businesses and residents, including anti-social behaviour, speeding and

parking infringements. These PCSOs will be in addition to the existing core Police Community Support Officer capacity funded by Suffolk Police.

Plans submitted for the future of former Mid Suffolk offices and Needham Market Middle School - Planning applications have been submitted for 135 new homes in Needham Market, with proposals to develop both the former council offices at 131 High Street and the former Needham Market Middle School. For the former office site, they propose 49 houses and 12 apartments as well as 15 houses, 8 apartments and a single retail outlet on the former office car park on Hurstlea Road. The listed building on the site, facing the High Street, will be retained and converted back to its original (residential) use, allowing restoration of surviving period details, character and the provision of quality residential accommodation. This building is proposed to house apartments as part of the plans. In addition, the historic bowling green behind the listed building will be maintained as a shared amenity space for residents of the development. The plans include 20 car parking spaces for public use, in addition to 25 spaces for use with the retail outlet. This is in addition to private parking for residents. Vehicle access to the site would continue to be via Hurstlea Road, as was the case when the offices were operational. Far greater pedestrian access is included in the plans. As part of the proposals the existing duck pond and surrounding open space would be retained, with landscaping works and improved access for the public included. As many trees as possible are to be retained on the site, with the proposals also including a scheme of new planting to ensure there is no net loss of trees. Existing memorial trees will be retained but may be relocated within the site.

Existing public recycling facilities, currently located in the Hurstlea Road car park, will also be retained at another location on the site. The planning application follows closely behind the submission of plans by Mid Suffolk District Council for the former Needham Market Middle School site on School Street, where 41 dwellings are proposed including a mix of two and three bedroom units and one and two bedroom flats, while retaining the existing Victorian building and converting it into a library for the use of Suffolk Libraries, who currently operate a library on the site. The plans would see the new library in the Victorian building open and operating before the current library building is demolished.

In total across the two sites Mid Suffolk propose to build 135 new homes of which 51 would be affordable housing, including 28 for affordable rent and 23 offered for affordable home ownership. Mid Suffolk are also looking to assist in enhancing Needham Market Community Centre, with a contribution to support a new home for the Community Internet Café incorporated within an extension, subject to planning, of the community center.

Suffolk County Council Proposes Phased Funding Reduction for CABs - Suffolk County Council have revised their budget proposals for 2019/20, and now intend to introduce a phased reduction in funding for Suffolk's Citizens Advice Bureaux rather than a single reduction. Mid Suffolk are providing £86,700 in funding to the Mid Suffolk (Stowmarket) CAB, £5,200 to Suffolk West CAB and £8,810 in funding to the Diss & Thetford CAB this financial year.

MSDC Strategies and Policies - The Homes and Homeless Strategies have completed the consultation and are now being updated and discussed. The Communities Strategy is in its infancy so will be coming forward within the next couple of months hopefully. The Modern Slavery Policy has been passed by Council, along with the toilet policy. The homeless prevention fund policy is coming to Cabinet this month. The management of council trees is also being put in front of Cabinet early January. Thank you to all those people who applied for the locality award I hope they are very happy with the amount of money they received.

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

Council pledges to lead fight against single-use plastics - On 6 December 2018, my group successfully put forward a motion calling on Suffolk County Council to do more to tackle single-use plastic waste in the county. The motion was agreed unanimously by all councillors. The measures the council has agreed to implement include a commitment to work towards only using sustainable or re-usable plastics in all council buildings, writing to the public on how to reduce plastic waste, and creating a "plastic free Suffolk network" of councils, businesses and other organisations.

Consultation on cuts to Citizens Advice - In November, Suffolk County Council announced their intention to cut all funding for Suffolk's Citizens Advice Bureaux as part of their budget savings proposals. This was later amended to a phased cut over 2 years. The funding will be reduced by half (£184 000) in 2019/20, before being removed entirely in 2020/21. I am very concerned by these proposals, which will have a huge impact on our Citizen's Advice Bureaux. The services provided by CABs represent great value for money and support many of our most vulnerable residents. Suffolk County Council have launched a consultation on this proposed funding cut, which I would encourage you all to complete. The consultation runs until 5pm on Wednesday 23 January, and can be found at: www.suffolk.gov.uk/cabconsultation

Suffolk County Council refuses to tackle carbon emissions - At the Council meeting in December, councillors from my group proposed a motion asking Suffolk County Council to set an annual "carbon budget" and create targets for

reducing carbon emissions. A carbon budget would set out how much carbon the council could emit each year, much like a financial budget sets out how much money can be spent. Unfortunately, the administration voted against the motion and refused to commit to any carbon reduction targets. Suffolk County Council already monitors its carbon emissions, but currently this work is not in the public domain and there are no clear targets for carbon reduction. The motion asked the council to make this process open, transparent and accountable, and it's a shame the administration didn't want to engage with us on this issue.

Modern slavery statement unanimously agreed - A motion on modern slavery was unanimously agreed at the Council meeting in December. The motion commits Suffolk County Council to comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and do all it can to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking in Suffolk. In addition, the council will review its procurement processes to see where they can be strengthened to fully comply with the Modern Slavery Act and bring a paper to Cabinet to decide on the production of an annual slavery and human trafficking statement. This statement will outline our actions to identify, prevent and mitigate modern slavery in our communities.

Energy from waste facility refinanced - In 2010, Suffolk County Council entered into a PFI-backed contract with Suez for the Suffolk energy from waste facility. The gate fee per tonne payments for the disposal of waste include the capital costs of the facility as well as the operating costs over the 25-year contract life. In October 2016, the council refinanced £37.8m (22.4%) of the facility's capital construction cost in order to reduce the gate fee per tonne. At Cabinet in December it was agreed to refinance a further £10.2m (6.0%), which would further reduce the gate fee per tonne and consequently reduce the council's annual revenue costs. The net savings are projected to be a further cumulative £10.4m over the remainder of the contract.

10. Planning Applications Received

- **DC/18/04848** - Proposal: Householder Application. Erection of three bay cart lodge with storage over. Location: Mayhews Farm, Brown Street, Old Newton. Historic photos show farm buildings where they plan to install the three-bay cart lodge. Cllr Goudy has visited and spoke with the owners and he saw no issues whatsoever with the plans. Construction is in-keeping with the agricultural nature of the existing buildings. It was mentioned that it should be maintained as part of Mayhews Farm. The permission shall only be approved by the parish council if the cart lodge is kept incidental and ancillary to the principle dwelling. Proposed and seconded with all Cllrs in favour. Application approved with the above comments.
- **DC/18/05536** - Proposal: Planning Application. Demolition of existing bungalow and redevelopment of the site to provide 4no two-storey two/three bed houses and 1no three bed bungalow. Location: 27 Church Road, Old Newton.

Parishioners were in attendance at the meeting in order to object and raise their concerns regarding this application. Objections were raised against a detached house on plot 2 as the elevation is taller than existing bungalow at 31. 2 storey on the frontage is not in context with the existing properties on Church Road Cllrs and parishioners felt that the frontage should be 2 bungalows not houses. Design of plot 2 bedroom 1 would overlook the bungalow at 31. If not able to have bungalow's then the plot needs to be bought back in line with the bungalow at 31. Access issues were also an issue. Expectation is that there is a visibility statement that the wall needs to be below 600mm and it is not. The hedge needs to be cut back by 50% - the owner of the hedge is not happy at all about having to cut back the hedge. Parishioners on Cross Green who are at the bottom end of the development also have concerns regarding privacy and being overlooked. The plans are not showing enough detail. If plot 2 goes too far back the property at 33 has a window that will be completely looked into. Privacy issues seem to be the main issue and concerns being raised by the neighbours to this development.

Residents have challenged MSDC to ask about the planning application not been displayed. This is being addressed and a further 21 days consultation will be offered. Cllr Wilshaw has agreed to call this application in if necessary.

Cllr Shave's Comments received were read to the meeting by the Clerk: Cllrs had criticism regarding lack of notice about this application. Road safety was felt to be a real issue – roadside parking is already an issue and the access was felt to be inadequate and a serious highways issue.

Access statement 8.2 – Old Newton being an established settlement was agreed but the statement provided within the application was misleading and said we have a pub in the village which we do not. Walking to school is already an issue and will not get better with this development. Bus services are not as great as detailed. There is no wrap around child care within the village and Cllrs felt that the

statement provided in general was misleading. There is a concern that the plot leads naturally to another plot of land that has been previously identified for development and could be seen as phase 1. The village already has identified planning applications for two fairly large developments of circa 65 houses.

Cllrs felt that the application is not acceptable on several levels. If we look at the existing building line and the houses that are in line with the road, plots 1 and 2 are being bought further forward. The visibility along the road is not great at present and the lack of parking on Church Road is already busy and this will increase with the proposed development. Privacy issues of existing residents were also a serious concern. Context is the plot is very cramped and pushed in. There were additional issues raised regarding filling in the ditches which will create a water log effect. Comments received from the development plots neighbouring parishioners have been copied to Cllrs prior to the meeting.

It was proposed to decline this application on access and visibility, the proposed building line is not in keeping with historically what is there. The plot appears to be extremely cramped and out of context and overlooking gardens and existing property windows. The impact on the neighbouring residents is not desirable. Already have an application for 23 opposite on Cross Green and 47 at Finningham Road. Proposed and seconded to object to this application all Cllrs agreed unanimously. Clerk to respond to MSDC.

11. Planning Decisions from MSDC

- **DC/18/04986** - Proposal: Listed Building Consent Application. Formation of partition wall in the master bedroom to house a bathroom/dressing room. Location: Old Newton Hall, Sandford Road, Old Newton. *Application has been withdrawn.*
- MSDC have given planning permission to the Stearn Land application although this has not been officially reported.

12. Grit Heaps / Bins – Update. SCC have a reporting tool online that our applications have been uploaded and received but if we do not hear from SCC in the next 48 hrs then we propose to purchase grit/salt 25kg bags x 16 and the priority: School, Mill Hill, Hundred Lane and Netherhall Close. Clerk to email how disappointed we are at the lack of response from SCC.

13. CIL / PIIP. Re-issued and amended version has been issued to all Cllrs. Proposed and Seconded and all Agreed to issue to MSDC as a working document.

14. Allotments – The Scarff family are prepared to continue the lease for a further 5 years on the same agreement. Current terms to be extended to 2025, to be reviewed again in January 2024 to ensure ONGAA have enough growing notice on the allotments to manage any changes moving forward. Clerk to respond to the Scarff family and ONGA.

15. Councillors Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council

- Cllr Miller was asked to explain and summarise the proceedings at the hearing for the planning application on the Finningham Road site.
- Village hall and Pre-school Christmas weekend event was well supported, thanks to everyone who attended and supported the event.
- Falconer Avenue – yellow paint around one hole and left the rest. This is due to only one of the potholes meeting the criteria for remedial maintenance work to be actioned.

16. Public Forum. Members of the public had left the meeting following the planning applications covered on the agenda therefore nothing from the public forum.

17. Additional Matters for inclusion on the agenda for the February meeting.

- CIL / PIIP
- Grit Bins
- Sid Unit – Church Road

18. Date of the next Parish Council meeting – The February meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 6th February 2019 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 21.30 hrs