

BRIGHTWELL FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 12th February 2025 at Trinity Park

Present

Cllr E Warham - Chair

Cllr E Lawrence

Cllr B Newell

Cllr G Watts

Cllr K Rout

Cllr E Beach

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

2 members of the public

14.25 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Patti Mulcahy Suffolk County Council.

15.25 To receive Members' Declaration of Interest

Cllr K Rout declared an interest in Item 6 Planning of the Agenda AP/250003/REFUSE or APP/X3540/W/25/3358949 (Planning Inspectorate Reference).

16.25 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 8th January 2025 were approved as being a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

17.25 Matters arising from the Minutes

12.25 b. Removal of graffiti in Purdis Farm

Cllr E Lawrence stated that the graffiti is on a wall belonging to a resident therefore it is the responsibility of the resident to remove it.

18.25 The meeting was adjourned to receive reports and questions

- a. Cllr Mark Packard – no report.
- b. Cllr Ed Thompson – East Suffolk Council – no report.
- c. Cllr Patti Mulcahy – Suffolk County Council – no report.
- d. To receive questions from members of the public.

A member of the public asked whether there had been any update on flooding problems in Straight Road which Cllr Patti Mulcahy Suffolk County Council had agreed to discuss with Suffolk County Council Highways. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to Cllr Mulcahy to request an update. A member of the public also asked about the progress of preventing the parking on the grass verges in

Foxglove Crescent. It was stated that it was predominantly one resident who regularly parks on the grass verge. Cllr E Lawrence said that Cllr Mark Packard East Suffolk Councillor had visited the area, and the intention is to plant wildflowers and bushes. Cllr Mark Packard will be meeting with East Suffolk Council planners to draw up a plan as to what could be planted which would be low maintenance. It is hoped that more information would be available at the March Parish Council meeting. **Action: Cllr E Lawrence / Clerk**

There being no further questions the Chairman reconvened the meeting

19.25 Planning

The following updates the planning schedule and highlights any applications for discussion at the February 2025 meeting of the Group Parish Council. There is also two Appeals which are being dealt with by the Planning Inspectorate after the original applications were refused by East Suffolk Council Planning.

There are 4 Planning Applications received since the last meeting which need to be discussed at the meeting and comments made.

DC/25/0414/TPO - OS 2092 Purdis Avenue Purdis Farm

- 1no. Hawthorn (T1 on plan, T13 on Order) - Fell
- 1no. Indian Bean Tree (T2 on plan, T21 on Order) - Raise crown to 4.5 metres removing sub-laterals only
- 1no. Spruce (T3 on plan, T15 on Order) – Fell

The recommendation is that a No Objection comment is submitted for this application. The Parish Council agreed not to object to this application.

DC/25/0276/TPO - Purdis Rise Cottage Purdis Farm Lane Purdis Farm

Pine tree T-1, reduce lateral branches by up to 2m to bring back into shape with the overall canopy and overhanging the driveway.

The recommendation is that a No Objection comment is submitted for this application. The Parish Council agreed not to object to this application.

DC/25/0351/FUL - Foxcroft Felixstowe Road Foxhall Ipswich Suffolk IP10 0DE

First floor side extension. New access gates and wall. (Renewal of DC/21/5746/FUL).

The recommendation is that a No Objection comment is submitted for this application particularly as the wall and gates are of the favoured "open railing" type rather than a solid wall. The Parish Council agreed not to object to this application.

DC/24/4506/FUL - 72 Woodrush Road Purdis Farm

Rear two storey extension with new enlarged window at first floor. Garage conversion (permitted development)

This is an interesting application as it involves two separate elements. The garage conversion is straightforward the majority of older garages are not used to garage cars and in this case the garage is to be formally converted rather than being used for storage. This is permitted development and formalises something which is already happening with any vehicle already parked elsewhere. There is little detail about the two storey rear extension. However there appear to be no issues looking at the plan provided there are no windows on the side adjacent to their neighbours. If there are windows even with this extension the rear of number 72 is in line with their neighbour so would not be overlooked.

Therefore, the recommendation is that a No Objection comment is submitted for this application. The Parish Council agreed not to object to this application.

DC/23/4635/FUL – Care Home Felixstowe Road Foxhall

The Parish Council objected to this application due to insufficient car parking and expressed concern about the adverse effect on primary care in the area as highlighted by the NHS Integrated Care Board.

Both SCC Highways and the Planning Officer were satisfied that 40 car parking spaces were sufficient and that a financial contribution from the developer would mitigate concerns raised by the local NHS Integrated Care Board.

As expected, this application has now been approved with a total of 21 planning conditions.

It should be remembered that most applications which comply with the local plan will get approval. However, it is often possible to amend the original plans in this case the Parish Council was able to get an increased number of parking spaces and secure a new footpath to Murrills Road which was not in the original application.

DC/23/4699/OUT – Land Opposite Seven Hills Roundabout Felixstowe Road Nacton

The Parish Council has objected to this application. Considering it to be an overdevelopment of land near an AONB which will cause traffic problems along the A14 & A1156 – Both SCC Highways and National Highways have lodged holding objections to enable them to examine and verify the information provided by the applicant. SCC Highways are concerned about non-vehicular access including pedestrian and cycle access. National Highways have asked for a decision to be delayed until at least 27th June 2025 as they would like further time to assess the impact on the Strategic Road Network. SCC Highways have asked for much more information about walking and cycling access to the site and the siting of the traffic lights along the A1156.

DC/24/0412/FUL – Twisted Oaks Bike Park – Intensification of use for outdoor activities

There is no further news about this application.

DC/24/2025/VOC – Foxhall Barns Hall Road - Variation of Condition No. 3 of DC/23/4450/VOC (Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission DC/22/0785/FUL:

The Parish Council objected to this variation as we do not see the need for the sale of food and beverages to staff and patients. There is no further news about this application.

DC/24/0448/FUL - Part Land at Foxburrow Farm Waldringfield Road Brightwell Ipswich Suffolk IP10 0BZ –

Change of use of land for use as caravan storage (associated with Oaks Caravans).

After the application was sent out for further consultation a number of further comments were received. The Parish Council did not change its position and has not objected to this application. Waldringfield Parish Council have decided that they will not object if the following conditions are attached to the approval.

- i. Approval is given on the basis that this is a temporary change of use and that the land will be returned to agricultural use.
- ii. Mitigation is put in place as described in the ecological appraisal to protect endangered species found on or near the site.

There is no further news about this application.

AP/23/0074/REFUSE or APP/X3540/W/23/3330089 (Planning Inspectorate Reference)

Change of use of land for siting of 31 static units and 12 touring pitches and ancillary facilities - re-submission of DC/20/5102/FUL. | Land Off Ipswich Road Brightwell Ipswich Suffolk IP10 0BJ

The applicant claims that they have addressed the Council concerns about non-vehicular access, damage to SSI, sewage, and facilities on the site.

This appeal has been **dismissed**. The Inspector found that the non-vehicular access was insufficient. Pedestrians would be in too much danger from traffic (particularly at night) when accessing the site on foot. As a result, the site did not meet sustainability criteria as vehicles were needed to access the site. There were also adverse impacts on the European Sites and the SSSI. These factors outweighed the benefit to tourism.

AP/25/0003/REFUSE or APP/X3540/W/25/3358949 (Planning Inspectorate Reference)

Prior Approval - Agriculture to Dwellings - Conversion of existing barn and stables to a single dwelling. Toad Hall Farm, Old Felixstowe Road, Foxhall.

The Parish Council has just received this appeal which relates to application DC/24/1690/P3Q the first of two applications which were refused because they did not meet the conditions required for such an application to be submitted.

The Parish Council submitted a No Objection response to both application DC/24/1690/P3Q and the second application for 3 dwellings DC/24/3633/P3Q.

Proposed Quarry and Industrial Site at Westerfield

We were alerted to this application by the East Suffolk Planning Alliance. We are not a formal consultee. This is a major development which will greatly increase the amount of traffic near the site and on local roads. Details are on the Suffolk County Council Website as they will determine the application which has already generated dozens of objections. SCC/0092/24SC/SCREEN – refers. A full planning application is expected soon which will be decided by the Suffolk County Council.

The recommendation is that the Parish Council does not comment on this application as it will not directly affect us but monitor the situation including at the Sizewell C Southern Transport Forum as this proposal appears to be connected to the construction of Sizewell C. The Parish Council agreed not to comment on this application.

20.25 To discuss inappropriate parking in Purdis Farm / Community Garden

Cllr E Lawrence reported that Cllr Mark Packard East Suffolk Council had held a meeting with a resident to discuss planting flowers and shrubs to alleviate the problem of inappropriate parking on grass verges. Cllr Mark Packard has spoken to Laura Hack | Public Realm Contracts Manager East Suffolk Council to agree how the grass could be cut when flowers and shrubs are planted. Cllr E Lawrence asked councillors to allocate a sum of money to cover the cost of flowers and shrubs. It was agreed that money could be allocated from the CIL Receipts (Enhance the Green Environment) which have been received by the Parish Council. Cllr B Newell proposed that the Parish Council allocate £500 to spend on green enhancement of the area, seconded Cllr Liz Beach – all in favour. **Action: Cllr Eddie Lawrence / Clerk**

21.25 To discuss and agree the refurbishment of Foxhall and Brightwell Village Signs

Cllr K Rout that he would provide an estimate of costs for both notice boards for the March Parish Council meeting. **Action: Clerk / Cllr K Rout**

22.25 To discuss and agree plans to provide greener parishes

Cllr B Newell reported that she had attended a meeting of the Deben Green Cluster. Discussions had taken place regarding each parish writing a biodiversity policy. Cllr B Newell stated that every parish 'by law' has to have a biodiversity policy. All parishes in the cluster are producing a policy and a copy of the Waldringfield Biodiversity Policy had been provided as a template. Clerk to send an electronic copy of the policy to each councillor. It had also been agreed that each parish would map the 'veteran' trees in their area. A 'veteran' tree is one with a 1.5 metre girth which is measured 1 metre above the ground level. Cllr B Newell agreed to commence mapping the trees in Brightwell. **Action: Cllr B Newell / Clerk**

23.25 To discuss the latest developments re Devolution

Cllr G Watts reported that Devolution is going ahead in Suffolk and Norfolk which is divided into two parts. The first part is that the authority will have a mayor covering Norfolk and Suffolk and will be elected in May 2026. The second part will be local reorganisation of any new council structures probably in 2027 or 2028. This is likely to mean there will be one or two unitary councils for Suffolk replacing the District Councils and run by Suffolk County Council. It should be noted that the mayor is not in charge of the council, as it is entirely separate. It appears that Suffolk County Council is very keen to have one unitary council. As far as Parish Councils are concerned it is unclear whether they will have enhanced powers.

24.25 To report on the latest developments on the improvements to Foxhall road signs

The Parish Council noted that the work to update the warning signage and road markings at various locations in Foxhall would be commenced within at least 14 weeks therefore it is hoped that work will commence before the end of April 2025. **Action: Clerk**

25.25 Clerk's Report February 2025

Foxhall Road Improvements

SCC Highways have notified the Parish Council that the work is now in their schedule and will be started in the near future. A construction order has now been raised (ref. **LA328528**) for the scheme to install warning signage and road markings at various locations in Foxhall.

A job pack has been passed onto the contractor who have 14 weeks to deliver works onsite. SCC Highways have said for the Parish Council to be assured however, that they will do their best to complete this project as soon as possible.

Meeting Dates 2025

Trinity Park have confirmed the dates for 2025 with the exception of our July meeting on Wednesday 9th July 2025 which might have to be changed as they have a large event taking place. I'll notify councillors when Trinity Park have confirmed whether a change to our schedule needs to be made.

Following discussions the Parish Council agreed to move the July 2025 Parish Council meeting to the 16th July 2025. **Action: Clerk**

Change of Role for Andy Jolliffe East Suffolk Council

I have received an email from Andy as follows:

“My new role will be as Communities Manager – Partnerships and will focus on further developing the Community Partnership model across the district among other tasks and priorities. I will therefore still be attending the Community Partnerships in the long term but taking the role that Luke Bennett and most recently Nicole Rickard have had in the meetings. Parish Clerks, can you please ensure this information with shared with relevant Councillors as required.

This change in role does not influence plans for the Community Partnership meeting on 24th Feb which is planned to be exciting and relevant to everyone in attendance as we begin considering priority reviews for the forthcoming year amongst other tasks. I would strongly urge representation from as many Parishes and organisations as possible for the next CP meeting. If you’d like further details, please get in touch.

Plans to advertise for my replacement have already begun and I will be involved in the transition over the coming months. This will also include introductions to be made with yourselves over the coming months. Existing projects that I am involved in will continue to be on my to-do list in the short term, so nothing will be ‘dropped’ as a result of this change. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.”

Sizewell C

Councillors might be interested to read the following article.

Sizewell C devastation - shocking what has happened: 21,675 trees felled! [TASC – Together Against Sizewell C – TASC-local pressure group actively campaigning against the building of Sizewell C](#)

Suffolk County Council Elections

Suffolk County Council have announced that the County Council elections will not be held in May 2025.

Email from Daniel Wareing | Environmental Sustainability Officer East Suffolk Council

Neighbourhood Plan Guidance – Draft Documents

East Suffolk Council are developing two guidance documents for neighbourhood planning groups to assist them in producing planning policies when producing or reviewing neighbourhood plans, one related to climate change, and the other related to housing, and are consulting for feedback on the draft of each of the two documents. Each consultation seeks views on the proposed content of the document. The questionnaires include questions on each of the sections of the guidance, followed by questions about whether any topics have been missed, and whether any additional glossary entries, case studies or external links would be helpful to include.

Deadline for responses to consultations on both documents: 12 March 2025.

Climate change: [Neighbourhood Plan Guidance for Climate Change - East Suffolk Council, Strategic Planning Consultations](#)

Housing: [Neighbourhood Plan Guidance for Housing - East Suffolk Council, Strategic Planning Consultations](#)

Reform of planning for critical infrastructure projects

The Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government have published a Planning Reform Working Paper “Streamlining Infrastructure Planning” and are inviting views on how the Government could reform the process for consenting Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP). The Planning Reform Working Paper “proposes a number of measures that could be taken to streamline the consenting process for national infrastructure and to enable faster decision-making, whilst ensuring the process is fair and certain”.

There is no formal deadline.

[Planning Reform Working Paper: Streamlining Infrastructure Planning - GOV.UK](#)

Consultation on Reforms to the Energy Performance of Buildings Regime

The Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government are consulting on proposals to reform the Energy Performance of Buildings Regime in five critical areas: updating EPC metrics, refining requirements for Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs) and Display Energy Certificates (DECs), improving data management protocols, strengthening quality control, and revising Air Conditioning Inspection Reports (ACIRs).

Deadline: 26 February 2025.

[Consultation on Reforms to the Energy Performance of Buildings Regime - Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government - Citizen Space](#)

BFPF Website

Graeme has asked for a number of updates and changes to be made to the website. I will put a list of changes which Graeme has identified need to be completed and presented to our March meeting for approval by all councillors. **Action: Clerk**

20 mph Speed Limits

I was advised by Suffolk Police about 6 months ago that 20 mph speed limits are NOT enforceable and were advisory only. However, recently I saw some posts on social media that people around Christchurch Park area had been fined for going over 20 mph when the signs were displayed. I have checked with Suffolk Police and been told that 20 mph speed limits are NOW enforceable and if drivers are caught speeding they will be fined and incur penalty points. I was wondering whether some areas with a 30 mph speed limit could be reduced to 20 mph. It would be the responsibility of the Parish Council to apply for a reduction.

The Parish Council agreed that there are no 30 mph speed limits in the parishes which would benefit from a reduction to 20 mph. It was noted that most 20 mph speed limits were in the vicinity of local schools and that there are no schools in any of our three parishes.

26.25 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

Clerk’s Salary and Expenses January 2025	£412.70
Information Commissioners Office Registration Fee	£52.00

Bank Account Balances

Current Account on 31 st January 2025	£43,962.58
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Deposit Account on 31st January 2025

£8,487.78

Cllr E Warham proposed that the above expenditure be approved, seconded Cllr G Watts – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

27.25 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk

- a. Cllr G Watts stated that he would be attending the next Community Partnership meeting on 24th February 2025.
- b. Cllr G Watts reported that he would not be attending the next Parish Council meeting on the 12th March 2025 as he will be attending the Sizewell Transport Forum on the same evening. **Action: Cllr G Watts / Clerk**

28.25 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr E Beach queried the cost of advertising for local businesses. Cllr K Rout proposed that any local business requesting to place an advertisement in the Parish Magazine should not be charged, seconded Cllr E Warham – all in favour. **Action: Cllr E Beach / Clerk**

29.25 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 12th March 2025 (Cllr G Watts offered his apologies for the March 2025 Parish Council meeting as he will be attending the Sizewell C Southern Transport Forum on the same evening.)

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.50 pm.

Signed..... Date.....

Angie Buggs
Clerk to Brightwell Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council