

BRIGHTWELL FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 12th July 2023 at Trinity Park

Present

Cllr E Warham - Chair

Cllr E Lawrence

Cllr G Watts

Cllr B Newell

Cllr K Rout

Cllr E Beach

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

Cllr Mark Packard East Suffolk Council

124.23 Apologies for absence

None

125.23 To receive Members' Declaration of Interest

None

126.23 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 14th June 2023 were approved as being a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

127.23 Matters arising from the Minutes

122.23 Members questions to the Chairman

b. The dog bin on Murrills Road has the lid missing.

Cllr E Warham reported that the lid on the dog bin has now been replaced.

128.23 The meeting was adjourned to receive reports and questions

a. Cllr Mark Packard – East Suffolk Council – verbal report.

DC/23/1355/FUL Land to Rear of Beverley Accessed Via 145 Bucklesham Road – Erection of two detached dwellings including vehicular access and associated works. Cllr Mark Packard reported that the above planning application has been referred to the Planning Officer and approved.

The slides from the Planning Forum have not as yet been received.

Greener Waldringfield Project – Cllr Mark Packard reported ESC are assisting the group with the project.

East Suffolk Council have set up a separate limited company and they have had an officer working with Norse for the last six months who is now in charge of the new company.

Hemlock – Checked this out with ESC and it is not considered more poisonous than any other plant. However, there is a company in Bury St Edmunds who will remove it. Suffolk County Council Highways have agreed to cut it back on the Bucklesham Road before it seeds.

- 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

No members of the public were present.

129.23 Planning

- a. Cllr G Watts gave an update on the various outstanding planning applications.

DC/23/2422/FUL Beeches End Bucklesham Road Foxhall – Conversion of loft space with additional dormers, velux's and gable end windows.

PC Comments: No objection.

DC/23/2157/FUL The Cart Lodge Purdis Farm Lane Purdis Farm – Conversion and extension of existing building into annex ancillary to the main dwelling.

PC Comments: The Parish Council does not object to this application but has concerns that the building could be used as a dwelling in its own right and not ancillary to the main dwelling.

No 1 Footpath Nacton. Cllr G Watts reported that the Parish Council had been consulted on the No1 Footpath Nacton. The Parish Council has raised concerns regarding the footpath and the issues of people crossing the railway line. The Parish Council has replied to East Suffolk Council Rights of Way Officer as follows: The Parish Council continues to be concerned about the state of this footpath from Felixstowe Road to the railway line and the use of it as an entrance to the Orwell Logistics Park. Network Rail have also raised concerns about an increase in people using this footpath and crossing the railway line. This still forms part of the objection to DC/21/3486/FUL Reconsultation Orwell Crossing Truck Stop A14 Nacton East Bound – Erection of 1no. warehouses (Class B8) together with access and servicing arrangements, vehicle parking, landscaping and associated works.

DC/22/2999/FUL The Hollies Straight Road Foxhall – Utilise the existing land formally known as “The Hollies Sports Centre and Social Club” as home pitch locations for both youth and adult football. Creation of new vehicular access/parking and associated facilities.

Nothing further to report. Currently waiting for revised drawings to the access and amended reports.

DC/23/1355/FUL Land to Rear of Beverley Accessed Via 145 Bucklesham Road – Erection of two detached dwellings including vehicular access and associated works.

ESC Comments: Approved

DC/22/2437/FUL Pinetrees Purdis Farm Lane Purdis Farm – Demolition of existing bungalow, construction of 4 new dwellings and associated carports, parking, access and landscaping.

This application has been approved. The decision was posted on the ESC website on the 4th July but no Officer's Report was posted. The Clerk contacted ESC but did not receive a copy of the report. Cllr G Watts stated that he had now emailed Philip Ridley Head of Planning.

131 Bucklesham Road Purdis Farm

Although a new building has been erected on the site it does not appear planning permission has been applied for. The Clerk has written to Dominic Starkey East Suffolk Council Planning Enforcement Officer as the Parish Council has concerns about the building. **Action: Clerk / Cllr G Watts**

b. Local Plan Policy SCLP12.20 subsequently allocated the Land at Felixstowe Road for a high-quality business park to provide employment spaces to support the future needs of this sector through the Local Plan period – Consultation

Cllr G Watts reported that himself, Cllr E Lawrence and Cllr K Rout had attended the public consultation with the developers of the site.

The Local Plan identifies a site of 22.5ha as an employment allocation at Felixstowe Road anticipated to provide a total floor space of c. 950,000 sq ft. To the east of the current allocation boundary there is an adjoining field of 5.2 hectares, in the same ownership as the Landowner of the allocated site. It has become clear that the inclusion of the additional land adjacent to the allocated site would be beneficial to the proposed development in order to safeguard the amount of employment space currently anticipated being delivered by the site, maintain the generous landscaping throughout the site, provide sufficient above ground surface area for SUDS, prevent sterilisation of this parcel of land due to the Sizewell related development and ensure the scheme is deliverable from a viability perspective. Local plan Policy SCLP4.2 supports new employment development on unallocated sites to provide greater choice and economic opportunities if a need for additional employment land adjacent to existing Employment Areas can be demonstrated. For the avoidance of doubt, the proposals are not seeking to increase the total floor space deliverable by the site, rather seeking to ensure the site is deliverable in the spirit of the allocation policy.

An entrance will be developed which will be between the crematorium and the Seven Hills interchange which will give direct access into the Business Park with two lots of traffic lights. The developers estimate a 15% increase in traffic. It was made clear that there would be no warehousing. It is estimated that 3,000 people will be working at the site.

It was not made clear whether there will be further public consultation.

Due to the location of the site there will need to be facilities for the workers in the form of café, hotel, etc.

c. Planning Forum

Cllr G Watts gave his report on the recently held Planning Forum. It is hoped that a newsletter will be available shortly. There is awareness that some Planning Officers are not as local as they might be and it is planned to have more local Planning Officers. Currently Planning Officers are being trained and recruited.

130.23 To discuss the Civility and Respect Project

The Civility and Respect Project aims to consider the growing concerns about the impact bullying, harassment and intimidation are having on local (parish and town) councils, councillors, clerks and council staff and the resulting effectiveness of local councils.

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC), One Voice Wales, the Social of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and the county associations have responded to this by setting up a Civility and Respect Working Group to oversee the Civility and Respite Project.

Councillors discussed the project and decided more discussion needed to take place regarding the training element of the project and the cost of training. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate training further and report back to the September 2023. **Action: Clerk**

131.23 To discuss and approve the estimate from Westcotec for solar powered VAS signs

Cllr E Lawrence reported that an application has been submitted to Suffolk County Council Highways for a new post and VAS sign to be erected in Murrills Road to replace the obsolete sign which was removed. The permission from a resident in Foxglove Crescent has been requested and granted. It was proposed by Cllr E Warham that the Parish Council purchase from Westcotec one Portable Speed Indicator Device (SID) with SLOW DOWN Legend beneath, 10w solar powered complete with spare Lead Acid battery, 'intelligent' charger sign weatherproof cover and bracket sets for a cost of £3,590.00 excluding VAT, seconded Cllr G Watts – all in favour. It was agreed that the existing four VAS cameras should be retained by the Parish Council. **Action: Cllr E Lawrence / Clerk**

132.23 Update on providing a footpath on Felixstowe Road between the roundabout at Trinity Park main entrance and the service road up towards Miller and Carter

Nothing further to report. This item was deferred until the September 2023. **Action: Clerk**

133.23 Update on the replacement of the benches in Meadow Crescent

No further information from Mark Packard as to when the benches will be removed and installed. The new ESC company have been in the process of being set up so there might be a delay. **Action: Clerk / Cllr M Packard**

134.23 Clerk's Report July 2023

Design Brief for Footpath Felixstowe Road

No further information.

Foxhall Road Traffic Surveys

No further information.

Benches in Meadow Crescent

I have no further information from Mark Packard as to when the benches will be removed and installed. The new ESC company have been in the process of setting up so there might be a delay.

External Audit

PJ Littlejohn have advised that the External Audit of Brightwell Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council has been placed in a queue and will be audited in order of receipt.

135.23 To discuss the Greener Waldringfield Project

The Parish Council discussed the Greener Waldringfield Project. Cllr B Newell will be attending the workshop on the 30th August and also the meeting on the 17th August. Cllr K Rout reported that he would not be able to attend the workshop as previously agreed due to being on holiday. The Clerk reported that she has now received an invoice for the project, and it was agreed that the cheque should be sent to the treasurer. **Action: Clerk**

136.23 To discuss financing the website for the Foxhall Poors Charity

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had funded the Foxhall Poors Land or Fuel Allotment Charity website. The cost for the current year is £42.00. Cllr G Watts proposed that the Parish Council fund the website for a further year, seconded Cllr E Beach – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

137.23 To discuss the Hedgehog Highways Project

The Parish Council has received a leaflet regarding the Hedgehogs R Us Highway Project which is an initiative to rise awareness on the decline in hedgehog numbers, which requests councils in the UK to get involved and support hedgehog highways. The leaflet requests councils to support the financing of hedgehog highways. Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr E Beach place an article in the next publication of the Parish Magazine advertising the initiative and asking for residents to contact the Parish Council Clerk if they would like to place a hedgehog highway surround in their garden. **Action: Cllr E Beach / Clerk**

138.23 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

Clerk's Salary and Expenses June 2023	£362.55
Mr Trevor Brown – Audit Fee	£210.00
Foxhall Poors Charity Website	£42.00
Flyer Press – Newsletter	£659.00

Account Balances

Community Account Balance on 31 st May 2023	£41,465.52
Business Account Balance on 31 st May 2023	£8,293.41

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

To discuss the Internal Audit Report 2022/2023

The Internal Audit Report 2022/2023 had previously been circulated to all councillors. The Internal Auditor had not highlighted any recommendations.

Cllr E Warham proposed that the Parish Council accept the Internal Auditor's report, seconded Cllr K Rout – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

139.23 Meetings attended by Councillors/Clerk

- a. Planning Forum attended by Cllr G Watts.
- b. Local Plan Policy SCLP12.20 subsequently allocated the Land at Felixstowe Road for a high-quality business park to provide employment spaces to support the future needs of this sector through the Local Plan period – Consultation attended by Cllrs G Watts, E Lawrence and K Rout.

140.23 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. The Clerk stated that she had received an email from Ruth Johnson the Clerk at Bucklesham Parish Council concerning her request for a copy of the Foxhall Road Survey and seeking the support of BFPF Group Parish Council regarding Bucklesham's complaint regarding Cllr Patti Mulcahy. Following discussion councillors agreed that the Clerk should reply to Ruth Johnson stating that the road survey which BFPF Group Parish Council commissioned from Suffolk County Council Highways is confined solely to the roads within the Group Council's area and has not yet been completed... and regarding the comments concerning Cllr Patti Mulcahy, the Group Parish Council has no wish to join Bucklesham's proposed complaint group. **Action: Clerk**

141.23 Date of next meeting

7.30 pm Wednesday, 13th September 2023

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.31 pm.

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

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