

# **BRIGHTWELL FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL**

## **Minutes**

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at Trinity Park

Present

Cllr E Lawrence - Chair

Cllr K Rout

Cllr E Beach

Cllr B Newell

Cllr Patti Mulcahy Suffolk County Council

Cllr Mark Packard East Suffolk Council

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

### **128.24 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr W Thurston, Cllr E Warham, Cllr G Watts, Cllr Patti Mulcahy Suffolk County Council and Cllr Mark Packard East Suffolk Council.

### **129.24 To receive Members' Declaration of Interest**

None

### **130.24 Minutes**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> September were approved as being a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

### **131.24 Matters arising from the Minutes**

#### **Minute 106.24 Brightwell/Foxhall War Memorial Wreath**

The Clerk reported that as outlined in her report that local war memorials do not fall within the remit or responsibility of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. These memorials were not established by the CWGC, but rather by local churches, communities and workplaces after the two world wars.

Councillors agreed that because the war memorial is within the Brightwell Church Yard they would not pursue the option of renovating the memorial which may not be an appropriate use of public funds.

Cllr B Newell reported that she had recently been trying to make contact with the vicar of Brightwell Church without success.

### **132.24 The meeting was adjourned to receive reports and questions**

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

Firstly, on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> September East Suffolk Council voted to increase the number of dustbins each resident will need in future to four. This is in response to the Government requiring Councils to

separate more household refuse by the end of 2025. This will increase the country's recycling performance, which has stayed static.

Many Councils have already started this process and East Suffolk is now in a position to order new dustbins and refuse vehicles, which naturally will be in great demand. This change will bring with it difficulties for some residents and although there will be weekly collections, they will now be in a three-week cycle rather than the two-week cycle we currently run. There are many issues still to be sorted out but the process has been underway for some time. A sum of £4 million has been allocated for the purchase of refuse vehicles alone.

The East Suffolk Council will be keeping householders informed as the change takes place so please take time to take note of any information you receive. Change is difficult but if we improve our recycling performance it will have been worthwhile.

Secondly, East Suffolk Council voted to allow £3 million towards purchasing more accommodation for the homeless, some of whom we send to Norwich and London at the moment, which is expensive and not what homeless people need. If the first purchases are successful there is an additional £2 million that can be allocated with the consent of Councillors. The background to housing in general was explained to Councillors at a presentation at Southwold Rugby Club on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> September.

The East Suffolk Council employs 270 officers to look after the 4,400 homes East Suffolk Council owns. This is 4.4% of the Housing Stock in East Suffolk and most of it is decades old. The old Suffolk Coastal Council sold its housing stock but Waveney Council held onto theirs. The value of the current housing is approximately £250 million.

The main issue is that with 'Right to Buy', more houses are being sold than the East Suffolk Council and Housing Associations can build. All the rents collected must be spent on repairing or building Council Housing. Young people generally cannot now afford to buy a home. There has also, quite rightly, been more legislation from the Government after Grenfell for looking after housing, which of course costs money and time.

In 2024 the Council got approximately £4 million from the Government for looking after homeless people. Many homeless refuse to be helped, others get help and then become homeless again. Currently 148 people need accommodation, representing 99 families and 49 singles; each officer takes care of approximately 40 cases.

Lastly, visiting the Purdis Farm area recently I was pleased to see the park in Woodrush Road has been properly looked after by East Suffolk Council after residents had asked me to reinstate it as a park, especially for dog walkers and children. I also went to Straight Road (off Felixstowe Road) to see if there has been any progress on the plan approved for Football Pitches and associated parking. Nothing has happened to date.

Anyone wanting help contact me on [mark.packard@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:mark.packard@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

- b. Cllr Ed Thompson – East Suffolk Council – no report.
- c. Cllr Patti Mulcahy – Suffolk County Council – written report.

Suffolk Adults Urged to Take up Potential Life-Saving Opportunity

People across Suffolk aged between 40 and 74, who don't have a pre-existing health condition, are being encouraged to take-up a potentially life-saving opportunity.

The call to action comes after Suffolk GP Federation were awarded a contract to deliver over 23,000 NHS Health Checks in the county annually.

Suffolk County Council have also become one of 45 local authorities in England to receive funding from the government as part of the national Workplace Cardiovascular Disease Health Check Pilot. Working with Suffolk GP Federation 2,000 additional NHS Health Checks will be delivered in workplaces in the county by March 2025.

NHS Health Checks play a really important role in preventing disease and helping people live healthier lives for longer. They can be lifesaving as they help spot increased risk of stroke, kidney disease, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, and dementia early, before the conditions develop. They also give people an opportunity to talk to a health care professional about how to reduce their risk.

For more information about the Suffolk NHS Health Check Service visit [the Suffolk GP Federation website](#).

#### Window Now Open to Apply for Primary and Secondary School Places

Parents and carers can now apply for a place in the normal year of entry at a primary (including infant and junior) school and secondary school for September 2025.

The deadline for applications to secure a place at a secondary school is Thursday 31 October 2024 and for primary school places, including infant and junior schools, the deadline is Wednesday 15 January 2025.

All applications received by the relevant closing date are processed at the same time using the schools' oversubscription criteria to prioritise applications when necessary. Late applications are processed after all of those received on time.

Last year, Suffolk County Council received just under 15,000 on time applications for pupils wishing to start at a primary or infant school, or to transfer to a junior school, or into Year 7 at a secondary school from September 2024.

94.7% of applicants received offers for their first preference school and 98.5% of applicants received an offer for one of their top three preferred schools.

Further information on SCC's School Travel Policy can be found at [www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel](http://www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel).

Parents and carers should apply online at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions) as they will receive confirmation that their application has been received. If for any reason they are unable to apply online they should apply on a paper application (CAF1). Suffolk County Council is unable to acknowledge receipt of paper applications and therefore suggest that proof of posting is obtained.

If families are planning to move house or think their circumstances may change before next September, it is still important to make an application on time using the current address. It is recommended to apply for schools based on the current address in case the proposed move falls through. Advice and guidance about this process is available at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions).

Families who apply online will be able to log on to the Online Service on the National Offer Day, which is Monday 3 March 2025 for secondary school places and Wednesday 16 April 2025 for primary school places, to see their offer of a school place, and they will receive an email to confirm this offer on the same day. Offer letters will be sent by second class post to applicants who made a paper application.

Information to help parents and carers make their application is available at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions).

#### Up to £2.5m in Funding Available for Agrifood Innovators

Suffolk organisations are invited to apply for a share of up to £2.5 million in grant funding for business-led agrifood projects in Eastern England. Two new competitions have been launched as part of Innovate UK's Eastern England Launchpad, a partnership between Innovate UK, Suffolk County Council, Greater Lincolnshire LEP, Norfolk County Council, and Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority. The Launchpad aims to boost innovation in the region's agri-tech and food technology sectors while strengthening its reputation as a top hub for food production and sustainability.

The competitions offer a share of up to £2.5 million in two strands:

- The first competition, 'MFA', is open to micro, small and medium sized businesses. Grants between £25,000 and £100,000 are available for projects lasting 6 to 12 months.
- The second competition is for collaborative research and development (CR&D) projects. Applications can be led by businesses of any size and consortia must include at least one small or medium enterprise. Grants between £150,000 and £300,000 are available for projects lasting 6 to 18 months.

The competitions open on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September and will close at 11am on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024. For more information and to apply, visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-funding-innovation>

Projects can focus on one or more of the following themes:

- enhancing the productivity of primary crops, livestock, aquaculture or ornamental crops
- biotechnologies related to agriculture, aquaculture, food processing and nutrition
- food that promotes safe, lower carbon or more sustainable healthy and nutritious diets
- resource efficient production and processing methods for low emission foods.

#### Suffolk County Council Launches £500,000 Culture Project Fund to Boost Cultural Activity Across the County

Suffolk County Council is pleased to announce the launch of its new £500,000 Culture Project Fund. This initiative is aimed at strengthening and supporting local arts and museum projects in our local communities across the county.

This fund's goal is to improve the cultural landscape in Suffolk, benefiting communities through diverse and impactful initiatives that align with the council's key priorities: health and wellbeing, economic development, environmental protection, and value for money.

The fund offers three tiers of grants:

**Small grants** up to £1,500

**Medium grants** up to £15,000

**Large grants** up to £50,000

This inclusive approach ensures that both grassroots ventures and larger, more established organisations have equal opportunities to access funding. Eligible applicants include Arts and Museum organisations, skilled freelancers, registered charities, community interest companies, non-profits, and social enterprises based in Suffolk.

The fund supports both capital and revenue projects, with a maximum of £25,000 available for capital expenditure.

The culture project fund will support projects that have been designed to reach, engage and inspire people and communities to take part in and enjoy arts and museums. The fund is particularly to support projects that reach some of our most vulnerable people and communities with an application process that is streamlined and accessible. This includes activities designed for those on low incomes, isolated individuals, and marginalised groups, the fund aims to support projects that enhance both mental and physical health, creating resilience and improving overall wellbeing through inclusive and accessible activities.

Furthermore, the fund aims to strengthen Suffolk's economy by supporting projects that enhance skills development, promote social enterprises, and attract visitors. By focusing on these areas, the Council seeks to foster a thriving cultural sector that contributes to the county's growth.

**Key Dates:**

Fund opens for applications: Monday 23 September 2024

Medium and Large grant applications deadline: Friday 29 November 2024

Medium and Large grants awarded by: Friday 14 February 2025

Small grant presentations: Monday 17 March, Monday 14 July, and Monday 15 September 2025.

- d. To receive questions from members of the public. No members of the public were present at the meeting.

**133.24 Planning**

This document updates the planning schedule and highlights any applications for discussion at the October 2024 meeting of the Group Parish Council. There are also two Appeals which are being dealt with by the Planning Inspectorate after the original applications were refused by East Suffolk Council Planning. As detailed below there appears to be little progress on most of these applications.

**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 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024 as they would like further time to assess the impact on the Strategic Road Network.

**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.

At their meeting in July the Referral Panel decided there was insufficient grounds to refer this application to the Planning Committee for a decision. As a result, the decision will be made by the Planning Officer who is minded to approve the application. So far, no decision has been made but the application is likely to be approved.

**DC/24/0448/FUL – Part Land at Foxburrow Farm Waldringfield Road Brightwell Ipswich Suffolk IP10 OBZ – Change of use of land for use as caravan storage (associated with Oaks Caravans).**

The Parish Council did not object to this application. It remains undecided and Waldringfield Parish Council have objected based on the number of applications for this site and their cumulative effect on the local area. There is no further news about this application other than a new revised site plan has been submitted.

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

The majority of the Bike Park is not within the Parish of Brightwell but as with other major applications in neighbouring parishes we have made a comment which in this case is that we do not object to the application. Bucklesham Parish Council have objected on both environmental grounds (effect on wildlife) and health and safety (the danger of flying arrows). 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**

Change of use, alteration and extension to some of the former agricultural buildings into a new Orthodontic surgery with associated facilities) – Variation to the wording of Condition 3 to allow the following – The hereby approved development shall be used for only dental and related healthcare use and associated facilities including office administration and welfare arrangements, plus the sale of food and beverages to staff and patients, retaining Class E(e) Use and adding Class E(b) Use – Sale of food and drink for consumption (mostly) on the premises.

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. In the opinion of the Parish Council the provision of drink making facilities and cooking facilities such as a microwave are appropriate for this type of business not the sale of food and beverages to staff and patients.

There is no further news about this application.

**AP/24/0014/REFUSE or APP/X3540/W/23/3331555 (Planning Inspectorate Reference)**

Outline Application (All Matters Reserved) - Proposed new dwelling with associated outbuildings | Backlands Purdis Farm Lane Purdis Farm Ipswich Suffolk IP3 8UF.

This involves concerns about access to the new property via a narrow lane between two bungalows in Purdis Farm Lane. Both sides have submitted their case to the Inspectorate and a decision is awaited.

**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 OBI

The applicant claims that they have addressed the Council concerns about non-vehicular access, damage to SSI, sewage, and facilities on the site. A final decision is awaited. However, the Planning Inspectorate has decided that considering the nature, scale and location of the Proposed Development and nature of the receiving environment, whilst there may be some impact on the surrounding area and nearby designated sensitive areas as a result of this development, it would not be of a scale and nature likely to result in significant environmental effects. Accordingly, this development is not an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development.

A decision on this appeal is still awaited.

### **Applications for discussion at the October Parish Council Meeting**

**DC/24/3029/FUL** Construction of detailed triple garage block & associated pavings. Yardine Bucklesham Road Foxhall Ipswich Suffolk IP10 0AU.

**DC/24/3276/FUL** Rear extension to existing outbuilding, rear extension to main building, front extension and double garage at 123 Bucklesham Road Purdis Farm Ipswich Suffolk IP3 8UA.

As no objections or adverse comments have been received about these applications the recommendation is that the Parish Council does not object to these applications.

Following discussion by councillors present at the Parish Council meeting councillors agreed that the Parish Council do not object to either of the above two Planning Applications namely DC/24/3029/FUL and dc/24/3276/FUL. **Action: Cllr G Watts / Clerk**

#### **134.24 To discuss inappropriate parking in Purdis Farm**

Cllr E Lawrence reported that he was aware that a couple of vehicles were still being parked on the pavement in Purdis Farm. He reported that an article is being placed in the Parish Magazine which discusses the parking on grass verges and that the Parish Council should wait for any feedback from residents before discussing further. **Action: Cllr E Lawrence / Clerk**

#### **135.24 To discuss the renovation of Foxhall and Brightwell Village Signs**

It was agreed that to defer this item until the January 2025 meeting. **Action: Cllr K Rout / Clerk**

#### **136.24 To discuss and agree plans to provide greener parishes**

Cllr B Newell reported on the Green Infrastructure 2 held at St Mary's Church Hall Ufford on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

The first workshop focussed on identifying and analysing the green infrastructure and concerns in each parish.

This second follow-up focussed on a group strategy for wildlife connectivity through all parishes.

Major concerns that emerged from the August 2023 workshop can be grouped under three headings:

- Climate and Flood Resilience
- Nature Recovery including connectivity within and between parishes
- Community Participation

After discussion, under each heading the advice from Professor Hobson was to identify overall common areas in all parishes as the best strategy for maximum weight in any application for funding for projects from the group.

The common areas identified were:

- Water
- Trees
- Church Yards

For us our greatest challenge is community engagement which we should pursue and for a start we could contribute towards connectivity with a stepping stone at Brightwell Church Yard.

Cllr B Newell reported that another meeting will be held in November 2024. **Action: Cllr B Newell**

### **137.24 Clerk's Report October 2024**

#### War Memorial Update

Local war memorials do not fall within the remit or responsibility of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. These memorials were not established by the CWGC, but rather by local churches, communities and workplaces after the two world wars.

Unfortunately, it is unclear which organisation needs to be consulted regarding a war memorial. As it is in Brightwell Church Yard, I suspect it is the church. I would recommend that we don't pursue as I'm not sure whether we could use public funds to renovate the memorial as it appears it could be a costly exercise.

#### Accounts Half Year Ended September 2024 / Budget 2025/2026

Prior to the next meeting I will be sending out the half year accounts and the budget for the financial year 2025/2026.

### **138.24 To Discuss the Data Collected from the VAS Signs**

Cllr E Lawrence reported that the data from the Solar VAS Sign in Brightwell (traffic travelling from Bucklesham towards Brightwell) averaged speeds of 45 mph. It was also noted that the residents in Brightwell are leaving their waste bins out which have 30 mph stickers on to try to encourage vehicles to slow down. It was noted that the monitoring period is August/September 2024.

It was agreed that the data should be submitted to Suffolk Police to highlight the high speeds and request them to take action. **Action: Clerk**

It was noted that during November 2024 East Suffolk Council is organising Road Safety Week.

### **139.24 Finance**

#### Income

None

#### Expenditure

Clerk's Salary and Expenses September 2024

£405.70

Kevin Rout – Plants Foxhall Green	£21.00
SALC – Payroll	£54.00
CAS Business Services – Upgrading of website/emails	£210.00
HMRC – Tax/NI	£269.00

**Bank Account Balances**

Current Account on 30 <sup>th</sup> August 2024	£40,923.56
Deposit Account on 30 <sup>th</sup> August 2024	£8,424.65

Cllr B Newell proposed that the above expenditure be approved, seconded Cllr E Beach – all in favour.

**Action: Clerk**

**140.24 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk**

None

**141.24 Members questions to the Chairman**

None

**142.24 Date of next meeting**

**Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

**The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30 pm.**

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

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