

GRUNDISBURGH & CULPHO PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES MEETING OF THE COUNCIL 9TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Notices had been posted according to regulations.

Present:

Messrs. J.Dunnett (JD), P.Franklin (PF), G.Caryer (GC), D.Higgins (DH), P.Kendall (PK, Chair), R.Youngman (RY), Mrs.J.Bignell (JB), Mrs.A.Willetts (AW), Mr J Lapsley (JL).

In Attendance: Councillor Hedgley (CH) from 8:30pm, Mr PJS Knights (PJSK) Clerk, 7 members of the public

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Mr S Barnett

2. To receive member's declarations of interest

Non-pecuniary interests were declared in Grundisburgh Village Hall by DH, AW, PK & JB.

3. Minutes - To approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on the 8th July 2019, and matters arising

The minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 8th July had been circulated and were therefore taken as read. It was proposed by AW and seconded by JB, that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record. DH challenged the minutes in relation to item 13, planning report, in which it was recorded that JD had access to a computer to enter his remarks and upload a document to the Planning Departments Planning Portal. DH felt that the wording inferred JD had *regular access* to a computer. Examination of the wording confirmed that the minutes only recorded that JD had access to a computer, which he must have had, submit his remarks.

There were no matters arising.

PK moved to adopt the minutes formally by a show of hands, and the proposal was carried by a majority with JD and DH abstaining.

4. Minutes - To approve the minutes of the Extraordinary General Meetings of the Parish Council held on the 8th and 19th August 2019, and matters arising

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meetings of the Council held on 8th and 19th August had been circulated and were therefore taken as read. It was proposed by AW and seconded by JB, that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as true records. JD queried whether we had declined to observe SALC's advice regarding giving a donation to the Stop! Campaign. GC confirmed that both EGMs were well attended and all those present showed by hands full opposition to all INR proposals, and therefore, we were confident that the donation would be supported by the community. Minutes of both meetings approved by a majority show of hands, JD voted against the minutes being approved. No other matters arising.

5. Public Open Forum

AW proposed that Standing Orders be suspended to facilitate the Public Open Forum, and GC seconded the proposal.

Mrs Dennis queried whether any progress had been made regarding getting a survey on the Forge Stores forecourt. GC advised he had contacted a contractor four times and has not had a reply. GC asked permission, which was given, to contact the wider community to find a suitable contractor. Mr Laxton suggested using Castons who are Ipswich based and highly reputable. Mr Laxton undertook to pass contact details for Castons to GC.

Mrs Dennis asked how Councillor Vickery felt about his position in supporting The Ipswich Northern By-pass



when the residents he represents are in opposition to it. DH confirmed he had written to Councillor Vickery 3 times regarding the By-Pass and has not received a reply to any of his letters. PK undertook to write to Councillor Vickery and ask him to present himself to explain.

Mrs Coomber asked whether any progress had been made in organising the clearance of the silt in the stream. PJSK explained that he has requested Mr Fletcher and Mr Pryke to assess the work and repairs required, and they will be submitting a quotation for approval as soon as practically possible.

Mrs Coomber again raised the poor state of repair of the pavement to the front of her property which had been reported to the County Councillor previously. She reposted that someone had tripped and fallen due to the uneven surface. AW undertook to report this to the County Councillor, and GC undertook to ensure the defect was reported on the Highways Reporting Portal.

Mr Laxton gave an update on the new Village Hall. Gift Aid status has been agreed with HMRC which will increase the value of donations from this point forwards if the donor is a taxpayer. Progress has been made with the demolition clause, with the Planning Authority willing to change the wording of the clause to enable demolition once the New Hall has reached DPC level, with highways access completed. A formal application will be submitted to the Planning Department for this clause to be amended, at which time Mr Laxton seeks the support of the Parish Council by way of a letter of support to change the said clause.

PK requested a Proposer to close the Open Public Forum, which was proposed by AW and seconded by JB. PK duly closed the Open Public Forum and Standing Orders were re-instated.

6. Andrew Jolliffe, Communities Officer, East Suffolk Council

Mr Jolliffe thanked the Chair for being given the opportunity to attend the meeting and explain his role. His role is basically to help communities achieve what is important to them, and he plans to be visible in his role. He uses evidence and data to analyse how a community might be supported, with emphasis on hidden needs. Mr Jolliffe stated that Grundisburgh does quite well against most criteria but with an aging population we have a degree of social isolation. He will also assist in the preparation of Neighbourhood and Parish Plans.

PK thanked Mr Jolliffe for attending and explaining how he will be helping us.

7. County Councillors Report

None received.

8. District Councillor's Report – See Appendix A

Councillor Hedgley arrived at 8:30pm having been in attendance at an earlier PC Meeting.

Councillor Hedgley gave a brief overview of his report (Appendix A):

He has attended 7 Public and 7 parish Council Meetings regarding INR, and all have been 100% against any of the proposals. ESC official line is that nothing has been decided yet.

ESC has bid for and won £292k in additional funding to help Rough Sleepers – a problem that has grown since the merger with Waveney District.

Councillor Hedgley advised he has some residual funds within his Communities Budget should we have anything that would make good use of the funds. Repairs to the Playing Field for example. The Playing Field Committee is to be made aware (AW).

9. Resolution: Further to EGM of 19th August when it was agreed to donate £1,000 to the Stop! Campaign, for the observance of Financial Regulations and Standing Orders, Mr. J Lapsley proposed that the Parish Council donates the sum of £1,000 to assist the STOP! Campaign against the Northern By-Pass Proposal. Seconded by Mrs AWilletts. PJSK to issue the cheque and write to the Campaign advising of our initial donation.

PK

10. Parish Council's Letter of Objection to Suffolk County Council Regarding The Northern By-Pass

The letter of objection was worked on by DH, JL, PK and AW. PK printed 75 copies for Suffolk County Council Councillors, and 55 for East Suffolk District Councillors, plus copies personally addressed to Council Leaders and Chief Executives.

PJSK produced the individually addressed address labels and envelopes, and PK and PJSK stuffed all the envelopes which were then duly delivered to the Council's by AW. PJSK is also to email Council Leaders and Chief Executives with a statement of opposition to the INR on behalf of all opposing Parish Councils (AW to provide list of which Parish Councils to be included).

PK thanked AW and Mr Willetts for their huge contribution to this campaign.

11. Update on Parish Councillor Vacancies

The remaining 2 vacancies have not attracted any interest from the public, although this is not for the want of trying, with Councillors having made direct approaches to suitable candidates. PK asked that the members of the public present let him know if they know of anyone who might be interested.

12. Financial Matters

Ratification of payments made since the last meeting and approved at the time

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Campaign to Protect Rural England	£36.00	Subscription
Barn Cafe	£253.14	Catering Annual Parish Meeting
Grundisburgh Village Hall Management Committee	£25.00	Hall Hire, Annual Parish Meeting
Mr John Dunnett	£13.98	Millenium Meadow – petrol for grass cutting
Mr Robert Crouch	£10.54	Padlocks for S.I.D.
Robert Fletcher	£320.00	Grass Cutting
Mr P. Knights	£71.27	Clerks Expenses – Printer Cartridge (£21.64), Postage Stamps (£14.64), JioSoft (£34.99)
Mr P Knights	£740.52	Clerks Salary May, June, July
HMRC	£128.80	PAYE Clerk's Salary

It was proposed by AW and seconded by PK that these payments be ratified. This was carried by a unanimous vote.

Payments received since last meeting

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Various Allotment Holders	£168.00	Annual Allotment Rent
Tuddenham St Martin PC	£100.00	S.I.D. Contribution

Other payments made prior to the meeting under section 5.7 of Financial Standing Orders

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Mr R Fletcher	£265.00	Grass Cutting, War Memorial
Vertas	£206.39	Playing Field Maintenance
Mr J Ager	£11.60	Clerk's Expenses (Postage Stamps)
Scribe	£308.40	Accounting Software
Mr P Franklin	£296.71	Purchase of Grass Strimmer



Mr R Fletcher	£348.00	Grass Cutting, War memorial
Mr J Dunnett	£55.00	Millennium Meadow Maintenance Materials

Other payments requiring approval

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
East Suffolk Council	108.80	Election Expenses, May 2019
Anglian Water	£29.78	Allotment Water Supply
Mr R Fletcher	£240.00	Grass Cutting
Mr P Knights	£7.32	Clerk's expenses – postage stamps
StopIpswichNorthernBypass	£1,000.00	Section 137 Donation authorised EGM 19.08.19
Mr P Knights	£512.85	Clerk's Salary Aug/Sept 2019
HMRC	£383.25	Clerk's Tax & NI Q2 2019

It was proposed by JL and seconded by JB that these payments be made. This was carried by a unanimous vote,

Budget Report (as at 02.09.19)

<u>Account</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Business Tracker Account	£62.52
Current Account	£12,030.00
Post Office Investment Account	£21,053.28
VAT to claim	£984.69
TOTAL	£34,130.49

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The Parish Council have received the following CIL payments

25/10/2017	Old House, Half Moon Lane	£102.17
25/04/2018	Old House, Half Moon Lane	£102.17
26/10/2018	Old House, Half Moon Lane	£105.26
03/05/2018	land adjacent 5 Post Mill Crescent	<u>£622.43</u>
TOTAL		£932.03

Future expected receipts

30/09/2019	land adjacent 5 Post Mill Crescent	£622.43
30/03/2020	land adjacent 5 Post Mill Crescent	£641.30

An Annual Report must be published by Parish/Town Councils that have received a proportion of the CIL funds by 31st December for the previous financial year (i.e. neighbourhood funding received in April and October 2019 must be reported in the 2019-2020 report by 31st December 2019) This report must be published on the Parish Council's Web Site.

The Parish Council must use CIL receipts passed to it for

- (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure or
- (b) anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area

Bank Account Signatories

It remains unclear whether PK has been added as a signatory to the bank account despite submitting documentation to the bank. There remains a doubt whether AW is recorded as a signatory although she has been signing cheques for years. PJSK will attempt to enquire but Barclays are unlikely to discuss any matter in relation to the account with him as he is not a signatory.

National Savings Account

National Savings have requested all current signatories complete a new account mandate with up to date information. We do not know who the lead signatory on this account is so Mrs J Bignell (who is a signatory) has authorised a letter to NS asking them to inform us who the signatories are, and who is registered as the first signatory.

[Handwritten signature]

13. Planning Report – Appendix B

The planning report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The complaint meeting with ESC has been agreed for 16 October – AW and JL attending.

Regarding the Chapel Field Site, it's inclusion in the Draft Local Plan, and ESC's subsequent move to modify the proposed outline development of the site in view of considerable highways and access restrictions, AW has discussed this with a resident expert in the field (the resident being until recently, Head of Development in Cornwall CC). This individual attended the Local Plan meeting on 4th September with AW and provided substantial support in submitting questions relevant to the Chapel Field site. It is this individual's professional opinion that such a modification represents a *substantial modification*, and as such, to progress, would require a further public consultation. (There was no initial public consultation in any case).

Since collating her report, one further application has been received regarding removal of an Ash tree at Thistleton, abutting the allotments. The tree has been assessed by Paul Muttitt, the Tree Warden, who considers it dangerous given the level of rotten and dead wood composing the weight bearing structure. JD objected as in his opinion the tree was perfectly healthy. Given the nature of the reported problem, and the implications for public safety, the majority of Councillors preferred to rely on the expert opinion of the Tree Warden.

JD queried whether development at Hill House had received permission. AW stated that it was checked, and it was permitted development. JD then asked whether the property has been approved for a change of use, as it seems that there is a "by appointment" retail enterprise of second-hand clothing being undertaken. AW undertook to check the change of use requirements.

14. VHMC Report – Appendix C, VHMC Steering Group Report Appendix D

Report received and noted. My Laxton had previously outlined progress in the Open Public Forum.

15. Footpath and Environment report (Verbal)

GC advised we have received a cheque for £25 from Suffolk Norse for being involved in the recent litter pick. There was also to be a working party at the millennium meadow at 10:00 am Saturday 14th September. Bench refurbishment has started, firstly with the Hannah Reynolds bench on the Church Green. JD has seen muntjac deer in the allotments causing considerable damage. He is constructing a gate to be installed as a defence and requests a refund of costs from the Parish Council. This was received with appreciation, and mention given that this could perhaps be an item that the District Councillor's Community Fund could pay for.

16. Roads and Transport Report

None received.

17. To Receive from Council Representatives to other organisations

None received.

18. Public Open Forum

PK proposed that Standing Orders be suspended to facilitate the Public Open Forum, and JL seconded the proposal.

The only additional comment from the Open Public Forum was in relation to the planning discussion concerning Hill House, when a member of the public confirmed that the "Matise Market" being undertaken in the out-house is indeed a trading activity concerning the sale of previously owned clothes by prior appointment only.

There being no further contributions to the Open Public Forum, PK requested a Proposer to close the Open Public Forum, which was proposed by AW and seconded by PK. PK duly closed the Open Public Forum and Standing Orders were re-instated.

19. Any Other Business

PK advised that Linden Hibbett had reported theft of garden machinery from an out-house, looked a professional job as the thieves knew what they were looking for.

JB – can we organise a finance committee meeting before our November meeting. PJSK to ask for dates from the committee.

JD – raised the issue of an overgrown ditch at Meeting Lane. PF volunteered to assess the work and liaise with the footpath committee with recommendations.

JD – Had noticed car sales outside Basts. It was confirmed that the 2 vehicles in question were actually connected to Basts.

JD – Noted that the 2 bins in the Churchyard are not for recycling waste but general waste and had found dog waste in them when trying to retrieve some keys he accidentally dropped in one of them. It was noted that there is not a dog waste bin in that area, and JD volunteered to get a dog waste bin installed in the footpath at the side of the Church.

JD – Raised once more the state of repair to the lane between the Church and the School residences. The problem is that enquiries have previously failed to reveal who owns the lane. Footpath Committee to make a recommendation on how to proceed.

JD – raised poor state of repair of Bus Shelter on Pipes Corner. Footpath Committee to assess.

DH – Advised that the Stop! Campaign is holding a protest march Friday 13th from Cornhill to Endeavour House. PK stated that all who attend do so with the Parish Council's blessing.

There being no further business PK declared the official meeting closed at 9:55pm and thanked all present for attending.

2019/20 Council Meetings

November 11, January 13th, March 9th, May 11th, July 13th, September 14th, November 9th, all meetings to be held in the Parish Rooms, except July 13th, which shall be held at St Botolph's Church, Culpho.

20. Items for next meeting

None

Actions:

5. GC – Forge Stores Forecourt
PK – Letter to Councillor Vickery
AW – Pavement Ipswich Road, Mrs Coomber's residence
8. AW – Playing Field
9. PJSK – Stop campaign cheque
12. PJSK – Bank account signatories
13. AW – Change of Use (Hill House)
19. PJSK – Finance Committee Meeting Date
20. JD – Do Waste Bin
Footpath Committee – Lane between St Mary's Church and Old School Residences
Footpath Committee – Pipes Corner Bus Shelter
PF – Overgrown Ditch – Meeting Lane

PK

Appendix A

District Councillors Report to Grundisburgh and Culpho Parish Council.

September 2019

Cllr Tony Fryatt

Cllr Colin Hedgley

East Suffolk to battle climate change

East Suffolk Council voted unanimously to step up its positive work on environmental issues to help fight climate change at its Full Council meeting on 24 July.

While the Council recognises there is a good record of taking action on environmental issues across East Suffolk, it has now joined other local authorities in recognising the fact there is a climate emergency – and committed itself to doing more to reduce its own carbon emissions and to encourage communities to help fight climate change.

What next?

- **The Council is commissioning an independent review of its progress to-date which will identify opportunities for further work to reduce carbon emissions which will feed into an action plan that will help us monitor progress towards meeting this challenging new target.**
- **The Council will be setting up a cross-party member task group to consider the results of that independent review and to recommend future priorities for action on climate change, building on the progress that has already been achieved.**
- **The Council will continue to work with its partners across the county to ensure a coordinated approach, joint working in areas where we can deliver more by working together and to ensure a strong voice to influence and encourage others to act.**

What have we achieved already?



- We have moved to new more energy efficient council offices in Melton and Lowestoft which are more compact, well insulated and utilise renewable energy sources including air-source heat pumps at East Suffolk house and solar PV at Riverside Road
- We have helped businesses and residents to reduce their energy bills through free advice and improvement grants
- We are refurbishing our leisure facilities building in renewable energy generation
- We have been running campaigns across the district to improve air quality and reduce plastic waste and littering.

Funding is available for community projects

Groups and organisations providing activities for the benefit of local communities have been invited to apply for East Suffolk's 'Enabling Communities Budget' to help support local projects. A total of £412,500 has been allocated for 2019/20 from the New Homes Bonus (funding generated through new houses built in the District). Distributed equally amongst each of the Council's 55 members, each councillor has a £7,500 Enabling Community Budget to spend on community projects or to develop new projects which tackle community needs in their area.

Please talk to either Tony or Colin if you think we can help in any way.

In addition, larger grants of up to £10,000 is also available through the Enabling Communities 'Exemplar Grand Programme' – enabling community groups to deliver new 'flagship' projects which have a positive impact across communities at a ward, multiple wards or district level. £160,000 has been allocated from the New Homes Bonus for the programme for 2019/20. Again speak to either Tony or Colin.

Accommodation to be provided for rough sleepers

East Suffolk Council has been awarded £292,316 following a successful application to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to provide accommodation for rough sleepers and those facing homelessness in Felixstowe and Lowestoft.

The funding will be used to deliver two interlinking projects, providing specific housing 'pathways' for those who are vulnerable to homelessness, including people with mental health issues, those experiencing domestic abuse, ex-offenders and care leavers.

The first project, called 'Somewhere Safe to Stay', will provide emergency beds in 'hubs' in both Felixstowe and Lowestoft. Available for up to 72 hours, the emergency accommodation will ensure the users are safe whilst also having their needs assessed and appropriate support made available.

The second project will be a Supported Lettings scheme, which will see the Council employ dedicated officers to help former rougher sleepers move on from emergency accommodation into supported, temporary or longer term housing.

Framlingham goes digital with official launch of a free public WiFi system

Framlingham went digital with the launch of a new free public WiFi system on 3 August.

The market town was chosen to pilot the new scheme, called 'Digital Town, to help people access the internet and make use of digital technology.

The new WiFi system is the first phase of the scheme, which will trial different interventions to enhance the town's economic development and wellbeing – making Framlingham the first of what could be a long line of towns in East Suffolk to receive free WiFi and other digital solutions.

The innovative scheme is delivered in partnership between Framlingham Town Council, Framling Business Association and East Suffolk Council.

Sprinkler system completed at St Peters Court

The installation of a brand new sprinkler system has been completed at St Peters Court in Lowestoft at a cost of around £275,000.

Following the tragic events at Grenfell Tower in July 2017, the Council undertook a thorough examination of the building's fire safety measures and at a subsequent meeting with tenants – hosted by Mark Bee, the Council Leader at the time – it was announced that the system would be installed to provide additional reassurance and enhanced safety for everyone living in the 16-storey building.

The Council appointed BMS Sprinklers to undertake the work and on Friday 5 July the system went live and is now operational in every flat. This work follows the installation of new 'one-hour' fire doors for every flat and other improvement works to ensure East Suffolk's fire safety procedures meet the highest possible standards.

Leiston Leisure Centre is open for business

Leiston Leisure Centre fully reopened on Saturday, 10 August – marking the completion of the £4 million redevelopment. The centre was closed in August 2018 to undergo the works over two phases as part of East Suffolk Council's programme to improve leisure facilities in the District and encourage more people to become active.

Phase One reopened in June 2019 and included the swimming pool, reception and soft play area, as well as a brand new addition to the centre – a thermal suite with sauna and steam room, feature showers and relaxation area.

Phase Two included a new spacious fitness suite, two new dance studios and cycling studio, as well as improvements to the squash courts and sports hall.

We will now be focusing on the third project in the programme, which is Bungay Leisure Centre. The centre is due to close for redevelopment on 12 September 2019 and the work is expected to take ten months to complete.

Residents are reminded only rain goes down the drains

Residents and businesses are being encouraged to dispose of their waste correctly and reduce the pollution caused by litter entering the draining system.

The 'Yellow Fish' anti-pollution project is delivered by community charity Groundwork Suffolk, the East Suffolk Greenprint Forum and East Suffolk Council to raise awareness of the importance of preventing litter from entering the surface water drainage. Unlike foul water systems which feed into sewage treatment works, surface water drains usually lead directly to natural watercourses. Any waste entering these drains can therefore end up polluting the watercourses, harming fish and other wildlife.

To help spread the project's message of 'Only Drain Down the Drain', Groundwork 'Green Champions' visited homes in Felixstowe, Lowestoft and Woodbridge in mid-August.

As part of the project, Groundwork has also been raising awareness of the Refill scheme, which encourages people to take their reusable water bottle with them when they go out.

There are now over 20,000 businesses, shops, cafes and public buildings in the UK registered as Refill Stations where people can refill their water bottles for free, including the Council's offices in Lowestoft and Melton.

Funding boost for new community centre

Plans to provide Woodbridge with a new youth, art and community centre has been given a funding boost by East Suffolk Council.



Jetty Lane, the Community Interest Company (CIC) behind the project, has been granted £188,800 from the Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), which is the biggest CIL grant issued to date. This will cover pre-construction costs for the new community centre and the remaining funds are being supplied through donations and other fundraising efforts. The work is expected to start by the end of 2020.

'Bin the butt' and help keep East Suffolk tidy

Residents and visitors to Lowestoft have been encouraged to dispose of their cigarette butts correctly to help reduce littering in the town centre. The East Suffolk Communities Team and East Suffolk Norse were in Lowestoft town centre along with Groundwork Suffolk and the East Suffolk Plastic Action Champions on 17 August to raise awareness of cigarette butt littering. The event was also supported by Lowestoft Town Council.

Cigarette butts are the most common form of littering. In a survey carried out in Lowestoft in 2018, 53% of all litter was smoking-related waste and across the country, one in 10 people do not consider putting a cigarette down the drain to be littering.

As well as harmful plastic, cigarette butts contain toxic chemical ingredients including arsenic, lead and nicotine which can all be released when the butts break up in the environment.

Anyone seen littering, including dropping a cigarette butt, can be fined £80 via a Fixed Penalty Notice. Failure to pay this can result in prosecution, a criminal record and a further fine of up to £2,500.

Children celebrate reopening of play areas in Felixstowe

Children flocked to Gosford Way play area to celebrate the reopening of two popular play areas in Felixstowe following refurbishment.

Cavendish Park and Gosford Way play areas were officially reopened on Wednesday 7 August to mark the completion of a £265,000 project to improve the facilities. The project also included improvements to Allenby Park play area, which reopened on 12 August.

Around 150 people attended the event, which was led by Felixstowe Mayor, Cllr Nick Barber who cut the ribbon and opened the gate for the many children waiting to try out the new play facilities.

Money saved from fraudulent activity

East Suffolk Council's Corporate Fraud Service, supported by the Council's Housing and Legal Services, has prevented, identified or recovered fraudulent activity totalling £1,823,485 between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019.

The Corporate Fraud Service investigates a variety of frauds which the Council may be vulnerable to, including fraudulent Right to Buy and Gateway to Homechoice applications, social housing fraud, false council tax discounts, business rates and housing benefit claims.

As part of fraud investigations, 5 council-owned properties were found being inappropriately used by tenants, such as being sub-let which is a breach of the tenancy agreement. These properties have since been made available again to those in housing need.

One of the main areas of work for the Corporate Fraud Service is ensuring robust checks are made on all 'Right to Buy' (RTB) applications submitted to the Council. As a result of these checks, 20 RTB applications were cancelled following fraud intervention. The properties relating to these RTB applications, with a market value of £2,821,500, have remained available for housing tenants.

Ipswich Northern Route exhibitions attracted over 2,000 people

Public information events to consult on route options for a new road to the north of Ipswich have attracted more than 2,000 people. In total 11 events have been held at village halls and community centres across Suffolk since the consultation period launched on July 5. The events gave the public the opportunity to view the proposed route maps, junction options and speak to officers from all authorities about the project and ask questions.

The consultation is being jointly led by Suffolk County Council, Ipswich Borough Council, East Suffolk and Babergh and Mid Suffolk councils. It is also supported by West Suffolk Council.

Whilst there is no plans for any further public events, the materials used are now set to travel the county allowing people the opportunity to view them and encourage them to have their say online.

The materials will be on display at the following locations until the end of the consultation on 13th September 2019:

3 – 6 September	Stowmarket Library, Milton Road, Stowmarket, IP14 1EX	During library opening hours
9 – 13 September	Endeavour House, Reception Area, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX	Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm

and lastly.....a statement from the Leader of East Suffolk Council, Cllr Steve Gallant.

“My position and indeed the position of East Suffolk Council is that we fully support the consultation but have yet to formulate a position on the value and impact of the project as a whole or indeed any individual proposed route. It would be wrong to speak for or against any proposal at this stage as to do so would undermine the value and purpose of the consultation. A pre-determined view would in my opinion simply make a mockery of the whole purpose of undertaking the consultation.

I have had a number of offers to attend meetings and have declined them all.

I am very interested in the views of the public and parishes and look forward to examining in detail the consultation responses submitted the results of which will significantly influence our final position.

I am sure your local Ward Councillor will do all they can to attend. They may well have their individual views on the merits or otherwise of the project which they are of course at liberty to share with you and the wider public. I am very happy for you to share the content of this message as you see fit.”

AK

Appendix B

Planning Report September 9th 2019

Application approved by SCDC since last Parish Council meeting

DC/19/2376/TCA Old School The Green Grundisburgh Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6NF
Proposal T1 Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)- to re-pollard back to established
DC/19/2511/TCA Parish Rooms , The Green Proposal Trees located to side of bridge at
rear of PR carpark T1 Horse Chestnut – clear self set Ash and Elder beneath crown, remove
epicormics growth, reduce crown off buildings, reduce height to 15m balance crown,
(previous) p **DC/19/2591/TPO** 3 Thomas Walls Close. G1 4no. Sycamore pollard to
maintain suitable size and allow more light to garden. T1 Sycamore leaning tree with decay
around first main union, Fell.

Applications received since last the Parish Council Meeting

DC/19/3309/TCA 3 Stoney Road Grundisburgh Rear garden -1 x Variegated Sycamore -
Crown reduce up to 3m

DC/19/3034/VOC Land South Of 24 Pound Cottages Ipswich Road Grundisburgh
Variation of Conditions 2 & 3 for DC/18/1636/FUL- Erection of a single detached
dwelling and carport.

Details of all external facing and roofing materials.

DC/19/2998/TCA Bramley Cottage The Street Grundisburgh Rear garden - 3 x Silver Birch
Fell to ground level - Reason - Causing heave to walks

Local Plan Inspection.

I submitted a written statement answering the Inspector's specific questions as agreed at the
July meeting. As a result Grundisburgh P.C and Craig Plant have now been included in the
list of participants on September 17th.

The Hearing Sessions began on 20th August, to date I have been unable to go but hope to
attend week beginning Sept 2nd to work out the procedure. I will then liaise with CP to insure
all the relevant points are included in our answers.

The Inspector has made it clear that he is there to inspect the soundness of the Plan.

SCDC has submitted a Plan which they consider to be sound and ready for examination. **BUT**
**Hearing Statement by East Suffolk Council Policy SCLP12.52: Land to the West of Chapel
Road, Grundisburgh states**

*91. The Council acknowledges that a large volume of representations were received in
relation to the policy in the Final Draft Local Plan which expressed concern around access
to the site and the suitability of Chapel Road for access. The representation from Suffolk
County Council, as Highways Authority, (Rep ID: 1115), states that the site appears to be
deliverable but significant off-site measures will be required in order to make the proposed*

development acceptable in transport terms and that these may be challenging to deliver in terms of cost and land ownership.

92. In considering these representations, the Council would support a modification to extend the boundary of the allocation southwards in order that it is contiguous with Park Road, to provide further options in respect of vehicle access.

This I read as SCDC included a site that made their Plan unsound.

Geoff Armstrong Position: Director, Armstrong Rigg Planning Organisation: On behalf of Hopkins & Moore (Developments) Ltd

2.1 As drafted, the policy is not considered to be deliverable or developable having regard to the requirement to provide access via Chapel Road. It has been determined by investigations undertaken by highways consultants Ingent detailed in the Technical Note at Appendix 1, that a safe and suitable access off Chapel Road cannot be achieved due to its narrow width, lack of footpaths and the inability for it to be suitably widened.

2.2 The alternative therefore of providing an access from Park Road to the south has been considered where there exists the opportunity to widen the road in areas to form suitable passing sections subject to clearance within the highway boundary. As demonstrated on the attached access drawing 1812- 296-001 Rev A, a suitable and safe access point achieving appropriate visibility splay can be provided via Park Road.

This puts into doubt all the statements made by SCDC and highways, contained in the Local Plan, concerning Chapel Field. Is this why there was no consultation on this site?

What is clear East Suffolk though stating an expectation of provision of open space and homes for the elderly on the site H&M have no intention of providing either. The full statements can be found on East Suffolk, Final Draft Local Plan, Suffolk Coastal Local Plan examination, Examination homepage, Hearing statements.

Letter of complaint

- 1) DC/17/5459/FUL Land adj 5 Post Mill Crescent. Proposed bungalow with garaging.
Approved at officer level 6th March 2018
- 2) DC/18/1636/FUL Land south of 24 Pound Cottages, Pound Corner, Ipswich Road / Park Road. Proposal: Erection of a detached dwelling and double carport.
Approved 23rd July 2018
- 3) DC/18/2286/FUL Builders Yard, Charles Avenue, Proposal: Erection of 4 dwellings.
Approved 27th September 2018

Complaint reference CCCT121707928 - planning decisions in Grundisburgh and Culpho
The PC were not satisfied with the response so wrote again and as a result received
Dear Mr Knights

On behalf of your Parish Council you submitted a Stage 2 complaint in relation to a number of planning decisions in your parish. Your council was not satisfied with the Stage 1 response and you also cited your parish wanted to understand why "few applications are being seen by elected members therefore our influence at the local level is reduced considerably. Why is this?"

I have carefully considered the matters in your submission and reviewed the files and discussed with colleagues. Whilst I am able to respond to the specific matters raised I suggest it may be more beneficial for us to actually meet with representatives of your parish council to discuss these cases, and other general matters, including the Scheme of Delegation for the determination of planning applications. If you are agreeable to this would you like me to invite your ward District Councillors?

If you are agreeable to a meeting please contact my PA, Alison Orford, copied in to this e-mail who will seek to arrange a mutually convenient time.

John Lapsley has already agreed to attend the meeting with Ann Willetts at a time yet to be agreed. Just in case members have not seen the state of the properties in PM Crescent

1 shared drive to site. 2 Drive to Ross's property. 3 Side of Ross's garage after demolition of Garage to 5 PMC.



Appendix C

Report for Parish Council: Summary of VHMC Meeting held on 30th July 2019

Present: Messrs Bignell, Pepper, Sandford, Bailey, Byng, Higgins, Kendall, Laxton, Talbot, Willetts

Summary of Discussions:

Demolition: BL, in addition to a previously issued paper, provided a verbal update of progress in obtaining agreement from ESC to vary existing planning permission constraints with regard to the demolition of the existing hall. This provision was perceived as a risk that potential buyers/developers and the Big Lottery were reluctant to undertake affecting the potential for obtaining an appropriate price for the site and/or obtaining grant funding. BL had, to date, not made the progress that he had hoped in persuading ESC to revise the relevant planning condition; indeed it had so far refused to accept any change, so currently the status quo was unaltered. But he proposed to pursue an amended wording (changes in italics) as follows:

“The demolition of the existing village hall shall not commence until *a contract to build the new village hall opposite the site has been signed.*”

BL's request that he should be granted some latitude to agree a form of wording consistent with the general content of this revised wording was endorsed by the VHMC

Equalities Policy: Much discussion was held over the requirement of the Big Lottery that the VHMC should have a published equalities policy as a precondition of obtaining grant funds. A copy of the policy that Westleton had adopted, in response to the same requirement, was considered and generally speaking deemed to be too prescriptive, too detailed, too demanding and too geared to equal opportunities practices in an employment context. Much of this appeared to be an

impractical burden for the GVH Trustees to shoulder and, in particular, the words 'to ensure' in the particularly onerous and

would seek legal opinion on the extent to which this necessary requirement abbreviated version of document was a legally and whether a much containing a lesser level of satisfy a statutory minimum



Handwritten initials 'HX' and a checkmark.

requirement.

Increase in Hire Charges: Deferred for several meetings, the VHMC agreed a range of differential increases on a per session basis (previously charges had been based on an hourly tariff). There was some discussion about whether increases should be across the board ie. at the same level for all users, or otherwise; in the end the Chair's proposals were accepted. The result of this was that the forecast annual income would increase by c5% as an outcome of the increases.

Repair of the Roof: RP advised the meeting that due to the disrepair of the existing cowls, now estimated to have a maximum life of 12 to 18 mths, the VHMC needed to make a decision about the need or otherwise to undertake a minimum level of repair to guard against the prospect of the collapse of one or more with associated safety considerations in mind. A prospective repair cost of c£1100 was agreed.

Repair of the Floor: It was noted that the floor had been repaired in recent months and it was intended that it should be sanded and re-varnished in the near future.

GADS Request: After some discussion it was agreed that GADS' request to temporarily place a metal shipping container on the NVH site for the purpose of additional transitional storage (for costumes and props) should be denied on the grounds that it would attract considerable criticism within the village on aesthetic grounds, especially given its proximity to Felgate Way and its location at the SW entrance to the village.

Any Other Business: In response to a direct question about the answers that he would be supplying on behalf of the Trustees to the various questions raised by the Big Lottery, BL repeated that he would not be prepared to reveal these answers on the grounds that publication would undermine his negotiating position. DH stated a minority view that this was an unconvincing reason for secrecy, choosing to rely on substantive evidence rather than unsupported testament. In his view it was the duty of any Trustee to be fully cognisant of information supplied on the Trustees' behalf, particularly when the content of those answers might obtain significant financial benefits. The majority of those present were content to put their trust in BL's judgement and a vote was taken to this effect.

Appendix D

Report from the VHMC Steering Group for the PC Meeting on 9th September 2nd September 2019

Introduction

Despite the summer holidays, we have made good progress on a number of fronts, but there remains an enormous amount to do concerning this project.

Upgraded website and social media

We now have 232 members of the New Village Hall Facebook Group, up from 141 two months ago. Thanks to all those who look at the announcements and take part in the discussions. The website continues to be used widely and is the place to go to look at all the relevant information.

Big Lottery

I have been in discussion with the Big Lottery and they have been very helpful as to what they expect in our next submission. I have also been fortunate enough to obtain the confidential submissions made by two other successful village halls and these have helped guide us as to what is required to ensure success. There is no timeframe from the Big

Lottery's perspective, but I want to keep going and make the submission as soon as possible, so long as we have covered everything required.

The Big Lottery have included in their "instructions" to us, a comment that we will need to have an "Equalities Policy". This is being considered in detail and it has become apparent that we will need to have a number of other policies in place and so work is being undertaken on these in order to bring them all to the VHMC Trustees for discussion and (hopefully) approval.

Other Grants

We are making much slower progress here, but in terms of priorities we have focussed on the key prize of the £200,000 Big Lottery potential grant.

Match Funding

We will re-focus again on this in the coming weeks in order to get to the £100,000 target we set ourselves. Since the last report Carole Hayes has raised just over £66 at her house open day and the Family Cycle event (including cake stall) raised over £450, both of which will be match-funded to give us over £1,000.

Gift Aid

We have now received written confirmation from HMRC that we are recognised by them and therefore now able to collect Gift Aid. At an extra 25% on most (but not all) donations, this will allow us to receive tens of thousands of pounds from HMRC as part of our Match Funding programme.

Community Consultation

There is some thought that we would organise a public update at some stage in the autumn of (a) where we are, (b) what we are doing and (c) possible options. This would probably take the form of a meeting at the village hall and a presentation by the Steering Group. The timing of this may depend on progress with the Big Lottery. In addition it remains our intention to have a more formal consultation on next steps, as soon as we are able to identify and explain fully, some realistic options.

Demolition condition

Having tried initially to get a meeting with the planners in April, Councillor Colin Hedgley kindly arranged for us to meet with the East Suffolk planning case officer on 30th August. Colin Hedgley, Ann Willetts and I were there.

The meeting was constructive and we believe there is a way to be found to reach a compromise which would allow a developer of the existing hall site to be able to demolish the existing hall without the requirement for the new hall to be completed. The detail is yet to be agreed, but it is hoped that the demolition could take place once the new hall has had its foundations completed. This would give us the ability to exchange with a developer much earlier in the new build contract and ought to solve the issue.

It is still our aim, if feasible, not to demolish the existing hall until the new one is ready, but we need the compromise outlined above to give developers enough confidence to buy and pay for the existing site up front.

It is very helpful that a number of groups such as Grundisburgh School and the Methodist Chapel have agreed to allow us to use their facilities if there is a period in which there is no village hall, either old or new.

The existing consent for the redevelopment of the existing village hall runs out in April 2020 (being 3 years after the consent was granted). At the meeting we also discussed the best way to "renew" this consent and it is likely we will seek a new consent on exactly the same terms as the current consent, save with an (agreed) amendment to the demolition condition.

It would be very helpful if the Parish Council were able to debate and agree now, to support in principle the new application with the revised demolition condition which would be wording similar to (but not necessarily the same as):

“3. The demolition of the existing village hall shall not commence until a contract to build the new village hall opposite the site has been signed.

Reason: To ensure that village hall provision is not lost”

Bryan Laxton
Steering Group Chair
Bryan.laxton@hotmail.com

A handwritten mark consisting of several overlapping, dark lines, possibly a signature or initials, located in the center of the page.