

**Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on the 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2022**  
**in the Parish Rooms, Grundisburgh**

NOTICES had been posted according with regulations.

Present: - Messrs. G.Caryer, C.Dow, A.Dunnett, J.Dunnett, D.Higgins, J.Lapsley, R.Youngman, Mrs.Bignell, Dr.E.Hodges, Mrs.A.Willetts (in the chair) District Councillor C.Hedgley and 6 members of the public.

**1. Apologies for absence** Mr.B.Cook, Mr.M.Rankin, Mr.M.Harris, Mrs.P.Ross

**2. To receive member's declarations of interest** Mr.Youngman declared an interest in a planning application.

**3. Minutes** The minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on the 10<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 had been circulated and were therefore taken as read. It was proposed by Mrs. Hodges seconded by Mrs.Bignell, to unanimous approval, that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record. There were no matters arising.

**4. Chapel Field Development** Mrs.Willetts reported that the Parish Council has just received Neighbourhood CIL Payments from East Suffolk Council for contributions received from local developments between 1st April 2022 and 30th September 2022 totalling £69,775.69.

The remaining neighbourhood funding for the Chapel Field development should result in further payments in 2024. In summary the Parish Council has £69,775.69 available to spend immediately with the prospect of receiving further payments in 2024..

Neighbourhood CIL Regulation 59c of the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended) states that parish councils must spend Neighbourhood CIL on:

- *The provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or*
- *Anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.*

Mrs.Willetts proposed seconded by Mr. Caryer, to unanimous approval, that the Parish Council should consult every household in the village for ideas on how this money could be spent, bearing in mind it must be spent on the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development has placed on the area. East Suffolk Council's Guidance Notes will be published on the Parish Council's web site. The final decisions on how this money is spent rests with the Parish Council.

Mr.Dunnett said that if a Neighbourhood Plan had been in place the contribution from the CIL levy would have been 25% rather than 15% and urged the Parish Council to create a plan based on the 2006 Parish Plan. Mrs.Willetts replied that creating a Neighbourhood Plan was an enormous undertaking which members had been unwilling to embark on. To qualify for 25% the Plan had to be agreed at the time the development received planning permission ,

The Clerk has submitted the CIL return for the period 01/04/2021 – 31/03/2022 to East Suffolk Council and published it on the Parish Council's Web Site. The total amount of £5,181 was allocated to the new Village Hall for the installation of Solar Panels.

Speed Indicator Device

Mr.Caryer proposed, seconded by Mrs.Willetts, that a small part of the CIL levy be spent on purchasing a Speed Indicator Device (SID) for the village. The Council currently has shared access to a SID via SAVID, but availability is only part time and depends on the number of Parishes requesting access to the SID. The last estimate of cost was a little under £3.5k for a SID with data collection It was agreed to allocate £3,500. 8 members voting for – 2 members abstained.

**5. Public Open Forum** It was proposed by Mrs. Willetts seconded by Mr. Youngman, to unanimous approval, that the formal meeting be suspended, and members of the public invited to address the meeting. The following issues were raised by members of the public.

- **Highways** Mrs. Coomber supported the purchase of a SID. She had observed a survey being carried out on the pavement from Rose Hill to Ipswich Road, missed in previous resurfacing of the area, which gave hope that now at last it too will be resurfaced.
- **Chapel Field** Mr. Herries expressed the Chapel Field Action Group's dissatisfaction and frustration in the manner in which East Suffolk Council had dealt with this planning application and listed several unanswered questions regarding the process. Mrs. Willetts said the Parish Council did as much as it could but the decision to approve was made by a Government Inspector at appeal not East Suffolk Council. She urged East Suffolk Council to stop the practice, in line with many other authorities, of developers submitted twin applications enabling them to appeal on the second. The Statement of Common Ground agreed by Suffolk County Council, East Suffolk Council and the developer at the Local Plan stage had been a severe blow.

**6. Meeting Lane Verge** Mrs. Willetts reported that there was nothing new to report. County Councillor Elaine Bryce is still unable to respond. No deputy had been appointed. Concern was expressed that the half cost committed by the County Council would be lost if not spent in the current financial year.

**7 Planning Report** Mrs. Willetts reported

**7.1 Applications approved by East Suffolk Council since the last Parish Council meeting**

DC/22/3511/TPO Hillside Cottage, The Street, Grundisburgh

Proposal: 1no. Purple Plum (T1 on plan) - Crown reduce by up to 1.5 metres 2no. Beech (T2 on plan) - Crown raise to 2.5 metres 1no. Cherry (T3 on plan) - Crown raise to 2.5 metres 1no. Pine (T4 on plan) Crown raise to 4 metres,

There is no TPO on these trees it should only be a TCA

DC/22/3509/TCA Brooklands The Street Grundisburgh

Sycamore (T1 on plan) – Fell

Comments sent

The Parish Council have no objections to the removal of the sycamore tree but would suggest a suitable replacement should be planted.

DC/22/3364/VOC Greenacre Half Moon Lane Grundisburgh

Variation of Condition No. 2 of DC/15/2141/FUL - Proposed alterations and extensions - The approved sunroom extension was never constructed, however the applicant now wishes to proceed with this element. The design of the approved sunroom has now changed, hence this application

DC/22/3602/TCA Finndale House Woodbridge Road Grundisburgh

Proposal. 1no. Field maple (T1 on plan) - Fell

2no. Sycamore (T2 and T3 on plan) - Fell

2no. Ash (T4 and T5 on plan) – Fell

DC/22/3601/TCA. Grundisburgh House, Woodbridge Road, Grundisburgh

Proposal. 14no. Sycamore (T1-T14 on plan) - Fell

Comments Sent

These trees are important within the Grundisburgh Conservation Area. Therefore the Parish Council suggests replacement trees should be planted.

**7.2 Applications received by East Suffolk since the last Parish Council meeting.**

DC/22/4249/FUL. White House Farm Stoney Road Grundisburgh Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6RR

Change of use of land to site storage container and two Portakabins for dress hire business and storage of musical equipment with associated office (Class E & B8)

***Planning Report cont...***

**7.3 Applications still outstanding.**

DC/22/2544/FUL Flat At Stoney Cottage Stoney Road Grundisburgh. Two storey extension and internal alterations to existing two storey dwelling.

Comments sent :

The Parish Council has concerns that this application doubles the size of the flat which was initially built as an extension to the original house. It is of contrived design on this site in the countryside outside the defined settlement boundary of Grundisburgh.

DC/22/3750/TPO. 21 Gurdon Road Grundisburgh

Proposal A1 of TPO No. 29 / 1987 1no. Sycamore (T1 on plan) - Crown reduce in height to 'proposed line of crown reduction' shown on photographs 'View 1' and 'View 2', Crown lift to 5 metres above ground

DC/22/3883/TCA Thistleton, The Street Grundisburgh

Proposal 1no. Magnolia (T1 on plan) - Reduce height by up to 1.5 metres The Street 1no. Yew (T2 on plan) - Reduce height and spread by up to 2 metres Grundisburgh 1no. Conifer (T3 on plan) - Fell 1no. Laurel hedge (H1 on plan) - Reduce height by 1/3 1no. Group of Laurel (G1 on plan) - Coppice. 1no. Group of Bay/Yew (G2 on plan) - Reduce height and spread by up to 2 metres

DC/22/3877/TCA 06/10/2022 Bramley Cottage The Street Grundisburgh

Proposal 1no. Pine (T1 on plan) - Fell 1no. Apple (T2 on plan) - Crown reduction by up 1 metre and crown thin by 20% 1no. Group of Birch (T3 on plan) - Fell single tree in hedge line and crown lift remaining trees to 3 metres above ground.

DC/22/3611/FUL 16 Playford Corner, Culpho,

Proposal Proposed cartlodge with storage and office space over

DC/22/1146/FUL. Land Adjacent To 3 Pine Grove Grundisburgh Suffolk IP13 6UL

Construction of detached bungalow.

Objections sent :

There had been no movement on this application since 18:4:22 until 20:9:22 when there was a request for a reconsultation. The plans are the same but this time include an extensive report from Haydens Arboricultural Consultants. They produced the reports for Hopkins Homes for Chapel Field.

Updated objections sent :

DC/22/1146/FUL. Land Adjacent To 3 Pine Grove Grundisburgh Suffolk IP13 6UL Construction of detached bungalow

The recent inclusion of a very detailed Arboricultural Report does not change the Parish Council in principle objections to this application.

Grundisburgh and Culpho Parish Council strongly object to the construction of a dwelling in this position on Pine Grove in the countryside outside the defined settlement boundary of Grundisburgh.

Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Adopted September 2020 states

Policy SCLP5.1: Housing Development in Large Villages

Residential development will be permitted within defined Settlement Boundaries.

This site is located in the countryside, a significant distance from the defined Settlement Boundary. Access to the school, doctors' surgery, shops, post office, pub, church and village green is along narrow country lanes without pavements, the proposal would result in increased trips by private car.

Policy SCLP5.4: Housing in Clusters in the Countryside

This policy is not applicable to this proposal, as the application site does not meet the definition of a cluster. The site is not fronting a highway, it is in an isolated position, in front of a private driveway containing 4 properties. It would result in a cramped form of development out of character with the area and would significantly reduce residential amenity.

**Planning Report cont...**

The dwelling opposite the application site was allowed on appeal after being refused by Suffolk Coastal District Council in 2015 reference DC/15/0469/OUT appeal reference APP/G530/W/15/3051126. The local authority had acknowledged that it could not demonstrate a 5 year supply of deliverable housing land at that time.

Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Adopted September 2020 allocated site Policy SCLP12.51: Land to the West of Chapel Road, Grundisburgh. The application DC/20/3362/FUL was approved on appeal APP/X3540/W/21/3280171 Dec 21<sup>st</sup> 2021 for the erection of 70 dwellings, including affordable dwellings, together with public open space, roads, accesses, parking, garages, drainage and associated infrastructure. There is no demonstrative need for more housing in the village, and particularly on a site outside the defined settlement boundary of the village.

The village has been experiencing severe traffic problems on the narrow lanes in the area, partly as a result of construction vehicles accessing the building site on Chapel Field. There have also been numerous road closures, for varying reasons, on the B1079 and the C323, the main route through the centre of the village. The alternative routes through the village are the narrow lanes, Park Road, Chapel Road, Meeting Lane, and Lower Road the result is chaos, with vehicles being unable to manoeuvre in the narrow spaces.

The proposed dwelling is within the countryside, outside the physical limits boundary of Grundisburgh. It is a significant distance from the nearest services and facilities, accessed along narrow roads without pavements. The Parish Council trusts East Suffolk Council will refuse this application.

DC/22/1609/OUT Land off Cranworth Close, Grundisburgh Construction of up to six dwellings (Class C3), provision of parking, hard and soft landscaping, access, open space and other associated works. Latest Ecology report identified a common pipistrelle roost within the garages; therefore, a European Protected Species Mitigation license will be required.

DC/22/2420/FUL Hill Farm Drabbs Lane Clopton Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6SP  
Intensification and expansion of the site's existing HGV operating centre to occupy the full extent of Hill Farm. Objections sent . Objections were also submitted by 42 individuals, Clopton and Charsfield Parish Councils and Burgh Parish Meeting.

**7.4 Planning sub committee meeting on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October.**

It was agreed that the Parish Council should be proactive in requesting more TPO's within the village. Members agreed to survey the village and create a list of trees, or groups of trees they considered of importance within the landscape. As the TPO requested for the Oak tree on the playing field was recently ignored by East Suffolk Council it was agreed to resubmit the application.

Mr.Higgins suggested the tree, on Meeting Lane on the right going up close to the 2 newer houses that were built on higher ground. Meeting Lane has lost much of the green boundaries recently and the wonderful monkey puzzle tree all to be replaced by uniform high fences.

Mrs.Willetts consulted Kevin Muttitt Parish Tree Warden who responded

*"I think the idea to try to get more of our village trees protected is a great one, and hopefully the new tree officer will be more accommodating. Both the trees you refer to, and the willow on the green are all good candidates, although it is rarer for sycamores (the tree on Meeting lane) and willows to be granted TPO's this does occasionally happen. I think the best way to take this forward is to put together a list of trees we wish to gain further protection, and then approach the new tree officer to arrange a visit to look at our chosen trees and seek his opinion to which ones they may be willing to give protected status to.*

*If possible I would wish to attend the meeting with the tree officer, although this may take a bit of arranging as I have very few days apart from Sundays when I am available, but with enough advance warning"*

**8. District Councillor's Report** District Councillor Colin Hedgley's full report is appended to these minutes as "Appendix "A"

- Mr.Hedgley further reported that £2.75m has been allocated to a Levelling Up Agenda which includes funding the establishment of Warm Rooms across the District.
- Chris Bally has been appointed as East Suffolk Council's new Chief Executive.
- He urged support for Road Safety Week
- He also urged residents to complete the questionnaire in the November edition of East Suffolk Magazine,
- The final decisions on how CIL Parish allocations are spent is the responsibility of Parish Councils,.

**9. County Councillor's Report** No report

**10. East Suffolk Community Partnerships** Mr.Caryer reported that he and Mr.Lapsley had attended a partnership meeting to discuss road safety and planning the Road Safety Week. The partnership aims to improve the voice of parish councils in their relationships with Suffolk County and East Suffolk Councils.

### **11. Financial Matters**

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

Suffolk Coastal Norse Ltd	£63.98	Dog bags
1 <sup>st</sup> Grundisburgh Scouts	£103.27	Jubilee expenses
The Trustees of Grundisburgh Parish Rooms	£50.00	Room hire
CPRE	£36.00	Annual membership
Suffolk Coastal Norse Ltd	£119.09	Emptying St Mary's wheeled bins
Mr.R.Fletcher	£150.00	Village Green grass mowing
Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd	£57.64	Allotment water charges
JAS Services	£1,609.00	Allotments - new water main to two new trough positions
Mr.J.Ager	£513.05	Clerk's Salary August/September
	£63.96	Clerk's Expenses August/September
	£80.00	Royal British Legion - donation
HM Revenue & Customs	£128.20	Income Tax
Mr.G.Caryer	£145.00	Millennium Meadow /Conservation Group Insurance
Business Services at CAS Ltd	£467.64	Insurance
Vertas Group Ltd	£242.59	Playingfield grass cutting
Suffolk Association Local Councils	£27.00	Payroll service
Mr..Caryer	£29.99	A Frame Notice Board Covers

It was proposed by Mrs.Willetts seconded by Mrs.Bignell that these payments be approved.  
Approved 9 members voting for 1 member abstained.

#### **11.2 Payments received since the last meeting**

Mr & Mrs.Swann	£25,00	Allotment Rent
East Suffolk Council	£69,775.68	Neighbourhood CIL payments
M.P.Dedman	£12.50	Allotment Rent

#### **11.3 Emergency payments made prior to the meeting under Section 5.7 of Financial Standing Orders**

Dr.E.Hodges £142.80 Defibrillator Batteries and pads

Mrs. Hodges was thanked for taking over the management and maintenance of the defibrillator.

**Financial Matters cont...**

**11.4 Other payments requiring approval**

Ipswich Borough Council	£550.00	Greenways Donation (Millennium & Lyttleton Meadow Grass Cutting)
Mr.R.Fletcher	£100.00	Village Green Grass Mowing War Memorial hedges
Suffolk Coastal Norse Ltd	£30.00	Dog waste Bags
	£29.77	Emptying St Mary's wheeled bins
	£59.54	Emptying St Mary's wheeled bins
Mr.J.Ager	£512.85	Clerk's Salary October/November
	£56.04	Clerk's Expenses October/November
	£71.94	Printer toner set
HM Revenue & Customs	£128.20	Income Tax
Mr.G.Caryer	£90.00	Water testing Petrifilm E.coli Plates

It was proposed by Mrs.Willetts seconded by Mr.Caryer, to unanimous approval, that these payments be approved

**11.5 Account Balances as at 14 November, 2022**

Business Tracker Account	£62.65
Current Account	£98,630.80
Post Office Investment account	£21,376.64
VAT to claim	£701.92
TOTAL	£120,772.01

**11.6 Christmas Tree** Mrs.Willetts proposed seconded by Mrs.Bignell that £50.00 be donated to Mrs.J. DeBorman for the use of her electricity supply for illuminating the Christmas Tree this year.

Approved 9 members voting for 1 member abstained.

**11.7 Budget Report** Appendix "B"

**12. Roads and Transport Report** Mr.Caryer reported

No meetings of the Roads and Transport Subcommittee have been held since the last Parish Council Meeting.

**12.1 Speedwatch SID** The SID post outside Hill House has been part of Suffolk County Councils Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) trial which ended on 24th October. During the period of the trial, we were asked not to deploy the shared SID anywhere in the Parish. Trial results are expected later this year or early next year. Speedwatch activities continue. The shared SID will now be available for deployment in Grundisburgh.

**12.2 Quiet Lanes** With the Quiet Lanes project nearing completion, the costs have been calculated and although substantial funding has been provided by Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk District Council, the funds available did not cover a 100% of costs.

The estimated costs for signage for Grundisburgh as per Suffolk County Council Highways. This may not be the final cost and does not include other associated costs such as legal costs etc..

The contribution for Grundisburgh has been calculated as follows -

2 routes free funded by SCC & ESC grants.

6 routes @ £50 per route = £300

At our January 2021 meeting we agreed to a budget of up to £1000 for the project.

It is therefore requested that the parish Council note the contribution of £300 to be paid to Suffolk County Council.

***Roads and Transport Report cont...***

**12.3 Meeting Lane Verge** Mrs.Willetts has emailed George Baker (Conservative Research Assistant assisting Elaine Bryce while she is unwell) and we are awaiting a reply. Colin Hedgley is also speaking to Elaine to try to obtain further updates

**12.4 Restoration of Grundisburgh Corner fences and signs** Mrs.Willetts has emailed George Baker (Conservative Research Assistant assisting Elaine while she is unwell) and we are awaiting a reply. Colin Hedgley is also speaking to Elaine to try to obtain further updates

**12.5 Bus Shelters** An updated quote for bus shelter maintenance has been received for £1,710.50 to carry out maintenance on the Pound Corner, Village Green and Pipes Corner shelters. The quote, which is within budget and has been accepted.

**12.6 Road Safety Week 14 – 20 November** As part of road safety week Grundisburgh will host a banner on The Green. It is also planned to participate in coordinated Speedwatch sessions with other local parishes. In addition, Grundisburgh Primary School are being visited by Andy Jolliffe of East Suffolk and PC Partridge to launch the Hi Vis Jacket Scheme and to encourage safer parking near the school.

**13. Footpaths & Conservation Report** Mr.Caryer reported  
No meetings of the Footpaths and Conservation Subcommittee were held.

**13.1 Path on Green** Awaiting repair

**13.2 Millennium Meadow** Working parties continue on first Saturday of every month 10 – 12:30.  
New volunteers are always welcome.

**13.3 Footpath Problems** The broken and unstable stile next to Elm Tree Farm, which was first reported on 6<sup>th</sup> September is still awaiting inspection. It has now been reported twice via the reporting tool (by 2 people) and 2 emails to Customer Services.

**13.4 Sunday Walks** Our monthly Sunday walk took place on 13<sup>th</sup> November. It is proposed to hold the traditional Torchlight walk to Hasketon in December. As usual, refreshments (e.g. mulled wine and mince pies for adults plus soft drinks for children) will be provided.

**13.5 Benches** The broken bench on Lyttleton Meadow will be replaced with a recycled plastic memorial bench as a memorial to the late Mr. Robin Styles - donated by his family.

**13.6 River Water Testing** Testing continues every 2 weeks and is uploaded to Woodbridge Town Councils Water Testing Results Tracker for correlation with results from other parishes. As approved at our May meeting, a pack of 50 E. coli testing plates have been ordered at a cost of £90 inc VAT. These plates will be shared with Great Bealings.

**13.7 Millennium Meadow** Mr. Dunnett suggested that the Warden, Mr. Paul Franklin, should be asked to identify structures on the Meadow needing replacement which could now be funded from the CIL allocation.

**14. To receive reports from Council representatives to village organisations** No reports

**15. Public Open Forum** It was proposed by Mrs.Willetts seconded by Mr.Youngman, to unanimous approval, that the formal meeting be suspended, and members of the public invited to address the meeting. The following issues were raised by members of the public.

- Mr.Herries said that allotment plot holders were delighted with the improved water supply. The top problem plot had been transformed by a new tenant. Only one half plot needing restoration was left uncultivated.

**16. Items for next meeting**

King Charles 111 Coronation Saturday 6 May 2023 Village celebrations

Mrs.Willetts reminded councillors that 2023 was an Election year. Parish & District elections will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> May. It has been many years (1999) since the Council had a contested election and out of 13 members only 4 had taken part in that election. She encouraged members to stand for re-election and to encourage others to stand. The Council meeting scheduled for the 8<sup>th</sup> May, which is the council's Annual Meeting, would need to be held on the following Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May.

Mr.Youngman asked that a letter be sent to Anglian Water regarding the numerous road closures on the B1079 at Hasketon caused by burst water mains.

**17. Any other business**

Council Meetings

2023 9 January, 13 March, 15 May, 10 July, 11 September, 13 November

All meetings will be held in the Parish Rooms starting at 7.00pm except the July meeting which will be held in St.Botolphs Church, Culpho.



## Appendix “A”

### District Councillors Report to Grundisburgh Parish Council

For November 2022

Carlford and Fynn Valley Ward.

Rushmere Village, Great Bealings, Little Bealings, Playford, Bredfield, Grundisburgh & Culpho, Winesham and Swiland, Westerfield, Hasketon, Clopton, Charsfield, Dallinghoo, Tuddenham, Boulge, Burgh, Debach, Otley.

From District Councillor

Cllr Colin Hedgley

#### Christmas Parking

To coincide with Christmas lights ‘switch ones’ and other festive events across the district over the coming weeks, East Suffolk Council is offering free parking in council-owned car parks from 4pm on the following dates:

1. Woodbridge – Sunday 4 December
2. Free parking will also be available from noon to 6pm on Saturday 17 December across the district.

#### Retrospective planning,

Quite a few residents have approached me regarding the number of retrospective planning applications that have been made locally. I share their concerns. On checking we are not getting more than usual although it sometimes seems so. There are other councillors that share my concerns. However, the law says we must treat ‘Retrospective’ in exactly the way we do normal applications. If we refused an application purely because it was retrospective and the applicant appealed and won, then the Council would have to pay the costs. That’s your money down the drain so to speak.

Major funding boost for efforts to end rough sleeping in East Suffolk

East Suffolk Council is among 303 local authorities, charities and other organisations to have received a share of up to £500m as part of the government’s flagship Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) – designed to help provide emergency beds, off-the-street accommodation and wrap-around support.

It follows publication of the £2bn cross-government Rough Sleeping Strategy by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLHUC) to drive forward a manifesto commitment to tackle homelessness. In East Suffolk, RSI funding will go towards additional emergency accommodation and resources, providing valuable services across the district in conjunction with Access Community Trust.

Funding will also facilitate partnership work with Suffolk County Council on developing a Housing First model of support – piloted in Manchester, Liverpool and the West Midlands – for not only rough sleepers, but also young people requiring a pathway plan towards independent living.

East Suffolk Council has confirmed that it will engage with local communities about two major energy projects which are commencing consultations.

Today, both National Grid Ventures (NGV) and National Grid Electricity Transmission (NGET) have launched their consultations on the EuroLink and Sea Link projects respectively. Sea Link is a domestic interconnector between Suffolk and Kent required for network reinforcements. EuroLink is an international multi purpose interconnector between the Netherlands and Suffolk.

Both are informal and non-statutory consultations, however they will be followed next year by formal, statutory consultations. NGV and NGET are seeking comments and feedback on their potential landfall, cable route and converter station options. The consultations will last eight weeks finishing on 18 December 2022. They will include some face to face events and webinars, details of which will be published by the developers and viewable on their individual project webpages. [EuroLink consultation](#) | [National Grid Group](#) and [Sea Link | National Grid ET](#).

East Suffolk Council alongside other stakeholders will be reviewing the material published in relation to both projects and considering our response. During the consultations we will look to invite representatives from the affected Parish and Town Councils to hear and understand their views on the proposals. Details are to follow.

### **Council backs First Light Festival with three-year commitment of support**

Tens of thousands of people descended on Lowestoft's South Beach for the return of the First Light Festival in June.

In 2019, the Council's investment of £90,000 resulted in a £900,000 return on investment in terms of direct local financial benefit, while the £200,000 invested for 2022 delivered approximately £690,000 of visitor spend (with the overall direct local financial anticipated to be significantly larger).

We have now promised to provide First Light Festival with £500,000 of funding to support the community interest company's National Portfolio Organisation application to the Arts Council. If successful in its application, First Light Festival will receive £660,000 from the Arts Council, which, along with funding from East Suffolk Council and other sources, will help secure its future for the next three years.

Funding will be drawn from the New Homes Bonus Reserve and provided on a sliding scale over the three years – with £180,000 for 2023/24, £170,000 for 2024/25 and £150,000 for 2025/26 – as the community interest company generates additional income through both the festival and as operators of the regenerated East Point Pavilion venue.

### **Design team appointed for Cultural Quarter project**

The Cultural Quarter project is one of five transformational regeneration projects detailed within the Town Investment Plan, and which received £24.9m from the Government's Towns Fund. The project will see the redevelopment of the Council's current Customer Services Centre to provide a new cultural facility with associated eatery, and the redevelopment of the former Battery Green multi-storey car park to provide a new leisure offer. Along with the other Towns Fund projects, the Cultural Quarter project is expected to be complete by March 2026.

### **Roadshows provide advice across East Suffolk on rising cost of living**

A series of roadshows have taken place across East Suffolk to help provide advice to people concerned about the rising cost of living.

Free professional advice is available for dealing with rising fuel costs, money saving, benefits and debt management, as well as information on the financial support available.

Support is also on offer from local groups and organisations.

### **New food support scheme launched to help those in need**

A new food support scheme has launched in Beccles to provide those in need with hot meals and drinks.

Inspired by the successful Thin Ice project in Lowestoft, Beccles Comfort Food has launched to provide free hot meals and drinks to households who are struggling with the cost of living. The scheme is part of a wider set of cost-of-living support projects being developed by East Suffolk Council. See "Ease the Squeeze" below

### **Helping East Suffolk ease the squeeze on cost of living**

#### **Ease the Squeeze**

That is why we have launched Ease the Squeeze – a comprehensive scheme which helps connect those needing help to those helping.

We are working closely with key partners on a number of local schemes, while also directing people to other available support and services.

All the information, including practical support, funding and advice, has been gathered on our website, at [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/squeeze](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/squeeze). This page is continuously being updated as more schemes, services and support becomes available, so please share this with others.

We will also be running a social media campaign to raise awareness of the website.

Customer Services, Communities and Housing are working closely together to provide a wide range of support and advice.

Nicole Rickard, Head of Communities, will host live online information sessions about Ease the Squeeze, on Teams, from 11.30am-12.30pm on Tuesday 6 September and from 4pm-5pm Wednesday 14 September.

Email [Joanna.jonas@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Joanna.jonas@eastsuffolk.gov.uk) to book a spot

### **Funding provides wheelchair access at care farm**

An opening event was held at Lowestoft-based Pathways, attended by Cllr Coulam, representatives from Pathways Care Farm and members of the Waveney Suffolk Help in Multiple Sclerosis (SHIMS) group.

Waveney SHIMS is a self-help group for people with MS, run by people with MS, and offers support and friendship, complimentary therapies, information and social events. The group meets at Pakefield Church Hall on the first and third Friday of each month.

### **Surveys and consultations**

As always, East Suffolk Council wants to encourage participation in surveys and consultations, as feedback from people in East Suffolk is invaluable and helps us ensure we're making the right decisions for our communities. If a survey is brought to your attention then please consider taking part.

### **Resident fined for abandoning rubbish-filled caravan in street**

An East Suffolk resident has been fined over £2,000 after being found guilty of abandoning a caravan in a Felixstowe street.

Craig Friston from Felixstowe appeared at Suffolk Magistrates' Court on 26 September, having been charged with breaching section 2(1) of the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978.

On 20 October 2021, East Suffolk Council's Customer Services team received a report of an abandoned caravan on land off Reedland Way in Felixstowe.

A site visit was carried out on 21 October and the caravan, which was in poor condition, was found to be filled with rubbish. Waste was also present on the surrounding ground.

Subsequent visits found that the caravan had been abandoned by Mr Friston and on 6 December, Craig and Samantha Friston were sent notices to remove the caravan within seven days.

The caravan was not removed and in January, the caravan and waste, which included a double mattress, was removed by East Suffolk Council from Reedland Way. In total, the Council removed 1,520kg of waste from inside and around the caravan - some of the waste showed Mr Friston's name, and the names of family members.

Cllr James Mallinder, East Suffolk's cabinet member for the Environment said:

"There is absolutely no excuse for shamelessly dumping a caravan in a residential street for someone else to clear away, and to then fill it with piles of rubbish is simply unacceptable."

Mr Friston did not attend sentencing and the court found him guilty in his absence, fining him £660 for the offence, £66 for the victim surcharge and £1,380 in costs, totalling £2,106.

### **Work begins on new Seashore Village and activity park in Felixstowe**

Work has begun on the construction of a new Seashore Village and activity park in Felixstowe. The Seashore Village will feature 27 traditional-style beach huts, provided by East Suffolk Council, as well as a single-storey accessible hut, built from self-insulating panels and capable of being split into smaller rooms or pods for hire.

The site will be entirely re-landscaped, with ramp access installed from Sea Road and the Prom, where new fully accessible public conveniences will also be added and open year-round. Further improvement will also be made to the surrounding South Seafront area, following the relocation and renovation of the 'Trim Trail', with the addition of a new activity park, set to include a climbing wall, concrete table tennis tables, pétanque piste, accessible picnic benches, chess tables and an outdoor space for workouts.

The creation of the public spaces will be made possible by funding generated by the sale of the huts.

The development was approved by East Suffolk Council's Planning Committee South last October and forms part of wider ongoing investment in the South Seafront area, where the Martello Park has already delivered new homes, a play area and new car parking facilities, while East Suffolk Council has also invested in the development of a contemporary café, the refurbishment of two public shelters, and the long-term maintenance of an historic Martello Tower. Work is being led by main contractor, Gipping Construction, and is expected to continue until next summer.

### **National award for innovative Deben Fields development**

A major council-owned development in Felixstowe has won a prestigious national award for its high-quality and innovative design.

Deben Fields, also known as the Garrison Lane project, is a significant development on the site of the former Deben High School in Felixstowe. This four-hectare site, which is being developed by East Suffolk Council, will provide new leisure and community facilities and new private and affordable homes.

Following a submission by architects TateHindle, the scheme was shortlisted in the national Housing Design Awards earlier this year and has now been chosen as the winner of the Project Award.

The scheme comprises a highly sustainable new neighbourhood of 61 high-quality, innovative homes designed to achieve Passivhaus certification, including 41 affordable homes, and a range of community amenities.

The design repurposes the school sports field to create a new cricket pitch and pavilion edged with walking and cycling routes connecting the proposed development with Valley Walk Park – simultaneously preserving green space and providing active, edge-to-edge connectivity.

The proposed homes have access to outside space and living spaces are 5% larger than prescribed standards to accommodate home working.

The former school assembly hall is reimagined as a community hall, opening out onto a communal garden and allotment which, along with the new cricket pitch and leisure facilities, create opportunities for social interaction.

As well as delivering energy-efficient homes, the construction process will be low carbon using durable, low maintenance materials. The homes will be highly insulated with triple glazing to lower running costs.

The buildings also maximise natural light and solar gain and are futureproofed to allow for sustainable technologies, including heat pumps and air filtration. Solar panels will provide renewable energy to power common areas.

Planning permission for Deben Fields was granted in 2021, and work is due to start in 2023.

Information about the properties can be found at [www.debenfields.co.uk](http://www.debenfields.co.uk)

### **Hat-trick of awards for building excellence in East Suffolk**

A stylish new café in East Suffolk has again been nominated for a top award – along with a locally based building contractor and architect.

Felixstowe's Martello Café was named 'best non-residential new build' at the regional LABC Building Excellence Awards – just a few months after being highly commended by local design judges.

Felixstowe based architect, Robert Allerton was also recognised as the region's 'best residential and small commercial designer', while Woodbridge firm Chapel Properties won 'best residential and small commercial builder'.

The regional winners will all go forward to the Grand Finals of the LABC Building Excellence Awards 2022 – the UK's largest business-to-business awards in the building control sector – taking place at Park Plaza Westminster Bridge, in London, on Friday 27 January.

The awards cover all local authorities in England and Wales, across 12 regions, and recognise the work of building control surveyors, builders, site managers, architects, designers, and anyone involved in a construction project where building control was provided by a local authority team, such as East Suffolk Council's Building Control team, which ensures that building work carried out in the district meets minimum regulations.

Opened in May 2022 as part of the continued wider redevelopment of Felixstowe's South Seafront area, The Martello Café was funded by East Suffolk Council (ESC), with grant funding of £950,000 from the Government's Coastal Communities Fund and a further £30,000 from the Coastal Revival Fund.

The £1.5 million project and its architects, Plaice Design Company, were also 'Highly Commended by judges at the RIBA Suffolk Design Awards 2022.

### **Free Wi-Fi service launched in two more East Suffolk towns**

Free-to-use public Wi-Fi has been launched in another two East Suffolk towns as part of a variety of digital projects for the district.

The East Suffolk Digital Towns programme has now been rolled out to Beccles and Halesworth, following previous launches in Felixstowe, Lowestoft, Southwold and Woodbridge.

East Suffolk Council is delivering a range of digital projects to support market towns and businesses by strengthening the local economy and improving connectivity.

The Digital Towns programme, initially piloted in Framlingham in 2019, will transform market towns through the installation of free public Wi-Fi, digital footfall counters and town marketing platforms, alongside a business support programme.

Supported by funding from the Getting Building Fund and New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership's Innovative Projects fund, the new technology will be combined with bespoke business support, helping local businesses and towns to grow.

It will enable the Council to understand the number of visitors to towns, the busiest periods, the average time people spend in the town centre and much more – enabling the Economic Development team to provide tailored support for local businesses and provide data-based evidence to support other ongoing projects.

Cllr Craig Rivett, East Suffolk Council's Deputy Leader and cabinet member for Economic Development, said: "It's great to this initiative being rolled out to another two towns; each now able to make use of free public Wi-Fi access and a whole package of digital benefits.

"We're passionate about enabling our communities and local businesses to thrive with projects such as this."

East Suffolk Council has also been working in partnership with an interactive walking app provider, Go Jauntily, to develop outdoor adventures across all of East Suffolk's principal 12 towns and villages.

Following the latest launches, East Suffolk Free Wi-Fi is also scheduled to be available in, Bungay, Aldeburgh, Leiston and Saxmundham very soon.

### **East Suffolk pays tribute to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**

Following quiet and careful preparation, the Council was able to provide exceptional support as communities mourned the death of Her Majesty The Queen and observed the Proclamation of the Accession of King Charles III, while a number of delicate decisions were properly made around the continuation or postponement of normal activities during the mourning period.

# Appendix "B"

## Budget 2022/2023

01/04/2022 Through 31/03/2023 Using Budget 2 (in Pound)

11/11/2022

Page 1

Category Description	01/04/2022 Actual	- Budget	31/03/2023 Difference
<b>INCOME</b>			
Allotment Rent	450.00	400.00	50.00
Bank Interest	0.02	100.00	-99.98
CIL payment	69,903.25	0.00	69,903.25
Donations	510.20	0.00	510.20
Jubilee	31.27	0.00	31.27
Precept	21,000.00	21,000.00	0.00
Snow Clearing	200.00	0.00	200.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>92,094.74</b>	<b>21,500.00</b>	<b>70,594.74</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>Administration</b>			
Audit Fee	0.00	200.00	200.00
<b>Clerk</b>			
Expenses	293.67	500.00	206.33
Income Tax	769.40	0.00	-769.40
Office	0.00	577.00	577.00
Payroll Service	22.50	90.00	67.50
Salary	2,052.00	3,854.00	1,802.00
Soc.Clks	0.00	95.00	95.00
Training	0.00	50.00	50.00
<b>TOTAL Clerk</b>	<b>3,137.57</b>	<b>5,166.00</b>	<b>2,028.43</b>
Cirs. Exp.Train	0.00	300.00	300.00
Conference calling	0.00	100.00	100.00
Data Protection	0.00	40.00	40.00
Hire of Rooms	70.00	400.00	330.00
Insurance	467.64	300.00	-167.64
Laser Printer	59.95	200.00	140.05
Local Council Award Scheme	60.00	0.00	-60.00
Misc	12.60	0.00	-12.60
Parish Meeting	85.00	500.00	415.00
Photocopying	20.00	110.00	90.00
SALC	561.58	580.00	18.42
Stationery	19.72	100.00	80.28
Website	0.00	110.00	110.00
<b>TOTAL Administration</b>	<b>4,494.06</b>	<b>8,106.00</b>	<b>3,611.94</b>
<b>Run Costs</b>			
<b>Bus Shelters</b>			
Cleaning	300.00	300.00	0.00
Repairs	0.00	200.00	200.00
<b>TOTAL Bus Shelters</b>	<b>300.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>200.00</b>
Defibrillator	119.00	250.00	131.00
<b>Highways</b>			
SAVID	50.00	100.00	50.00
Snow Clearing	0.00	200.00	200.00
Speedwatch	0.00	200.00	200.00
<b>TOTAL Highways</b>	<b>50.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>450.00</b>
Jubilee 2022	1,102.70	1,600.00	497.30
Local Fighting Fund	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
<b>Pks Open Spa</b>			
Allotments	2,154.40	1,455.00	-699.40
Benches	510.20	0.00	-510.20
Dog Fido Bins	131.64	0.00	-131.64
Footpaths & Environment	50.00	150.00	100.00

## Budget 2022/2023

01/04/2022 Through 31/03/2023 Using Budget 2 (in Pound)

11/11/2022

Page 2

Category Description	01/04/2022 Actual	Budget	31/03/2023 Difference
Grundisburgh Baptist Church	195.00	195.00	0.00
Litter Bins	0.00	100.00	100.00
Millennium Meadow	645.00	1,100.00	455.00
Playingfield	606.48	1,000.00	393.52
River Water Testing	75.00	200.00	125.00
St.Bots	195.00	195.00	0.00
St.Mary	640.00	640.00	0.00
Village Greens			
A Board	187.94	0.00	-187.94
Mowing	880.00	2,000.00	1,120.00
Posts & Rails	0.00	300.00	300.00
Stream	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Xmas Tree	0.00	180.00	180.00
TOTAL Village Greens	1,067.94	3,480.00	2,412.06
War Memorial	50.00	120.00	70.00
Wheeled Bin	437.87	800.00	362.13
TOTAL Pks Open Spa	6,758.53	9,435.00	2,676.47
Youth Club	600.00	600.00	0.00
TOTAL Run Costs	8,930.23	15,385.00	6,454.77
Section 137			
British Legion	100.00	100.00	0.00
BSEVC	50.00	50.00	0.00
Citizens Advice	100.00	100.00	0.00
CPRE (Suffolk Preservation Soc)	36.00	36.00	0.00
Disability Advice Service	100.00	100.00	0.00
East Anglian Air Ambulance	100.00	100.00	0.00
Freshstart	50.00	50.00	0.00
Headway	50.00	50.00	0.00
Lighthouse	100.00	100.00	0.00
Lunch Club	200.00	200.00	0.00
Sflk Accid Resc	100.00	100.00	0.00
St Elizabeths Hospice	50.00	50.00	0.00
St.Botolphs Benefice Magazine	100.00	100.00	0.00
Starlight	50.00	50.00	0.00
Suffolk Family Carers	100.00	100.00	0.00
SWLT	100.00	100.00	0.00
TOTAL Section 137	1,386.00	1,386.00	0.00
Unpresented cheque	-100.00	0.00	100.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>14,710.29</b>	<b>24,877.00</b>	<b>10,166.71</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>77,384.45</b>	<b>-3,377.00</b>	<b>80,761.45</b>