

**Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on the 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2023**  
**in the Parish Rooms, Grundisburgh**

NOTICES had been posted according with regulations.

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

**1. Apologies for absence** Mr.J.Lapsley, Mr.G.Caryer.

**2. To receive member's declarations of interest** No interests were declared.

**3. Minutes** The minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on the 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 had been circulated and were therefore taken as read. It was proposed by Dr.Hodges seconded by Mrs. Bignell, to the unanimous approval of councillors present at that meeting, that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters arising Following a complaint made at the 14<sup>th</sup> November meeting concerning the numerous road closures on the B1079 between Mill Lane, Hasketon and Grundisburgh Village caused by the frequent bursting of the water main and subsequent repairs the Clerk wrote to Anglian Water who replied that "*there are no current plans to renew this section of water main but this section has been highlighted as requiring a review for future investment*" The road is currently closed for two days to repair another watermain burst.,

The Clerk will write again to Anglian Water urging them bring forward their promised review and to send a copy to Hasketon Parish Council and the EADT. It is understood that their local office has requested that the problem section be replaced.

**4 District Councillor's Report** District Councillor Colin Hedgley's full report is appended to these minutes as Appendix "A". He is aware of the discussions taking place on the route of Footpath 20 affecting the Chapel Field development and the Lower Road application. The 4th May Election process starts on the 16h April.

**5. County Councillor's Report** County Councillor Elaine Bryce reported that she is having a meeting later this week regarding the restoration of the Meeting Lane verge and is arranging a meeting to address concerns regarding traffic problems in Lower Road and Park Road caused by the Chapel Field development.

Members reminded her of the ongoing concerns that occupier's of properties on Chapel Field will use Lower Road to access Woodbridge, Martlesham Retail Park and places beyond rather than turn right on Park Road and travel through the centre of the village to access Woodbridge Road (B1079). The Drainage Basin on Chapel Field is causing safety concerns.

**6. Chapel Field development** Mrs.Willetts reported.

Footpath 20.

As part of the planning permission issued with the appeal decision dated 21<sup>st</sup> December 2021 Condition No. 20 Off Site works and surfacing improvements and links to Footpath 20 the approved plans show a surface of dense Macadam. The approved details shall be laid out and constructed in their entirety prior to first occupation.

The Parish Council must ensure Footpath 20 is constructed in the safest position for the community.

**HISTORY** Mrs.Willetts has:-

1 A copy of an 1881 OS Map showing the footpath, field numbers and boundaries for what is now the Playing Field, Chapel Field and the field on which Post Mill Gardens now stands.

2 A copy of National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 with a description of Footpath 20 in Grundisburgh. Commences on Meeting Lane opposite "Hillcote". Runs along the southern side of parcel 59 and the southern side of parcel 55 to the main road at Broadmere Garage.

**Chapel Field development cont...**

3 The original planning application (consent No. E/4800/4) for Post Mill Orchard, Close and Post Mill Crescent. Clearly showing the PROW along the southern boundary of the site. Along all the back gardens of the properties on Post Mill Crescent backing onto Chapel Field.

4 A statement by John Ager original owner of 8 Post Mill Close.

*"I was the first owner of 8 Post Mill Close when I moved in March 1973. I subsequently found that my land extended to the ditch beyond the public right of way (PROW) Footpath 20 that ran along the inside of my rear boundary. The ditch was later piped and filled in.*

*That footpath was never used as the builder had included an entrance to the Playing Field between 2 bungalows at the end of Post Mill Orchard and the footpath, for practical reasons and easy access, ran between the tennis courts and the northern boundary of the site.*

*When the dwellings were completed in Post Mill Crescent it became obvious that the PROW continued inside their boundaries. The post and wire fence was erected on the property side of the footpath for protection but the rear boundary of the properties was along the ditch, the boundary with field 49, now known locally as Chapel Field. Several residents tried to cultivate vegetables on their land beyond the fence but after a time this became impracticable. As farm vehicles became larger the hedge was removed and the ditch was filled in to accommodate the turning circle of those vehicles. As more space became available the footpath moved by custom and practice into the available space for convenience rather than use the sleeper foot bridge on the rear boundary of 5 Post Mill Close and 17 Post Mill Crescent".*

5 A plan of 17 Post Mill Crescent showing the position of the back fence, footpath, ditch and the boundary of the site endorsed by Blocks Solicitors, dated July 1998.

6 The official rerouting of Footpath 20 December 2012, onto the Playing Field between the Tennis Courts and boundary with Post Mill Close properties.

7 Parish Council objections to the Hopkins Homes development contained warnings of trip hazards on the proposed footpath along the playing field and lack of detail levels or any details about the gradients as the footpath joins the playing field car park/Post Mill estate. Concern was expressed about the 'dog leg' of Footpath 20 as it does not appear possible to achieve 15m of forward visibility along this section, rendering the path potentially unsafe. All these points were never answered.

8 Mrs. Willetts letter of the 13 December 2022. Now it seems that Hopkins Homes and the 2 Local Authorities are recognising that without the co-operation of individuals and a village organisation a safe trip free pedestrian surface cannot be created.

9 Since that letter Mrs. Willetts received an Email from Debbie Adams Rights of Way Officer requesting a meeting *I would be happy to meet with you onsite to discuss in more detail, as a starting point myself and my manager Annette Robinson would be available on the 17<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> January.*

**Chapel Field development cont...**

**10 INSTRUCTIONS TO PETER BLAKE, PRETTYS SOLICITORS LLP, RE CHAPEL FIELD**

In response to the approval given by the Parish Council to Mrs. Willetts request for £2,000 to fund legal advice the following instructions were given to Prettys Solicitors.

*“ Hopkins Homes (HH) are in the process of building 70 homes on the Land West of Chapel Field in Grundisburgh (CF).*

*Planning permission was granted via an Appeal Decision dated 21 December 2021.*

*The local community objected to the application to build on CF for a number of reasons, mainly highways safety related issues but these objections fell on deaf ears*

*During the course of the preceding Local Plan formulation and subsequent planning applications, a number of other issues with the proposals and the details of the application were raised by the local community, but these were again dismissed by East Suffolk Coastal Council (ESC) and Suffolk County Council (SCC).*

*During the process of the actual development, two of the issues that the community raised have now been acknowledged by HH and SCC, and members of the local community have now been approached by HH and SCC to discuss the issues and come to a solution.*

*In the circumstances, we would be grateful for your advice in terms of the legal standing /position of the various stakeholders, and how best to then approach the demands / requests of HH & SCC accordingly”*

Mrs. Willetts said the Parish Councils current position in any discussions regarding the surfacing of Footpath 20 is that it is awaiting legal advice..

Members considered that the footpath should continue, as it had done in the past, in a straight line from the playing field, along the edge of the development, by passing the dog leg, where there is adequate room. This may need a diversion from, what the County Council regards as the legal route, but this should not be insurmountable,

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

**Chapel Field Development**

- Homes can not be occupied until Footpath 20 along the playing field and continuing along the north edge of the development have been given a hard tarmac surface.
- The Parish Council’s concern is that the footpath should be safe for all users
- The Drainage Basin could create a safety hazard. ]
- Hopkins Homes published route to the site via Lower Road was irresponsible

**Speeding**

- Increased speeding in Grundisburgh was noticed. Could Speedwatch teams use different locations ? The Parish Council has earmarked part of the CIL payment to purchase a Speed Indicator Device. Could a 20mph speed Limit be imposed ?

**8. Meeting Lane Verge** Mrs. Willetts will pass on any information she receives from County Councillor Elaine Bryce planned site meeting.

**9. Planning Report Mrs. Willetts reported**

**9.1 Applications refused by East Suffolk Council since the last Parish Council meeting**

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

Proposal Proposed cartlodge with storage and office space over. Reason for refusal The proposed two-storey detached Cartlodge represents poor design, by virtue of its size, scale, detachment from the dwelling and situation in a prominent location at the front of the site. It would have a significantly detrimental impact upon the appearance of the site in the wider landscape and fails to protect and enhance what, for this location, is a significant view towards the key rural landscape beyond due to its overall scale on a site which is elevated in relation to the surrounding arable land. The proposal is therefore contrary to Policies SCLP 10.4 and SCLP11.1 of the East Suffolk Council - Suffolk Coastal Local Plan which seek to ensure high quality of design and protection of landscape character.

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

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)

The reason for the decision to refuse permission is:

The application seeks to establish a new employment use within an isolated rural location that has an existing agricultural use. New employment development should firstly be directed to identified employment sites or within settlement boundaries. The development does not represent the expansion or intensification of an existing employment site and nor would it constitute agricultural diversification. The site's isolated rural location means that the proposed uses would be incompatible with the prevailing land uses, which are predominately agricultural. The Council have also found that the development remains unjustified based on the submitted assessment of alternative sites and the application therefore fails to meet the policy requirements for development in the countryside.

DC/22/2420/FUL Hill Farm Drabs 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. The reason for the decision to refuse permission is: This application seeks the intensification and expansion of the site's existing HGV operating centre to occupy the full extent of Hill Farm, Drabs Lane, Clopton, IP13 6SP. The site is located in the countryside for planning purposes, where local plan policies seek to protect the countryside from unsustainable forms of development, preserve the landscape character and protect the amenity of local residents. The applicant has not demonstrated that there are no sequentially preferable sites available adjacent existing Employment Areas, within existing Employment Areas or within Settlement Boundaries; the development does not therefore accord with the Settlement Hierarchy. There is also insufficient information to consider whether the development would result in an unacceptable adverse effect on the environmental sustainability of the area.

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

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.

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

DC/22/4445/FUL Stone Acre, Otley Road, Grundisburgh. Construction of Replacement Dwelling and Garden Room.

Comments to be sent

In the proposal several trees are to be removed adjacent to the access and along the eastern boundary. Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council expect replacement planting of both trees and hedging on this prominent site within the countryside.

Otley Road is narrow at this point with a group of properties close to the road opposite Stone Acre. It is the main access from Grundisburgh village centre to Otley Collage, B1078 and B1079 as well as the Doctors Surgeries in Otley and Debenham which are in the same group as the Grundisburgh Surgery and used regularly by patients from the Grundisburgh Area.

If the Local Planning Authority have a mind to approve this application Grundisburgh Parish Council would suggest that very clear conditions should be applied.

- Provision must be made on site for parking all visiting vehicles
- For storing all materials
- For storing all construction vehicles and plant

Any damage caused to the verges in the area during construction must be made good by the applicant.

DC/22/4824/FUL 5A Post Mill Crescent Grundisburgh. Erection of flat roof attached garage.

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

**9.4 Application withdrawn.**

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.

**9.5 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/22/1146/FUL. Land Adjacent To 3 Pine Grove Grundisburgh Suffolk IP13 6UL Construction of detached bungalow.

Objections resent :

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.

**10. Annual Parish Meeting** The purpose of the Annual Meeting of the parish is for the members of the electorate to meet annually and is an opportunity to discuss parish affairs and for village organisations to inform them and answer questions. It must be held between 1<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> June. It is NOT the Parish Council's Annual General Meeting when the Chairman, Vice Chairman, representatives to village organisations and sub committees are elected.

The Clerk will investigate the availability of the Village Hall in late May.

**11 Elections 4 May 2023** Mrs. Willetts reminded the meeting that only four out of 13 councillors had taken part in a contested election and that was 24 years ago in 1999. She hoped that this election would be contested and asked members to seek out suitable candidates.

**12. East Suffolk Community Partnerships** No report.

**13. Financial Matters**

**13.1 Minutes** The minutes of a Meeting of the Finance Sub Committee held on the 13th December, 2022 containing the Committee's 2023/2024 precept and budget recommendations had been circulated to all Councillors prior to this meeting.

Mrs. Bignell proposed seconded by Mr. A. Dunnnett, to the unanimous approval of those present at that meeting, that these minutes be signed by the Chairman of the Committee as a true record

**13.2 Budget & Precept 2023/2024** Mrs. Bignell proposed seconded by Dr. Hodges that the Finance Committees budget and precept recommendations be approved with the exception that £1,000 recommended for the Bags of Food Project should be reduced to £500 and that £500 be awarded to Grundisburgh Primary School towards the cost of renovating play equipment. Approved 8 members voting for 2 against 1 member abstained.

**13.3 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIF)** Mrs. Willetts said that following the decision taken at the previous meeting to consult residents on how this money could best be spent a leaflet has been produced which members agreed to deliver to every dwelling in Grundisburgh and Culpho. Homes considered too dangerous to hand deliver will be posted. Suggestions to be submitted by Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February.

***Financial Matters cont...***

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

Dr.E.Hodges	£142.80	Defibrillator Batteries and pads
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 Mr.Youngman seconded by Mr. Dow, to unanimous approval, that these payments be ratified.

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

Royal British Legion	£20.00	donation
R.A.Youngman	£346.58	Annual Parish Meeting – Catering
Mrs.J.DeBorman	£50.00	Christmas Tree – Electricity
Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd	£20.47	Allotment Water Charges
Society of Local Council Clerks	£101.00	Membership Fee
Suffolk County Council	£300.00	Quiet Lanes contribution
Mr.R.Fletcher	£340.00	Village Green Grass Mowing, Hedge & Tree Cutting
M.P.Stephenson & Sons	£170.00	Christmas Tree
Mr.G.Caryer	£22.02	Christmas Walk refreshments

**13.6 Other payments requiring approval**

Mr.J.Ager	£513.05	Clerk's Salary December 2022/January 2023
	£50.82	Clerk's Expenses December 2022/January 2023
Information Commissioner	£40.00	Renewal fee
Vertas Group Ltd	£242.59	Playing Field Grass Mowing

It was proposed by Mr. Harris seconded by Dr.Hodges, to unanimous approval. that these payments be approved..

**13.7 Account Balances as at 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2023**

Business Tracker Account	£62.65
Current Account	£96,286.07
Post Office Investment account	£21,376.64
VAT to claim	<u>£803.53</u>
TOTAL	£118,528.89

**13.8 Budget Report Appendix "B"**

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

**15. Footpaths & Conservation Report** Mr.Caryer's report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. No meetings of the Footpaths and Conservation Subcommittee had been held since the previous meeting.

*Benches* The broken bench on Lyttleton Meadow will be replaced with a recycled plastic bench as a memorial to the late Mr. Robin Styles - donated by his family. A donation for a second memorial bench on Lyttleton Meadow is currently under consideration.

*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.

*Footpath Issues* Style on Footpath 31. After waiting over for 3 months Suffolk County Council have finally inspected the broken style and contacted the landowner regarding this issue.

*Millennium Meadow* – Greenways have been requested to quote for the following jobs:

- Rebuild South bridge (broken sleeper) and widen bridge
- Refurbish North Bridge adding handrail and widen
- Dredge pond with digger
- Rebuild pond platform

All work to be carried out using locally sourced oak/chestnut

## **16. To receive reports from Council representatives to village organisations**

Grundisburgh Playing Field Management Committee . Mr.Caryer's report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. A meeting of the committee was held on 5th December 2022.

### *Footpath 20*

The Chairman reported that he had not received any further formal communication regarding the Footpath 20 upgrade on the Playing Field, however a Zoom meeting had taken place with Ben Woolnough who is a member of the planning department with the council re the establishment of footpaths. It is currently proposed that a tarmac surface is used to upgrade Footpath 20. The committee agreed that a Type 1 material would be more appropriate with the rural setting and would not be so easily open to misuse by skateboarders etc..

### *Football club request for funding of Nets*

A resident has requested that nets be erected to prevent footballs entering private property during matches. the chairman had ascertained from the football club that this only a small 1-3 balls per game and that it is unlikely that there will be individuals in the garden during most of the months of the season. The chairman has made contact with the owners of the property to discuss further the need for netting, he is awaiting a reply

### *Update of New Scout Headquarters*

The committee continue to support the Scouts with a site for the new headquarters. It was suggested that the Open Space on the left of the entrance off Park Road could be considered as a site for the headquarters and car park together with the possibility of exclusive pedestrian access for the Scouts onto the playing field. This has been outlined to the Scouts. The committee have urged the Scouts to discuss this option with Hopkins Homes.

### *Play Area Management/Safety Report*

A Safety Inspection of the Play Area had to be carried out prior to the opening in April. A further inspection on behalf of Fields In Trust has been commissioned recently which has culminated in a lengthy report (43 Pages)The report outlines several minor defects some of which would be covered in warranty with the installer Komplan. It was agreed to make a visual inspection early in 2023 well before the warranty expired. The planted areas had survived the dry conditions earlier in the year very well with the loss on only 2-3 plants

### *Maintenance*

All the gutters around the pavilion have been cleared and the mechanism on one of the litter bins has been unlocked allowing it to be emptied more easily.

***To receive reports from Council representatives to village organisations cont...***

***Other issues...***

It was agreed that the committee should investigate requesting CIL funding for one or more of the following:

- installing solar panels on the pavilion roof
- an outdoor Table Tennis Table
- alterations in the pavilion so that a Disability Toilet could be made available

Concern was expressed that dog waste is being placed in dustbins, a suitably located dog waste bin would reduce this.

Date of Next Meeting - February 13th 2023, AGM scheduled for 24th April 2023

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

- Old School Mr. J. Dunnett reported that the Old School's historic wall facing Stoney road was in a very poor condition. The Clerk will inform Newtide Homes the Housing Association who manage the site.
- Orchard End Inconsiderate vehicle parking near the junction with Meeting Lane is causing problems for other road users,

**18. Items for next meeting**

King Charles Coronation 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023 Mrs. Willetts reported that the Village Hall Events Group are planning a day of celebrations on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May similar to that to mark the late Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. The Parish Council had allocated £1,000 in the 2023/2034 budget.

**19. Any other business**

Council Meetings

2023 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 & Culpho Parish Council

For January 2023

Carlford and Fynn Valley Ward.

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

From District Councillor Cllr Colin Hedgley

Firstly, I hope everyone had a good Christmas and I wish everyone a Happy, Prosperous and Peaceful New Year.

Carlford and Fynn Valley Ward Decided Planning Applications

Intensification and expansion of the site's existing HGV operating centre to occupy the full extent of Hill Farm. - Hill Farm Drabs Lane Clopton Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6SP' | Status: Application Refused |

*Some news that came out in late December that you may have missed.*

#### **Kate Blakemore appointed to new Strategic Director role**

Kate has been in an equivalent role at Great Yarmouth Borough Council for more than five years. Her appointment follows a thorough recruitment process and will make an outstanding addition to the strategic Management Team.

A recent Local Government Association Review indicated that ESC were making tremendous progress as an authority but lacked sufficient capacity and resilience at a senior level. We are very pleased to have addressed one of the key recommendations by bringing in someone with a track record of success, delivering genuine outcomes for local people.

#### **£2.75m funding agreed for levelling up in East Suffolk**

Following a submission to the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund, East Suffolk Council has been allocated £2.75m, which will be used to support high streets, local businesses, workforce and community skills development, as well as support for those struggling with the cost of living.

In April 2022, the Government launched the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) to support its Levelling Up agenda. The primary goal of the UKSPF is to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK, focusing on communities and place, supporting local business, people and skills.

East Suffolk Council has been allocated £2.75m to invest across two-and-a-half years (2022/23-2024/25) in initiatives that will address inequality and contribute to levelling up.

Additionally, East Suffolk Council has also been allocated a further £1.129m from the Government under the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF), which is part of the UKSPF and aims to support small business and community infrastructure in rural areas.

Final approval for this element of funding is expected in the new year, following submission of an investment plan addendum, with funded programmes to commence in April 2023.

#### **East Suffolk Awards 2023 to celebrate community success stories**

Find out more by visiting the [awards website](#).

### **Network of Warm Rooms launched to support residents**

The network of 30 Warm Rooms has been part-funded by the Government (through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund), with more than £70,000 set aside from East Suffolk Council's wider Ease the Squeeze programme of advice and support around the rising cost of living.

A number of additional rooms are also being funded from Community Partnership budgets, with grants provided to cover heating, lighting and basic refreshments for a minimum of three warm rooms in each CP area.

Several venues are planning free, independently funded activities, ranging from books and games to film showings, allowing people to not only stay warm but also connect with others in the community, reducing isolation and loneliness.

Help and advice will be available on subjects such as reducing energy costs and managing finances, while East Suffolk Council will also be working with the Rural Coffee Caravan to identify and support Warm Spaces in more rural communities.

### **Grant funding scheme to help people grow their own produce**

A new grant funding scheme has been launched to help people to get involved with growing their own food.

To tackle rising food and energy prices, East Suffolk Council has launched the 'Field to Fork' grant scheme. The scheme will provide grants of up to £2,000 to community farms, allotments and gardens to expand their capacity and engage local people with 'grow and eat' projects that will feed communities and help people stay active and connected.

Field to Fork is one of a number of programmes supported by a £2.75m allocation from the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund and is part of a three-year programme to develop an East Suffolk Community Food Network which will bring together food producers, suppliers and community food projects to address the cost-of-living crisis as well as reduce food waste.

### **Walking Strategy will ensure access to quality infrastructure**

The strategy sets out to create safe, coherent, direct, comfortable and attractive cycling, walking and wheeling environments that lead to improvements in health and wellbeing, facilitate greater social interaction and play, encourage more environmentally sustainable lifestyles, reduce road congestion and support economic growth. In order to create these environments, the strategy identifies cycling and walking infrastructure recommendations across East Suffolk, including in the Broads Authority Area.

Two rounds of consultation informed preparation of the strategy. An initial consultation in October/December 2020 was followed by public consultation on the draft strategy between November 2021 and January 2022.

The strategy can be viewed [here](#) in a webpage-based, interactive form. Alternatively, a PDF version can be viewed [here](#).

### **Further funding on offer to help ease cost of living pressure**

Funding is available to enable community, voluntary and social enterprise organisations, or town and parish councils, to support individuals and families who are struggling due to the current cost of living crisis.

The scheme is designed to help keep people warm, well-fed, safe and connected, with a particular focus on reducing incidents of respiratory conditions this winter.

The fund will provide grants of between £500 and £5,000 for projects which support local residents struggling due to the rising cost of living.

Full guidance for applicants can be found [online](#), along with a dedicated [application page](#).

In addition to the East Suffolk Cost of Living Community Grant Fund, the Council's overall [Ease the Squeeze programme](#) is worth more than half a million pounds. More than £70,000 of the programme will be invested in a network of 'Warm Rooms' across the district in a range of locations, including community and church halls, leisure centres and pubs.

Part-funded by the UK Government (through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund) and East Suffolk Council, with a number also funded from Community Partnership budgets, the sites will provide a warm space and tea and coffee, with free activities, ranging from books and games to film showings, also being planned and funded independently by venues.

**East Suffolk Community Partnerships  
Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew, Martlesham, Carlford and Fynn Valley**

Road Safety continues to be a priority...and National Road Safety Week was a chance to collaborate and take practical action on a larger scale than in 2021, utilising £1,500 of CP funding.

It not only acted as a means to spread the message of safer driving in the local area, but also strengthened school connections, created new ones, and broadened the discussion for the CP going forward.

- Five primary schools engaged, using their junior road safety officers to educate peers in assemblies and other lessons. Three of the schools relaunched their hi-vis jacket provision (a CP project from January 2022), while Broke Hall and Grundisburgh Primary joined the scheme. With two new schools on board, this will mean another 850 jackets provided, taking the total to almost 3,000 – a 40% increase.
- Bikeability support was launched to primary schools in the area to fill a learning gap caused by the pandemic. Within four days of launching, requests for another 140 spaces were received.
- Officers from Suffolk Constabulary attended Community Speed Watch sessions and visited schools, while our own Communities officers also visited Suffolk Rural (formerly Otley College) to speak with students about using roads safely, with their corresponding views to be presented to the Community Partnership meeting in January and to help inform future decision making.
- Roadside banners were installed at nine sites across the CP area, targeting busier roads, including those in the rural area and one on site at Suffolk Rural, with the message ‘Safe Roads for All’. More than 170,000 vehicles are estimated to have passed at least one of the banners during the week, not yet including data relating to Rushmere St Andrew.

**New and improved beach access ramp unveiled at Felixstowe seafront**

Local residents and visitors to Felixstowe can enjoy improved access to the seafront following completion of a new ramp. Work began in autumn to install a replacement ramp at the South Seafront, linking the pavement along Sea Road and Orford Road to the beachfront, over the sea defence wall. Located within Flood Zone 2, to the northern extent of Martello Park, the ramp will also provide a safe escape route in the event of the sea wall gates being closed in bad weather.

**Suffolk councils’ successful bid for housing fund pot**

Suffolk’s local authorities have been awarded funding by the Local Government Association to commission a vital, county-wide housing strategy review. The £20,000 pot will kickstart a programme which aims to increase the number of genuinely affordable properties available to meet those in housing need.

The Housing Advisers Programme grant is designed to support councils seeking to innovate and will fund the provision of bespoke expert support to councils. Suffolk’s successful bid was led by East Suffolk Council, which will work with Suffolk County Council, Ipswich Borough Council, Babergh District Council, Mid Suffolk District Council and West Suffolk Council – identifying opportunities to bridge the gap between supply and demand.

**Government approval given for £2.75m funding**

Funding from the Government’s UK Shared Prosperity Fund has been officially approved. East Suffolk Council has been allocated £2.75m from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) which will be used to support high streets, local businesses, workforce and community skills development, as well as support for those struggling with the cost of living crisis.

In April 2022, the Government launched the UKSPF to support its Levelling Up agenda. The primary goal of the UKSPF is to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK, focusing on communities and place, supporting local business, people and skills.

Following approval of an Investment Plan detailing to Government how the funding would be spent, East Suffolk Council has been allocated £2.75m to invest across two and a half years (2022/23 - 2024/25) in initiatives that will address inequality and contribute to levelling up. Additionally, East Suffolk Council has also been allocated a further £1.129m from the Government under the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF), which is part of the UKSPF and aims to support small business and community infrastructure in rural areas. Final approval for this element of funding is expected in the new year, with funded programmes to commence in April 2023.

### **Using open fires and wood-burning stoves responsibly this winter**

East Suffolk residents are being reminded of the importance of using their open fires or wood-burning stoves responsibly this winter to help reduce air pollution and improve their health. Many homes in East Suffolk have open fires or wood-burning stoves however people may not be aware that these can contribute to air pollution and reduce indoor air quality, which can be damaging to health.

Long-term exposure to air pollution, over many years, reduces life expectancy, mainly due to cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, strokes and lung cancer. And even short-term exposure, over hours or days, can impact on lung function, worsening asthma, and increasing respiratory and cardiovascular hospital admissions.

To help reduce emissions, both indoors and into the environment, there are simple steps which homeowners can take:

- **Consider burning less –**
- **Only burn dry (seasoned) wood** - burning wet or unseasoned/green wood is inefficient.
- **Buy 'Ready to Burn' fuel** – look for wood marked as 'Ready to Burn' sold by a Woodsure Certified Supplier. [www.readytoburn.org](http://www.readytoburn.org).
- **Do not burn treated waste wood (e.g. old furniture or pallets) or household rubbish** – wood which has been treated with paint or preservatives can emit harmful fumes.
- **Consider using an approved smokeless fuel** – a list of approved smokeless fuels is available at [www.hetas.co.uk](http://www.hetas.co.uk)
- **If you are buying a new stove** - check it is Defra approved and have it installed by a qualified person.
- **Check how to operate your appliance efficiently** - always operate your stove in line with the manufacturer's guidance.
- **Regularly maintain and service your stove** – servicing your stove annually means it will work better and will generate more heat from what you burn.
- **Get your chimney swept regularly (up to twice each year)**
- **Make sure you are using the correct fuel for your stove and flue** – some stoves are specific to the type of fuel to be burnt.

## Budget 2022/2023

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

05/01/2023

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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>			
Administration			
Audit Fee	0.00	200.00	200.00
Clerk			
Expenses	344.49	500.00	155.51
Income Tax	897.60	0.00	-897.60
Office	0.00	577.00	577.00
Payroll Service	22.50	90.00	67.50
Salary	2,565.05	3,854.00	1,288.95
Soc.Clks	101.00	95.00	-6.00
Training	0.00	50.00	50.00
<b>TOTAL Clerk</b>	<b>3,930.64</b>	<b>5,166.00</b>	<b>1,235.36</b>
Clrs. Exp.Train	0.00	300.00	300.00
Conference calling	0.00	100.00	100.00
Data Protection	40.00	40.00	0.00
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	373.82	500.00	126.18
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>5,615.95</b>	<b>8,106.00</b>	<b>2,490.05</b>
Run Costs			
Bus Shelters			
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
Highways			
Quiet Lanes	300.00	0.00	-300.00
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>350.00</b>	<b>500.00</b>	<b>150.00</b>
Jubilee 2022	1,102.70	1,600.00	497.30
Local Fighting Fund	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
Pks Open Spa			
Allotments	2,171.45	1,455.00	-716.45
Benches	510.20	0.00	-510.20
Dog Fido Bins	131.64	0.00	-131.64

## Budget 2022/2023

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

05/01/2023

Page 2

Category Description	01/04/2022 Actual	- Budget	31/03/2023 Difference
Footpaths & Environment	72.02	150.00	77.98
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	808.64	1,000.00	191.36
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
Hedges	30.00	0.00	-30.00
Mowing	1,160.00	2,000.00	840.00
Posts & Rails	0.00	300.00	300.00
Stream	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Trees	30.00	0.00	-30.00
Xmas Tree	220.00	180.00	-40.00
TOTAL Village Greens	1,627.94	3,480.00	1,852.06
War Memorial	50.00	120.00	70.00
Wheeled Bin	437.87	800.00	362.13
TOTAL Pks Open Spa	7,559.76	9,435.00	1,875.24
Youth Club	600.00	600.00	0.00
TOTAL Run Costs	10,031.46	15,385.00	5,353.54
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>16,933.41</b>	<b>24,877.00</b>	<b>7,943.59</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>75,161.33</b>	<b>-3,377.00</b>	<b>78,538.33</b>