

MINUTES of the MEETING of BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 6th June 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in Bell House, Stone Street Road, Boxford.

PRESENT: J Fincham-Jacques (Chairman), S Impett, S Green, D Waspe, A Sargeant, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr) and 2 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: R Balls, C Hughes, J Moles, D Talbot Clarke and B Hurren.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS: Nothing was declared.

MINUTES OF 3rd MAY 2016: Accepted as correct.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Nothing was raised.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: A resident of Stone Street Road asked the Parish Council to consider pollarding the sycamore trees on the border of the Cemetery to increase light and reduce damp for neighbouring residents. Another resident attended to express concern about the planning at Riddelsdell Garage which will overshadow her property. She provided a letter from her advisers objecting to the application.

REVIEW OF ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC: It was agreed to seek advice from our regular Tree Surgeon about the sycamore trees and also monitor any ash in the cemetery.

POLICE REPORT: No report was provided.

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: County Councillor James Finch attended and reported as follows: -

➤ **Suffolk continues upward trend towards national education excellence**

Continuing to improve Suffolk's schools and ensuring excellence in their leadership and governance are two key parts of the Raising the Bar programme to ensure every child in Suffolk can reach their full potential. The increasing number of Teaching Schools and highly qualified school leaders demonstrates the action being taken by this administration to back this up.

We promised to tackle educational attainment in our manifesto and the upward trend continues; improvements in the quality of education in Suffolk have been reinforced by a further four schools achieving Teaching School status. This means that more than 260 school staff across the county are currently undertaking national qualifications in leadership.

The following schools have joined five others cross the county that have already been recognised as National Teaching Schools:

- ! Springfield Junior School (Ipswich Teaching Alliance)
- ! Bedfield CoEVC Primary School (Five Rivers Teaching School Alliance)
- ! Highfield Nursery and Castle Hill Infants (Ipswich)
- ! Debenham High School

The Teaching School Alliances are part of The School to School & Settings Support Partnership which will be the driving force across Suffolk leading a school led self-improvement system. Other partners include:

- ! Bury Schools Partnership
- ! SWISS Partnership (South West Ipswich Secondary Schools)
- ! Gipping Valley Partnership of Schools
- ! Diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich and the Local Authority

➤ **Over 90% of Suffolk children get 1st choice of primary school**

At a time when many areas across the UK are facing real difficulties in sourcing sufficient primary school places, it is a real achievement that here in Suffolk we are able to give the majority of parents places for their children. In the majority of cases, we are able to allocate school places at the parents preferred schools.

In fact, almost 91% per cent of Suffolk children got their first choice of primary school this year and 97.5% got one of their three preferences. The percentage of children allocated their first preference has increased by 0.5% between 2015 and 2016. In total, 7920 applications for reception places were received by the county council, compared with 7928 who applied in 2015.

The county council has an excellent track record of offering places at preferred schools, using the application rules to offer school places. Chances of applications being unsuccessful increase when applications are submitted after the closing date, but there are some helpful FAQs to assist parents at: www.suffolk.gov.uk/offerday

➤ **More Suffolk schools than ever now rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted**

Testament to this administration's commitment to delivering real improvement in education standards, 80% of Suffolk's schools have now been rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted in April 2016, an improvement of 6% compared to just 10 months ago, when 74% of schools were rated Good or Outstanding.

This represents really significant progress towards the county council's ambitious objective that all children in Suffolk can attend a Good or Outstanding school. Ensuring that every child can achieve their full potential is a key element of the Raising the Bar programme.

Schools in Suffolk are also improving twice as fast as those across the country as a whole. Over the same ten months, the percentage of Good or Outstanding schools nationally has only risen 3%, compared to Suffolk's 6%.

The 80% of schools figure related to all publicly funded schools in Suffolk with a current Ofsted judgement; as inspections are carried out on a continual basis, the number and percentage is therefore subject to constant change.

➤ **Connecting Communities – Hadleigh Launch – 27th May.**

This new local service was launched on Friday 27th May for a start date of 13th June. As a Council, we have a really important role in helping people of all ages move around the county; to get to work, to get to school or college, get to the shops, the doctors, the hospital, to visit friends or even just getting out for a change of scene.

Rural transport services are a key part of the infrastructure, providing the connections between local communities for the people who do not have access to a scheduled bus

service. On the 13th June our new Rural Transport service is going to start across Suffolk. The service will be accessible to all, easy to use, reliable and comprehensive. We have selected Hadleigh Community Transport Group to provide this new service for the Babergh area. Hadleigh Community Transport Group is the lead operator working in partnership with Go Start Sudbury.

Hadleigh Community Transport Group and Go Start are well established and respected in Babergh for the delivery of transport services. We have been really impressed with the service that they have developed, and the way they have sought resident views and built on their experience.

For these services to be a success they need to be used. So I would encourage you to find out about the service and then use it yourself. Tell your family, friends and colleagues about it – together we can keep Suffolk moving.

There is one telephone number for the Babergh service – 01473 826242. For more info look up www.Suffolkonboard.com. Questions can be emailed to connecting.communities@suffolk.gov.uk

Following his report J Finch agreed to investigate potential wording for the generic signs for the by-pass. He also agreed to take forward white lining to discourage parking on Broad Street blocking the bridge access. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact Dedham Vale Project - Simon Amstutz to ask about funding for signage for Primrose Wood - **Action Clerk.**

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: Cllr Bryn Hurren was unable to attend however had raised three points. These included the grant for the cricket wicket and two planning items.

CORRESPONDENCE: The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting and members had noted the on-going progress of each item. It was agreed to ask Martin Crighton for a price on a one off cut of both grass areas on the entrance to the Causeway and thereafter to seek any volunteers from the village to take this on - **Action Clerk.**

FINANCE: The Bank balances as at 27th May 2016 were £28184.17 in the Community Account, £13330.10 in the Deposit Account and £38965.42 in the Reserve Account making a total of £80479.69. The question of the 106 monies being paid towards the Cricket Wicket project was discussed. S Impett proposed this goes ahead. This was seconded by S Green and unanimously carried. It was agreed to challenge the Invoice in respect of the work carried out to prevent access by birds to the roof area in the Bus Shelter as it was not fit for purpose - **Action Clerk.** S Impett proposed the Parish Council works with the Community Council in respect of the Fireworks again this year. This was seconded by D Waspe and unanimously carried.

The following payments were approved: -

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Details
Funds Tr	D K Hattrell	819.08	Clerk's Salary
Funds Tr	Inland Revenue Only	45.50	Clerk's ddtns & ERS NIC
Funds Tr	SCC – Pension ACC	261.10	Clerk's Pension
Funds Tr	SALC	489.31	Subscription
Funds Tr	M A Crighton	185.00	Cemetery grass
Funds Tr	Mortimer Contracts	108.00	Sweeping/litter
Funds Tr	Topline Pest Control	25.00	Cemetery moles
Funds Tr	Chilton Office Supplies	3.59	Stationery
Funds Tr	Boxford Community Cou	500.00	Street Party Contribution

SALC REPRESENTATION: It was agreed to defer this item - **Action Clerk.**

CEMETERY: Members commented that the Cemetery wasn't looking quite up to the usual high standard following the last cut. A factor that could have contributed was the weather

conditions leading to exceptional growth between cuts last month. It was agreed to follow up with our Contractor - **Action Clerk**.

ARMED FORCES DAY 25th JUNE: S Green agreed to publicise this opportunity for the village.

BABERGH ALLIANCE SUGGESTION: It was agreed to add this to the Agenda for next time to allow R Balls to give feedback following attendance at the recent meeting - **Action Clerk**.

MEMORIAL SUGGESTION: It was agreed to consider the proposed new Bus Shelter and a plaque near the War Memorial as options. It was agreed to seek advice from Revd Judith - **Action Clerk**.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: It was noted that the Bus Shelters in Cockfield look good and do not seem too costly to make. It was agreed to make contact with Cockfield Parish Council to make enquiries - **Action Clerk**. It was agreed to report the sightings of a youth on a dirt bike along the RUPP to Police to investigate - **Action Clerk**. It was agreed to chase BT to clean the Telephone Box - **Action Clerk**. There are now chicks in the Bus Shelter. It was agreed to speak to Vic Rice about potential signage for Primrose Wood and possible funding from Dedham Vale Project - **Action Clerk**.

The meeting closed at **10.15 p.m.**

Planning Meeting Held by Boxford Parish Council at Bell House, Boxford on Monday 6th June 2016

The following decisions were advised by the Planning Authority: -

Permission had been granted for a double cart lodge at 1 Boxford Lane - **B/16/00265**

The following applications were discussed: -

A) **B/16/00479** - Proposed two storey workshop at Riddelsdell Garage. The Parish Council objected to this application for the following reasons: -

- 1) As a two storey building it is imposing on the rear of the site and on neighbouring properties.
 - 2) There are regularly around 5 cars from this business parked on The Causeway and others parked outside the garage on the pathway
 - 3) The Parish Council has concerns that the upper floor area could be used for residential purposes.
 - 4) The Parish Council would urge the Planning Authority to undertake a site inspection to fully appreciate the impact of this proposal on its surroundings.
- Had the proposal been for a single storey building, this Council may have looked upon it more favourably.

B) **B/16/00703** - To fell hawthorn tree at 8 Fen Street - **No Objections**.

C) **B/16/00623** - Single storey rear extension at 48 Daking Avenue - **No Objections**.