

MINUTES of the MEETING of BOXFORD PARISH COUNCIL held on Monday 6th February 2017 at 7.30 p.m. in Bell House, Stone Street Road, Boxford.

PRESENT: J Fincham-Jacques (Chairman), R Balls, C Hughes, A Sargeant, V Strafford, M Wooderson, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr), B Hurren (District Cllr) and 1 member of the public.

APOLOGIES: S Impett, D Talbot Clarke and D Waspe.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS: Nothing was declared.

MINUTES OF 9TH JANUARY 2017: Accepted as correct.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: Nothing was raised.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: A representative from the Church attended and asked whether the ivy on the Church Building could be weed killed at the roots. Concern had been expressed that removal of the ivy could affect the fabric of the building. He went onto mention that the boundary wall to the Churchyard is in disrepair and also the section bordering the school may need to be built higher due to the school fencing project. It was noted when BT repaired the telephone wire leading to Bell House, they do not appear to have used correct protective cabling.

REVIEW OF ITEMS RAISED BY THE PUBLIC: A Sargeant agreed to follow up the ivy on the church building - **Action A Sargeant**. It was agreed for the Clerk to ask building control to inspect the boundary wall of the Churchyard to establish any safety concerns before moving forward with consideration of remedial work - **Action Clerk**. V Strafford agreed to establish from the school the progress of the fencing project - **Action V Strafford**. It was agreed for the Clerk to report the potentially incorrect cabling to BT - **Action Clerk**.

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

➤ **86% of Suffolk schools are now being judged 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted**

Validated figures published on the Department for Education's website confirm that Suffolk's GCSE progress has for the first time risen above the national average. Suffolk is now ranked in the top half of all authorities for progress at GCSE level, at 55th out of 151. This is a real improvement since 2014 when Suffolk was ranked 119th for English progress and 108th for maths.

Across Suffolk, 60.1% of students achieved the national measure of attaining a grade C or above in English and maths. This is 3% higher than last year and marks a 6% increase since 2014. This is a real sign that Suffolk is making good progress.

We are now into the fifth year of the Raising the Bar programme which aims to improve levels of educational attainment and ensure that every child in Suffolk is able to achieve their full potential. Since the programme began in 2012, there has been a more than 20% rise in Suffolk Schools being judged 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. This rate is currently improving more than twice as fast as those across the country. We will not become complacent and will continue to build on the momentum of the positive results we have seen since the programme started and will continue to ensure that every child and young person in Suffolk reaches their full potential **in Suffolk**.

➤ **Post-16 Home to School Travel Policy Consultation**

Suffolk County Council annually consult on their Post-16 Home to School Travel Policy for a six-week period which this year commenced on 4 January 2017. All sixth form schools and colleges, special and secondary schools have received notification of the consultation which they will distribute to parents and carers. All students in Year 11 will also have received a letter directly from Passenger Transport to advise that the consultation process is underway along with details of how they can give their feedback. **The consultation will run until Friday 10 February 2017.** All responses received by midnight at the end of that day will be considered.

The consultation document can be viewed at the web address below. Feedback on the proposal, the clarity of the policy or any other issues will be valued. Should stakeholders wish to respond to this consultation they can do so in the following ways:

- ! Online at www.suffolk.gov.uk/consultations
- ! By printing and completing the paper questionnaire which can be found at the web address above
- ! In writing to Post-16 Travel Consultation, Suffolk County Council, Endeavour House, Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX
- ! Via email at Post-16TravelConsultation@suffolk.gov.uk

All feedback received will be reviewed. The final policy will then be approved and published online by 31 May.

➤ **New vision for mental health in Suffolk**

Suffolk's Director of Public Health had released his annual report on setting an ambition to improve mental health services in Suffolk over the next 10 years.

Suffolk Minds Matter: Suffolk Annual Public Health Report 2016 was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board at the meeting on 26th January 2017, proposing recommendations for long-term improvement to mental health in Suffolk. An estimated 1 in 100 people are affected by severe mental ill health in Suffolk and around half of lifelong mental ill health conditions develop before the age of 14. In the same month that the Prime Minister outlined government commitments to better mental healthcare for young people and the wider population, this new report sets a Suffolk-wide aspiration for improved mental health at all ages.

The independent report, which has been produced in collaboration with a range of partners, lists seven cross-cutting recommendations to promote good mental health and reduce demand in Suffolk over the next five to 10 years:

1. To work to promote mental health and to reduce stigma and discrimination;
2. Promote emotional wellbeing and resilience in communities throughout Suffolk by working to address the social determinants of mental health;
3. Ensure those with physical health needs have good mental health, and that those with mental ill health have equal support to improve their physical health;
4. Promote the mental health of women and ensure children have the best start in life;
5. Ensure the effective recognition and treatment of depression in older people, especially those at increased risk;
6. Work to promote active healthy ageing programmes to delay the onset of dementia at any age;
7. Reduce suicide in Suffolk by 10% over the next five years using the 2012-14 data as our baseline.

The report is divided into sections that correspond with different stages in people's lives, from pre-birth children to older people's mental health. It recognises that good mental health is a fundamental human right for everyone and that good mental health is essential for good physical health, and vice versa.

➤ **"ChatHealth" School Nursing Service**

In December Suffolk's School Nursing Team celebrated one year of the 'Chat Health' service. It was introduced with the aim of allowing more people to access the School Nursing service as well as improving the efficiency of the service, to aid early intervention.

Young people in Suffolk can send messages to a dedicated number which delivers to a secure website. Texts are responded to within one working day. The service is available Monday to Friday 9am – 4.30pm excluding bank holidays. Outside of these hours anyone who texts the service receives an automated message with advice on where to get help if their question is urgent.

School nurses can support children and young people with enquiries relating to a wide range of health and wellbeing issues including self-harm, bullying, drug and alcohol use, smoking, healthy eating, sexual health and mental health.

The text messaging service was first launched to secondary school aged pupils in November 2015 and extended to parents and carers of all pupils, including primary school aged pupils in April 2016.

The service has been positively received by staff, young people and clients, with over 3,000 messages sent and received within its first year. The service has also received a lot of positive feedback in this first year, with 74% of conversations rated as 5 out of 5 by users .

The Text number for a school nurse is 07507 333356. For more details – insert "ChatHealth School Nursing Service" in your internet search engine.

➤ **Flu Vaccination**

Health chiefs are urging people across the county to not miss out on flu vaccination. As winter bites there is still time to get a flu vaccination which is widely recognised as an effective way to reduce harm from flu. It reduces the risk of serious illness, hospitalisation and even death. People eligible for free vaccinations are: Carers; Pregnant women; People aged six months to 65 with an underlying health condition such as a heart problem, breathing difficulties, kidney disease, lower immune system due to disease or treatment, liver disease, stroke, diabetes, a neurological condition, for example multiple sclerosis, an issue that affects the spleen or for those who are seriously overweight; People over 65 years of age.

Children of aged two, three and four and in school years one, two and three have for the second year running been offered the vaccination as a nasal spray delivered in schools. Those not eligible for a free vaccination can arrange for a paid-for vaccination through participating community pharmacies.

On local matters J Finch had followed up the broken barrier near 1 Homefield, he was investigating why the A1071 signs were not as he exemplified at a meeting and he will investigate the safety at the A1071 bend where the side road leads to Kersey Tye. J Finch provided his apologies for next meeting due to his forthcoming operation.

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: Cllr Bryn Hurren attended and reported on an increase of around 3.2% at the District Council. He believed the new District Council Chief Executive had made a good start. The move to Endeavour House is unlikely to take place until the

autumn. The new mobile phone mast should be in place by March, however, contractors have been seen working in the vicinity already. Members questioned B Hurren about Station Field and in particular the property up for rent at commercial rates. B Hurren agreed to investigate. B Hurren confirmed that the Goodlands Affordable homes are for general needs, so prospective tenants are from a wide area. It was noted that the meeting with Philip Isbell, the Head of Planning had not been arranged as potential dates were still awaited. It was agreed to chase again copying the Chief Executive in the email - **Action Clerk**.

CORRESPONDENCE: The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting and members had noted the on-going progress of each item. The Chairman confirmed he had received a letter from Koning's who were now operating the Boxford Suffolk Farm plant and they were working on significant expansion over the next 10 years. The Massachusetts framed photographs were on the wall of Bell House. It was remembered that these were re-located from the Village Hall on public request. It was agreed for the Clerk to advise the resident who enquired - **Action Clerk**. In relation to the flood history information request, R Balls handed the paperwork to the Clerk with all the information. The Clerk agreed to pass this on - **Action Clerk**.

FINANCE: The Bank balances as at 6th February 2017 were £23271.16 in the Community Account, £13335.08 in the Deposit Account and £41707.24 in the Reserve Account making a total of £78313.48. A working party meeting was conducted to review the quotations for the litter and cemetery contracts commencing on 1st April 2017. Following consideration it was agreed to continue with the existing arrangements with M A Crighton continuing to maintain the Cemetery and the Mortimers to continue to sweep and litter pick - the Clerk was to advise the successful and unsuccessful contractors accordingly - **Action Clerk**.

The following payments were approved: -

Cheque No.	Payee	Amount	Details
Funds Tr	Boxford PCC	1750.00	Contribution towards insurance costs of the Church
Funds Tr	D K Hattrell	833.89	Clerk's Salary
Funds Tr	Inland Revenue Only	47.68	Clerk's ddtns & ERS NIC
Funds Tr	SCC – Pension ACC	263.70	Clerk's Pension
Funds Tr	Mortimer Contracts	288.00	Sweeping

CEMETERY: It was agreed to order 50 new grave markers at the discounted rate of £11.50 each. Members looked at a scanned photo of any example and approved the design. The number markers will be from 451 to 500. The Fletcher Memorial for additional inscription was duly approved - **Action Clerk to respond to the applicant**.

BUS SHELTER: It was agreed to carry out the work to the Bus Shelter as a Parish Council initiative under the supervision of B Hurren on Saturday 1st April. B Hurren agreed to obtain the materials and invoice the Parish Council - **Action B Hurren**.

VILLAGE CAR PARK: V Strafford reported on his meeting at the White Hart and felt the use of their car park is unlikely to prove a possibility at this stage. R Balls has started to search for the documentation of previous car park research and will continue. This will remain an Agenda item - **Action Clerk**.

RESERVING POLICIES: It was agreed to implement the example reserving policy with only minor amendment if needed - **Action Clerk**.

WWI - TRIBUTE BEACONS: It was agreed to pass details to the Community Council for consideration - **Action Clerk.**

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: V Strafford updated members with the progress at 3PR. Following recruitment they now have 6 Responders. The Chairman reported on a recent issue with the Car Sharing Scheme. S Green co-ordinates the scheme and due to her phone line going down this interrupted the scheme temporarily. It was agreed back up should be sought by either a diversion process or a mobile phone - **Action Chairman to follow this up.**

The meeting closed at **10.02 p.m.**

Planning Meeting Held by Boxford Parish Council at Bell House, Boxford on Monday 6th February 2017

The following decision was advised by the Planning Authority: -

- 1) Permission was granted for single storey front extension and single storey side/rear extension and alterations to existing dormer at 1 The Causeway - **B/16/01679/FHA**
- 2) Tree work can proceed to reduce oak by up to a third at 5 Fitzgerald Meadow - **B/16/01711/TCA**
- 3) Tree work can proceed to reduce willow to stump level at The Spinney, Fen Street - **B/16/01712/TCA**

The following applications were discussed: -

A) **B/16/01613** - Application for agricultural storage building on land to the east of, White Street Green, Polstead. **No Objections**

B) **B/16/00072** - Proposed conversion and extension of detached garage to single storey detached two bedroom annex at 8-10 Brick Kiln Cottages, Brick Kiln Hill. **No Objections.**

C) **B/16/00111** - Tree application to reduce 2 protected ash trees at Boxbank, Rules Yard. **No Objections.**