

Minutes of Barningham Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 at 7:00 pm  
Via Zoom.

Present: Cllrs: C Hammond, W Martineau, S Lusher, A Woodward, T Steer, R Baxter, S, Kenyon, C Cllr Spicer & B. Cllr Bull.

1. **Apologies for absence.** None received.

2. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

3.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.

3.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.

3.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act.

3. **Minutes** - Minutes of Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 zoom meeting were agreed and approved as a correct record.

4. **Meeting open to the public 9 members present**

David Roach, Portfolio Holder for Local Plan Development and Delivery at West Suffolk Council, joined the meeting to discuss matters relating to our Neighbourhood Plan.

Ian Poole, the consultant working with the Neighbourhood working party also attended. Some of the members of the public expressed their concerns over the recently delivered consultation regarding sites for possible development in the village, produced by the Neighbourhood Plan working party. They felt that the consultation was flawed and fundamentally biased. There was some confusion over the process of the neighbourhood plan and the point we had actually reached in this process. The Chairman ran through a timeline that clarified that this stage of the plan was looking at proposed sites and that a lot of work had been done previously to get to this point. This consultation was about where future development might go rather than if we would have future development, these discussions had been had previously. All the previous stages had been open and transparent. It was acknowledged that the West Suffolk consultation on sites often caused confusion but all their document does is identify areas for growth. The Neighbourhood Plan gives the residents of Barningham an opportunity to have a say in this process rather than allowing West Suffolk Council to allocate sites. Of the 170 responses received at the time of the meeting 161 clearly understood this brief and had made some very considered comments to this end. 7 responses did not identify a site and stated they did not want any development in the village, 2 responses felt the survey was flawed. It was agreed that until all the responses had been received and all the comments recorded and considered it was impossible to decide the overall status of the consultation. It was noted that the working party did not need to carry out this site allocating exercise but they had felt it was important that all the residents in the parish had an opportunity to express their site/s preference/s. It was also acknowledged that the working party are following a process and there will be further opportunities for residents to comment on the plan going forward. A comment was made about the members of the working party not representing all areas of the village. It was pointed out that we often seek volunteers, for various projects in the village, including the neighbourhood plan, but very few people come forward.

A resident raised concerns about young people riding bikes through the village, in poor light without lights on. The resident was almost involved in a collision. A piece will be included in the newsletter and on social media reminding parents/carers and children to be mindful when going out that they are not caught out in the dark.

## **5. Report from County Councillor: J Spicer**

A143 Stanton, Bury Road – Proposed speed limit changes.

Following support from Stanton Parish Council and County Councillor Joanna Spicer, Suffolk Highways have been requested to consider changes to the existing speed limit on the A143 at Stanton in order to address concerns over road safety.

The proposal includes reducing the existing 40mph speed limit on the A143 to a 30mph speed limit, from the existing 40mph terminal signs at the western end of the village heading east towards Diss for a distance of 1.22km.

In addition to this it is proposed to introduce a 40mph buffer speed limit on the A143 Bury Road, from the existing 40mph terminal signs near the property “Morningside” for a distance of 390m in a south westerly direction towards Bury St Edmunds.

Barningham parish council fully support these proposals and the Clerk will write to Cllr Spicer to express this view. **Action Clerk**

Cllr Spicer has been working with the Ixworth Neighbourhood Plan group and she wanted to point out that the plan is not just about development and that it is an opportunity to the village to look at things such as rights of way, green spaces, road safety and woodland planting etc. These aspirations can potentially be gained through Neighbourhood plans.

The new weight limit signs will need some traffic management and as such will not be installed before the end of March.

Vaccine for Covid 19 has not been easy to get hold of. Dr Hart, who was present at the meeting, said that any over 70's not vaccinated would be welcome to come to Ixworth surgery on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> for a vaccination, even if they were not registered with the practice. It was acknowledged that it was a huge logistical issue to plan and deliver the vaccine but on the whole Suffolk had been doing very well.

## **6. Report from WS Councillor: C Bull**

The site for the new West Suffolk hospital has been decided. West Suffolk Foundation Trust are keen for volunteers to get involved. Leaders from across the healthcare system in West Suffolk would like to hear from as many local people as possible to understand what is important to them and help start to shape what future healthcare provisions could look like. With the support of Healthwatch Suffolk, the approach being used is co-production, where patients, the public, staff and the community work together as equal partners.

There will be various meetings organised where members of the public can get involved. There will be opportunities to help design each of the services the building will deliver as well gather feedback on what you feel the future of healthcare looks like.

To register your interest in one of these virtual events or to subscribe to the healthcare development mailing please email [futuresystemprogramme@wsh.nhs.uk](mailto:futuresystemprogramme@wsh.nhs.uk)

Cllr Bull reminded us that the census will take place on March 21<sup>st</sup> 2021.

## **7. Progress reports. For information, from:**

### **7.1 Chairman**

There was some fly tipping opposite Aggies piece. This was reported and dealt with swiftly. Mr Butterworth, from Butterworths of Bury St Edmunds, tea and coffee merchants, made contact to ask for some information about our village sign. As a long established company they like to include a postcard in with their coffee with some local information. In the past they have focused on local churches and this time they are looking at village signs. They are planning to include a postcard with our village sign on, using the information provided by the Chairman in the text.

## 7.2 Clerk:

### 7.2.1 Recording of Parish Council meeting.

This idea was raised at the meeting last month. The Clerk has to still look at the legal/logistical aspects of this. As things currently stand we will no longer be able to meet via zoom after the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

### 7.2.2 Virtual training, Speeding

The Clerk is attending a virtual event hosted by Suffolk Constabulary and the Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore. This is an opportunity to learn more about working together to find ways to tackle speeding. If he is able Cllr Steer will also join the webinar.

### 7.2.3 Virtual training, Sleeping

The Clerk is attending an event hosted by SALC working with TeamDoctor, as part of the nationally accredited 'Looking after your mental health at work' course. Sleep is the number one reason people go to their GP and because of Covid, sleep patterns nationally have got worse due to a rise in anxiety levels.

### 7.2.4 Fly tipping.

West Suffolk have produced a new A5 flyer with advice and information on fly tipping. They also gave the following update. Unlike the first lockdown, our partners Suffolk County Council are keeping the Household Waste Recycling Centres open for booked slots only. Leaving recycling beside full bring recycling containers, like bottle and textile banks, is fly tipping. If a recycling bank is full, the resident should report this using the phone number on the bank and either find the nearest alternative site using this link [www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk](http://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk) or take it home and try later.

### 7.2.5 Entrance to cricket meadow, condition of surfacing.

The entrance to the meadow is very muddy. The clerk will arrange a site visit with a contractor and ask for advice on an alternative surfacing. It was suggested that some form of porous tarmac would be more suitable than a concrete surface.

**Action Clerk**

### 7.2.6 Bins on Cricket Meadow, to discuss relocation.

Following on from a previous discussion about the relocation of two bins from the Cricket meadow, one on to Aggies and one on to the green at Millfield the following information was considered. There are 4 bins on the Cricket Meadow and they all get well used. There is one that came as part of the installation of the play equipment and is firmly concreted into the ground. There is one fixed to the school fence and is the last thing people pass as they leave. It was agreed if we were to move any it would be the two open-topped plastic ones. We will need to get someone to concrete posts in wherever we put them and as such if we are paying for that then it was suggested that we should just go the whole hog and buy two new ones. Come the summer drinking season all four bins will be full, especially as the village caretaker is now only coming to the village once a week. The Clerk will investigate both these options and report back.

**Action Clerk**

### 7.2.7 Dog Fouling campaign.

West Suffolk is starting a campaign against dog fouling. A Community Action Plan has been produced which includes a number of posters that we can run off.

### 7.2.8 Grit bin, refilling schedule.

Following the severe weather in recent weeks, with Suffolk seeing heavy snow fall and extremely icy conditions, Suffolk County Council have written to provide us with an update on the grit bin refilling process. Suffolk Highways is currently undertaking a full restock of the County's grit bins to prevent us from logging each individual bin for a refill. This will be a one-off re-stock as this was an extreme weather event and they must ensure each bin is full.

7.2.9 White picket entrance gates. To discuss repair.

Work to the gate was postponed after 2 staff were contacted via track and trace and have had to self isolate. This work should be undertaken on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

## **8. Finance.**

|                     |                 |           |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Admin               |                 | £1,699.26 |
| SALC                | Training        | £30.00    |
| Emergency Phone     | Emergency phone | £120.00   |
| Chairman's expenses | Office          | £14.98    |

### **8.2 Bank reconciliation and accounts update.**

The Clerk provided the Councillors with a schedule of payments, a bank reconciliation and a budget report.

### **8.3 Internal accounts review.**

Cllr Steer agreed to carry out an internal audit review ahead of the accounts being submitted to the internal auditor.

**Action Cllr Steer/Clerk**

## **9 Flooding.** To discuss options to address flooding in the village.

Unfortunately the damage at Aggies is not covered by insurance. The Clerk is arranging to meet a contractor on site to discuss options for re-instatement of the area. Cllr Spicer would like to be included in this meeting.

**Action Clerk**

## **10. Neighbourhood Plan**

Update on Neighbourhood Plan sites survey.

We have had a very good response so far, with 170 completed responses received at the time of the meeting. There was an issue with the mailing company missing some postcodes, this has since been rectified. Due to this issue with the mailing we have extended the time for responses to be returned by until the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021. We want to get all the comments scanned and written and collated before submitting any response to West Suffolk and sharing with the residents of Barningham.

**Action Clerk**

## **11. Speed devices**

Update on new device.

The new device, including an additional mounting kit, is on order.

Funding of £1000 is forthcoming from both Cllr Bull and Cllr Spicer towards to overall cost of approx. £3000

## **12. Aggies Piece**

To discuss damaged caused by flooding at Aggies Piece.

See under item 9.

## **13. Caretakers report Circulated.**

The weather has limited my extra activity this month. I have managed to complete scraping the mulch from the layby and around the seat opposite the pub. I have also bought a new trolley and adapted it for litter use as well as preparing the new zipwire seat so it is ready for fitting when the decision is taken. The removal of Christmas wreaths from graves in both cemeteries is now complete.

## **14. Play area /Cricket Meadow**

See under item 7.2.5 & 6

## **15. Churchyard/Cemetery**

15.1 The Lych-gate repair/replacement has not been forgotten. Unfortunately the situation at Aggies Piece needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency. Once a price has been ascertained for Aggies a decision can be made about the future of the gate. **Action Clerk**

## **16. Planning**

16.1 New consultation: Planning - model design code - deadline: 12 March 2021

The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) have recently launched a consultation seeking views on proposals to create a new Office for Place which would involve each local planning authority drawing up its own design code in consultation with local people that developers would have to adhere to. This would involve some changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). There is currently an eight-week consultation on the proposals which will close in late March. The consultation itself follows directly from the Planning White Paper suite of consultations last summer.

Cllr Bull reported that West Suffolk Council are making a very strong response.

The Clerk will look at making a response, if time allows. **Action Clerk**

## **17. Councillors reports and items for future agenda**

17.1 Newsletter, contents and options for delivery.

The content will be looked at again. The Clerk will investigate the possibility of having the document delivered locally by the people who do deliveries for the local shop. **Action Clerk**

## **18. Correspondence for information**

None received.

**19. Date of next meeting** Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021

## **20. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items:**

20.1 Personnel Issues.

20.2 Legal Issues.