

Minutes of Troston Parish Council meeting held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30pm in Troston Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs G. Norris, R Anderson, B Burridge, C Robinson, J Moffat, C. Cllr R Hopfensperger & WS Cllr S Brown

1. Apologies for absence, Cllr P Johns.
2. Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:
  - 2.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None.
  - 2.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests. None.
  - 2.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act. None.
3. Minutes – Minutes of Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. Meeting open to the public 5 Members of the public present.  
Gail Cardy from Dementia Together service gave a talk on what is on offer for those curious, concerned or living with dementia and their careers. After receiving feedback from carers who 'only wanted to tell their story once' the Dementia Together service was commissioned in 2017. The service is designed to bring all services relating to dementia care to a single point of access. They support anyone with memory concerns, regardless of if a formal diagnosis has been made or not. Once patients are on the register they remain there until they pass away. Since 2017 they have helped 3115 people with support across Suffolk. It was agreed that it may be beneficial for the village to hold an event to offer information on memory issues. With this in mind Gail will ask a colleague to get in touch, with Cllr Burridge, to initially attend a coffee morning.

**Action Cllr Burridge**

Cllr Norris reported that the Ixworth Patient Association grant fund a 'dementia lunch' which is held in the Greyhound pub in Ixworth. They also provide funding for trips and song sheets. It is this kind of organisation that Dementia Together would be making links with.

Dan Pennock spoke to those present about a free and confidential service for adults has been launched across Suffolk for those who need specialist support to help them with nonmedical issues that negatively affects their overall health. It seems approximately one third of all GP appointments are made by patients who have nothing medically wrong with them. Instead, they want to talk to their doctor about issues such as low morale, feeling overwhelmed, loneliness and anxiety. From next week, patients of Ixworth Surgery needing help and support with non-medical issues can be referred to a "social prescribing" community worker Chris Armstrong. Patients registered with Stanton and Botesdale will be referred to Dan Pennock who is just beginning a similar role. You can talk to them in confidence and they will be able to give practical, helpful, non-judgemental advice on a whole host of issues. They will be able to help you make new friends, access new opportunities, learn new skills and lead healthier and fitter lifestyles. Patients with debt, drug, alcohol or gambling issues, or who want to quit smoking, can be referred to the Citizens Advice Bureau, Turning Point, Alcoholics Anonymous or OneLife Suffolk. You can be referred by your GP, community nurses, pharmacist or you can self-refer to them by phoning 07584 553125 for Chris or by email to Dan [dan.Pennock@westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk](mailto:dan.Pennock@westsuffolkccg.nhs.uk)

5. Report from County Councillor: R Hopfensperger.

The option to move the 30mph limit further out along the Livermere Road was discussed. It was believed that this matter was previously looked at by the Highways Safety Team. Cllr Hopfensperger will look in to this. It was acknowledged that SCC did not support the installation of road side mirrors, however if they did remove the existing mirror the Parish Council would either like it to be returned or to be reimbursed its cost. The ditch on the street is very overgrown again, Cllr Hopfensperger reported this before going on holiday, and she will chase this up. Following a conversation with a resident near the Jackdaw, Cllr Hopfensperger asked if there was a VAS post on the road near there. Following discussion it was agreed that that the VAS in question may belong to Honington Parish Council. Troston Parish Council will however investigate if there is a post in this area and if not if would one there would be beneficial.

**Action Cllr Hopfensperger/Clerk**

6. Report from B. Councillor: S. Brown

Cllr Brown gave the following report:

1. Rural Task Force

To engage with the wider public and create greater awareness of the Rural Task Force, four public meetings are planned. The aim of these meetings is to ensure the Rural areas get their voice heard and what we need here, is recorded and put into practice. Please do aim to attend one of the meetings. Should people not be able to attend, they can still comment at

<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/Council/Consultations/ruralopportunitiesandissuesurvey.cfm>

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September: Freckenham Village Hall Fordham Road, Freckenham, IP28 8JB: 2.30pm to 4.00pm

Weds 18<sup>th</sup> September: Stanton Village Hall, The Recreation Ground, Old Bury Road, Stanton, IP31 2BX: 5.30pm to 7pm

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September: Kedington Royal British Legion Hall, Kedington, Suffolk, CB9 7NR: 2.30pm to 4.00pm

Weds 25<sup>th</sup> September: Erksine Centre. Chevington Road, Chedburgh. Suffolk, IP29 4UL: 6pm to 7.30pm

2. Houses by the One Bull Public House

I have been notified by West Suffolk District Council that Simon Burgess has lodged an appeal to The Planning Inspectorate for the 4 properties that were not approved by West Suffolk Council. I did not and still do not agree with the reasons given for refusal and I do believe the case for the application was not given fair and equal representation at the meeting, both in time given and representatives permitted to speak. I do believe there is a strong enough and sufficiently based objective argument for approval. I will therefore be writing to The Planning Inspectorate giving my full support to the appeal and for approval of the development.

3. Locality Budget

As a Councillor, I have an annual budget available for use within the local community. Should anyone have something that they would like financial support for, whereby the village residents and local community benefit, please do contact me. To date I have supported the local Woodland, Wi-Fi in the Village Hall, plants and shrubs in Troston, mobile unit for Midwives and more. Any ideas welcome and I'll help out where I can.

4. Woodland Inspection

Comments have been raised about the no cycling signage and use of the Woodland area, by residents. Should these continue and there be a need for the Council to look into matters, it can do, but resource for this is limited and difficult for the Council to monitor use. It is suggested that the Parish Council and village continue to monitor activity and use, with an aim of working to ensure it fits the purpose of the Woodland.

## 7. Report from RAF Honington

Sqn Ldr Mark Fixter was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report shortly after for information:

Airfield Use - we continue to see more flying at the Station with helicopters undertaking routine training without a great deal of impact through to recent night-time activity involving large transport aircraft as well as helicopters landing. These flying events have provide essential training to the aircrew who must operate using Night Vision Goggles because there are no runway lights. We expect to see further such use of the airfield and will, of course, provide as much warning as we can for the larger scale events. FLIGHT SAFETY - on Wed 11 September a significant flight safety incident occurred to the south east of the airfield when a laser was shone at the aircraft from the ground by someone in a vicinity of Ixworth. Such laser light can cause a hazard to the safety of the aircraft and crew not only as a distraction but also potential to cause flash blindness. Given that the aircraft was flying at night and at low level then this raised the risk level. The incident has been reported to the Civil Police and we are keen to get the message out of the danger that lasering an aircraft presents. Think driving towards a car with full beam on driving towards you whilst you are wearing a mask that amplifies the light being received. We hope that the many from the Village who attended our Families Day enjoyed the event. Planning is already underway for 2020 where the event may take a change of direction in how it is delivered - more to follow.

Just a reminder that if anyone wishes to visit either the RAF Regiment Heritage Centre or a Graduation Parade then we would welcome such visits but obviously space may be limited on a case-by-case basis.

## 8. Progress reports. For information, from:

### 8.1. Chairman

8.1.1 Update from Primary Care. Please see report under item 4, meeting open to the public.

### 8.1.2 Local Health Care Directory information

Cllr Norris is producing an ancillary Health Care Directory. This will provide information about ancillary health and wellbeing services in our part of Suffolk, The initial draft of the "Care Navigator Guide" is being edited by Ixworth Surgery Patient Association with help from a grant from the Suffolk Community Foundation. Cllr Norris would appreciate any corrections, ideas for improvement, additions or deletions. The plan is to get feedback for improvements, make the changes - then run Care Navigator training events and learning exchanges to see how it helps.

### 8.2 Clerks Report

8.2.1 Highway matters. To include SCC self-help update.

The Clerk met with Mary Evans and Mark Stephens at SCC to discuss the Self Help Scheme. Although not the outcome we were hoping a way forward has been potentially agreed. Anyone working on the highway will still need the chapter 8 training, but there will now be an additional element to the training that will look at, and advice on scenarios, and risk assessments, that are relevant to Parish Councils. We need to accept that Chapter 8 training is required. The Clerk thinks that we will see a change to other documents, i.e. winter maintenance to reflect this. The situation around litter picking is still something under discussion but it would appear the onus is on the District Council to ensure anyone carrying out this operation has the correct training. This is a matter is being taken up directly with West Suffolk Council. Another option to tackle jobs we want undertaken is to use trained wardens from elsewhere. For instance Sudbury Town Council have trained operators, which can be hired to do remedial jobs, cutting back overhanging bushes, clean signs etc. Cllr Moffat would be willing to undertake the Chapter 8 Training. The Clerk will speak Cllr Johns to see if he would also like to attend. It was agreed that Richard Balaam should also undertake the training, at the expense of the Parish Council as it was acknowledged that he does a great deal for the village.

**Action Clerk**

### 8.2.2 Missing mirror, opposite Paddock Way.

See under Cllrs Hopfensperger's report, item 5

The Clerk will see how much a replacement mirror would cost.

**Action Clerk**

### 8.2.3 Defibrillator, to arrange weekly check.

The defibrillator needs a weekly check. This is because it forms part of the Community Heartbeat Trust's hosting agreement. Also it's an important to ensure we can find the device if it gets used, as there is no mechanism in place to have it returned after emergency use. Cllr Anderson volunteered to carry out a weekly check. The Clerk will make the necessary arrangements.

**Action Cllr Anderson/Clerk**

### 8.2.4 Letter of thanks, PCC.

Troston PCC have written to thank the Parish Council for their donation.

### 8.2.5 Fit villages, current arrangements.

The Clerk provided the Councillors with the following information:

Fit Villages is a well-established and popular project that makes a real difference to local communities by bringing people together to socialise, have fun and become more active. The project, which is run by Active Suffolk and is supported by the National Lottery Community Fund, helps villages in rural locations to set up physical activity sessions by using village facilities such as community centres, village halls, libraries and playing fields. They have already helped many villages across Suffolk to set up a wide range of different activities including Pilates, Yoga, Table Tennis, Nordic Walking, Zumba, Badminton, Keep Fit, Tai Chi, Walking Football and many, many more! Indeed they previously set up an activity in Troston. As part of the project, they consult with the local community to find what activities the residents would like to see and when they would like this to take place (which times and days are most suitable). This is done via a simple survey which can be returned to them by freepost or can be completed online. The survey needs to be distributed by the village and is either done as a leaflet drop by volunteers or placed in a village magazine/newsletter. They then analyse the results of the survey and match up the village requirements to the village hall availability. They then find a suitable instructor who they quality check (qualifications, first aid, insurance, risk assess venue and participants). They fund a 6 - 9 week period which covers the facility hire, instructor's fees, equipment, advertisement and refreshments. Each participant's weekly fee is also subsidised during this time. After the 6 – 9 week funded period, they hope that the instructor will take on the session as their own (providing it is financially viable for them to do so). The price per participant will rise slightly at this point as the instructor then has to run the class as their own and cover their own fees, hall hire etc. They are always on the lookout for new villages to get involved. Troston would like to engage again with the Fit Villages project, the Clerk will make the necessary arrangements. **Action Clerk.**

### 8.2.6 Section 106 money

We have received £3085, for maintenance of the play area, from the Section 106 agreement.

### 8.2.7 VAS data.

We have received a request for data from the VAS. It was suggested that this could be used to decide where the device is most effective and extend its time in these locations. The Clerk will discuss this with Cllr Johns.

**Action Cllr Johns/Clerk**

### 9.1 Finance

The following accounts were approved for payment and signed by two signatories.

Administration	Wages, tax, office	£518.02
Subscription	SALC	£318.82
printing	Kallkwik	£80.84
insurance	came and company	£587.10
trees Caple close	D Lapinte	£220.00
Bins	West Suffolk Waste	£402.48

### 9.2 Bank reconciliation and accounts update.

The Clerk provided the Councillors with a bank reconciliation, income and expenditure account details and a budget report.

### 9.3 Signatories

The Clerk presented the council with forms to sign to add Cllrs Burridge and Moffat as signatories and to have the correspondence address changed.

### 10. Planning matters To note:

10.1 Notification of appeal AP/19/0045/STAND | Outline Planning Application - 4no. dwellings with garaging and creation of new vehicular access | Land Sw Of The Bull The Street Troston Suffolk. Noted.

### 11. Footpath leaflet

To discuss meeting held with SCC and Gt Livermere Parish Council to produce joint leaflet. A meeting was held with SCC Rights of Way officers and members of Gt Livermere Parish Council. After discussion 3 routes were agreed. One walk in Troston, one in Gt Livermere and one that links the two villages. Gt Livermere are going to speak to the landowner about walking on their field margin from their end and we will be speaking to the landowner from the Troston end so the walk can be made safely. Cllr Anderson is preparing some text for the leaflets. The cost of the leaflets will be split between the two parishes.

### 12. Lottery.

There is currently no licence to run the lottery. As any activity will require a licence Cllr Burridge will reapply for this. **Cllr Burridge**

### 13. Highway/village matters

#### 13.1 Update on overhanging trees at Capel Close.

There has been some work to cut back the branches overhanging the footpath. It was agreed that this work was not sufficient and that the trees need much more work. To this end the Clerk will meet with some contractors to arrange a quote and for the work to be done. **Action Clerk**

#### 13.2 Concerns raised over smells from the pig farm and chalk being spread on fields.

A number of complaints have been received about smells from the pig farm. It was agreed that Cllr Anderson would compose a letter to Piggy Green for the Clerk to send, expressing the Parish Councils concerns. **Action Cllr Anderson/Clerk**

Cllr Norris has spoken to the farmer involved in the spreading of chalk on the fields which caused a large dust cloud in the village. He received an apology been told that he would try to ensure that it did not happen again.

#### 14. Village Hall

Cllr Burridge reported that the village hall had carried out a stocktake in August and that one of the new tablecloths has gone missing. Cllr Burridge provided Cllr Norris with a list of the regular activities currently in the hall. Cllr Norris will share this information and Cllr Burridge will put up a list at the hall. The village hall has obtained a quote for a new water softener, as discussed last month. The total cost, including vat is £990. Cllrs Brown and Hopfensperger both agreed to pay £450 each towards the cost. The Clerk will make the formal applications. The current Wi-Fi contract, with BT, has come to an end. The Clerk will do a price comparison for the village hall

**Action Cllrs Burridge/Norris/Clerk**

15 Play Area to include:

15.1 & 2 Play area report, to include Annual report and concerns raised.

A number of concerns have been raised in the Annual Play area report about equipment in the play area. Following discussion the councillors agreed that, in particular, the zip wire has not been re-installed to a recognised or acceptable standard. Concerns were also raised about the drop off at the side of the slide. A site visit will be arranged to discuss the outstanding issues. The basket swing was considered to be suitable for accessible play. The Clerk will contact Fenland Leisure about the installation of the BMX equipment as there are concerns about the amount of movement observed when in use. We are still waiting for a quote from Wicksteed for the train. Cllr Brown asked to have sight of the report. The clerk will forward him a copy.

**Action Clerk**

15.3 Play area bin, to discuss its emptying schedule.

Following a request the Clerk asked West Suffolk Council to confirm when the following list of bins are emptied:

The dog poo bins on Church Lane and Heath Road by the Wood. litter bins by the bus stop, in the young children's play area accessed by Pear Tree Close and the rubbish bin by the Bottle/Clothing bank on the Playing Field accessed by the parking lot off the Livermere Road. West Suffolk informed us that all Bins in Troston are emptied weekly on either a Tuesday or a Wednesday and that they do not empty the Litter Bin by the Bus Stop. Richard Balaam said he emptied the bin by the bus stop. The Councillors would like more precise information about which bins are emptied on which day.

**Action Clerk**

15.4 To discuss arrangements for preparations of football pitch.

Simon Burgess and Richard Baalham are working to improve and level the football pitch area as soon as the weather cools down and dampens. Simon Burgess will pay for the materials and has organised sifted/certified soil for the job

Regarding the final piece of work required, the footpath link from Ixworth Rd through the site: - Construction work is due to complete on the main part of the site within the next month which will allow the contractor to remove their Heras fencing. They will then complete the footpath link and open up for the public

#### 16. The Bull

The village group, set up to try to community purchase The Bull have been unsuccessful. They were unable to secure enough funds to make the project viable. The Parish Council thank them for their efforts.

#### 17. Heath Wood

Cllr Norris carried out an inspection at the wood. The no bike riding sign has gone. The Clerk will order a replacement and an eye will be kept on the situation. Cllr Moffat extended a thank you to those who help to maintain the area but said more volunteers are always needed. Cllr Norris will include a piece in the newsletter regarding this.

**Action Cllr Norris**

18. Councillors reports and items for future agendas.

It was noted that we are still one Councillor short on the Council. Cllr Norris will include an appeal in the newsletter and the Clerk will put something on the website. **Action Cllr Norris/Clerk**

19. Correspondence for information

None received.

20. Date for next meetings. Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019

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

21.1 Personnel Issues. 21.2 Legal Issues. None