

Minutes of Troston Parish Council meeting held on Monday 4th November 2019 at 7.30pm in Troston Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs G. Norris, R Anderson, P Johns, B Burridge, J Moffat, & WS Cllr S Brown

1. Apologies for absence Cllr C Robinson & C. Cllr R Hopfensperger
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 16th September 2019 meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

4. Meeting open to the public

Mr Jonathan Green, from Piggy Green came to talk about the problem with smells from the Lower Farm Piggyery. Mr Green said that he has been managing the farm for the last seven years and that the management practices have not changed during that time. The only difference he has instigated is a change to weekly muck clearing, rather than monthly, as previously. He has been advised that weekly clearing would reduce any smell. A number of residents have complained that the smell this year was particularly bad. Mr Green was unable to shed any light on why this was the case. It was agreed that Cllr Anderson would keep a written record of the days when the smell is bad and liaise with Mr Green to see if they can find a reason for the smell that Mr Green can then hopefully address.

Action Cllr Anderson

The poor condition of Heath Road was discussed. It is understood that SCC should provide and spread chippings to make it usable. The Clerk will discuss this with Cllr Hopfensperger.

Action Clerk

5. Report from County Councillor: R Hopfensperger.

Cllr Hopfensperger was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report:
Suffolk Highways claimed it has not removed a mirror or any street furniture whilst cutting the grass verges along Livermere Road in Troston. With regards moving the 30 mph from the entrance to the playground:- Suffolk Road safe Board approved a new procedure for determining whether two or only one speed limit entry sign is needed. They need to complete a risk assessment. If the sign there is within the visibility splay they are content that it can be removed as long as the parish council agree that if or when the 30mph roundel, painted on the road surface, fades to become ineffective, they will fund repainting in – not a big cost. (This could be something funded by me). They are going to check that the sign is actually in the entrance splay. Tomorrow a paper will be going to Suffolk county council cabinet to recommend that the move of the enforcement for civil parking enforcement to commence on 31st January from the police to the local authorities. I have completed the locality budget application for the water softener.

6. Report from B. Councillor: S. Brown

Full Council

This has been cancelled for 5th November, due to their being insufficient matters for discussion at this immediate period.

Parking Enforcement

The transfer of civil parking enforcement powers in Suffolk from police to councils is due to be rubber-stamped in January following lengthy delays, and rolled out in the early months of 2020. The changes mean that councils can employ wardens to crackdown on problem parking, with income collected from parking fines able to be retained by the councils rather than being sent to central government, which police must do. It will also free up police time. This covers towns and villages, which is of particular importance in the rural areas.

Locality Funding - Water Softener for the Village Hall

I'm very happy to confirm the funding of £450 towards a Water Softener for the village hall.

Land adjacent to Troston Bull

For awareness, I wrote to the Inspectorate expressing my position on the Land by Troston Bull, a letter extending to seven pages. I have been and still am fully supportive of the planning for dwellings there and I very much trust the detail of my communication is evident of that. Cllr Brown will send the Parish Council a copy of this letter.

I'm meeting Officers from West Suffolk Council this month to discuss the Land by Troston Bull. Pending the developments of this meeting, I shall update Troston Parish Council accordingly.

7. Report from RAF Honington

Indi Saunders reminded us that there are going to be fireworks at RAF Honington on Thursday 6th November at 7pm. A new member is joining their team, David Rose, he will be working across all sections of the community.

8. Progress reports. For information, from:

8.1. Chairman

8.1.1 Update from Primary Care.

Some data has been gathered showing what people in the area are mostly admitted to A&E for. Top of the list was osteoporosis related issues, there seems to be a lack of diagnosis, by GP's of this condition, with not enough invitations being sent out inviting people for a scan. Matters relating to depression, there is a big difference between some practices with their approach to treatments. GP's are being encouraged to attend training in this area. A Councillor, trained in helping those with mental wellbeing, is now working out of the local 6th form college. There has been a lack of dementia diagnosis in Botesdale and Woolpit, this matter is being addressed by the work being carried out by Gail Cardy, and an increase in dementia diagnosis is being seen in these areas. There is a high number of children with asthma, the cause of this is currently unknown. There is a low uptake of both the flu and pneumonia jab, it is felt that some practices are not doing enough to promote them. A local event is being arranged to try and get GP's to come together and talk about their practices and look at ways of joining up services.

8.2 Clerk

8.2.1. Missing mirror, opposite Paddock Way.

As discussed under item 5, SCC did not remove the mirror from opposite Paddock Way. A new mirror has been sourced and Cllr Moffat will install it.

Action Cllr Moffat

8.2.2 Defibrillator, Awareness training.

The Clerk has sent a request to Community Heartbeat Trust to have some defibrillator awareness training. The training will be held on either a Monday or Thursday evening, in the village hall. The Clerk will confirm the date as soon as she knows it.

Action Clerk

8.2.3 Suffolk Preservation Society, landscape training update.

The Clerk attended some landscape training. It was a very informative presentation that looked in detail at the landscaping attached to new developments. Often a developer's plan will not truly reflect the realities of what can be planted. By drilling down into the plans, at an early stage, more realistic goals can be set, with potentially better, forest scale trees and shrubbery being used rather than typical small, ornamental type trees. Also the ongoing maintenance plan can be agreed upon.

8.2.4 Bin day changes.

By re-routing the current collection rounds and introducing some new ones, West Suffolk are: making the collection routes more efficient, and making sure the routes are organised to manage recent and future housing growth. Changes to collection days will start the **week commencing 11**

November and West Suffolk are writing to every household to provide advice. The following changes are being made: Some residents will have the same collection day but their bins will be collected at a different time. Please ensure your bin is put out by 6.30am. Some residents will have a completely new collection day. The schedule your bin is collected on may also change. For garden waste service subscribers, the brown bin collection day is not changing. This can mean that your brown bin collection day could be a different day to your black/blue bin collection day. All residents will be contacted by letter over two weeks beginning 25 October. This letter will give information on the changes applicable to your property. West Suffolk will continue to offer an alternate weekly collection of rubbish and recycling.

8.2.5 VAS data Analysis

The Clerk has downloaded the data from the VAS. She needs to download some more software and convert the data. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting. **Action Clerk**

8.2.6 Request for fireworks on Playing Field.

As the Councillors are aware a resident has contacted her about letting off some fireworks on the recreation ground. Following advice the Clerk was able to advise them that will would need the Parish Councils permission, which the Parish Council were happy to give and to ensure that their household insurance policy covers them, under their public liability and does not have an exclusion for fireworks away from the home. Most insurers would rather you let off fireworks in a big open space rather than in an enclosed garden. The resident has since decided not to go ahead with the event.

8.2.7 Wi-Fi for the village hall.

The Clerk has been looking at Wi-Fi deals and thinks she could arrange one for less than the current BT contract. She is however seeking further advice from Community Action Suffolk before taking the matter further. **Action Clerk**

8.2.8 SALC training conference, confirmation of attendance.

The Clerk is attending SALC's Shaping Suffolk Conference. Their annual conference offers the potential to put local councils (parish and town) in Suffolk at the heart of building stronger communities and a sustainable future by developing further dialogues with all stakeholders in the complex world of planning. The aspiration for SALC is that by bringing the three tiers of local government together they can continue constructive conversations about where development and growth is happening. A landmark event providing not only advice and guidance but a chance to start to work together to make better places to live.

9.1 Finance

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

Administration	administration	£573.06
Tony Crabbe	Hedge, Bush shelter	£30.00
Kallkwik	Newsletter	£107.32
PKF Littlejohn	Audit	£240.00
West Suffolk	Election costs	£21.34
Royal British Legion	donation	£50.00
SARS	donation	£50.00
IPA	donation	£50.00
Unity bank	Bank charges	£18.00
BT	BT	£39.48
Atlantis	Village Hall	£990.00

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.

9.4 Agar,

The notice of the conclusion of audit has been returned, with no matters raised. The Clerk has advertised this as required.

10. Planning matters

10.1 To note. DC/19/1917/HH, Cloverlea Honington Road Troston, Householder Planning Application – Single storey side extension. Circulated.

10.2 The Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (SHELAA).

The Strategic Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (or SHELAA) is an assessment of land for housing and economic development. The SHELAA is not an assessment of whether the sites will be allocated in the future West Suffolk Local Plan nor does inclusion in the SHELAA imply or grant any planning permission. The document or previous call for sites process holds NO weight in decision making. West Suffolk is seeking views on the factual information submitted. In accordance with government guidance, they are seeking views on the draft SHELAA report and in particular: The suitability, availability and achievability (including viability*) of specific sites featured within the draft report (whether or not they are included or deferred at this stage) The constraints – are these (reasons for deferral of specific sites) still appropriate/relevant? * for a site to be considered deliverable, the NPPF requires development to be economically viable and to this end, we seek written commentary on the viability of the sites in which you have a particular interest, in addition to confirmation that the sites themselves are available at this time and if not, when they are anticipated to become available. We know that this is not a consultation on sites at this stage but feel it is important to note that although we recognise the need for development in the future we feel strongly that should not be detrimental to the village and particular the current infrastructure, or lack of, needs to be considered fully when looking at any future applications. Cllr Anderson will write a letter to this effect and send it in to West Suffolk.

Action Cllr Anderson

10.3 West Suffolk Local Plan: 2019 sustainable settlements review.

West Suffolk Council is in the early stages of preparing a new local plan for West Suffolk. One aspect of the new plan will be to review the currently adopted settlement categories and hierarchies in the former St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath areas. In order to do this work officers are currently preparing a sustainable settlements study as evidence to sit alongside the local plan. The purpose of this study is to understand which are the most sustainable settlements in the district through applying a set key sustainability criteria, such as the presence of shops, schools etc. This information will be used to help draft a new settlement hierarchy which will be subject to consultation in January 2020 as part of the Issues and Options consultation. For those settlements which have an identified settlement boundary, key sustainability criteria have been recorded and a matrix produced. West Suffolk are now inviting all parishes to comment on this matrix in respect of the factual accuracy of the sustainability criteria recorded for settlements in their parish. The Clerk has provided up to date data by removing the pub as a current facility.

11. Footpath leaflet

11.1 The group met again and after discussion it was agreed that, due to the abundance of information and the potential for walks, that two separate leaflets should be produced. The landowner, who owns the land partway between Gt Livermere and Troston has granted permission for a path to go there. This means that if the landowner in Gt Livermere also grants permission a safe path can be used to get from Troston to Gt Livermere and vis-versa. A date was agreed to do the Gt Livermere walks, the Troston walks will be done towards the end of November.

11.2 Invitation from SCC to include Troston in next year's walking festival.

The Officers from SCC felt that as both villages, Troston and Gt Livermere offer such delightful walking routes and compelling history/facts that perhaps the villages may want to be included in next year's Walking Festival. They would need walk leaders in the main from the villages. The Councillors thought this was a good idea and Cllrs Norris, Anderson and Johns are all happy to be involved. It was suggested that we could hold an event, possibly at the village hall on the day of the walk. The Clerk will forward the festival details to the Councillors.

Action Clerk

12. Lottery.

Cllr Burridge is making progress with the lottery, she is picking up all the associated material shortly. She will then be in a position to reapply for the licence.

Action Cllr Burridge

13. Highway/village matters

13.1 Update on overhanging trees at Capel Close.

A contractor is booked to carry out the tree works on the 9 & 10th December. Cllr Norris will meet the contractor on site prior to him starting work to clarify what is required.

Action Cllr Norris

14. Village Hall

Cllr Burridge has heard no more from the organisation wanting to arrange an event to offer formation on memory issues. The accounts for the hall are in good order. The water softener has been installed. The decorative order of the hall, both inside and out is something that the committee are mindful of. The village hall are considering a community activity, games afternoon, once a month.

15 Play Area to include:

15.1 Play area report (circulated) Parts of the timber crossbar on the structure of the zipwire have rotted. The clerk will contact Simon Burgess about this. The Clerk will look up the original description of the train, as it is still felt that the equipment is not fit for purpose.

15.2 Meeting to discuss concerns over BMX equipment

Baz Smith, from Fenland Leisure, will call in to site over the next week or so to have a look at the units and see what the issue is. The Clerk will report back his finding.

Action Clerk

15.3 Play area bin, to discuss its emptying schedule.

The Clerk is still receiving reports that the bin, near the Bottle/Clothing bank on the Playing Field accessed by the parking lot off the Livermere Road, is not being emptied regularly. John Van Rheede Toas, Open Spaces Manager, has asked for this to be investigated further. The Clerk will see about adding the bin by the bus shelter on to West Suffolk's schedule.

Action Clerk

15.4 Football pitch. Work on the pitch has begun.

The Clerk was asked to provide an up to date play area inspection rota.

Action Clerk

16. Heath Wood

16.1 No cycling signs. The Clerk has purchased a sign for the wood. Cllr Norris will install it.

Action Cllr Norris

16.2 Vandalism of geocache.

The Councillor were saddened to hear that the Cubs' geocache has been vandalised.

17. Councillors reports and items for future agendas.

No reports made.

18. Correspondence for information

18.1 The Local Government Boundary Commission for England, circulated

18.2 Came and Co, change of trading name, noted

18.3 Suffolk Fly tipping Campaign, circulated

18.4 SPS, magazine

19. Date for next meetings. Finance meeting Tuesday 19th November 2019. 13th January 2020 then 1st Monday thereafter.

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

21.1 Personnel Issues. There will be a decrease in the Parish Council pension contribution of 1% from April 2020. 21.2 Legal Issues. None