

Draft until signed

**Minutes of Battsford Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 12th January 2016 at 7.30pm, Battsford Village Hall, Straight Road, Battsford**

Present: C Knock (Chairman), B Rhodes (Vice Chairman), C Nicholas (Councillor), S Zethraeus (Councillor), C Skinner (Councillor), N Cleaver (Councillor), J Olley (Councillor), J Truelove (County Councillor)

Attending: S Meech (Clerk), J Budd (Public), I Bell (Public)

1. Apologises for absence

D Whybrow (District Councillor)

2. Declarations of Interest

None received

3. Public forum

J Budd would like an update on broadband and drainage for the next agenda

4. Minutes of meeting held on 1st December 2015

Cllr Knock (Chairman) adds an additional point to the minutes numbered 23 "Cllr Nicholas to ask about the tree preservation orders at the end of the Tye".

5. Matters arising from minutes

The Tree Preservation Office at MSDC has advised Cllr Nicholas that they are unsure why there are Tree Preservation Orders on one side of Battsford Tye and not the other side.

Action – Mention for local residents in the Barclif that trees in the parish could have Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) on them.

Cllr Nicholas also advises that he has had an agreement in principle for an apple day to take place at Stoke Farm

6. County Councillors Report

See Appendix 1. **Action** – Clerk to upload link for Better Broadband to Battsford Village website. Cllr Cleaver to make enquires as to whether the village hall could be eligible for a better broadband voucher to cover the initial installation and commissioning costs of a satellite broadband receiver. Also to request an update on progress of the better broadband project and to see if a timetable can be provided

16. (b/f) PCSO Match Funding

Cllr Nicholas raises how the cost for a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) would be £32,000.00 per year. Cllr Truelove states how it would be very difficult to make a decision of whether to employ a PCSO between parishes without a job description. Cllr Nicholas and Cllr Zethraeus feel it is important for neighbourhood watch for the village to be considered.

Action – Cllr Zethraeus to investigate neighbourhood watch for the village

7. District Councillors Report

To follow

8. Parish Council Chairman's Report

Cllr Knock raises the 'Clean for the Queen Campaign' where communities clean up their neighbourhood between the 4th and 6th March 2016. All councillors are in favour of this campaign. **Action** – Clerk to enquire with previous clerk as to where high visibility jackets and helping hand litter pickers were sourced for previous clean-up projects.

9. Planning

- a. Applications received for consideration – No planning application received for consideration
- b. Decisions received from MSDC – No decisions received

10. Finance

- a. Accounts review to date – It is explained by Cllr Knock and clerk that there is a problem receiving bank statements that is being investigated by Cllr Knock so the finance spreadsheet has been updated with the cheque book stubs
- b. Payments received – None received
- c. Payments to hand
 - i. SALC – Clerks Website Training - £27.00 – All councillors agree payment. Cheque No. 100864 written and signed
 - ii. S Meech – Clerks Expenses and Overtime - £55.73. All councillors agree payment. Cheque No. 100865 written and signed

11. P. Rushbrook – Rental Payment

No payment has been made to P Rushbrook for 2015, last payment was for £325.00 in February 2014. All councillors agree that a cheque should be raised at the next parish council meeting to pay P Rushbrook for 2015/2016 and that a standing order form should be sent to him with his payment so that future payments are arranged through a standing order. **Action** – Clerk to raise cheque for payment at next parish meeting and include standing order form for future payments

12. External audit arrangements

Email had been forwarded with update received from SALC all councillors happy with decision not to opt out

13. Precept

All councillors agree that the precept should be held as not all the budget for 2015/2016 has been used up. Cllr Knock explains that there must be a reason for the increase in precept. Cllr Nicholas raises that there are still some parishioners whom pay council tax under one parish but vote under another parish. **Action** – Cllr Nicholas to discuss with MSDC these households

19. (b/f) Defibrillation Application

Cllr Truelove states that if Battsford Parish Council would like two defibrillation machines for the parish then an application for some funds from her locality budget must be considered as a matter of urgency as an application will need to be made before the end of March 2016. Martin Render of Community Heartbeat Trust has previously discussed costing and that a full package for one defibrillation machine would be in the region of £2,500.00, Cllr Truelove is happy to fund £2,000.00 towards the defibrillation machine, meaning Battsford Parish Council would have to fund £500.00. Cllr Skinner also advises Battsford Parish Council that Santa's Helpers Float managed to raise £1,345.00 which is currently held in account by BVHMC and this amount must be spent on defibrillation machines and is to be split equally between Battsford and Combs. Cllr Knock proposes for a first defibrillation machine to be applied for through Cllr Trueloves locality budget, all councillors agree. Cllr Skinner proposes

that the money raised by Santa's Helpers could cover the additional £500.00 required and any monies left over could help towards the cost of installation. **Action** – Cllr Zethraeus to liaise with Martin Render at Community Heartbeat Trust and BT regarding adopting the telephone boxes in the parish. Clerk to forward emails to Cllr Zethraeus from both BT and Community Heartbeat Trust. Clerk to write a letter to Cllr Truelove to apply for funding of £2,000.00 from her locality budget for a defibrillation machine and to include a quote from Community Heartbeat Trust.

14. Budget

All councillors review last year's budget and current finances for Battsford Parish Council. Cllr Knock discusses each area of the budget for 2016/2017 and all councillors agree to the amounts put forward. **Action** – Clerk to update budget spreadsheet and forward to all councillors

15. Dog Waste bin price increase

All councillors aware of the price increases. Cllr Knock asks if any further dog waste bins are required by the parish and all councillors agree that no more are needed.

17. Bird Box Building

All councillors agree for bird box building day to be Saturday 6th February from 10am-1pm. **Action** – Clerk to confirm booking with BVHMC and to produce a poster for the notice boards advertising the event

18. Play inspection report

Clerk explains that she has contacted MSDC to advise that Battsford Parish Council are not willing to pay the invoice for the play inspection report until the play area is re-inspected and an accurate report produced.

20. Correspondence

Councillors would like a thank you email to be sent to David Windle to thank him for all his hard work in 2015 and additional clearing up work. **Action** – Clerk to send email to D Windle

Cllr Knock proposes that Battsford Parish Council consider an event to be carried out in June 2016 for the queen's birthday

Action – Application to be filled out for SALC queens party draw for Chairman C Knock

21. Any other business raised by councillors for inclusion on the next agenda

- Broadband
- Drainage – Anglian Water
- Neighbourhood Watch
- Queen's Birthday Event – June 2016

22. Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 23rd February 2016

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Appendix 1

PARISH REPORT JANUARY 2016 BOSMERE DIVISION County Councillor Julia Truelove

<http://www.powerliteunits.com/OVERALL KEY STAGE 2 IMPROVEMENTS CONFIRMED>

The percentage of pupils in Suffolk primary schools achieving expected levels in reading, writing, and mathematics is continuing to rise. This is according to the latest data from the Department for Education. 77% of 11 year olds achieved Level 4 or higher in 2015, a rise of 3% from 2014. Suffolk has also improved in the national ranking and is now 134th out of 152. Whilst this is an improvement of 6 places from last year, the low national placing remains of great concern.

FUTURE COUNTY POLICING

Key Changes

- Reduction of 'Safer Neighbourhood' teams from 29 to 18, with a redefined remit
- Re-organisation of our policing areas from 15 to 9
- A reduction in police bases from 33 to 18
- The roles and work of Operational Partnership Teams will be embedded in the new working model
- Reduction to 3 public access points

Stowmarket will function as an emergency response base. It will also become a safer neighbourhood team base. However, it will no longer provide a public access point.

Emergency Response Teams

- Their role will be to manage emergency calls 24/7
- To effectively manage threat, harm, and risk
- To conduct initial investigations and manage those which have a quick resolution
- They will attend to emergency calls requiring a rapid response
- Attend road traffic collisions
- Search for 'high risk' missing people
- Respond to reports of violent crime
- Care for victims and witnesses
- Gather evidence
- Carry out initial investigations into crime and anti-social behaviour

Suffolk Constabulary Requires Improvement

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) examined how forces respond to, and safeguard, those who are vulnerable in some way, with a focus on missing and absent children, victims of domestic abuse, and how well prepared they are to tackle child sexual exploitation. Suffolk Constabulary was rated as 'Requires Improvement'. 'The force generally provides a good service to vulnerable victims such as children at risk of harm, and victims of domestic abuse, although there are

areas for improvement. However, the force needs to do more to ensure that it provides a consistent and co-ordinated response to missing and absent children.'

BROADBAND SECOND ROUND PROVISION

Suffolk C.C. reports that the second round of 'Superfast Broadband' is ahead of schedule. The aim is to extend coverage to 95% of Suffolk premises by 2019. Details of coverage up until September 2016 can be found on betterbroadbandsuffolk.com. Providing broadband by satellite has been trialled over the last few months. It is intended as an interim solution for businesses and homes that currently get less than 2 Mbps and are not included in the current planned coverage of the next 12 months. Eligible people can now apply for a voucher to cover initial installation and commissioning costs of a satellite broadband receiver. A guide and application form can be found at the website address shown above.

DEVOLUTION BRIEFING

Joint proposals will continue to be worked on with completion anticipated in the New Year. Leaders of Norfolk and Suffolk Councils agreed to start a dialogue with Cambridgeshire with a view to working in closer collaboration and consensus. The intention now is to broaden the discussions by arranging meetings with councillors at venues in the county during March.

ANGLIAN WATER WORKS B1078

Highways report that they are aware of two road closures booked to run from the 11th January to the 12th February covering the B1078 from the junction of Parsons Lane to the junction of Battisford Road and covering Barking Hill. These are still going ahead.

The rest of the works, which would have taken the pipe along The Tye, will not start until permission is granted from The Secretary of State. S.C.C.'s Network Assurance will be notified as to when the works are to start again, as traffic lights will still be needed on Barking Road while the pipe is being laid on The Tye.