

Draft until signed

**Minutes of Battsiford Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 27th November 2018 at 7.00pm, Battsiford Village Hall, Straight Road, Battsiford**

Present: C Knock (CK) (Chairman), B Rhodes (BR) (Vice-Chairman), C Skinner (CS) (Councillor), S Zethraeus (SZ) (Councillor), P Aspinall (PA) (Councillor), C Nicholas (CN) (Councillor), N Cleaver (NC) (Councillor)

Attending: S Meech (SM) (Clerk), K Oakes (KO) (County Councillor), J Budd (JB) (Public), S Winter (SW) (BVHMC)

1. Apologies for absence

No apologies received.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were declared.

3. Public forum

No items were put forward to be discussed.

4. Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 16th October 2018 & Tuesday 6th November 2018

Both sets of minutes signed as true and accurate copies of the meetings, however, CK added BR under apologies for absence for Tuesday 6th November 2018.

5. Matters arising from minutes

No matters arising.

6. County Councillor/District Councillor/Parish Chairman Reports

See Appendix 1 for county councillor report. KO arrived at 8.15pm and presented her report to BPC. KO advised BPC that applications for locality budget funding of up to £2,000 need to be submitted before 1st March 2019. BPC raised that BVHMC are looking to purchase some village signs, KO advised for them to provide quotations asap for the clerk and forward these to KO with the project details.
Action – Clerk to contact SW and BVHMC to advise that village sign quotations are required asap.

7. Planning

a) Applications received for consideration

i) DC/18/02380 – Land to the east of Poplar Hill – comment for appeal

CK advised that an email has been received from Desiree Shelley from the Save Mill Mount Field Network to raise awareness of this development and to suggest that if BPC have any objections, they consider submitting them. The main objection that Combs Parish have is that aesthetically the view of the historic church will be spoilt by the development. It was agreed by BPC that this objection is not an item relevant for Battsiford.

7.10pm SZ arrived

BPC did decide that they were concerned that Combs Ford Doctors Surgery was already close to capacity and that the local primary school is oversubscribed. Also, traffic was highlighted as a major concern with 3,500 lorry movements, residents, farm lorries and Wattisham base traffic using Poplar Hill to travel via the Tannery and from Battsiford. Poplar Hill is a residential street that is an unclassified residential road inadequate for that volume of traffic, traffic congestion is already an issue without an additional 160 houses containing a minimum of 320 inhabitants. Another concern of BPC is that the land adjacent in the draft local plan is for the residential development of an additional 50 houses on top of the 400 planned for

Combs Ford. **Action** – Clerk to submit these comments through the appeal process to the planning inspectorate.

b) Decisions received from MSDC

- i) DC/18/04146 - David Upson Produce – Change of use of agricultural land to campsite – Granted** – CK suggested approaching David Upson to discuss an apple picking day for residents in 2019, all councillors agree.

8. BVHMC – Village Hall Signs – S Winter

SW attended the meeting to advise BPC that BVHMC have decided that they need 3-4 signs placed around the village for the village hall and wanted to approach BPC for permission to purchase and erect the signs. The locations they would like to position the signs are in Combs at the turning for the tannery, a lit-up sign on the outside of the village hall and opposite Corner Cottage at the junction of Deadmans Lane and Straight Road. SW also advised that BVHMC are attempting to raise £30,000 to replace the village hall floor that is in need of repair and already secured £10,000 towards the project. SW agreed that BVHMC will approach BPC again with full details including designs etc as BPC agreed that they would consider helping to fund the purchase of the signs. **Action** – Add item to next agenda.

9. Neighbourhood plan

CK advised BPC that this item was discussed with Combs Parish Council (CPC) at the extraordinary meeting on Tuesday 6th November 2018. Both CPC and BPC had the impression that if they joined together to carry out a neighbourhood plan, they would receive additional funds for the process, however, this is not correct. As CPC do not have the same anxieties or requirements as BPC it was decided that it would be best for both parishes to carry out plans individually. The priority for BPC is to know where future housing will be located within the village. SZ raised further to the meeting that it became very clear how much work is actually involved in carrying out a neighbourhood plan. CK advised that six volunteers have come forward to join a neighbourhood planning group and that he has been approached directly from interested residents. JB advised BPC that a public meeting would be required to get the process to start. CK advised that the first step would be for BPC to register their interest in carrying out a neighbourhood plan as a sole entity, then advise the process in an open meeting. All councillors are in support to register BPC interest in carrying out a neighbourhood plan. **Action** – SM to contact MSDC to enquire as to process for registering interest.

10. BMSDC draft Homes Strategy and Homelessness Reduction Strategy 2019-2024

The details of this were circulated by clerk prior to the meeting for councillor information.

11. Village Green/Play Area/CIL Funding

CK and SM advised BPC that as requested at the last parish council meeting a CIL funding application has been submitted for £20,000 to MSDC in respect of the purchase of the village green. However, further to CK having discussions with Mr Rushbrook the landowner he has advised that he is not interested in selling the land at present. CK advised that BPC do still have a long time period left on the lease, however, some councillors raised concerns that BPC have a large number of assets mainly the play equipment on the village green and wondered if for long term protection the area could become a designated green space. **Action** – Clerk to contact MSDC public realm to enquire as to how BPC can protect the village green and maybe ensure it is designated as green space.

NC advised that in regard to the village green she has been approached by Tesco bags of help funding team that provided grant funding for the play equipment to enquire as to any other projects that the village may have. NC has investigated and raised the lack of sensory gardens within the local area and feels that this would be a great project to explore for the benefit of both children and adults. It was suggested that Battisford and District Gardening Club could be approached to assist with the design and ongoing maintenance of the project. NC proposed and CN seconded the Tesco bags of help application for a sensory garden and all councillors were in agreement. **Action** – NC to complete application and SM to provide assistance when needed.

KO arrived at 8.15pm, CK introduced KO to BPC.

Action – CK to discuss with MSDC as to whether CIL funding applied for can be used for any other reason than the original application and SM to email over CIL criteria to councillors for them to see what can be applied for

12. Bowl House Planning concerns

An email was received from MSDC advising that they have dealt with all matters raised, this was circulated to all councillors for their information, however, they are not completely satisfied with the response.

13. Settlement boundary review Bowl Meadow & land ownership at Bowl Meadow

A community governance review was submitted to MSDC on Thursday 25th October 2018, BPC are still awaiting a response.

14. SID – submission of location forms/email from resident 2-way mirror Deadmans Lane/Straight Rd

NC has all the forms for the SID locations completed and has provided SM with the completed forms and address for them to be sent to. **Action** – Clerk to post forms

KO advised that she has forwarded the resident email to highways and is hoping to hear further from them on Thursday 29th November 2018 when she visits Phoenix House, BPC requested to KO for highways to visit the site to see hazards of the junction.

15. Tesco funding

This item was included in Item 11

16. Dog waste – Mill Road

BPC confirm that there have been no further complaints since SM sent a letter to a resident.

17. Memorial regulations – J Wright Stonemasons book request

SM advised BPC that she has received a memorial application for an open book style memorial although she has not received any burial paperwork or correspondence for the late Ronald Gooding. BPC confirmed that book style memorials are already at the cemetery although they are concerned that we have not received any information relating to the burial. **Action** – SM to reply to Laura at J Wright Stonemasons to advise that book style memorials are authorised at Battisford cemetery, however, BPC are not happy to sign off any memorial requests until full burial information has been received for their records.

18. Connecting communities transport service

Action – Clerk to upload document to BPC website.

19. Budget including budget from 2017/18 missing from Jan 2018 minutes -appendix needed

The agreed budget report from January 2018 was represented to BPC by SM and she pointed out her clerical error in not having minuted the report in the January minutes. BPC confirmed the budget was agreed in January. **Action** – Clerk to add an addendum footnote to the January 2018 minutes to explain the error and include the budget figures.

A budget report was presented to BPC for 2019/20 including the increases in Item 20 and donation requests in Item 21. BPC reviewed each figure individually and agreed the budget figures for 2019/20 which will be presented to BPC in a final draft at the next parish council meeting in January when the precept is confirmed.

20. MSDC – Waste Removal Charges/SALC Subscription increases 2019/2020

Discussed in Item 19

21. S137 donation requests for 2018/19 – CAB/SARS/WOW

Discussed in Item 19

22. Defibrillators including new battery

PA confirmed that new defibrillator pads were ordered and received for the expired ones in the defibrillator near Valley Road. A new battery is not required for some time yet.

23. Finance

- a) **Accounts review to date** – Current Account balance as of 14th November 2018 was £21,234.25 and savings account £2,362.57. Finance spreadsheet forwarded to all councillors prior to the meeting.
- b) **Payments received**
 - i) **Memorial Fee – T/L Brian Gibbons - £49.50**
 - ii) **HMRC – VAT refund 17/18 - £1028.84**
- c) **Payments to hand**
 - (i) **S Meech – Clerks Overtime and Expenses - £73.60** - Payment agreed by all councillors. Cheque Number 100971 signed and dated by CK and BR. *Local Government Act 1972 s.112 & s.151.*
 - (ii) **N Cleaver – Women on Wheels Reimbursement – £50.00** - Payment agreed by all councillors. Cheque Number 100972 signed and dated by CK and BR. *Local Government Act 1972 s.137 & s.144.*
 - (iii) **LexisNexis – Arnold Baker Administration Book (11th Ed) - £110.99** – Payment agreed by all councillors. Cheque Number 100973 signed and dated by CK and BR. *Local Government Act 1972 s.112 & s.151.*
 - (iv) **Skinner Building Services – Slide Installation - £1659.58** – Payment agreed by all councillors. Cheque Number 100974 signed and dated by CK and BR. *Public Health Act 1875, s. 164, Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19 & Open Spaces Act 1906 ss.9-10 & s.15.*
 - (v) **The Community Heartbeat Trust – Defib Pads - £97.20** – Payment agreed by all councillors. Cheque Number 100975 signed and dated by CK and BR. *Public Health Act 1936, s.234.*

24. Correspondence

All circulated by email

25. Any other business for inclusion at the next meeting

No items advised other than ones included in minutes.

26. Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 8th January at 7pm

Meeting closed at 9.15pm



November 2018 Monthly Parish Newsletter



Carers celebrate top accolade with 'Outstanding' rating from the Care Quality Commission

On 19 October 2018, it was announced that the standard of care provided by Mid Suffolk Home First has been rated as Outstanding by the Care Quality Commission.

Mid Suffolk Home First, which is provided by Suffolk County Council, provides a short-term reablement service and a longer-term care service.

Inspectors, who visited in July, said the quality of care was 'exceptional'. Under CQC's programme of inspections, the service was rated according to whether it is safe, effective, caring, responsive and well-led. Mid Suffolk Home First is rated Outstanding for being responsive and well-led, and Good for being safe, caring and effective.

The reablement and care services offered by Mid Suffolk Home First support people following a period of ill health or a significant loss in their ability to manage their day to day care needs. The service aims to help the person reach their optimum level of independence.

During the short-term reablement support period, which may last one or two weeks or for some people up to a maximum of six weeks, people's progress is monitored and reviewed. The team have been able to support many people to leave the service confidently and without the need for further social care support. All the people who receive Home First reablement and care services are assessed to see if they need to be supported by another service following this short-term care.

At the time of the inspection, the service was providing support to 55 people in their own homes including 12 people needing longer-term personal care.

Andrea Sutcliffe, Chief Inspector of Adult Social Care, said:

"The quality of care which our inspectors found here was exceptional and I am very pleased that we can celebrate the service's achievements.

"An outstanding service is the result of a tremendous amount of hard work and commitment. I would like to thank and congratulate everyone involved."

See the [full version of the inspection](#) on the CQC website.

A call for family carers to share their views

Suffolk County Council is calling for family carers to share their experiences of support by completing a survey by 22 November 2018. All answers will be used anonymously.

Sharing their experiences will help Suffolk County Council to:

- understand what currently works well for family carers
- identify any gaps in support for family carers in Suffolk.

Carers can complete the survey online at

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/FamilyCarers/>

Carers can contact Helen Robinson (9am to 4pm Monday to Friday) on **01473 260354** or family.carers@suffolk.gov.uk if they would like an alternative format of the survey, for example:

- easy read
- large print
- or an alternative language.

The survey has been created by a multi-agency group that includes:

- Family Carer representatives
- Suffolk County Council
- Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Health
- Suffolk Family Carers.

Provisional GCSE results show continued progress for Suffolk students

Provisional GCSE results, released on 16 October 2018 by the Department of Education, illustrate that 1% more students in Suffolk are achieving the expected standards in English and Maths compared with last year.

There has been a change to the way that English and Maths GCSEs are graded. Results are now graded from 9 to 1, (previously A to G) with 9 being the highest and 1 being the lowest. The expected standard for pupils to achieve is now a grade 4 and above (previously a C grade and above), with grade 5 considered a 'strong pass'.

Suffolk is now in line with national figures with 64% of students in the county achieving the standard pass in English and Maths. Suffolk is also in the top half of all authorities for achieving the threshold of grade 5 in English and Maths. Suffolk has risen by 40 places in national league tables for this measure, to 43 out of 151 authorities.

GCSE progress remains above average and has seen a steep increase this year for Suffolk pupils, with a Progress 8 score of +0.07, compared with the national figure of -0.03. This figure also puts Suffolk at number 1 among our statistical neighbours (11 other local authorities with similar geographic and social structures).

Progress 8 measures how well GCSE students, of all abilities, have progressed since age 11 by comparing them with students who achieved similar levels in Key Stage 2 across the country.

Budget consultation launches as Suffolk County Council looks to save £25 million in 2019/2020

On 8 October 2018, Suffolk County Council launched its annual budget consultation. The consultation closes at **5pm on Friday 16th November 2018**. Residents are being asked to give their views on the services provided by the council as it faces the challenge of making savings of £25 million in 2019/2020.

Like all local authorities, Suffolk County Council faces significant financial challenges in the delivery of essential frontline services to support the lives of the most vulnerable young people and older residents across the county.

As part of its careful financial planning and management in recent years, the council has saved £260million since 2011. It has also established innovative new ways to engage with communities and deliver services in the digital age, but there are still tough calls ahead. The council wants to hear residents' views on which services are most important to them.

A proposed budget will be presented at the Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 29 January 2019 and the final budget will be discussed at Full Council on Thursday 14 February 2019.

Residents can visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/budget2019 to learn more about the budget setting process and to take part in the short survey to give their views.