



# BATTISFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Nicola Glading 01842337488

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<http://www.battisfordpc.org.uk>

## MINUTES

### of the Battisford Parish Council meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2021

Present:

Cllr D Wicking (Chairman)

Cllr J Cook (Vice Chairman)

Cllr J Wilson

Cllr J Pope

Cllr C Nicholas

In attendance:

C/Cllr K Oakes

D/Cllr D Pratt (arrived 8.40pm)

N Glading, parish clerk

2 members of the public

2021/34	<b>CHAIRMAN`S WELCOME and RECORDING OF MEETING</b>	
	The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. Clerk to record for minutes.	
2021/35	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	
a.	There were no apologies for absence.	
b.	Not applicable	
2021/36	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
	None	
2021/37	<b>CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR</b>	
a.	There were no candidates at the meeting	
2021/38	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b>	
a.	Members of the public may speak about specific items on this agenda. 1.The following comment was NOTED, having been circulated to councillors on 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2021: To Members of the Battisford Parish Council ref DC/21/02856 We chose not to attend the meeting as you have already made your decision but feel we must send a brief note on how we feel We are disappointed with the decision of the council to support the planning application Particularly without any knowledge of our objections that were submitted a full 7 days before the deadline. Your Chairman was advised verbally that we would be objecting.	

	<p>The reasons given by the planners for refusal in the first application still stands ...the development is far too large for the size of the plot.</p> <p>We find this odd that you have gone from object to support on the basis of some minor changes, without having first heard our objections or examining the reasons for refusal the first time round. Unfortunately for us we will be living with the consequences.</p> <p>You clearly now see this type of development enhancing our village, we as a neighbouring property strongly disagree having studied the application in every detail. We do hope this does not set a precedent for the future of our village.</p> <p>2.The Councillors heard from two members of the public present at the meeting in relation to DC/21/02575. Various emails had previously been circulated to councillors.</p> <p>The two members of the public asked why the parish council objection not been taken down.</p> <p>BPC recognises that Suffolk County Council are the single source of authority and have the definitive map. The residents have spoken with Andrew Rogers at Suffolk County Council and the footpath route is not definitive and is almost immaterial. The footpath has been signed for the last 20/30 years.</p> <p>Cllr Zethraeus can remember walking down and path was straight through.</p> <p>Cllr Nicholas confirmed that the footpath runs straight through.</p> <p>The residents confirmed that the direction of the footpath sign has not been altered and the caravan did not block the footpath.</p> <p>Cllr Nicholas confirmed that to his knowledge the sign had always pointed straight through the yard.</p> <p>The residents are happy to leave the footpath going straight down the farm yard.</p> <p>The residents have cleared the path running round the property as it was completely overgrown.</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed that currently, BPC cannot say whether the post was previously aligned properly or not.</p> <p>The residents claim not to have started development work.</p> <p>BPC believes that the clearing of hedges is development work.</p> <p>BPC are looking at the definitive Suffolk County Council map</p> <p>The residents confirmed that the property owner has severe depression, and this has made him worse.</p> <p>The residents had removed the hedges: they expressed the opinion that the hedges are not there to provide the neighbour with privacy.</p> <p>Cllr Pope reminded the meeting that there is a walking group in the village.</p> <p>3.A member of the Village Hall Management Committee confirmed that the Committee are not happy with the solar lights illuminating the Village Hall sign. The VHMC were asked to suggest what could be done, with prices and bring this to the next council meeting.</p> <p>The councillors thanked to Mr Stan Winter for strimming the grass on Straight Road and for cleaning the floor ready for the Yoga class.</p> <p>A vehicle has been seen along Straight Road at approx. 60 to 70 mph. If this happens again, please take the registration number if possible.</p>	
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2021/39	<b>UPDATES FROM COUNTY and DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</b>	
a.	<p><u>Update from Suffolk County Councillor K. Oakes:</u>  A report has been circulated and Cllr Oakes has sent several dates in to the community engineer.  There is an Interesting piece about the trail: Cllr Oakes will print off for interested people, please get in touch with her.  C/Cllr Oakes was congratulated on her re-election success.</p>	
b.	<p><u>To receive an update from the BMSDC District Councillor: <b>Not present</b></u>  <b>NOTED:</b> That the Councillors expressed disappointment with Cllr Pratt`s retraction to the planning department (see 2021/ 42 k. and Appendix B)</p>	
2021/40	<b>MINUTES of the Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021</b>	
a.	The minutes of the meeting held on 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 were unanimously <b>AGREED.</b>	
b.	There were no matters arising not on this agenda	
2021/41	<b>MINUTES of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021</b>	
a.	The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 were unanimously <b>AGREED.</b>	
b.	There were no matters arising not on this agenda	
2021/42	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR BATTISFORD</b>	
a.	<p><u>Update on Bowl Meadow Development</u> and any outstanding concerns  The site is looking reasonable now  The `for sale` sign is still outside: clerk to report to planning enforcement.</p>	clerk
b.	<p><u>Application DC/21/03106</u> (extension to 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021 granted by planning officer Booker) was considered.  Proposal: Householder Planning Application - Change flat roof to hipped roof on side/rear extension, application of render to rear and erection of single storey rear extension (following removal of conservatory)  Location: Brookfield, Mill Road, Battisford, Suffolk IP14 2LP</p> <p><b>SUPPORT</b></p>	BPC comment sent to planning officer M Booker 24.06.2021
c.	<p><u>Application DC/21/03201</u> (comment by 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021) was considered.  Proposal: Householder Application - Erection of single storey extension and front porch, replacing existing door with window, replacement of all contemporary windows, insertion of french doors replacing existing window, insertion of windows to ensuite and cloakroom, replace external render and erection of 1.8m boundary fence.  Location: Woodlands Farm, Bildeston Road, Ringshall, Suffolk IP14 2LY  Post code is Battisford</p> <p><b>NO COMMENT</b></p>	BPC comment sent to planning officer J Whyard 24.06.2021

d.	<p><u>Application DC/21/03202</u> (comment by 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021) was considered. Proposal: Application for Listed Building Consent – as DC/21/03201 at c.</p> <p><b>NO COMMENT</b></p>	<p>BPC comment sent to planning officer J Whyard 24.06.2021</p>
e.	<p><u>Application DC/21/03227</u> (comment by 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021) was considered. Proposal: Householder Planning Application - Erection of detached garage with external staircase and loft room for use ancillary to host dwelling (amended scheme to that approved under DC/19/00812). Location: 1 Stoke Stables, Stoke Farm Drive, Battisford, Suffolk IP14 2NA</p> <p><b>SUPPORT</b></p>	<p>BPC comment sent to planning officer A Breadman 24.06.2021</p>
f.	<p><u>Application DC/21/03337</u> (comment by 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021) Proposal: Householder Application - Erection of single storey and two storey side extension (following demolition of garage, utility and conservatory); Raise ridge line, eaves and roof pitch to form additional first floor bedrooms. Location: Fern Lodge, Mill Road, Battisford, Suffolk IP14 2LP</p> <p><b>NO COMMENT</b></p>	<p>BPC comment sent to planning officer M Booker 24.06.2021</p>
g.	<b>NOTED:</b> Decision Notice: Application Reference: DC/21/01885: Granted	
h.	<b>NOTED:</b> Decision Notice: Agricultural determination: DC/21/02663: Not required	
i.	<b>NOTED:</b> Decision Notice: Application Reference DC/21/00499 (Haven Barns & Wonderlier) Granted	
j.	<p><u>Councillors considered DC/21/02856</u>, (Oak View). Decision: Support (Minute 2021/21 c. Extraordinary meeting 27<sup>th</sup> May 2021)</p> <p>The councillors saw no reason to change their former decision.</p>	Appendix A
k.	<p><u>Councillors considered DC/21/02575</u>, (Tye Gate Farmhouse). Decision: Object (2021/17 b. meeting 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021) The councillors considered the matter. The BPC comment was made in good faith after hearing from public attendees at the relevant meeting and based on the councillors own observations. BPC have asked SCC Rights of Way Team to inspect footpath 44, we await their comment. The agreements on the boundary divisions remain between the residents.</p>	Appendix B
2021/43	<b>SID REPORT (Cllr Cook)</b>	

	<p><u>Speed Indicator Device Report</u></p> <p>Cllr Cook told the meeting that comparison between years was not possible as the device was set up 35mph originally.</p> <p>Cllr Cook is progressing an application through to Roadsafte Partnership for temporary ANPR provision.</p> <p>A site suitability form has been completed.</p> <p>2 posts on Straight Road are proposed.</p> <p>Site will be assessed by SCC engineer.</p> <p>Support for the ANPR to be sought from residents – publicity for this to go onto Nextdoor and BPC website. Clerk to collate via BPC email address.</p>	<p>Appendix C</p> <p>Cllr Nicholas clerk</p>
2021/44	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO BATTISFORD NOTICEBOARDS</b>	
a.	<p>Cllr Wilson had produced an update to the schedule of inspection of Battisford village noticeboards dated June 2021.</p> <p>Despite the efforts of Cllr Wicking and Cllr Cook repairs, there remains a lot to be accomplished, particularly as the availability of polycarbonate is limited. We have done our best to repair.</p> <p>C/Cllr Oakes offered to re-visit the allocation of her Locality Budget for five matching new noticeboards. Uniformity throughout the village would be advantageous.</p> <p>C/Cllr Oakes will provide name of company that supplied the noticeboards in Needham Market as these are attractive and sturdy.</p>	
2021/45	<b>CHAIRS ITINERARY and REPORTS (on the night)</b>	
	<p>Chairmans report and information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Annual Assembly 2021 no further plans</li> <li>b. Update on revised Battisford Punchbowl grant request (smaller shed) no update has been received from the Punchbowl directors.</li> <li>c. Mobile homes (from last meeting) this was the first indication of the caravan at of Tye Gate Farm.</li> <li>d. Queens Jubilee (70<sup>th</sup>) next year: ideas (from last meeting) This will depend on pandemic, perhaps join with the Fete Committee? Cllr Wicking will produce a paper on ongoing support for Fete as he will be attending Fete committee meeting soon. Date is important. Will check on contributions from other parishes.</li> <li>e. Bus shelter: The Village Hall Management Committee have confirmed that Battisford Parish Council used to pay rent for the bus shelter which was built on the land belonging to VHMC. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the bus shelter is removed from the Asset Register.</li> <li>f. Tye Gate Farm boundaries: Councillors felt that the boundary division or placement is a matter for the neighbours concerned. Reported overhanging trees on Church Road.</li> </ol>	<p>Cllr Wicking</p> <p>clerk</p>
	<p>Councillors' reports:</p> <p>None</p>	

2021/46	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL/ FACILITIES MATTERS</b>	
a.	<u>Update on Battsford Tree Survey and Tree Warden initiative</u> The tree warden initiative has started: a flyer has gone into Battsford area of the 4 Parishes. The Mid Suffolk Tree initiative is being promoted by tree warden along with J. Crame, Anthea has offered to help.	
b.	<u>Update on slide mound repair</u> The Councillors expressed thanks to Cllr Cook for overseeing this initiative. Access via accessible gate needs to be improved. Permanent signs are required, and the COVID sign removed.	Cllr Cook
c.	<u>Update on the Quiet Lanes initiative</u> (Cllr Zethraeus is lead Councillor) Still waiting for the September survey, but we can go ahead with meetings. Cllr Zethraeus is telling people living on the lane about the initiative. Cllr Zethraeus has a slide show ready for a public meeting once this can go ahead.	
d.	<u>Update on Pond</u> (Green initiative) and Locality Budget funding: no news at the present time	
2021/47	<b>MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEMETERY</b>	
	Awaiting the delivery of the Glasdon bench. The Wildlife area sign and the sign at the entrance are installed: thanks to Cllr Cook and Cllr Zethraeus.	
	The contractor has not left a cut area around the wildlife area as planned.	clerk
2021/48	<b>VILLAGE HALL</b>	
	The solar lights for the Village Hall sign are not working at all well. The Councillors <b>RESOLVED</b> to look at a grant for the improvement work, should the VHMC be mindful to apply.	Appendix D clerk
2021/49	<b>GOVERNANCE and PROTOCOLS</b>	
	BPC Emergency Plan review Clerk to send the template to Cllr Wicking	clerk
2021/50	<b>FINANCIAL MATTERS</b>	
	The Accounts payable for June 2021 were unanimously <b>APPROVED</b>	Appendix E
	<b>ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN</b> The revised Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020/21 was considered: (i) Certificate of Exemption – AGAR 2020/21 Part 2 was unanimously <b>AGREED</b> (ii) Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2020/21 was unanimously <b>AGREED</b> (iii) Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2020/21 was unanimously <b>AGREED</b>	

2021/51	<b>EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION</b>	
	<p>Cllr C Nicholas: the bird scarer has been removed: Rushbrookes said they forgot about it.  Clerk to say yes to the Green access initiative she sent out on 16<sup>th</sup> June.  Neighbourhood Plan: waiting until we are able to discuss.</p> <p>Cllr Dan Pratt had arrived late: he mentioned the active travel consultation, encourage people to highlight areas that need improving.</p> <p>Clerk had received an email: "Just wanted to say thank you for arranging a sign for the cemetery gates about rubbish. It was looking nice and tidy the last few times mum and I visited."  Ringshall: Cllr Nicholas will liaise.</p> <p>FORTHCOMING MEETINGS (for up to date information please see BPC website)  <a href="http://www.battisfordpc.org.uk/battisford-parish-council/meetings/">http://www.battisfordpc.org.uk/battisford-parish-council/meetings/</a></p>	clerk

## Appendix A

### BATTISFORD PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS

(Excerpt)

#### 1.14. Reversing a Previous Resolution

1.14.1 A decision of the Council shall not be reversed within six months except either by a special resolution, the written notice thereof bearing the names of at least four Councillors of the Council or by a resolution passed in pursuance of the report.

1.14.2 When a special resolution or any other resolution passed under the provisions of paragraph

1.14.1 of this order has been disposed of, no similar motion may be moved within a further six months.

## Appendix B

From D/Cllr Pratt 17/06/2021

Hi all,

Following this complaint Peter Broad was in touch with me. After our conversation I am not convinced that there was significant evidence of the footpath diversion other than a verbal report of it and to support refusal of this application on such grounds may have been a rather hasty and misinformed. I am not saying either party is right or wrong here but I have retracted my comments until further evidence emerges.

Dr Daniel Pratt **Mid Suffolk District Councillor (Green Party)**

Battisford and Ringshall Ward

Email: [daniel.pratt@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.pratt@midsuffolk.gov.uk)

Tel: 07775389193

### Summary of BPC cllrs comments

With reference to DC/21/02575, Tye Gate Farmhouse and the footpath. The sign has been turned round to direct walkers around the farmyard. This has been done without permission. The second sign post has been put up by Mr Williams. I have discussed this with Denis and given him copies of the footpath map, a list of landowners and the Mid Suffolk District Council footpath schedule relating to the footpath. It is FP no.44, which: "Commences off the Public

Road, through Tye Gate Farmyard due south, through the field gate into the stackyard, then along the left side of the fence, following around to the gateway into the next field. Then along the right side fence to the top of the field gap in the hedge to join up with paths 38 and 34." The hedges have been removed, but the salient point is that the path goes through the farmyard and not around the property. An anti hare coursing notice has not been removed from the signpost. I have spoken to a nearby resident who confirmed that people often walk around the property rather than across the farmyard, but the footpath nevertheless still legally exists. I understand that residents are upset about the signpost being turned round and the removal of hedges around the property, which will have a detrimental effect on the neighbours. They are concerned about the early and obtrusive siting of the mobile home. It is more obvious because the hedges have been removed.

Mr Williams can apply for the path to be rerouted in the usual way.

The reasons for the PC's decision concerning DC/21/02575 seem valid to me.

**Mid Suffolk DISTRICT**

# PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990  
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)(ENGLAND) ORDER 2015  
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 15 (4) OR (5) OR ARTICLE 16

**APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION**

Reference: DC/21/02575

Proposed Development at: **Tye Gate Farmhouse, Valley Road, Battisford, Suffolk IP14 2HW**

Notice is hereby given that Mr T Williams has applied to Mid Suffolk District Council for planning permission to undertake the following development: **Householder Planning Application - Erection of first floor rear extension, Erection of two storey rear extension, Erection of single storey rear extension and alterations to dwelling including raising the roof of the existing dwelling, Erection of front external porch, new external material finishes and erection of single storey detached garage/store and workshop outbuilding**

**Please Note:**

- This application affects the setting of a Listed Building
- This is an application which may affect a Public Right of Way

Members of the public may inspect electronic copies of:

- the application
- the Plans
- other documents submitted with the application

Application documents and plans are available to view on our website [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk). Click on Planning/Planning application search and Comment/Application search, track and comment then type the application reference DC/21/02575 into the search box. Alternatively use direct link <https://planning.baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk/online-applications/>. Please telephone 0300 1234600 option 5 option 3 to make alternative arrangements if you do not have access to a computer.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application may do so online at [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk) or write to Mid Suffolk District Council, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich IP1 2BX, within 21 days of the date shown below, quoting reference DC/21/02575. Due to the volume of comments received we do not acknowledge individual responses. Any comments received are open to public inspection. In the event that an appeal is made against a decision of the Council to refuse a grant of planning permission for this proposed development, and that appeal then proceeds by way of the expedited procedure under the written representations procedure, any representations made by an owner or tenant made to the council about this application will be passed on to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations. Any owner or tenant wishing to make representations should do so by the date given above.

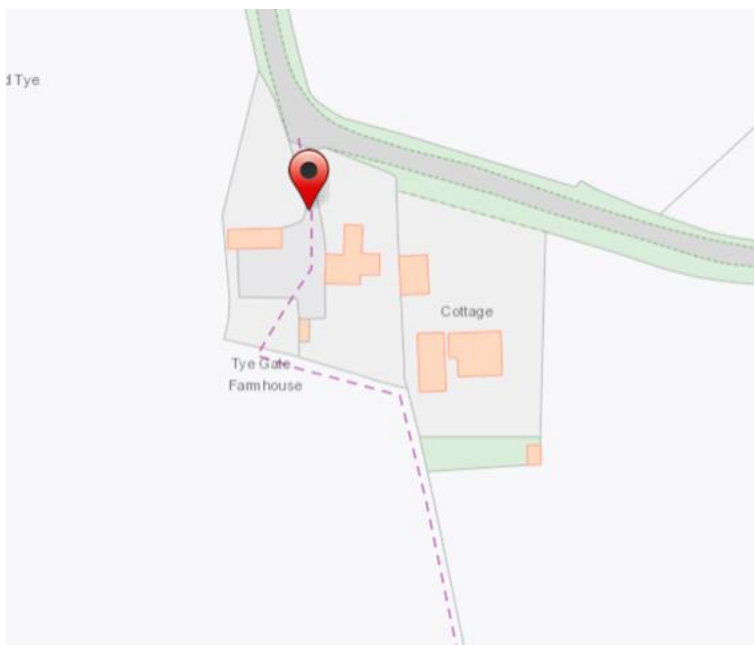
**Case Officer:** Michael Booker  
**E-mail:** [planningblue@babergmidsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:planningblue@babergmidsuffolk.gov.uk)

**Philip Ibbett - Chief Planning Officer - Sustainable Communities**  
On behalf of Mid Suffolk District Council

**DATE:** 19/05/2021







Dear Nicola

Further request for assistance with public footpath on the land of Tye Gate Farmhouse

Thank you for your response to Mr Thomas Williams email of 4June 2021, which we appreciate.

I have already emailed you earlier today to request an agenda please for the PC meeting on 22 June 2021 as well as informing you of our attendance.

However, you have not mentioned nor offered any assistance to us with the owner at Tye Gate Farmhouse Thomas Williams, request for help with the public footpath which the residents here have always sought to uphold and encourage patrons using.

Here is the excerpt once again from the owner Thomas Williams email to you, Nicola dated 4 June 2021, asking for the councils help and advice:-

In summary, far from diverting a public footpath, I have gone to great effort to preserve the path. I have bought a powerful strimmer to clear the path of tall weeds (a council obligation). The path is signed correctly and is cleared of undergrowth. We welcome users of public footpaths, although I have only ever seen it used on one occasion since I moved in 3 months ago. I would also welcome some interest by the Council in maintaining its footpath, which further along away from our plot has fallen into total disrepair due to lack of use and is now completely impassable next to the tall field of rapeseed and thick overgrowth. If someone would like to come and check its route and clear the ground vegetation that would be most welcome.

I will further add that the footpath going south way from our property apart from being impassible is very, very dangerous due for 3 reasons:-

1. Hard ruts from tractor wheels
2. Large dangerous burrow holes
3. A very deep ditch with a sharp sloping incline from your footpath

All these three hazards are disguised by the tall undergrowth and an accident is waiting to happen  
Please, please answer our request for assistance in this matter instead of maligning us without consulting us.

Kind Regards

Angela Horner mother in law to Thomas Williams

From: clerk@battisfordpc.org.uk <clerk@battisfordpc.org.uk>

Sent: 07 June 2021 12:30

To: Angela Horner FRSA <angellahorner@hotmail.com>

Subject: Complaint regarding misinformation re planning application

DC/21/02575 for an extension to Tye Gate Farmhouse Valley Road Battisford IP14 2HW

Dear Mr Williams

Thank you for your recent email.

I have circulated your comments to the parish councillors: the complaint will be considered at our next meeting on 22nd June 2021. This will be held at Battisford Village Hall, starting at 7pm. You are very welcome to attend and speak under `public participation`. The agenda will be posted on the noticeboards and website nearer the time; would you like to be sent a copy?

Regards

Nicola Glading

01842 337488

Battisford Parish Clerk

Please note that I work part-time so there may be a slight delay in my response.

Dear Nicola Glading (Clerk to Battisford Parish Council)

Complaint regarding misinformation re planning application DC/21/02575 for an extension to Tye Gate Farmhouse Valley Road Battisford IP14 2HW

I am Thomas Williams, the owner of Tye Gate Farmhouse Valley Road Battisford. I live in the current property with my parents in law; Angela and Richard Horner. I have submitted a planning application (DC/21/02575) to extend my property so that it can house my civil partner, Peter Broad, and provide an annexe for my parents in law who are in their 70s.

The planning application was discussed at the Parish Council meeting on 19th May 2021 and the minutes of that meeting were subsequently sent to the Planning Officer on 21st May 2021 and posted to the Planning Applications website on 24th May 2021.

The minutes detail an OBJECTION to the planning application and lists four things. Two of these objections are factually

incorrect whilst the other two are at odds with the planning advice that we have received from our architect. I will go through each of these objections.

#### First objection

We note that development work has already been initiated: this includes the unauthorised diversion of a public footpath by moving the official signage. No mention of this impact has been made in the Planning Statement, nor does an application for footpath diversion appear to have been made. It is apparent that a mobile home has been installed on the site; this obstructs the public footpath (Battisford FP44 which runs through the property from North to South).

#### Response

I have not started development work. I have not diverted the footpath nor have I moved the signage since I took up residence on 8th March 2021.

There were only three footpath signs that were present when I moved in, there are now four.

The first signpost was at the entrance to the property on the right-hand side. I found it leaning at an angle of 45 degrees (probably caused by winds and unauthorized fly posting) and pointing through the line of poplar trees that run along the west side of our property. It was not clear exactly where the path ran so I found a street map picture from a google map of 2010. I uprighted the post from its 45-degree list and strengthened its base with metal pegs, positioning it as best I could using the google maps picture as a guide.

There was a second post previously not visible, found completely covered with overgrown foliage laying down near the poplar trees to the north west side of the plot, I have reinserted this and positioned it again using the online map I found as a guide.

The third signpost is next to the temporary mobile home. This is correctly directing the footpath as it should around the southwest corner of the plot which is also around the mobile home, which can be clearly seen does not obstruct the public footpath whatsoever.

The fourth footpath sign is located in the southeast corner of my plot.

If a line is drawn from the southwest corner of my plot to this post in the southeast corner, it is apparent that the footpath is NOT obstructed by the mobile home whatsoever. In fact, this is now a much clearer passable area than was previously present, since I have cleared the overgrown trees on my land which had previously restricted the footpath somewhat to the rear.

Incidentally, it should be noted that approximately 30m south of my plot along the footpath, there is a fifth signpost that is pointing at a 90-degree angle straight down into the ditch. This goes to show I have gone over and above to maintain the footpath and preserve where otherwise it has been neglected.

In summary, far from diverting a public footpath, I have gone to great effort to preserve the path. I have bought a powerful strimmer to clear the path of tall weeds (a council obligation). The path is signed correctly and is cleared of undergrowth. We welcome users of public footpaths, although I have only ever seen it used on one occasion since I moved in 3 months ago. I would also welcome some interest by the Council in maintaining its footpath, which further along away from our plot has fallen into total disrepair due to lack of use and is now completely impassable next to the tall field of rapeseed and thick overgrowth. If someone would like to come and check its route and clear the ground vegetation that would be most welcome.

I am deeply offended by your allegations that I have diverted footpath signposts.

#### Second Objection

The trees and foliage between Tye Gate Farmhouse and the neighbouring Grade 2 listed property (list entry 1033024), Tye Cottage, has already been removed, resulting in a lack of privacy for the residents at Tye Cottage

#### Response

This is untrue; There have been no trees removed from any border to Tye Cottage. Photographic evidence is available to show what was present when I moved in.

When I moved into the property in March 2021, I found that there was no substantive boundary fence between me and the neighbouring Tye Cottage.

There were large gaps in a very sparse patchy hedge through which one could easily pass and as such was not safe for

my dogs. It was agreed with the owner that he would install a fence of his choosing and this would be jointly funded. There were some shrubs and a dilapidated broken fence, which was in fact dangerous and held up with a single length of washing line. This was on my side of the boundary and it was agreed with my neighbour that it required removal in order for him to install a new fence. I agreed with him to remove a large tree stump (covering the boundary line in the southeast corner) and to contribute a sum towards the concrete posts of the new fence. Within days I had arranged the removal of the tree stump at considerable expense. Now I understand that planning permission is required to erect the fence. The shrubs mentioned that were removed, were on my land so there was no obligation on me to leave them there in order to provide privacy since Mr Durrant led me to believe this was going to be provided by a new maximum height fence. The bushes were not removed as part of an anticipated development they needed to be removed in order to provide a watertight boundary fence a fence that was specified by my neighbour, Mr Durrant, himself.

My neighbour, Mr Durrant, at Tye Cottage was made aware of the plans for my property before I bought the property and his support greatly influenced my decision to purchase.

He was very supportive and encouraging on numerous occasions throughout, having visited with the proposals explained to him in detail, assuring me of his full support without any objection in terms of planning. He has now done a complete u turn in submitting a statement in opposition which now appears on the website. I feel that this is an unforgivable betrayal of my trust and good nature.

Any other relevant objections will be responded to directly to the planning officer.

I have shown and can provide irrefutable evidence that the decision and published minutes from the parish council meeting are based on incorrect information and go further to make accusations referring to myself and my family as residents of Tye gate Farmhouse.

These untrue and defamatory statements have been placed with total disregard for our good name on a public forum. As such this amounts to defamation of character, discrediting my family and I in an extremely negative and unfavourable view for local residents and beyond to see. These actions indeed have had the effect of prejudicing our planning application and tarnishing our good character, which have both now been unjustly compromised as a result. Publishing false accusations concerning individuals without verifying facts are both intimidating and derogatory in nature and amount to bully tactics.

Both myself and my elderly mother-in-law suffer from anxiety and depression, which has been dramatically increased as a result of the unfounded accusations and comments made by the parish council. We have been made to feel very unwelcome and vilified in Battsford due to the negative public view that these unwarranted accusations have shamefully generated.

I am now taking legal advice with regard on how to proceed further. In the first instance, I request that the prejudicial and defamatory statement be removed immediately and a full apology be published in its place. I am appalled that the parish council would take such action in the first place without fact checking information.

It is imperative that as a matter of urgency a full and documented investigation is conducted as to the source of these untrue statements. I was not advised that this item was on the agenda. The fact that I was not present, however, does not take the responsibility away from you to check the facts before publication. Please provide a timescale and outline for a full and documented investigation into how and why this misleading information was able to be published.

Details of the independent adjudicator that will be conducting this will also be required to ensure that this task is completed competently and fairly.

Photographic evidence is available

Please advise if a full and thorough investigation cannot be completed promptly, so this case can be forwarded to the local government ombudsman for investigation and resolution forthwith.

Yours sincerely

Thomas Williams owner of Tye Gate Farmhouse

## Appendix C

### Battisford Parish Council Speed Indicator Device (SID) and Suffolk Roadsafe Partnership Support

#### Background

The parish has four SID locations- two on Straight Road, one on Bowl Road (actually in Combs parish) and one on Mill Road.

The SID is moved periodically between the four locations on a variable 2–4-week rotational basis.

The two Straight Road locations record the highest volume of traffic, the highest speeds, and the greatest proportion of motorists exceeding the 30mph speed limits.

The table below scores the sites in accordance with these three issues; the higher the incidence of the issue, the higher the score (1-4). The 'risk' score effectively ranks the sites in order of danger.

	Traffic volume	Highest Speed	Highest % of speeders	'Risk' score
<b>Straight Road village hall</b>	4	3	3	10 (2 <sup>nd</sup> )
<b>Straight Road recreation ground</b>	3=	4	4	11 (1 <sup>st</sup> )
<b>Bowl Road</b>	3=	2=	1	6 (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
<b>Mill Road</b>	1	2=	2	5 (4 <sup>th</sup> )

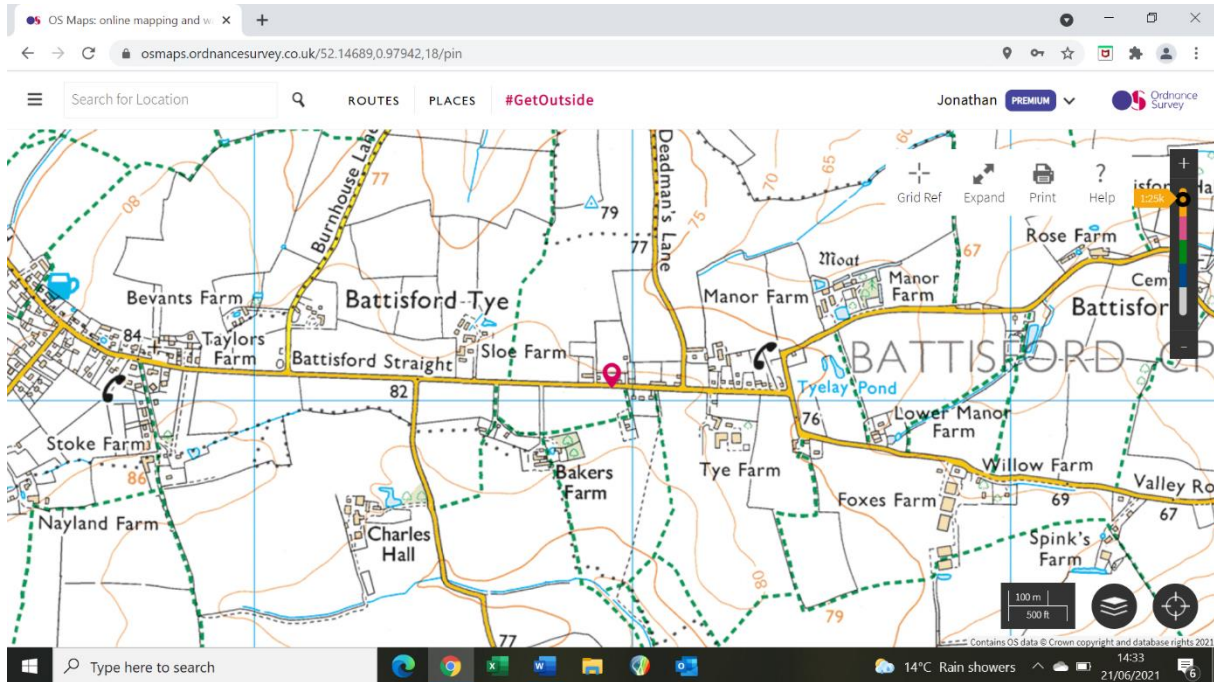
Data used is taken from approximately two years of SID analysis over the four sites.

## SID locations

### 1 Straight Road, Battisford (village hall) - Rank #2

OS Grid Ref: TM 03948 54031

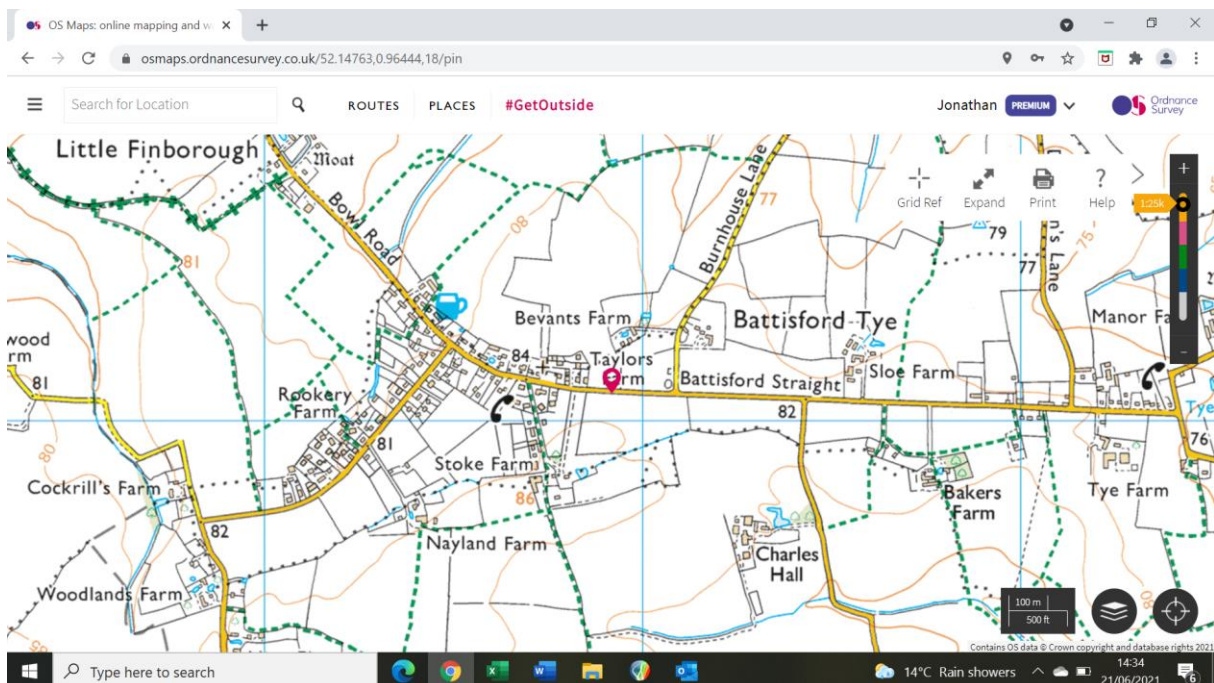
Records westbound vehicles, including commuter traffic to Wattisham Flying Station



### 2 Straight Road, Battisford (recreation ground) – Rank #1

OS Grid Ref: TM 02921 54070

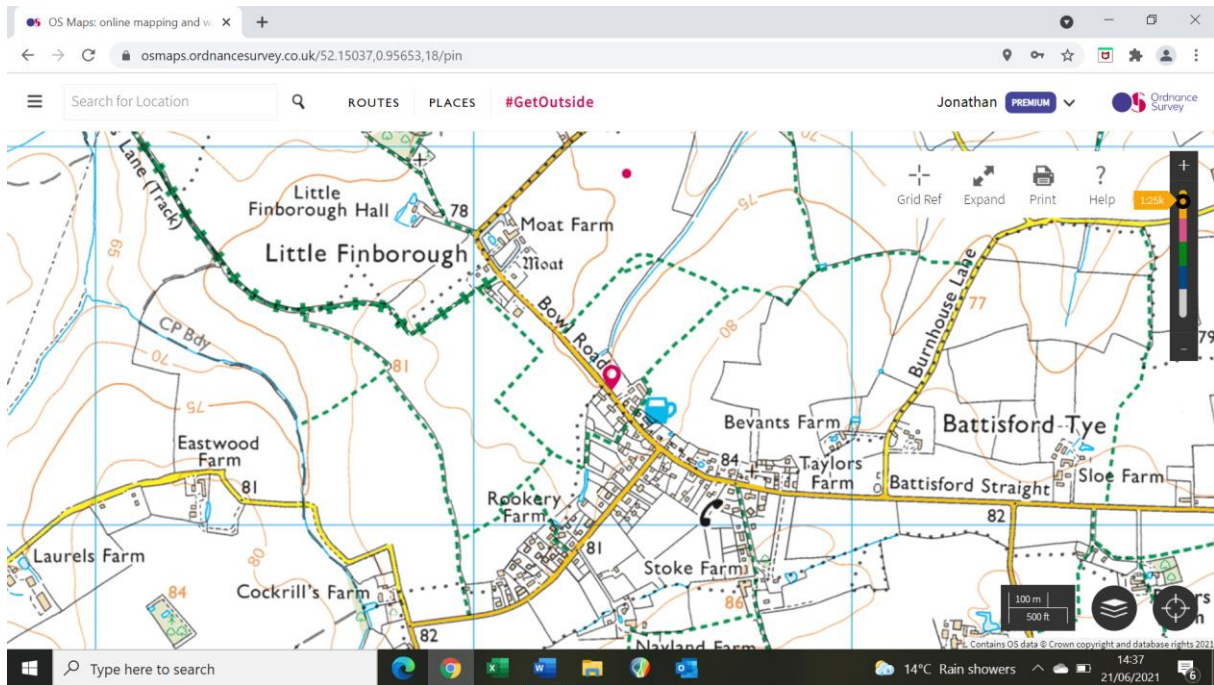
Records westbound traffic; situated at the end a one mile (national speed limit) straight



### 3 Bowl Road, Little Finborough (Punchbowl Public House) – Rank #3

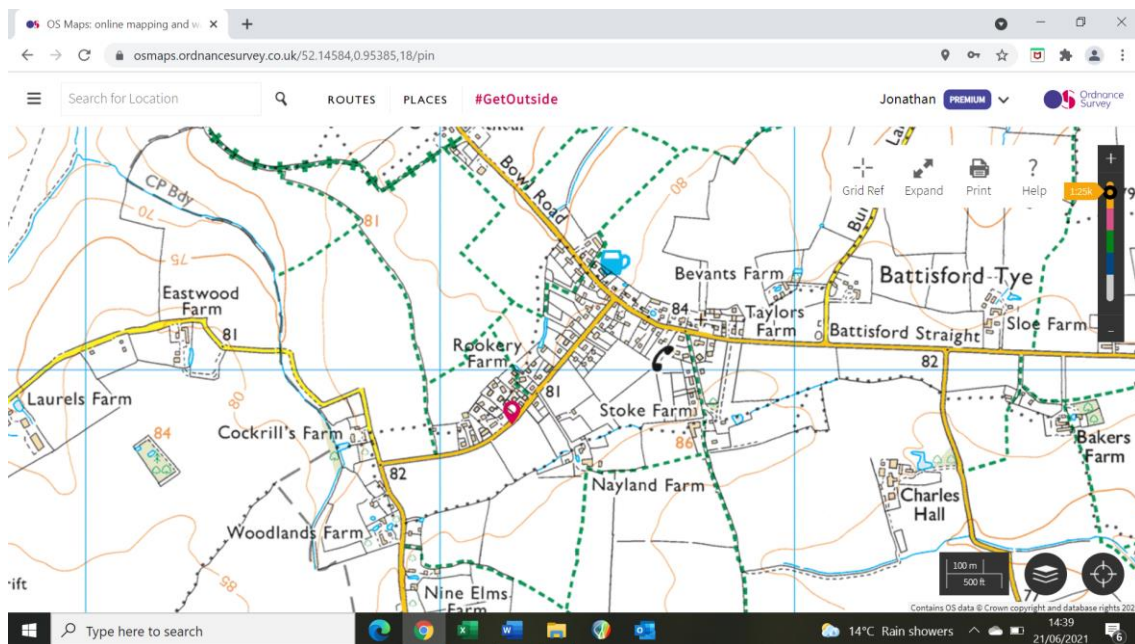
OS Grid Ref: TM 02367 54352

Records eastbound traffic entering residential area



### 4 Mill Road, Batisford – Rank #4

OS Grid Ref: TM 02204 53842 Records south-westbound traffic leaving residential area





## SID data

Data has been recorded and analysed for approximately two years and is a standing agenda report item at Parish Council meetings. Speeds as high as 80mph have been recorded at the village recreation ground, and 65/70mph is periodically recorded at the two Straight Road locations.

A fairly consistent 30% of all traffic exceed the speed limits at all four locations, with a significantly higher c38% recorded at the recreation area.

Traffic volume (measured one-way) is 3,100 weekly movements at the village hall site, 2,300 at Bowl Meadow and by the recreation ground, and 1,600 in Mill Road.

The SID is able only to be sited in one of the four fixed locations agreed by SCC Highways and records traffic movements in one direction only. There is concern that there is no speed mitigation effect on drivers travelling in directions not recorded by the SID when entering or leaving residential areas.

Battisford Parish Council's SID is manufactured by Westcotec Traffic Safety Systems. It is secured to dedicated 30mph traffic signposts with brackets (believed) unique to the device. Should additional SIDs/ or ANPR cameras be sought, it is unlikely the existing Westcotec brackets could be used for new equipment, and is also questionable that there is space on the existing SID signposts to affix additional brackets. It is expected new mountings/signposts would be required in either existing or new locations.

Data and anecdotal evidence (e.g. complaints from residents and speeding incidences witnessed when on-site downloading SID data) shows the highest risk SID locations to be on Straight Road at the village hall and recreation ground.

The village hall site records almost 50% more traffic movement than the next busiest site, combined with high speeds (<70mph). The SID records only westbound movement of vehicles exiting a 30mph residential zone. Vehicles travelling eastbound are not recorded and have the potential to be travelling at higher speeds, having entered the restricted (30mph) area from (potentially) a mile of straight carriageway with unobstructed sitelines.

The recreation ground SID records westbound vehicles slowing from a mile straight and the national speed limit. The SID is positioned approximately 200m inside the 30mph zone and is activated by vehicles approximately 50m from its location. By the time of activation vehicles will have already travelled approximately 150m within the 30mph limit, past the road junction with Burnt House Lane, and past two entrances to the recreation ground. Consideration should be given to the benefits to speed reduction measures sited further east, nearer the start of the 30mph zone to encourage drivers to decelerate earlier. A vehicle travelling at 80mph has been recorded at this location.

Parish Councillors are aware of the speeding issues at the two Straight Road sites and have the support of County and District Councillors in attempting to introduce traffic calming measures.

## **ANPR Technology**

Suffolk County Council, in partnership with the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Constabulary (the Suffolk Roadsafe Partnership), are trialling the use of Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras to tackle speeding hot spots.

Cameras will help detect and deter speeding offences that have been highlighted in towns and villages, and educate drivers on the importance of road safety.

An ANPR camera is installed where it has been identified by a local council, with support from their county councillor, that there is a problem with speeding and/or rat-running on roads with a 20 or 30mph speed limit. The devices are moved between sites and remain in situ for up to one week per site. Data is shared with the Police and the County Council.

The criteria for accessing this support is available at

[https://suffolkroadsafe.com/uploads/ANPR\\_guidance\\_note\\_-\\_24\\_3\\_21.pdf](https://suffolkroadsafe.com/uploads/ANPR_guidance_note_-_24_3_21.pdf)

Battisford Parish Council is reviewing the requirements for ANPR support and, should the criteria be met, intends to apply for Suffolk Roadsafe Partnership support at the two Straight Road sites.

## **Appendix D**

From: dean m williams Date: 21/06/2021

To: jandj.wilson@btinternet.com Subject: BPC Meeting Agenda Good

Evening Jan, Stan has asked me to e-mail you regarding your upcoming meeting of which he would like to attend. Please can you add to your Agenda the Solar panel lights on the front of the village hall. Basically, BPC offered to supply and install the solar lights for us to help identify where the hall is in the dark winter months 2 maybe 3 years ago now. Ever since they were installed only 2 of the lights have ever worked and it's not overly bright. Stan was dealing with this previously with the PC and just wanted to follow up. I believe the PC were going back to the supplier to see if this could be looked at and fixed, at that point this may have been still under warranty however as time has passed this may no longer be the case? Just wanted to see what the PC thoughts are on this repair, are you able to provide us with the information of who completed the install, we can pick up directly if that helps? or if this is no longer under warranty would it be easier for us to pick this back up ourselves and either fix the light or come up with another solution which we will fund. Many Thanks, Dean.

## Appendix E

### Battisford Parish Council Accounts Payable June 2021

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>
N Glading	Salary June 2021	£330.98	
N Glading	Office expenses April, May, June £78 + £18.87 forth share of ink for HP Office Jet	£96.87	
Mid Suffolk D C	Bin emptying Apr 2021 to March 2022	£402.24	£67.04
Eastern Play Services	Slide mound repairs	£6,342.00	£1,057.00
Four Seasons Parish magazine	Grant awarded	£30.00	
Tops Garden Services	6th May and 20th May cuts	£216.00	£36.00
J Cook re-imburse	signs	£14.94	£2.49