



MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Monday 04 March 2024 commencing at 7.30pm held at Tattingstone Village Hall.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED INCLUDED AT APPENDIX B

PRESENT: Cllrs R Abbott, D Hawes, J Lee, G Mark, S Page (Chair), B Plumbly and B Stennett.

Also in attendance: S Keys (Clerk), 7 members of the public.

01. WELCOME AND OPENING STATEMENT

Cllr Page declared the meeting open at 7.30pm and thanked all for attending. A statement was read out indicating that, in accordance with legislation, the public and councillors were permitted to film, record, photograph or use social media in order to report on the proceedings of the meeting. A full transcript is on the Council's website.

02. ADDRESS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE MEETING

Cllr Page read out the following statement: "At the last Parish Council meeting at which I was the Chair, during the debate on a grant application from Tattingstone Events I failed to respond appropriately to comments made by Councillor Stennett which were of a personal nature towards Cllr Hawes. I should have acted at that point as such comments are not acceptable but I didn't and I must formally apologise to Councillor Hawes and other Councillors for not conducting the meeting in accordance with the standards we have all agreed to. I will endeavour to do my utmost to ensure any future debates I am Chairing will be managed correctly."

Cllr Stennett apologised for his comments and informed the meeting that they were not intended to cause offence.

03. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- a) Council to receive apologies for absence – The Council noted the apologies received from Parish Cllrs Clarke and Mendel, County Councillor Harley and District Councillor Potter.
- b) Council agreed to approve the apologies submitted – **The Council unanimously approved the apologies as noted.**

04. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTEREST FROM COUNCILLORS INCLUDING GIFTS OF HOSPITALITY EXCEEDING £25

- a) To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registerable interests and non-registerable interests as detailed in Appendix B of the LGA Model Code of Conduct – Cllrs Stennett noted a registerable interest in agenda item 10G as the trustee of the Playing Field Committee and Cllr Abbott noted a registerable interest in agenda item 10G as a member of the Playing Field Committee.
- b) To receive notification of gifts of hospitality exceeding £50 – there were none received.
- c) To receive requests for dispensations – Cllrs Stennett and Abbott requested a dispensation for agenda item 10G. **The Chair proposed that the Councillors should be allowed to discuss the request but not allowed to vote during this item, aif.**

05. MINUTES

- a) To approve the minutes of the meeting on 05 February 2024 – following discussion **Council approved the proposal that the following statement should be added to the minutes in Section 3C "Cllr Page proposed that Cllrs Hawes and Lee be allowed to speak during agenda item 9g, but would not participate in the vote, aif (Cllrs Hawes and Lee abstained from the vote)", aif.** Following this amendment the minutes were approved as an accurate record and signed by the Chair of the meeting.
- b) To consider/approve proposal for changes to the process for distributing draft minutes from Cllr Stennett – Cllr Stennett proposed that Draft minutes should be circulated to Parish Councillors at least 48 hours prior to publication on the website. The Clerk pointed out that the minutes are circulated with the agenda as per the Tattingstone Standing Orders. Cllr Stennett's proposal was seconded by Cllr Abbott. 2 Councillors voted in favour of the proposal, 3 Councillors voted against the proposal, 2 Councillors abstained from the vote. The motion was therefore not carried.
Cllr Lee proposed that draft minutes should include a 'Draft' watermark until they have been approved by the Council, this was seconded by Cllr Page, aif.



06. CLERK'S REPORT

- a) To review actions from the previous meeting, the Clerk gave the following updates:
- Put sticker on dog bin about responsible use of the bin – completed
 - Review the process for renaming a road – completed and circulated to Councillors. The Chair informed the Council that he had discussed the possible road name change with other residents in the area. One resident had not been in favour of the change and one resident had not been concerned. Since there was not a consensus amongst the residents in this location it was agreed not to pursue this further. The Clerk to email the resident with this update (*ACTION – Clerk*)
 - Create and install new Play area sign at Back Gate – a sign had been created and installed, however, this had been placed in the wrong location and had since been broken. Following discussion **Cllr Abbott proposed that two new signs should be purchased using TPC CIL funds for installation at the front and back entrances of the Playing Field, aif.** (*ACTION – Clerk*)
 - Invite Ian Poole to the next Parish Council meeting – Clerk confirmed that a meeting between Ian Poole and the PC had been arranged and taken place
 - Purchase four replacement benches – three benches purchased and installed as per information received from Cllr Stennett. Cllr Stennett confirmed that he would clean the bench by the Wheatsheaf.
 - Provide bench location details to the Clerk – completed.
- b) To receive the reports of items actioned under delegated powers – the Clerk confirmed that the date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council from 06 May 2024 to 13 May 2024.
- c) To receive items of correspondence for noting only – Council noted the following emails:
- From Suffolk Wildlife Trust giving feedback re: Tattingstone Neighbourhood Plan and offering a meeting to the Parish Council to discuss increasing Biodiversity in Tattingstone. Following discussion the Parish Council agreed to invite Suffolk Wildlife Trust to present to the Council prior to a Parish Council meeting. (*ACTION – Clerk*)

07. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

- a) A written report had been submitted from Cllr. Harley (available as Appendix C).
- b) A written report had been submitted from Cllr Potter (available as Appendix D).

08. PUBLIC FORUM

- a) To receive questions and matters of concern from members of the public in attendance on the agenda submitted – Members of the public highlighted concerns about Planning Application DC/24/such as
- The scale of development amongst the current properties in the area
 - The proposed buildings being built in front of the building line
 - Loss of biodiversity
 - The cutting down of mature Beech trees to make way for this development
- b) To receive comments or questions relating to Tattingstone in particular – A member of the public raised concerns about the draft Tattingstone Neighbourhood Plan and stated that in his opinion the plan in its current form does not meet the needs of the the community. Following discussion Cllr Lee agreed to invite the resident to the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan meeting. (*ACTION – Cllr Lee*)
- c) To receive questions and comments submitted in writing/email for future consideration by the Council – none received.

09. STATUTORY BUSINESS

- a) To note receipt the annual play inspection report for the Tattingstone Play area – the Council noted the report.. The Chair noted a worrying number of amber issues identified in the report. The Council noted that the recommendations included would be addressed by the Tattingstone Playing Field Committee.

10. FINANCE

- a) To note the balance of accounts as at 29 February 2024 – Lloyds Account, £43,243.70, Current Account, £5.60 and Deposit Account £3,216.98, **Council noted the balance of accounts, aif.**
- b) To note the accounting spot check undertaken by Cllr Page prior to the meeting – Cllr Page noted that a spot check would be undertaken in the coming month.
- c) To approve the accounts awaiting payment including those coming forth and the receipts allocated since the last meeting – an updated Paper 1 was circulated to Council. The items awaiting payment and the receipts allocated



were verified and explanations given where appropriate. **All were in agreement to approve those items as submitted under Paper 2 for payment, as seen at Appendix A, aif.**

- d) To review and approve Bank Reconciliation statement to 29 February 2024 - Council noted the overall bank balances of £46,466.28 across all accounts held in the name of the Parish Council. **It was confirmed that the account to the end of February were approved, aif.**
- e) To note the CIL report for February 2024 including nominal sums for potential CIL expenditure for the coming year - Council noted the balance of £17,171.91 once the approved allocated sums of monies for CIL bids had been expended. It was shown on the report as submitted that this would drop to £9520.91 once committed sums were also included.
- f) To note donations made to date in 2023-24 – Council noted total donations of £550 made and an unspent donations budget of £250. The Council unanimously agreed that the unspent budget would be carried over to the donations budget for 2024-25.

At 8.34pm Cllr Hawes left the meeting.

- g) To consider the request for financial support from Tattingstone Playing Field Committee – the Council reviewed the request received from Tattingstone Playing Field Committee towards the costs of the Village Fete in June. The Council noted that the Committee had requested funding to be provided in the next financial year. Following discussion **Cllr Page proposed that the Parish Council made a grant of £500 towards the cost of this event to be paid in the next Financial year, this was seconded by Cllr Mark, aif.** (Cllrs Abbott and Stennett abstained from the vote.)

11. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) To consider and agree response to the following planning matters relating to Tattingstone:
DC/24/00549
Erection of 2No detached one-and-a-half storey dwellings
West Maine, The Heath, Tattingstone, Ipswich Suffolk IP9 2LX
The Chair opened the meeting to the public to receive any further comments in relation to this application. A member of the public noted that he has some professional expertise in this area and agreed to review the application and forward any other comments.
Following discussion Cllr Page proposed that the Council should recommend refusal of the planning application based on the comments received from members of the public and any further comments received from a local resident, this was seconded by Cllr Stennett, aif.
DC/23/04109
Application under S73a for Removal or Variation of a Condition following grant of Planning Permission B/12/00500 dated 18/12/2015 under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.- To vary Condition 27 (Approved Plans)
Former HMS Ganges Site, Shotley Gate, Shotley, Suffolk
The Council agreed that it had no comment to make.
- b) To note the following decision notices received:
DC/23/05943
Repair works to the horse sign and replacement post.
White Horse, White Horse Hill, Tattingstone, Ipswich Suffolk IP9 2NU
LISTED BUILDING CONSENT GRANTED

12. VILLAGE MATTERS

- a) To receive an update from the Playing Field Representative if appropriate – Cllr Page gave an update the following:
 - Plans for the village fete
 - New play equipment – planning application is now complete and a positive meeting has been held with Babergh District Council
 - Thanks to the Parish Council noted for new benches
- b) To receive an update from the Neighbourhood Plan – Councillors noted the following concerns:
 - Method of sharing documents with the Parish Council
 - Green space issues and lack of consultation with landowners
 - Queried who are Committee members for the group.



Cllr Lee confirmed that steering group membership would be shared with the Parish Council once all members had been asked if they were happy to have their details shared.

Cllr Lee reminded the Council that the document is currently still in the draft stage and changes can be made should the Parish Council decide to do so.

Cllr Page proposed that landowners should be written to about the Green Space element of the Plan giving them a further six weeks to respond, this was seconded by Cllr Stennett, aif.

At 9pm Cllr Mark left the meeting.

Following discussion the Parish Council agreed that in future the Parish Council should be invited to attend the Neighbourhood Plan meetings, via the Clerk.

13. ALTON WATER USER GROUP MEETING

- a) To consider any issues to be raised at this meeting – the Council agreed that the following issues should be highlighted:
- More monitoring of the section that does not allow cycling
 - Need for increased signage re: dogs on leads on the west side of Alton Water
 - Bridge across Alton Water – is this SCC or Alton Water responsibility?
 - Need to rebuild fences along White Horse Hill
- b) To consider/agree next steps as appropriate – Cllr Page to attend the meeting and feedback issues raised.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- a) Parish Council meeting - Monday 08 April 2024, 7.30pm at Tattingstone Village Hall
- b) Annual Parish meeting – Monday 15 April 2024, 6.30pm at Tattingstone Village Hall

Meeting closed to the public at 9.20pm

SIGNED.....DATED.....



ACTIONS

MONTH	MINUTE NO.	ACTION	WHO
March	06	Email resident re: decision not to request a name change for The Wonder	Clerk
March	06	Invite Suffolk Wildlife Trust to make a presentation to the Parish Council about Increasing biodiversity in Tattingstone	Clerk
March	06	Purchase two additional signs for the Playing Field Committee	Clerk
March	08	Invite local resident to next Neighbourhood Plan meeting	JL



Appendix A – Finance Report

Accounts submitted for payment – Current Account

Payee	Detail	Method	NETT	VAT	TOTAL
S. Keys	Clerk/RFO Feb 24 Salary	Bank Transfer	508.70		508.70
S. Keys	Clerk's Expenses – Feb 2024	Bank Transfer	9.00		9.00
D. Childs	Playing Field Grounds Maintenance (inv. TBC)	Bank Transfer	130.00		130.00
Marktek	Signs for playing Field and Dog Litter Bin	Bank Transfer	49.83	9.97	59.80
NBB Recycled Furniture	3 x village benches	Bank Transfer	1245.00	249.00	1494.00
Tattingstone Events Committee	Donation towards running costs of Tattler	Bank Transfer	500.00		500.00
Places4People	Neighbourhood Plan Support as per fee proposal July 2023	Bank Transfer	3498.00	499.60	4197.60

Receipts allocated

	Detail	Method	TOTAL
Allotment hirers	Allotment rent	BACS	42.28



Appendix B - Glossary of Common Abbreviations used

Aif	All in favour
AGAR	Annual Governance and Accountability Return
APM	Annual Parish Meeting
ASB	Anti-social Behaviour
BACS	Bankers Automated Clearing Services
BDC	Babergh District Council
BMSDC	Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Council
CAS	Community Action Suffolk
Chq	Cheque
Cllr	Councillor
Cttee	Committee
DC	District Council
DCLG	Department of Communities and Local Government
FOI	Freedom of Information
FR	Financial Regulations
GPoC	General Power of Competence
HMRC	Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs
LAIS (from SALC)	Local Association's Information Services
LPA	Local Planning Authority
NHS	National Health Service
NDP	Neighbourhood Development Plan
NP	Neighbourhood Plan
PC	Parish Council
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
Rec	Recreation
RFO	Responsible Finance Officer
SALC	Suffolk Association of Local Councils
SCC	Suffolk County Council
SID	Speed Indicator Device
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SNT	Safer Neighbourhood Team
SO	Standing Order
TPC	Tattingstone Parish Council
TPF	Tattingstone Playing Field
TVH	Tattingstone Village Hall
TPO	Tree Preservation Order
VAS	Vehicle Activated Sign
VCSE	Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Organisations



APPENDIX C



Council Budget for 2024-25

At Council on 15 February, Suffolk councillors met to discuss and vote on the administration's budget proposals. The council is borrowing heavily from its reserves to meet the growing demand for social care for adults and children, and council tax is due to rise by £74 annually for Band D properties from April this year. There will also be cuts to Family Hubs (children's centres) and Housing Related Support, which supports vulnerable people like care leavers to find accommodation. Funding for arts and museums will be maintained for 2024-25 but not from SCC core funding, and subject to a bidding process for grants from April 2025. The Bury St Edmunds local archives will be moved to The Hold in Ipswich, which like the arts funding cuts has been controversial locally.

My group were concerned about the lack of core funding from Suffolk County Council to arts and museums, as this is how they secure funding from other sources, and we proposed an amendment to this effect. We also suggested that some of the council's remaining Covid funding from the government be used to support young people not in education, employment or training, as this cohort had suffered a lot of upheaval in their final years of schooling and exams. Support for young people not in education, employment and training is one of the services that is due to be cut in the administration's budget plans. Our amendment was declined by the Conservatives, as was the Labour amendment which also proposed to reverse some of the planned cuts.

Ofsted/CQC SEND Inspection Report

As you may have read in the local press, Ofsted and CQC published their joint report into SEND services in Suffolk at the beginning of the month. The report was scathing about the county's SEND provision and detailed the failures of the council to communicate and work with parents and carers, improve the EHCP and annual review processes and waiting times, improve outcomes and reduce exclusions. My group was disappointed and concerned that the services are yet to get to grips with improving a service that has now received a third poor inspection result in a row and we offered our assistance to the Local Area Partnership (Suffolk County Council and NHS teams) in preparing the Priority Action Plan they now need to submit to Ofsted and CQC by 7 March.

The poor report led to the resignation of the Cabinet members for SEND, Education and Children's Services and prompted a reshuffle of the political leadership at the council. This report will be devastating for parents of children with special needs in Suffolk, and the council will need to work hard to make improvements quickly and build back trust.

Suffolk Devolution in Sight

Devolution is something there has been a lot of talk about in Suffolk in recent years, and it looks like it may be happening from 2025. The deal the government is offering Suffolk is the same as the one for Norfolk and would give the county more freedom on decisions and funding for transport, skills and adult education, regenerating brownfield sites and retrofitting homes to make them more energy-efficient. If the deal is approved, the leader of Suffolk County Council would be directly elected by the people of Suffolk - every four years, residents will be given two votes, to elect their local county councillor AND the leader of the county council. The first election would take place in May 2025. The council will be consulting on the deal soon and residents will be able to give their opinions on the changes proposed. For more information, see <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/devolution>

Devolution Deal is out for Public Consultation from 18th March for 10 weeks - take part!

Changes to Local Archives



Following the recent controversial proposal in the county council's budget to move local records from Bury St Edmunds to The Hold in Ipswich, the council have announced that they will be inviting community representatives from both Lowestoft and Bury St Edmunds to form two new Working Parties to consider local access to historical material. This could allow relevant collections to remain in the local area, but any proposals would need to be funded locally rather than by Suffolk County Council. This is not a reversal of the council's decision, and the majority of the records are still planned to move to The Hold, with the North-East and West Suffolk branches of the archive service to close.

Money available for local Highways Signs!

A small pot of money has been made available to County Councillors to help the repair and replacement of damaged/lost signs on the Highway. This applies to all official Highways signs, I believe. The funds have to be committed by December 2024 so if you are aware of any signs you want repaired please report this on the Highways reporting tool then email me the reference and I will try to get them done more speedily.

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Website - [Suffolk Green, Liberal Democrat and Independent Group – The GLI Group at Suffolk County Council \(suffolkgli.wordpress.com\)](#)

Cost of Living help and advice:

<https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/family.page?familychannel=6>

Benefits advice and support:

<https://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/kb5/suffolk/infolink/adult.page?adultchannel=0>

Flood preparation advice: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/suffolk-fire-and-rescue-service/fire-and-rescue-safety-advice-in-the-community/preparing-for-flooding>

Flood recovery advice and support: <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/about/flood-recovery-information-for-suffolk>

Simon Harley Suffolk County Councillor for Peninsula Division



APPENDIX D

Report from District Councillor Daniel Potter – March 2024

At the last full council meeting on 20th February, the council after discussion and debate voted to pass the Annual Budget and the Housing Revenue Account as the main focus of its agenda.

Regrettably there will be increases on rents to social tenants and council tax rises particularly in Band D properties but facing extreme financial pressures put on core services at Babergh and what the council can provide in improving council housing stock which is falling behind in too many incomplete areas such as repairs and stock condition surveys which after the HRA latest report was drafted aims to ramp up these surveys and attend to long outstanding repairs still logged in the system.

Intense scrutiny in council during such challenging times was needed in order to take a serious look at the way the budget needs to ensure future funding when the serving those people in severe difficulties.

Councils up and down the country are facing financial pressures upon their budgets and Babergh is no exception to the national pressures which exist, difficult decisions lie ahead.

Car parking charges are currently in the sphere of consideration in respect to budgets, but no overriding decision has been made to begin charging Babergh customers tariffs for short stay car parking and there was no inclusion of them in this year's budget. Council did vote in favour note the weight of signatures brought forward by a parking petition conducted by Lavenham Cllr Paul Clover which argues to retain free short stay parking in respect to how it would help local shops and businesses in Babergh's larger market towns and a consultation is being conducted in person for local parishes or town councils who will operate the car parks in Babergh and a written prepared survey for Parishes to complete online by March 5th.

As Portfolio Holder for Environment I will present in front of Cabinet the Carbon Reduction Management Plan to be formally adopted as Babergh's strategy to reduce it's carbon emissions to net zero by 2030. All areas of the council main activities will incorporate the CRMP from leisure and tourism, planning, cycling, walking and transport to housing. It is a huge undertaking but with the funding strategy equipped to implement this plan the ambitious target of meeting net zero in the next 6 years can be achieved.

Finally I have met with officers recently in regard to the Pin Mill Houseboats on the Hard area in terms of a legal statutory plan Babergh DC is implementing in 2-3 months so all moored Houseboats are subject to the same conditions of responsibilities for their tender on the hard. Sign posting will start to be seen very soon in the area in the coming weeks to inform residents of the Houseboats of these statutory changes, it has taken some time to prepare but it was recognised by Babergh that although the river isn't in their area of responsibility they do own the land surrounding the Hard and a proposed workable solution needed to be found to the benefit of all.