

## Tattingstone Parish Council

Minutes of a video meeting via Zoom of Tattingstone Parish Council on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April  
at 7.30pm

### **Apologies for absence.**

Cllrs Gipps, Clarke, Hawes and D Cllr Gould

#### **1. Declaration of interest.**

N/A

#### **2. To consider requests for dispensation.**

N/A

#### **3. To approve, as accurate, minutes of meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020**

These were forwarded to Councillors. Clerk has received no amendments to me. proposed, seconded and agreed.

#### **4. To receive Clerk's Report.**

- The clerk has been learning how virtual meetings are conducted. Some worries about Zoom but SALC are still saying ok. Lots of advice coming out each day from many sources. England is being slower than devolved governments of Wales and Scotland in giving advice to local authorities on a range of issues.
- At the present time the Audit has hopefully been put off to a later date. NALC is in negotiation with government to delay for 3 months. This has already happened in Wales! SALC has said do not send in accounts yet. RFO had an appointment for 20<sup>th</sup> April but this has been cancelled.
- Heard that Lawford PC is giving complete delegated authority **on all things** to the Clerk. This is not something that is recommended and the clerk feels is inappropriate.
- Clerk has been putting as much information as possible plus some uplifting posts on FB and getting good reactions.
- Mr Chadburn has been in touch with regular updates on village Good Neighbours' response. Now a network of key workers to help, all village

have had details of their key worker. They are drawing up a risk assessment for the activities.

- Clerk forwarded to Mr. R Chadburn details of grants available for community response to Covid 19
- Liaised with Cllr Mendel over Allotment payments. A couple of inquiries about from people outside the village wanting allotments forwarded to her. Cllr Mendel queried if the allotment money was held in a delegated / restricted fund. The clerk had gone through all minutes for the last five years and also yearly accounts for the last 23 years and could find no evidence that the Allotment rent money had been held in such a way. This could be done in the future but the council did not think this was an appropriate time to do this and it would be considered when meetings were again back to normal.
- Message from Jane Kirk re progress on phone box project circulated
- All briefings from SALC, Babergh DC, Suffolk CC and various other organisations on Corona Virus circulated
- Cllr. Hawes has made a specific Covid 19 section on the website
- AONB report circulated
- Election of Police and Crime Commissioner put off for a year
- Update from SpeedWatch forwarded to all.

Cllr Wood joined the meeting

#### **5.To consider Matters arising from the minutes.**

None.

#### **6.To receive Reports from County and District Councillors**

Attached

#### **7.During this emergency because of Corona Virus: To delegate decisions to Chair and vice-chair for April, May and June 2020 This will be reviewed in 3 months.**

During this emergency period Tattingstone Parish Council has been considering how to proceed to enable us to make decisions when they are absolutely necessary without meeting in person.

To this end it has been agreed that most items for discussion will be circulated by email between Councillors, the Councillors will then submit their views and comments to the Clerk.

It was proposed that emergency decision making be delegated for April, May and June 2020 to Chairman, Cllr Wood and Vice Chair, Cllr Mendel. This is in line with advice received from the national and local bodies concerned with the governance of local government. This is by no means ideal but does mean that the Parish Council can continue to function and make decisions during this period. The situation will be reviewed during June when hopefully the Council we be able to meet as usual in July.

It was agreed to have a short virtual meeting each month for information sharing.

This was proposed, seconded and agreed unanimously.

## **8. Finance: to consider and approve.**

- Bank Balances:
- Current account: £11,656.11 savings account: £3181.87 [ includes £1.12 interest]
- To approve revised cheque signing procedure

The clerk is holding about 12 signed cheques for future use. They will not be used unless payment authorised and will be kept securely and available for inspection if requested.

Approved.

- To approve for payment
  - *Clerk's wages and expenses: £251.76[no expenses claimed]*
  - *HMRC: 188.60*
  - *Village hall hire: £208.00*
  - *12Pay Ltd [payroll software for year]: £39.60*
  - *Suffolk CC [street lighting]: £195.03*
  - *Babergh DC[Litter and dog bins]: £238.80*

*Proposed, seconded and approved unanimously*

Expenditure to date 2019/20 and bank reconciliation

Circulated to councillors prior to meeting.

### **9. To discuss arrangements for VE Day 2020/Village Hall Centenary**

Because of current restrictions imposed by Corvid 19, this has been cancelled. It is hoped to have a grand celebration once the Covid 19 crisis is passed

### **10. To review plans of Annual Parish Meeting**

Hopefully the legal requirements for this to happen in May are to be lifted as will the need to have a Parish council AGM. The present chairman's position and that of Clerk and RFO has been extended for 3 months. [it has already in Wales and Scotland, NLCC is pursuing with government.]

The clerk has let Mr Proctor know and he is happy to do defibrillator training at a later date

### **11. To agree form of council meetings for next three months**

See item 7

### **12.To comment on any other urgent Village Matters**

- Babergh Planning has been put on hold for foreseeable future.
- Cllr Wood has contacted Collins about a skip for garden waste as brown bins not being emptied. As yet he has had no response.
- WI have contacted the council about an initiative to plant more trees. A British native tree would be made available free and marked on a map of the country. The tree would be maintained by the local WI [Alton Belles WI]. The WI are looking for suitable places for such a tree in the parish. The clerk will write to Playing field committee over a possible location.
- The Clerk had received an email about Alton Water footpaths and

unreinstated footpaths in the Parish. Most Alton Water paths are permissive footpaths so Alton Water has the right to close them but dispensation might be allowed to parish residents provided no vehicle was used to access them. Farmers are working extremely hard to catch up after the difficult weather conditions during the winter and the limitations of Corvid 19 and the possible strain on farm workers. By law a fortnight is allowed after ploughing before the path needs to be reinstated.

- Police are including Lemon's Hill Bridge in their rounds to deter people from parking or visiting Alton Water in their cars.

### **13.Items for next agenda.**

### **15.Date of next meeting**

There will be a short virtual meeting on 4th May at 7.30

### **Stay safe, follow guidelines and support each other**

Signed minutes of previous Parish Council Meetings are available for inspection on [www.tattingstoneparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.tattingstoneparishcouncil.co.uk) or by contacting the clerk

01473 327865 or 07798 752147 and email: [tatt.pc@gmail.com](mailto:tatt.pc@gmail.com)

## **Parish Report – April 2020**

### **Councillor**

*David Wood*



Latest Government advice is available here: [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Latest SCC information is available here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

### SCC meetings

Suffolk County Council have cancelled meetings for the foreseeable future. During this time, the Chief Executive will use her emergency powers to make any necessary decisions on behalf of the Cabinet/Council through the delegated decision-making process. Details of any decisions made will be published on the SCC website.

### App and phonenumber launched to support vulnerable residents

The free app, called Tribe Volunteer, can be downloaded from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. The telephone number for those in genuine need of help is freephone 0800 876 6926 and will be staffed from 09:00 to 17:00, seven days a week.

The service will mean willing volunteers, charities, town and parish councils, community and religious groups can all log their details and offers of support on an app, while people who need help can phone to request support. As the number of offers and requests grows, they will be matched so that the right help can be given where it's most needed. This support could include delivering groceries, medication or essential household goods, in line with Government social distancing guidelines.

### School closures and free school meals

More information about school closures in Suffolk is available here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/schools-guidance/>

To support children eligible for free school meals, schools will be able to purchase meals or vouchers for supermarkets or local shops.

The government has also confirmed that the total value of vouchers offered to each eligible child per week will exceed the rate it pays to schools for free school meals, recognising that families will not be buying food in bulk and may therefore incur higher costs.

Effective immediately, schools will be able to order vouchers directly from supermarkets or shops in their communities to be emailed or printed and posted to families, and they will have their costs covered by the Department for Education.

### Bus passes can be used before 9:30

Suffolk County Council is allowing concessionary travel for those with elderly and disabled bus passes early in the morning (before 9.30am). This is to allow these residents to access the exclusive early morning shopping times that supermarkets have arranged for these people.

### Public transport services reduced

New timetables are now in place for most public transport services, including buses, trains and community transport until further notice. Suffolk County Council is advising those who must use public transport to check with their local provider to find out the latest timetable.

Further details can be found at [www.suffolkonboard.com](http://www.suffolkonboard.com) or by calling 0345 606 6171.

### Funding available for food banks

Suffolk County Council has made £60,000 available to support food banks in Suffolk. The funding is being administered by Suffolk Community Foundation. Foodbanks and other organisations can apply for funds at <https://www.suffolkcf.org.uk/grants/suffolk-coronavirus-community-fund>.

**Stay Home. Protect the NHS. Save Lives.**

## **Suffolk County Council submits bid for Government funding for buses**

Suffolk County Council has submitted a statement of intent to the Department of Transport (DfT) for £580k to improve some of the county's bus services.

The council has not yet released details of how they plan to spend this funding. However, we understand that they are not intending to use it to reinstate the subsidised bus services which were cut last summer.

The DfT planned to announce which statements of intent have been successful by the end of April, but it is likely that this will be delayed given the current situation.

## **EDF Energy delay application for Sizewell C Development Consent Order**

EDF Energy have decided to delay their application for a Development Consent Order for Sizewell C by a few weeks, due to the current situation.

In March, my group were planning to submit a motion asking Suffolk County Council to withdraw support for nuclear power and publicly oppose Sizewell C. However, the Council meeting in March was cancelled. This means that our motion has also been delayed, but we plan to submit it again at the earliest opportunity once meetings at the council start up again.

## **Opt-in for 2020/21 free school transport**

Parents are now able to opt-in for free school transport for the 2020/21 school year. This will be the second year of the new school transport policy. The deadline for opting-in is 31 May 2020.

If parents have a child who is already receiving SCC funded school travel, they must opt-in again to continue to receive it.

Parents whose child is not eligible for SCC funded school travel but who wish to purchase a spare seat, may do so. The application for spare seats opens on 1 July 2020.

To opt-in or for more information on the SCC school travel policy please visit; <https://www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel/>

## **SCC wins DfT funding for next stage of A12 works**

Suffolk County Council won £830,000 of funding from the Department for Transport, to develop an Outline Business Case to take forward its plans to improve the A12 East of Ipswich.

This project is specifically looking to increase capacity and improve overall traffic flow at junctions and will explore the potential for a new pedestrian and cycle bridge over the A12.

Dear Parish Councils

Here is information compiled by the Communities Team to help direct PCs to grants.

Please see below a few links for funding opportunities. There are also several websites saying that they will make announcements shortly so I hope to be able to add to the list later this week.

As we stand –

1. The most immediately available funding in villages are those of parish organisations, in towns from town-based organisations
2. SALC – the Suffolk Association of Local Councils are supporting parish clerks and their parish councils with general information
3. The main source of hardship funds is via the Suffolk Coronavirus Community Fund (SCCF) organised by Community Action Suffolk and the Suffolk Community Foundation. They have already started making awards.  
[www.communityactionsuffolk.org.uk/covid-19-response](http://www.communityactionsuffolk.org.uk/covid-19-response) In Babergh and Mid Suffolk only the village of Battisford has gained funding so far, but the two organisers in SCF and CAS are keen to receive more applications, and confident they can make quick turn-arounds
4. It is important that charities and not-for-profit organisations who are employers realise they qualify for government support just as commercial businesses do.  
[www.suffolk.gov.uk/business](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/business)
5. The District Council's COVID funding [www.babergh.gov.uk/communities/grants-and-funding/how-to-fund-your-project-and-advice/](http://www.babergh.gov.uk/communities/grants-and-funding/how-to-fund-your-project-and-advice/)
6. The Make a Difference Trust has launched a hardship fund for those with HIV/AIDS projects [www.madtrust.org.uk](http://www.madtrust.org.uk)

Jane Gould