Tattingstone Parish Council

Minutes of meeting: Monday 1st February 2021 via Zoom

Present: Cllrs. Wood [Chair], Mendel, Clarke, Clark, Hawes, Page, Wills

D Cllr. Gould

2 members of the public

The chairman welcomed Cllr. Wills to his first meeting after being co-opted onto the Council at the January meeting.

Item		Detail	Action
1	Apologies for absence	Ms Proctor Tattingstone Community SpeedWatch	
2	Declaration of interest	The clerk expressed a non-pecuniary interest in Item 11 as she was a governor of Tattingstone CEVC Primary school.	
3	Requests for dispensation	N/A	
4	To approve minutes of meeting 4th January 2021	Minutes of Zoom meeting emailed out to councillors. Approved by email. Proposed: Cllr. Clark Seconded: Cllr. Hawes Carried unanimously	
	Public Forum	Both members of the public expressed concerns over the decision of Anglian Water to make carparks at the north and south of Lemon's Hill bridge and the carpark at The Wonder Pay and Display from 1st April 2021. They were worried this would cause more parking of vehicles in unsuitable and potentially dangerous places on neighbouring roads. This will be discussed more fully by Council at item 15.	

5	To receive Clerk's report	 The Clerk had sent a parish report of the January meeting to The Tattler for inclusion. ICO data protection certificate had been received and was now displayed on the website The Clerk had forwarded AONB news and Recycling Right campaign to councillors Details of grants for Good Neighbours was sent to Mr Chadburn CAS newsletter was forwarded to councillors and other interested parties. 	
6	To consider matters arising from minutes	 A new dog waste bin had been put up on the side of the bus shelter opposite the church. The Council expressed their thanks to Mr Connell-Smith for doing that. Babergh DC had been notified of the additional bin and it is now on their schedule and will be emptied on a fortnightly basis. Cllr. P Wills had completed all the necessary paperwork and returned to the clerk. Cllr Wood had talked to residents at the Wonder and they had no problem with their post or deliveries. 	JCS

15	Brought Forward To consider problems that may be caused by Anglian Water Carparks in the village becoming pay and display from 01.04.21	 Correspondence was read out by the Chair regarding the carpark at The Wonder. This included a letter written by a member of the public to Anglian Water. Cllr Wood had invited that the person to attend the Council Meeting via Zoom. After last month's Council meeting, the clerk had written to the manager of Alton Water suggesting he might wish to attend the Council Meeting in February or to write an explanatory letter to go in the edition of The Tattler. However due to his holiday he had not been able to do so. The clerk will write again and request that the manager attend the March Parish Council meeting so he could give more details about the parking and to listen to concerns. Concern was also raised about increased parking in The Close, often blocking driveways and pavements. The Chair pointed out that no parking restrictions were in place for The Close but causing an obstruction was a matter for the police. IBC regularly now monitor parking on the bridge which is a clearway. 	JCS
7	Reports from County and District Councillors	Reports circulated via email Attached to these minutes. D Cllr Gould reported that Shotley Peninsula Cricket Club, whose home ground is at Tattingstone, had received a locality grant. C Cllr Wood confirmed he would not be standing for re-election to the County council at the May elections this year.	
8	To receive update on Tattingstone Speedwatch continue to ask for	 Unfortunately, Ms Proctor was unable to attend the meeting. An email from Keith Samson at Suffolk Highways had been received. The sites are agreed and he will start preparing work pack. Email was sent to Keith to see what progress has been made with works pack but he was unable to give a time frame for completion of this work. The clerk will press for regular updates. 	JCS

9	To receive update on The Tattler. Cllr Hawes reprted	 The next edition of The Tattler has begun to be delivered to houses in Tattingstone by volunteers. The cost of printing has been reduced slightly - a lighter paper is being used for inside pages. The clerk had checked receipt of our payment for the first edition as we had had a reminder late in January. Unfortunately, Colchester Press is having problems with mail delivery. The clerk asked for permission if necessary, to cancel cheque 101329 and reissue and deliver by hand. Permission given. 	JCS
10	To consider any planning applications received	None to be considered.	
11	Correspondence requiring immediate discussion	An email had been received from the Head Teacher at Tattingstone CEVC Primary School asking for a grant towards a purpose-built wooden gazebo that was being built at the school. This would enable more lessons to take place outside, greatly enhancing learning, and would be linked to their Forest School status. After discussion, it was proposed that a grant of £300 be given to the school for this purpose. Proposed: Cllr Mendel Seconded: Cllr Clarke Carried unanimously	DW JCS

12	Finance to consider and approve	Bank balances: Not received by date of the meeting. The following payments were approved: Proposed: Cllr. Mendel Seconded: Cllr Hawes Carried unanimously	
		Clerk's wages and expenses: £287.01 SLCC [registration] £95 TGC [playing field maintenance – 3 quarters] £1215	
		 Many allotment holders have now paid their yearly rent via BACs. The RFO is having difficulties accessing the bank to make enquiries as she is not allowed legally to be a signature on the account. The Council agreed it would be better for many of the Council's payments to be made via BACS but the RFO is unable to set this up. Cllr Mendel, a signatory on the account, will make enquiries on how this can be done for the future and also ask for forms for new signatories to be sent. 	AM JCS
		 The £2000 that was agreed to be transferred to the Savings account has not yet be done as the RFO cannot access the account – see above Locality Grant from Suffolk CC via CC Cllr Wood has been confirmed. It will come in 2 instalments, each of £250. A reminder is in diary to send off details at appropriate time. 	JCS
13	To consider possibility of village shop.	Article in current edition of The Tattler. Deferred to next meeting.	DH

14	To consider the problem of litter in the village.	Litter in the village is becoming an increasing problem. It is even more noticeable in those places where the verge and hedgerows have been cut back. Because of lockdown, the Council has not been able to arrange a Litter sweep, as in past years. Cllr Wood proposed that the council buy more equipment and asked for volunteers, via website, social media and The Tattler, to clear up their immediate local area. It was proposed that more equipment be purchased. Proposed: Cllr. Wood Seconded: Cllr. Mendel The clerk will check insurance cover for litter pickers.	DW
15	Brough forward See after item 6		
16	To consider the formation of a group to begin to formulate a village plan.	Cllr. Mendel had put a request in The Tattler for interested parties to get in touch with her and received the names of 4 people to help. Another article asking for more volunteers is in the current edition of The Tattler. It is difficult to progress this further until more people come forward and they are able to meet together. This will be a rolling item on the agenda to monitor progress.	AM
17	To consider the possibility of establishing a Parish Wood.	Many organisation, both locally and nationally are asking the public to plant more trees. The Parish Council would like to support this initiative by planting either a Parish Wood or a Parish Orchard. Unfortunately, the Parish Council does not own any suitable land where this could take place. It was agreed an orchard might be of more benefit as it would require a smaller piece of land. The plot would have to be seen and be accessible to the villagers. A community orchard has been set up in Shotley and Cllr Wood will find out more details. An article would be put in the next edition of The Tattler to gauge support. More research on the project will be carried out.	DW

18	To comment on any other urgent Village Matters	 It was reported that people volunteering to help with Good Neighbours in the village are having difficulties as there is a long delay in receiving DBS checks at the moment. 	
19	Items for next agenda	 Update regarding SID and speed restriction measures Update on village shop from working group Neighbourhood plan Possible plans for AGM of Parish council and annual Parish Meeting. Planting of wildflower seeds Playing field report Anglian Water parking. 	
20	Date of next meeting	1st March 2021 via Zoom	

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Minutes of Part 2 Confidential item sent separately.

Report from C Councillor Wood

Suffolk County Council Budget

The Suffolk County Council Budget has now been presented to Scrutiny and to Cabinet, and will be presented to Full Council on February 11th. Questions from the public must be submitted by 12 noon on Friday 5th February. Key points include:

- This year's budget strategy focuses on responding to COVID-19, delivering transformation savings, making use of the risk reserve for this year only to deal with one-off pressures, and looking ahead while continuing to adapt.
- The net expenditure budget is £597.877m.
- Basic council tax will be raised by 1.99%, the maximum amount allowable without a referendum.
- The Social Care Precept will be raised by 2%, rather than the full 3% allowed.
- £16.702m from risk reserves will be used to balance the budget.

The full detail can be found in the Cabinet papers from January 26th 2021. Link:

https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx? MeetingTitle=(26-01-2021),%20The%20Cabinet

LDGI Group Budget Amendment

The LDGI Group has constructed a Budget Amendment which will be submitted to Full Council on February 11th alongside the administration's Budget. The key change proposed by the LDGI Group would be to authorise the use of the full 3% social care precept, unlocking the maximum available funding without impacting SCC's reserves. This would generate an extra £3.452m for social care at a cost of only £13.41 per year to a Band D household, freeing up general council tax funds to be spent on other projects and investments including:

- £700k for establishing a COVID-19 grant scheme for Suffolk charities and arts & culture venues.
- £500k for a solar energy scheme for Suffolk businesses.
- £200k for creating an electric bike rental scheme for Ipswich and Lowestoft.
- £500k to re-enable the use of concessionary bus passes on community transport and demand responsive transport across Suffolk.
- £1m for a 30mph scheme to convert residential 30mph zones to a default speed limit of 20mph over four years.
- £15k for a citizen's assembly on how Suffolk can build back better while recovering from the pandemic.
- £75k to enable community reviews of highways signage in the local area.
- £50k to expand the flood management team to ensure SCC is applying for all flooding grants it is eligible for.
- A demand-scoping exercise on where demand is for bus routes, a priority list for where future routes need to be, and a feasibility study on establishing an SCC-owned bus company to serve rural areas if commercial bus companies cannot.

By opting not to take the full 3% social care precept, the administration is voluntarily giving up £3.452m of funding for adult social care that must be made up from the general council tax fund, meaning that worthwhile projects such as those above cannot be pursued.

Streets Guide Consultation

Suffolk County Council is currently running a consultation on a new Streets Guide, which will assist designing streets for new residential developments especially by

promoting walking and cycling. The consultation closes at 5pm on 10th February 2020. Parish Councils can submit responses at the link below:

https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/planning-and-development-advice/suffolk-design-streets-guide/

Suffolk County Council Elections

With a strong possibility that the election will still take place on the 6th May, I would like to inform you all that I will not be seeking re-election. It is a decision that I made after the last election. I made a promise to my late wife Rita that it would be the last election I would contest and it is a promise I intend to keep.

It seems an age ago that I was elected to represent you all back in early 2000 and I would like to thank you all for the welcome and support you have given me. My successes and failures are too numerous to list here but perhaps the achievement that I am really proud of is the extension we obtained to Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty it is also the project that took the greatest amount of time to complete some 21 years! I am also proud of the fact that the AONB have launched the "David Wood National Landscape Award" an award that will be presented annually to recognise volunteer contribution.

I will not be disappearing completely as I intend to pursue some volunteering opportunities that may/will come my way in the not too distant future and hopefully these will keep me in contact with the happenings on the Peninsula. So whoever is successful in succeeding me at the next election I hope you will give them the same welcome that you have all afforded me.

In the words of a well known song "Thanks for the memories".

News and information from Jane Gould, Babergh District Councillor.

To the Parish Councils and residents in Orwell Ward

February 2021

Money matters

I am pleased to be able to report that all of my Locality Fund has been allocated for the last financial year with the Shotley Peninsula Cricket Club having the last payment. SPCC is based in Tattingstone and serves the whole peninsula. If any local clubs or projects would like to be considered for some funds from this year's allocation please get in touch with me in the first instance and we can have a conversation about it.

Business owners in Babergh and Mid Suffolk are being urged to explore the range of Covid-19 support grants open to support them through the current national lockdown. The Covid-19 business support grants cover different periods of national and local lockdown restrictions and are available to businesses with a rateable property that have been mandated to close as part of the national restrictions as well as those who have been significantly financially impacted by lockdown measures.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have also opened phase two of the Additional Restrictions Grant, which unlike the other business grants, is a discretionary grant with criteria and eligibility set by the local authority. The Additional Restrictions Grant is open to non-business rate paying businesses that are required to close such as mobile businesses or those who operate in a shared space as well as other businesses not required to close but who have seen a significant loss of earnings as a result of lockdown restrictions.

Businesses who received the national lockdown grant in November will automatically receive payments for the Tier 4 and current lockdown restrictions as long are their circumstances haven't changed. Any business owner who believes they are eligible but have not been contacted, or who are yet to claim a business support grant, should submit an application form.

Grants that cover the November 2020 lockdown are still open for applications and business owners are being encouraged to check the criteria for all grants as they may be eligible for more than one grant. Applications for the Local Restrictions Support Grants and the Additional Restrictions Grant must be submitted by 31 March 2021. Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council have paid out Local Restriction Support Grants worth over £10 million since November and are continuing to make payments to eligible businesses in the districts. For more information about the Covid-19 business grants or to apply for a grant, please visit www.babergh.gov.uk

Food and activities for Families during the school holidays.

Food parcels, containing ingredients for five meals for a family of four, will be distributed throughout Babergh and Mid Suffolk in the February half-term. The box also includes recipe cards and links to online cooking tutorials, to help families prepare filling, tasty, and healthy meals. In addition to this, a bird box making kit and other activities to encourage families to get outdoors will be provided. The initiative aims to help ensure that no child goes hungry when free school meals are paused during the school holidays, and also seeks to promote getting fit while having fun. Families in need are identified by local schools and must be in receipt of free school meals, or facing hardship because of Covid, to be eligible. Last Christmas, parcels including ingredients for a Christmas dinner, and other meals, were distributed in Great Cornard and Stowmarket to bring festive cheer to low-income families. Covid, and the subsequent lockdown restrictions, has required the programme to adapt accordingly. Previously, food parcels, cookery lessons and outdoor activities were provided in person at events which took place across Babergh and Mid Suffolk last summer. The councils funded 200 free child places in each district for these sessions, and it is hoped that this face-to-face programme will be repeated later this year.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any issues that you think I can help with and all the very best to you all.

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