



**MINUTES**

**BRANTHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

Wednesday 02 October 2019, 7.30pm held at Brantham Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Cllrs, M Aherne, A Bissett, J Heywood, E Osben, P Seward

**CHAIRPERSON:** Cllr A McCraw

**IN ATTENDANCE:** S Keys (Clerk), 5 members of the public, County Councillor Dave Wood, Sam Simpson (Breheny & SFG representative)

**PC 10.19.01 OPENING**

The Chair declared the meeting open at 7.30 pm and thanked all for attending. A statement was read out by the Chair 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 available from the Clerk.

The Chair reminded the public that a Council meeting is not a public meeting, it is a meeting conducted in public. Members of the public, the press, and District, Borough or County Councillors are invited to attend our meetings and contribute during the public forum. Comments from the public during the remainder of the meeting should be by invitation from the Chair only.

**PC 10.19.02 APOLOGIES**

Cllrs P Revell, G Rasch, C Phillips and V Abrahams

**PC 10.19.03 DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND LOCAL NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

- a) There were no local non-pecuniary interests declared for the Agenda under discussion.  
There were no gifts of hospitality exceeding £25 declared.
- b) There were no requests for dispensations for the Agenda under discussion

**PC 10.19.04 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

The Council considered the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 04 September 2019. The minutes were amended to include Cllr Osben's apologies. Cllr Aherne then proposed that the minutes should be approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting, this was seconded by Councillor Seward and aif.

**PC 10.19.05 ACTION POINTS FROM THE MINUTES**

MINUTE NO.	ACTION	Ongoing/ Dismissed
PC 07.19.07	Review Brantham bus shelters and present a report on repairs necessary at next Parish Council meeting. <i>Carried over to next meeting</i>	Ongoing
PC 09.19.08	Respond to resident re: queries on GPL Play area <i>Completed</i>	Dismissed
PC 09.19.08	Respond to local resident re: request for 20mph speed limit on Church	Dismissed



	Lane and School Lane <i>Completed</i>	
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**PC 09.19.06 PUBLIC SESSION**

A written report had been submitted from Cllr. Wood (available as Appendix B). Cllr Wood drew attention to the following issues:

- Following the recent Boundary Commission Consultation concerning the structure of Suffolk County Council the number of Councillors in Suffolk will reduce from 75 to 70 in time for the 2020 elections.
- A new process for considering speed restrictions is now in place, and all requests for changes should be submitted via the County Councillor.  
**ACTION:** Clerk to write to Cllr Wood requesting a review of the speed limit on Church Lane
- The SCC Cabinet has agreed that although it is in support of nuclear technology it does not support the proposals for Sizewell C due to a lack of evidence. Cllr Wood stated that he has called on the cabinet to reject the proposals fully.

Cllr McCraw updated the Council on the following issues:

- The proposed name change from Babergh District Council to South Suffolk District Council will be debated in an extraordinary meeting.
- Details of the forthcoming silk festival
- Joint Local Plan consultation is now completed. The comments will be reviewed and these will inform the draft plan for consideration.
- Ground has now broken for the new Hadleigh Swimming Pool which should be completed by Summer 2020. The free swimming initiative over summer 2019 was very successful. 12% of under 17s used the scheme.
- The Energy From Waste plant at Great Blakenham is now powering 30,000 homes in Suffolk. Tours of the facility can be booked.

Sam Simpson gave the following report on behalf of Breheny/SFG:

- All works are currently on schedule
- Factory Lane work is progressing well and should be re-open on 28 October 2019
- Work on the new access road at Brooklands Road is now underway and delivery Lorries to this area will be finished by 04 October 2019. Drivers have been asked not to drive through the village. More traffic management will be in place in this location in the near future and the bus stop will be moved further along the road. The work on Brooklands Road is due to finish on 14 November 2019.
- Disruptions due to work along the A137 have been necessary but has hopefully now improved. Some cats' eyes will be replaced on the bridge on 21 October 2019 which will mean more traffic management. Night work to the bridge will begin on 31 October 2019 for 7 days (8pm – 6am). Access will remain over the top of the bridge.
- Contractors (not Breheny) continue to work on the public open space around Decoy Pond
- Concerns about surface water on the cycle path after the bridge (next to Bridge Garage) are currently being investigated. A soakaway is currently being considered as a solution.
- Cllr McCraw highlighted that it would be useful to have a slipway on to the cycle path from the A137. SSimpson confirmed that this could be picked up in the forthcoming safety audit
- A member of the public queried whether there would be a divide between cycle path and footpath on the path to the side of the A137. S.Simpson confirmed that there would not.



- A member of the public raised concerns about flooding on the Bergholt Road following works in that area.

**PC 10.19.07 FINANCE REPORT**

- a) To note the balance of accounts - The Clerk reported the following balances as at 30 September 2019:
  - Current Account - £5001.00
  - Deposit Account - £134,286.82
  - Salaries Account - £162.56
- b) The Council noted Appendix A; the accounts awaiting payment, the accounts paid since the last meeting and the receipts allocated since the last meeting.
- c) The Council noted the Budget to Actual report as circulated by the RFO. Cllr Heywood proposed that the balance of accounts, Appendix A and the Budget to Actual Report should be approved by the Council, this was seconded by Cllr Aherne and aif.

**PC 10.19.08 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES**

1. Finance Committee

- a) To update on any actions since the last meeting – Cllr Aherne reviewed the discussion of the last FC meeting as detailed in the minutes which were circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting; Work on Terms of Reference for the Committee, agreement to a new insurance policy on a 3 year LTU, the request for a donation from the Over 60s group and budget setting for 2020-21
- b) To consider/agree any other proposals presented by the Finance Committee –Cllr Aherne proposed that the Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee were approved by the Council, this was seconded by Cllr McCraw and aif.

2. Recreation Sub-Committee

- a) To update on any general actions since the last meeting – The Committee has arranged meetings with representatives from companies who manufacture wheeled sports areas (skate ramps) on the LPF. The Sub-Committee had also considered outdoor gym equipment for this area but a consultation in the village would need to be completed before a bid can be submitted for CIL funding.
- b) To consider/approve any actions or expenditure required – None.

3. Planning Committee

- a) To note recommendations made by the Committee – Cllr Saward confirmed that the Planning Committee had met on 25 September 2019. Recommendations from the Committee can be found in the minutes of the meeting on the village website at [www.brantham.onesuffolk.net](http://www.brantham.onesuffolk.net).  
Cllr McCraw informed the Council that the Slough Road planning application will be returning to Committee to enable them to confirm their reasons for refusal. The Planning Officer is currently preparing his report on the Brooklands Farm application.
- b) To note the planning decisions received – all decision notices received are available in the minutes of the meeting.

4. Village Hall Management Committee

- a) To update on actions since the last meeting –Attendance at the recent film night had been very disappointing and the Committee had agreed to increase its level of advertising and review the situation at the end of the year. If audience figures do not



improve then the film nights may have to stop completely. The next film will be "A Star is Born" which will be showing on Wednesday 16 October 2019.

The next VH Quiz night will be held on 12 October 2019 at 7:30pm and will include a fish and chip supper in the ticket price of £10. Narran Wright will prepare and deliver the quiz. Another quiz night is planned for March 2020.

Despite chasing the builders a quote for the works to the Ladies and Gents toilets has still not been received.

A quote for the refurbishment of the small kitchen from a local company has been received for £4945.00. A further quote has been requested from Howdens.

The Clerk highlighted that the financial situation at the Village Hall is currently extremely precarious. The Hall is currently spending more than it is making and the poor facilities are putting off potential users of the hall. In addition a number of regular bookings have been lost to the Leisure Centre which is able to offer a better quality of facilities and hot food.

**ACTION:** Following discussion it was agreed that a report from the VHMC should be brought to the next Parish Council meeting so that additional support from the PC can be considered.

5. Footpaths Sub Committee

a) To consider/agree any proposals presented by the Footpaths Sub-Committee – nothing to report

6. Services Sub Committee

a) To consider/agree any proposals presented by the Services Sub-Committee – nothing to report.

7. Legal Sub Committee

a) To consider/agree any proposals received from the Legal Sub Committee nothing to report

8. BLC Representative - Cllr Abrahams provided the following report via email:

"At the recent AGM, I was advised that the football club has been in discussion with St Francis Group in relation to the land identified for football purposes at Factory Lane and these discussions are progressing.

They have also had very productive discussions with the Scouts & Guides in relation to their discussions with SFG and between the two entities exploring the option of a single community sporting hub for the young people of the village that will work in tandem with the Leisure centre to provide sporting, educational and social facilities for generations to come.

As these discussions progress we will be notified of any developments."

9. SALC Representative – nothing to report

10. SNT Representative – nothing to report

### PC 10.19.09 CORRESPONDENCE TO NOTE/ACTION

The Clerk reviewed the correspondence that had been received in September 2019 (copies had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting). Councillors noted the following:

1. An email from a local resident querying the legal status of motorhomes in laybys. The clerk confirmed that she had responded directing the resident to the appropriate information.
2. An email notifying the Council about vandalism to the play equipment on GPL Play area. The Clerk confirmed that the Grounds Maintenance Contractor had cleaned this off.
3. An email from Brooklands Primary School requesting the possibility of installing a dog litter bin on Pattles Fen. Following discussion it was agreed that the Council should consider



installing two dog litter bins at Pattles Fen, one at the Entrance on Ipswich Road and one on the Ipswich Road/School Lane entrance.

**ACTION:** Clerk to discuss this with Babergh District Council.

- 4. A letter from Suffolk County Council about the Roadside Nature Reserve Project Review
- 5. An email from a local resident raising concerns about driving along Rectory Lane and Bridleway 015. The Clerk confirmed that she had discussed this with SFG who have spoken to the contractors concerned.

**PC 10.19.10 MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE**

All miscellaneous correspondence by email had been forwarded to Councillors during the month.

**PC 10.19.11 INDUSTRIAL SITE AND GREENFIELD SITE DEVELOPMENT**

- a) To receive an update on recent/forthcoming activity on Industrial and Greenfield site – Cllr McCraw confirmed that concerns about pollution to Decoy Pond are unfounded and that the pond forms part of the Public Open Space and so will be protected. The whole Public Open Space in this area will be adopted by Babergh District Council and will be managed by them.  
Cllr McCraw confirmed that the Parish Council’s response to the Joint Local Plan consultation highlighted that Policy CS10 should not be forgotten and that the houses were agreed simply to support Industrial Development.

**PC 10.19.12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 06 November 2019, 7.30pm at Brantham Village Hall

The meeting closed to the public at 8.37pm

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



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**ACTIONS**

<b>MINUTE NO.</b>	<b>ACTION</b>	<b>Who</b>
PC 07.19.07	Review Brantham bus shelters and present a report on repairs necessary at next Parish Council meeting.	Services Committee
Public Session	Write to Cllr Wood requesting a review of the speed limit along Church Lane	Clerk
PC 10.19.08	Prepare a report from the VHMC to be brought to the next Parish Council meeting so that additional support from the PC can be considered.	JH/Clerk
PC 10.19.09	Query with BDC whether two dog litter bins can be installed at Pattles Fen entrances	Clerk



**APPENDIX A**

**PC 10.19.07 FINANCE REPORT**

<b>ACCOUNTS AGREED FOR PAYMENT</b>	<b>Chq/Debit Card/SO</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Powers Used</b>
Parish Clerk – Salary	BACS	£1002.41		£1002.41	LGA 1972, s.112
Parish Clerk – Office	BACS	£20.00		£20.00	LGA 1972, s. 112
Phil Wainwright – Litter Picker	BACS	£191.90		£191.90	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Tina Bird – Litter Picker	BACS	£230.48		£230.48	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
B.M.L Maintenance Payment	SO	£332.00		£332.00	Local Government (miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, s.19
HMRC (PAYE and NI Quarter 2)	003303	£437.10		£437.10	LGA 1972
Sarah Keys (Planning Committee meeting at Endeavour Hse, 11.09.19. 18 miles at £0.45 per mile and parking £4.00)	003304	£12.10		£12.10	LGA 1972
Business Services at CAS (Parish Council insurance)	003305	£798.00		£798.00	LGA 1972

<b>ACCOUNTS PAID SINCE THE LAST MEETING</b>	<b>Chq/Debit Card/SO</b>	<b>NET</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Powers Used</b>
O2 (Clerk's mobile phone)	DD	£17.58	£3.52	£21.10	LGA 1972

<b>RECEIPTS RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Bank Interest	£4.93
Babergh District Council (Precept 2 of 2)	£23,590.96



## APPENDIX B

### Parish Report October 2019

**Councillor**  
David Wood

Triangle  
Ipswich Road  
Tattingstone, Ipswich  
IP9 2NN



#### **Review of Suffolk County Council Boundaries – public consultation**

The Boundary Commission have now announced that they will be looking to reduce the number of councillors at Suffolk County Council from 75 to 70.

The next stage of the process is to determine where the division boundaries should be. There is a public consultation which will run until 2 December 2019, available here:

<https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/18495>

#### **New process for requesting speed limit changes**

There is now a new process in place for requesting speed limit changes. The local county councillor must act as a “filter”: all requests for changes need to come through them, and any individual or parish council who requests a change will be referred to the local councillor. The local councillor will need to persuade the officer group to support a request for a speed limit change. The group will then produce a report on the pros and cons, which the local councillor can comment on before the report goes to Cllr Mary Evans (Cabinet Member for Highways) for a final decision.

#### **Sizewell C – response to Stage 4 Consultation**

On 24 September, the Cabinet agreed a response to EDF’s Stage 4 consultation for Sizewell C. The Cabinet maintains that they support the principle of nuclear technology, but do not currently have sufficient information to support the proposals for Sizewell C.

My group (made up of Liberal Democrat, Green and Independent councillors) at the county council has called on the Cabinet to reject EDF’s proposals for Sizewell C. Our concerns include:





- EDF will be overcharging UK consumers for electricity from Sizewell for the next 35 years. Latest prices of offshore wind generated power, per KWhr, without any subsidy, are less than half what EDF is being guaranteed;
- Impact on the surrounding natural environment, including the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB;
- Impact on the tourism industry;
- Additional carbon emissions and congestion from a road-led strategy;
- Lack of planning for nuclear waste disposal;
- Unsympathetic design to the surrounding natural area;
- Additional pylons in an already crowded landscape;
- Not convinced by EDF's economic development argument.

### **Budget monitoring – quarter 1**

At the end of Q1, the council is forecasting a net overspend by the end of the year of £1.2m on the Base Budget and £6.7m on the Dedicated Schools Grant Budget.

The base budget overspend is largely due to rising costs for adult care, an overspend on the Home-to-School transport budget, and an increase in the number of children in care with complex needs who require specialist placements. Most other departments at the council are forecasting to spend on budget.

The £6.7m overspend on the schools budget is largely due to an increase in children with complex Special Educational Needs, and the increased costs for support and transport to schools outside of Suffolk that go alongside this. Although the council has agreed to spend on building new special education placements within Suffolk, which ought to address some of this expenditure in the future, it is too late for this financial year.

### **Local Industrial Strategy for Suffolk**

The New Anglia LEP, with input from local councils, are in the process of drafting a Local Industrial Strategy for Suffolk. It is expected that this Strategy will be presented to central government for approval in October.

In September, the Cabinet gave its approval for a draft version of the Strategy. However, my group were concerned that the strategy failed to acknowledge both the current climate emergency that we are facing and the potential impacts of Brexit on Suffolk. We have written to the LEP with our feedback, which will hopefully be reflected in the final Strategy.

### **Delay to children's centre consultation**

Suffolk County Council has confirmed that there is "no firm start date" for the consultation regarding potential closures of children's centres. Originally, the Council had stated that this consultation would start in September and run for 6 weeks.



**BRANTHAM**  
Parish Council

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The Council is proposing to close 2 children's centres completely, convert a further 11 to SEND facilities or nurseries, reduce 9 to part-time hours and convert the remaining 16 into family hubs providing services for families with children aged 0-19.