

Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council
Minutes of a Meeting of the Council held on the 8th July, 2024
in the Parish Rooms, Grundisburgh

NOTICES had been posted according with regulations.

Present: - Councillors. G.Caryer, A. Dunnett, C. Dow, J.Dunnett, M. Harris, Dr.M. Mason, I. Rawson, M. Rankin, R Youngman, Mrs J. Bignell, Mrs.A.Willetts (in the chair), County Councillor E .Bryce, District Councillor C. Hedgley, and 7 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence . No apologies had been received.

2. To receive member's declarations of interest No declarations were made.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on the 13th May, 2024 had been circulated and were therefore taken as read. It was proposed by Mrs. Bignell seconded by Mr. Caryer, to the unanimous approval of those members present at that meeting, that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Council held on the 20th May, 2024 had been circulated and were therefore taken as read. It was proposed by Mr. Harris seconded by Mr. Rankin, to the unanimous approval of those members present at that meeting, that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

The minutes of an Extraordinary Council Meeting of the Council held on the 11th June, 2024 had been circulated and were therefore taken as read. It was proposed by Mr. A. Dunnett seconded by Mr Caryer, that these minutes be signed by the Chairman as a true record. Approved 4 members voting for 1 member, Mr.J. Dunnett, voting against.

4. District Councillor's Report District Councillor Colin Hedgley's full report is published on the Parish Council's Web Site Home Page - Important Documents <https://grundisburgh.suffolk.cloud/>

New Director appointed Michelle Burdett has been appointed Strategic Director with primary responsibility for Economic Development, Regeneration and Housing.

Deben River regeneration East Suffolk Council is supporting the efforts of the Deben Climate Centre to deliver "a radical and ambitious plan to regenerate the Deben River for people and nature"

Council Tax fraud A 24 year old woman from Felixstowe has been handed a suspended prison sentence and ordered to pay £1,200 in costs for fraudulently claiming a reduction on her council tax.

Well Bus The Well Bus is a mobile health station providing a full and highly accurate health check in 5 minutes and is touring the district.

New Deputy Leader Cllr Paul Ashton has been appointed the new Deputy Leader of East Suffolk Council.

Operation Camouflage is back A popular summer activities programme for young people returns to East Suffolk. It begins at Sutton Heath, near Woodbridge on Tuesday 23rd July. Organised by the Army Welfare Service and East Suffolk Council, the activity programme is open to children and young people aged between 8 and 16 years old who live or go to school in East Suffolk.

5. County Councillor's Report County Councillor Elaine Bryce was welcomed back after a long period of illness.. She explained that, because of election purdah restrictions, she had not been very active in recent weeks.

She is very concerned at the state of the B1079 in Grundisburgh where huge potholes are increasing in size and she is pressing for their early repair. She is also urging for this work to be carried out at the same time as work scheduled at the Lower Road/B1079 junction to reduce the time the road needs to be closed.

The County Council have no powers to coordinate road works so there is possible that three imminent road closures on the B1079 – repair potholes, Lower road/B1079 junction improvements and new water main will be carried out at different times.

Councillors agreed that it was nonsense to spend 6 weeks at vast expense to “improve” the Lower Road/B1079 junction, which motorists are discouraged to use, and no structural improvements just line painting at the Park Road/C323 junction which motorists are encouraged to use.

6. Public Open Forum It was proposed by Mrs. Willetts seconded by Mr. Caryer, to unanimous approval, that the formal meeting be suspended, and members of the public invited to address the meeting. The following issues were raised

- Vandalism Grundisburgh is suffering from a outbreak of vandalism. The Football Club, Baptist Chapel, St. Mary's Church, Telephone Box have all been attacked. The Clerk is meeting Andrew Jolliffe East Suffolk Council Communities Officer on the 11th July to seek his advice on how to stop this anti social behaviour. An appeal was made on the News Group for incidents of vandalism to be reported to the police,
- Half Moon Lane The steps leading to Footpath 24 to Gurdon Road urgently need repair. Mr. Caryer had already reported this to County Council Right of Way and will repeat his request.

7. 2024 Annual Parish Meeting Review The meeting was very well attended with 80 parishioners attending – back to pre-Covid levels. Councillors considered it was an excellent meeting with fine presentations ending with an outstanding buffet provided by Mr & Mrs. Youngman. It was pleasing to see new comers to the village present and to see how villagers mingled whilst enjoying the buffet, District Councillor Colin Hedgley, who had attended many Annual Meetings in his constituency said the meeting was “outstanding”.

The 2025 Annual Parish Meeting will be held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 14th May, 2025 thanks to GADS who agreed to release that day from their block booking.

8. Chapel Field Development / Footpath 20 & 51 Mrs. Willetts reported that the new Footpath 51, which runs on Hopkin's Homes land, has been constructed with a hard surface and curbed. Suffolk County Council PROW are insisting that the section of Footpath 20, which runs along the north edge of the Playing Field, should be re-laid with the same hard surface. This is being resisted by the owners, Fields in Trust, Playingfield Management Committee and its patron Lord Cranworth who maintain that a hard surface is unnecessary, would destroy the rural aspect of the field, would encourage cyclists and skateboarders. If the Playing Field section had to have a hard surface more playing field land would be needed, to avoid trip hazards on the raised root protection area for the large oak tree specified in the planning permission. The footpath should remain grassed. In order for the Public Path Creation Agreement to proceed, Fields in Trust will need to release an area of the playing field linking Footpath 51 to Footpath 20. They will not sign unless the Playing Field Management Committee agree. The Committee are withholding their permission until the issues surrounding the resurfacing of Footpath 20 are resolved.

9. Flooding Mr. Paul Franklin reported.

9.1 Upper Deben Farm Cluster A group of farmers on the freshwater catchment of the River Deben (including the Lark and Fynn), engaged in improving water and soil quality, biodiversity improvement and flood reduction. They are trying to gather data on all of the communities on the Upper Deben that experienced flooding during and after storm Babet.

They wish to know how many properties were flooded, and whether there was external or internal flooding or both. If people are willing to give the information, they would also like to know who their home insurer is, and roughly how much they anticipate their claim to be in total.

This information will help them build a case to take to the majority insurers to engage them in contributing to measures that will reduce flooding in future heavy rainfall events.

The Clerk passed this information to the 8 properties flooded in Grundisburgh.

9.2 Basts Mr. Frankin reported that he had two clearing sessions with Bast's gardener to remove debris from the Gull and the next task was to remove the 3 fallen trees which were obstructing the water flow. He requested that the Parish Council should act as the owner's agent and apply for planning permission. The Environment Agency will have to be involved.

10. Planning Mrs. Willetts reported.

10.1 Applications approved by East Suffolk Council since the last Parish Council meeting.

DC/24/1062/FUL Basketmakers Cottage Woodbridge Road, Grundisburgh

Retrospective Application - Cladding with white UPVC over the rendering on the sides and front of three dormers.

10.2 Applications received since the last Parish Council meeting.

DC/24/1471/FUL 2 Apple Tree Cottages Otley Road, Grundisburgh

Construction of a new detached double garage

DC/24/1943/TCA Green Bank South The Street Grundisburgh.

Silver Birch (T1 on plan) - Reduce height by 3 metres and prune side by 2.5 metres

DC/24/2113/TPO 5 Thomas Walls Close Grundisburgh.

A1 of TPO No. 29 / 1987 1no. Hawthorn (T1 on plan) - Fell 1no. Sycamore (T2 on plan) - Crown lift by removing six lowest branches back to trunk, and prune back upper side branches by 2 metres over neighbours property

DC/24/1659/FUL Mistyleigh Boundary Farm Clopton Road Grundisburgh

Installation of 20 ground mounted Solar PV panels, connected to the property by underground cable - including the provision of battery storage.

DC/24/2070/FUL Meadowcroft Meeting Lane Grundisburgh

Dormer Extension at First Floor Level

10.3 Applications still outstanding.

DC/24/0031/FUL Elm Tree Farm, Wood Farm Road, Grundisburgh. Conversion of existing redundant agricultural buildings to provide four residential dwellings including the demolition of the large general-purpose barns, a silo and an additional covered storage building present on the site plus access and landscaping with associated private amenity space, parking and replacement cartlodes at the site

An Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 19th February, 2024 decided after lengthy discussion to send the following response to East Suffolk Council.

Grundisburgh and Culpho Parish Council have concerns about the access roads to the site which are narrow, single-track lanes with no passing places. The grass verges have as a consequence been damaged. They have been designated and signed Quiet Lanes to encourage dog walkers, riders and cyclists. There are no footways. If the local authority have a mind to approve this application the Parish Council would request a condition that at least 2 passing places should be created to allow existing and future expected traffic to pass each other more freely. The land to the south of Wood Farm Road is in the same ownership as the application site.

The Parish Council would further suggest the removal of all permitted development rights to ensure that future owners respect the previous farming use of these buildings.

Applications still outstanding cont....

DC/24/1069/FUL. Retrospective application Basketmakers Cottage Woodbridge Road Grundisburgh Woodbridge

To remove and replace along the front boundary of the property:

- i) all of the old wooden panel fencing wooden posts;
- ii) the old wooden driveway field gate its wooden posts
- iii) the old wooden picket fencing and wooden picket fencing gate and its wooden posts.

DC/24/1565/DRC Discharge of Condition Nos. 3, 5, 6, 11, 13 and 14 of DC/22/1146/FUL - Construction of Detached Bungalow - Materials to be used for the approved dwelling's walls, roof, fenestration and rainwater goods. - Cycle storage - storage and presentation of refuse and recycling bins - Landscaping scheme. - Method of construction statement. - Details of the proposed finished ground, floor, eaves and ridge levels. Land Adjacent To 3 Pine Grove Grundisburgh Suffolk IP13 6UL

DC/24/1579/VOC Variation of Condition 2 of DC/22/1146/FUL

Construction of detached bungalow - To substitute new attached drawing to those approved. Land Adjacent To 3 Pine Grove Grundisburgh IP13 6UL This is the site with permission to build a 2 bed bungalow.

Comments sent to East Suffolk Council on the 28th May, 2024

Grundisburgh and Culpho Parish Council object in the strongest possible terms to the 2 applications above. The site is not adjacent to 3 Pine Grove it should be described as opposite 3 and adjacent to 4 Pine Grove.

DC/24/1579/VOC The variation of condition 2 of DC/22/1146/ FUL. The footprint of the proposed 3 bedroomed 2 bath room bungalow with double garage is far larger than the existing permission. The name of the applicant and the agent have changed on the application form. The Parish Council considers this should be viewed as a new application by East Suffolk Council.

There is a long history of changing creeping development on this total site first refused by Suffolk Coastal District Council DC/15/0469/OUT, 8th April 2015 and subsequently granted on Appeal

APP/J3530/W/15/3051126, 7th October 2015. When the local authority had acknowledged that it could not demonstrate a 5year supply of deliverable housing land at the time.

DC/22/1146/FUL. Land Adjacent To 3 Pine Grove Grundisburgh Suffolk IP13 6UL Construction of detached bungalow. Finally approved 1st March 2023 after many objections from Grundisburgh and Culpho Parish Council and local residents.

Pine Grove is in the countryside outside the defined settlement boundary of Grundisburgh.

Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Adopted September 2020 states

Policy SCLP5.1: Housing Development in Large Villages Residential development will be permitted within defined Settlement Boundaries.

This site is located in the countryside, a significant distance from the defined Settlement Boundary. Access to the school, doctors' surgery, shops, post office, pub, church and Village Green is along narrow country lanes without pavements, the proposal would result in increased trips by private car.

Policy SCLP5.4: Housing in Clusters in the Countryside This policy is not applicable to this proposal, as the application site does not meet the definition of a cluster. The site is not fronting a highway, it is in an isolated position on one side of a private driveway with 4 properties on the opposite side.

It would result in a cramped form of development out of character with the area and would significantly reduce residential amenity.

There is no demonstrative need for more housing in the village, and particularly on a site outside the defined settlement boundary of the village. Suffolk Coastal Local Plan Adopted September 2020 allocated site Policy SCLP12.51: Land to the West of Chapel Road, this site with approval for 70 dwellings is nearing completion, though many are unsold.

The Parish Council would suggest that whoever wrote the Construction Management Program contained within the documents for DC/24/1565/DCR and DC/24/1579/VOC have not visited the site in a large vehicle. In fact the Parish Council would suggest they have not visited the site. The statement *Large vehicles will then be encouraged to reverse along Pine Grove to avoid manoeuvring within the site. It is however proposed that all bulk deliveries are completed, i.e. bricks, roof tiles etc. prior to excavation of foundation trenches, thus allowing manoeuvring of these vehicles within the site. Ready mix concrete lorries will be encouraged to reverse into Pine Grove as mentioned above.*

Applications still outstanding.cont....

With the benefit of local knowledge, it would be impossible to turn a large lorry or cement mixer into Pine Grove from the B1079 end of Lower Road there just is not enough room for the turning circle. The Parish Council would suggest reversing a large vehicle up Pine Grove would be exceptionally dangerous with children and animals around how can such movements be encouraged by the developer and more surprisingly by the 2 Local Authorities involved. The village has experienced quite a lot of construction vehicles accessing the building site on Chapel

Field. They do not as a rule follow any recommended route or process. Pine Grove is a narrow private access serving 4 properties, there is no other route to the residents homes the PC would suggest **encouraged** is not the correct word in this context

The statement Wheel Washing Facilities All deliveries and waste removal vehicles will not be allowed to leave the site until their wheels, chassis and bodywork have been effectively cleaned and washed free of earth, mud and stones. A high-pressure hose will be provided on site for wash down within the confines of the site. The condition of the public roadway will be managed by the operatives on site and the roadway swept when required.

Pine Grove is the direct access to the site. It is a narrow private access serving 4 properties, there is no other route to the residents' homes this must be kept clear of excess mud, water debris and vehicles. The village has been experiencing ever increasing traffic problems on the narrow lanes in the area only partly as a result of construction vehicles accessing the building site on Chapel Field. The strain placed on the country road network by the ever increasing volume and size of the vehicles using it causes increasing road closures and hence our narrow "Quiet Lanes" are used as diversions by local traffic. There have also been numerous road closures, for varying reasons, on the B1079 and the C323, the main route through the centre of the village. The alternative routes through the village are the narrow lanes, Park Road, Chapel Road, Meeting Lane, and Lower Road the result is chaos, with vehicles being unable to manoeuvre in the narrow spaces. In fact, Lower Road and the B1079 are due to be closed so that improvements to the junction can be made but this will not extend to widening Lower Road itself.

*Community Liaison The site developer, Mr Alistair Pryke, will be the Principal Contractor and Client and will be responsible for communication between the Local Authority, neighbours and other relevant parties. Good levels of co-ordination will be maintained throughout by the principal contractor with all parties through the duration of the works to ensure minimal disruption to surrounding roads, **footpaths** and residents. All contractors will be made aware of the requirements and will confirm to the principal contractor how they proposed to adhere to the requirements.*

There are no footpaths on Lower Road and non on most of the surrounding narrow country lanes Park Road, Chapel Road, Chapel Lane, and Meeting Lane there are none on the B1079 either. Existing residents use these roads every day to walk to the village centre, to school, the doctor's surgery, church, the playing field. Our "Quiet Lanes" signs encourage all to use them for that purpose. More traffic of every sort should not be encouraged on our country lanes "Quiet Lanes"

The site opposite 3 and adjacent to 4 Pine Grove is in the countryside outside the defined settlement boundary of Grundisburgh. The Parish Council considers this proposal should be viewed as a new application by ESC.

On the 28th June Mrs Willetts wrote to Ben Woolnough, East Suffolk Council, Head of Planning, Building Control and Coastal Management

Dear Ben

I am very worried and concerned about the site on Lower Road /Pine Grove

Approval was granted for a bungalow on the site and now a developer has bought the site and wants a variation of condition to increase the size considerably, on this very problematic site **Today** no decision has been posted on the system.

I have received the following message from the gentleman who lives opposite the site. Who, like the Parish Council, has objected to all development on the site.

You might like to be aware that the developer, Mr Pryke, has already started preparing the site for his massive bungalow. This week the tree surgeons were on site chopping down the additional trees which were necessary for the larger dwelling, which I thought was against the rules of planning - i.e. no work to start before approval. The site now looks very exposed.

Applications still outstanding cont....

He has been on site recently and saw me on my patch as he passed and stopped to have a go at me for objecting to the enlarged development. He didn't like being called a greedy developer though it wasn't me that called him that. I merely said that the only motive for enlarging the bungalow appeared to be to maximise profit. I am not sure that a developer can verbally attack any objectors.

It was also interesting that he had printed off all of the objections and had them with him in his van.

I have been passed the site and several trees that in the original approval were to have been retained have been cut down.

The height of the building is now 4.786 metres. (it was 4.355) nearly half a metre higher. More than enough to put additional rooms in the roof area making it into a two-story house. (after PDR comes into play).

This would be, she suggest, the long term plan.

Surely these major changes can't be dealt with by a VOC or DRC of the existing permission the new owner must submit a new application for this site in the countryside.

Mr. Woolnough replied later that day.

Hi Ann

I've copied in Marianna Hall as South Area Principal Planner and Grant Heal as case officer to look into this further

Kind regards

Ben Woolnough | Head of Planning, Building Control and Coastal Management East Suffolk Council

Any further developments will be reported

DC/24/1237/FUL Grundisburgh Baptist Chapel, Chapel Lane, Grundisburgh.

Change of Use of redundant building (class F1 (f) to create three dwellings (class C3) and associated landscaping.

Comments sent to East Suffolk Council on the 16th June, 2024

Grundisburgh & Culpho Parish Council considers that the whole setting of the chapel should be included within the boundary of this planning application. The whole site is in the ownership of the applicant and should be the subject of this change of use application.

The long-term future of the burial ground and proposed Garden of Remembrance needs to be secured within this application.

The Chapel has, for very many years been a cherished landmark in the Village. The proposed residential use of the building would seem to be the only sustainable use now available to the new owner. The access lanes around the Chapel are more suited to the horse and cart than the vehicles that use them today. Parking within the site would be a problem with the current proposal and layout. Access onto the narrow road and lack of visibility from both Chapel Lane, and the steep section of Chapel Road from the crossroads would be problematic. There is very little space for vehicles to manoeuvre within the site in the current proposal and no visitor parking. Provision must be made within the total site for more amenity space, and parking for the proposed dwellings.

Conditions of any approval must contain

- 1) All construction vehicles and materials must be stored within the site.
- 2) All vehicles of construction workers and visitors to the site must park within the site.
- 3) Provision must be made on the site to receive all deliveries.

11. East Suffolk Community Partnerships

Mr. Caryer reported that Partnership recently held a meeting to set priorities for the year.

Road Safety Week this year will be held 19th – 25th November.

Speedwatch Villages are sharing data to obtain an overview of speeding in the area.

Police reorganisation had resulted in a much reduced contact.

12. Financial Matters

12.1 Audit 2023/2024 The Annual Return and associated documents were submitted to the external auditor on the 18th May. The commencement date of the period for the exercise of public rights was the 3rd June 2024 ending on 12th July.

12.2 National Savings Investment Account As agreed at the previous meeting this Account was closed on the 21st May and the balance of £21,645.39 transferred to the Council's Barclays Account.

Interest Rates

Barclays Business Premium Account 1.51%

National Savings Investment Account 1.00%

12.3 Letters of thanks Received from.....

Community Together

Disability Advice Service

East Anglian Air Ambulance

Lighthouse Women's Aid

Suffolk Family Carers

Suffolk Accident & Rescue Service

St Elizabeth Hospice

Youth Club

12.4 Ratification of payments made since the last meeting and approved at the time

Grundisburgh Primary School	£165.00	Defibrillator electrician charges
East Suffolk Services Ltd	£64.80	St.Mary's wheeled bin – 2 collections
SALC	£27.00	Payroll Service
Suffolk Cloud	£120.00	Website hosting 2024/2025
Mr R Fletcher	£200.00	Village Green – Mowing March
Mrs.L.Clark	£70.74	Defibrillator Pads
Mr.J.Ager	£513.05	Clerk's Salary April/May 2024
	£98.09	Clerk's Expenses April/May 2024
	£71.94	Printer Toner set
	£33.60	Anglian Water waste water plan
Trustees of Grundisburgh Parish Rooms	£60.00	Room hire 17/04/23 – 11/03/24
SALC	£76.80	Councillor Basics Course – Dr..M.Mason
SALC	£591.71	Membership Subscription 2024/2025
SCC Grundisburgh Primary School	£75.00	Hire of School Hall 20 May ?
Vertas Group Ltd	£298.86	Playing Field grass cutting 01/04/2024-30/06/2024
Grundisburgh PCC	£500.00	Bags of Food Project
BSEVC	£50.00	Donation
Citizens Advice Bureau	£100.00	Donation
Disability Advice Service	£100.00	Donation
East Anglian Air Ambulance	£100.00	Donation
Freshstart	£50.00	Donation
Headway	£50.00	Donation
Lighthouse Woman's Aid	£100.00	Donation
Suffolk Accident Rescue Service	£100.00	Donation
Starlight	£50.00	Donation
St. Elizabeth's Hospice	£50.00	Donation
Suffolk Family Carers	£100.00	Donation
Suffolk Wildlife Trust	£100.00	Donation
Youth Club	£600.00	Grant
St.Botolph's PCC	£350.00	Grant towards cost of maintaining church yard
	£100.00	Grant Benefice Magazine
Grundisburgh PCC	£640.00	Grant towards cost of maintaining church yard
East Suffolk Services Ltd	£64.80	St Mary's wheeled bin – 2 collections
Mr R Fletcher	£240.00	Village Green – Mowing April

It was proposed by Mrs. Willetts seconded by Mrs. Bignell, to unanimous approval, that these payments be ratified.

Financial Matters cont...

12.5 Payments received since the last meeting.

Interest 4 March – 2 June 2024 £333.75 Business Premium Account

12.6 Emergency payments made prior to the meeting under Section 5.7 of Financial Standing Orders

Grundisburgh Village Hall	£42.00	Hall Hire 20/05/2024 Annual Parish Meeting
Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd	£59.08	Allotment water charges
Grundisburgh PCC	£300.00	Baby & toddler Group - Donation from Lucy Nightingale & Paul Garwood – cleaning bus shelters
Mr. R. A. Youngman	£417.86	Annual Parish Meeting – Catering
Communities Together East Anglia	£50.00	Replacement cheque 103355
East Suffolk Services Limited	£62.41	St.Mary's wheeled bin
Mr.R.Fletcher	£520.00	Village Green – Mowing May

12.7 Other payments requiring approval

Mr.J.Ager	£513.05	Clerk's Salary June/July 2024
	£67.64	Clerk's Expenses June/July 2024
	£128.20	Employers PAYE paid to HM Revenue & Customs
Vertas Group Limited	£298.86	Playing Field Grass Cutting – 01/07/2024 – 30/09/2024
CPRE	£72.00	Annual subscription
1 st Grundisburgh Scouts	£500.00	De-silting Village Green Stream

It was proposed by Mrs. Willetts seconded by Mrs. Bignell, to unanimous approval, that these payments be made

12.8 Account Balances as at 8 July

Business Premium Account	£142,545.22
Current Account	£15,755.69
Post Office Investment Account	NIL
VAT to claim	£3,749.59
TOTAL	£162,050.50

12.9 Budget Report attached

13. CIL Review

A meeting of the CIL Sub Committee will be held shortly.

14. Roads & Transport Mr. Alistair Turk, Chairman Burgh Village Meeting, has arranged a meeting to be held in the Village Hall Committee Room on Friday 12th July starting at 1.00pm with representatives of Suffolk County Council to discuss planned B1079 road closures which are having a disruptive affect on local communities. All councillors are invited to attend.

15. Footpaths & Conservation No report

16. Village Maintenance Mr. Dow reported.
BT had painted the Village Green Telephone Box.

A Working Party will be held on the 17th or 18th August to carry out various maintenance work in the village.

Mr. Caryer had carried out a survey of Road Directional Signs (finger posts) which all needed considerable renovation. Suffolk County Council have no funds allocated for this purpose so an application has been made for a contribution from our County Councillor's Highway Budget.

17. To receive reports from Council representatives to village organisations

17.1 Suffolk Association of Local Councils SALC

Dr. Mason reported that he had attended SALC's Virtual Annual General Meeting held on the 1st July which was attended by 60 representatives of 54 Councils. 97% of Parish Councils in Suffolk are members.

Key note speaker was Carol Eagles, CEO Citizen's Advice West Suffolk who described rising demand for their services. Main cause seems to be "cost of living crisis" (i.e. income less than expenditure!). Their top 3 requests for help are: Benefits; Debt; Housing. Citizen's Advice are partly funded by donations from Parish Councils, for which they are very grateful.

Sally Longmate, Chief Executive SALC, then presented the annual report and accounts for 2023/4. Sally highlighted increased demand for their services, and efforts they are making to improve and add to them. SALC are planning to move their website & Email to a ".gov.uk" domain this year. Several Councils on the call said they had done, or were about to do, the same thing. Sally said SALC will celebrate 75 years in operation next year, and they will be organising some events.

Having read all the delegate information, Dr. Mason on behalf of the Parish Council voted for all the resolutions raised - all of which were passed.

Mr. J. Dunnett asked Dr. Mason if the £600 fee for SALC provides good value for money. Dr. Mason considered it provided excellent value and cited the provision of training opportunities including the excellent "Councillor Basics" zoom-course he had attended, the opportunity to hear comments/and views from Councillors from many other Suffolk Councils. Also the excellent online resources for the issues currently facing Parish Councils, such as taking on maintenance tasks previously done by County & District Councils.

17.2 Playing Field Management Committee Mr. Caryer reported

Cycle Speedway Track

The concrete kerbing on the Cycle Speedway Track has been removed and was ready for collection by the Scouts. Topsoil had been delivered to infill where the concrete had been removed.

Pavilion Roof

Several roofing contractors have been approached as to the refurbishment of the pavilion roof. Despite the efforts of the chairman only one company had visited the site and he was awaiting some costings. One company are proposing to use a product which could be applied to the rust which would also protect the sheeting from further deterioration at a cost of £15 – £20k. It is proving exceptionally difficult to find a company who is prepared to even give a price for this work. 6 different roofing business's have been approached. However, a quote has been received for a replacement roof at a cost of £40k. Bealings Village Hall has a roof made of a similar construction as the pavilion, and they are having to replace it. The Chairman will endeavour to find out what their plans are.

Disabled and Refurbished Toilets

Estimates from 2 companies had been received for the installation of a disabled toilet alongside the refurbishment of the ladies and gentleman's facilities. If the disabled toilet was installed there would be additional work required to comply with regulations such as ramps hand rails, dedicated parking spaces, etc.etc. The total cost including VAT. would be circ. £45/£50k. Although the cost is in excess of the earmarked CIL funding together with reserves from the committee it was agreed that it would be both practical and financially beneficial to complete the works as one item. It was also agreed that additional third party funding should be applied for. Assistance is being sought from anyone with experience of obtaining grant monies.

Footpath 20

It was reported that Fields in Trust are conferring with their solicitor re the agreement document sent by East Suffolk District Council.

No details regarding surfacing were included in the documentation, the committee opposes the use of a tarmac surface which would encourage cycling and skateboarding. The positioning of barriers to slow down cyclists was also proposed.

To receive reports from Council representatives to village organisations cont...

General maintenance

Three exterior doors on the pavilion need replacement.

The chairman had been contacted from the resident whose hedge and boundary border the area behind the football club's container. they requested that items no longer required and empty containers be removed so that they could maintain their hedge. The Football club confirmed that a working party and a skip had been arranged and items would be cleared.

Discussion took place as to the management of the old dug outs which were no longer usable. Whilst it was agreed that ideally they should be removed they did act as an alternative to the new dug outs being vandalised.

It was requested that the vegetation down alongside the access roadway could be removed from alongside the fence. The chairman will consult with the occupier.

Tree Frog is supplying a quotation work for remedial work on the large Oak Tree opposite No: 1 Tennis Court

18. Public Open Forum It was proposed by Mrs. Willetts seconded by Mr. Caryer, to unanimous approval, that the formal meeting be suspended, and members of the public invited to address the meeting. No issues were raised.

19. Old Forge Stores Forecourt

Mrs. Willetts reported that she had met with Andrew Beck, Civil Engineering Director of Highway Assurance Limited the Suffolk County Council Highways contractors for highways maintenance on the forecourt of the Old Forge Stores.

Suffolk County Highways have already accepted their responsibility for the highway in front of the shop to the back of the footpath,

Mrs. Willetts found, with the help of Paul Whittingham, the probate will of Miss. Eveline Camila Lambert. Only monies were mentioned in the will. All properties had been sold with a right of way over the forecourt. Highways were willing to give the Parish Council a price for the forecourt so that the area in question could be surfaced at the same time as the road.

Charles Rogers, current owner of the Dog Inn joined in the conversation and agreed that he owned the area to the Green.

Mr. Beck advised that it would be better to surface the area from the shop to the road and the area in front of the cottages to the Green. He thought that all the water damage that is occurring on that area now would be transferred to the Dog driveway and would very soon make that area impossibly rutted.

Highways are rebuilding the footpath and kerb in front of the Green and tarmacking it as all the footpaths in the village as part of the contract for the road in the centre of the village.

Mrs. Willetts is waiting for a price for the forecourt which she thinks we have agreed would be a good use of CIL money and really the only time the Parish Council could upgrade this very important part of the village.

Mr. Beck said this would be the best time to carry out this work as the Parish council would only have to pay for the materials and labour as all the plant etc would be on site.

20. Items for next meeting Scheduled dates for Sub Committee Meetings..

21. Any other business

2024 Council Meetings September 9, November 11. Parish Rooms 7.00pm

2025 Council Meetings January 13 March 10 May 19 July 14 September 8 November 10

Annual Parish Meeting – Village Hall 14 May

Budget 2024/2025

01/04/2024 Through 31/03/2025 Using Budget 2 (in Pound)

04/07/2024

Page 1

Category Description	01/04/2024 Actual	- Budget	31/03/2025 Difference
INCOME			
Allotment Rent	0.00	450.00	-450.00
Bank Interest	417.05	200.00	217.05
CIL payment	66,867.58	0.00	66,867.58
Precept	10,500.05	21,000.00	-10,499.95
TOTAL INCOME	77,784.68	21,650.00	56,134.68
EXPENSES			
Administration			
Audit Fee	0.00	350.00	350.00
Clerk			
Expenses	321.93	500.00	178.07
Office	0.00	577.00	577.00
Payroll Service	0.00	50.00	50.00
Salary	1,026.10	3,854.00	2,827.90
Soc.Clks	0.00	105.00	105.00
Training	0.00	50.00	50.00
TOTAL Clerk	1,348.03	5,136.00	3,787.97
Cls. Exp.Train	64.00	500.00	436.00
Data Protection	0.00	40.00	40.00
Hire of Rooms	177.00	400.00	223.00
Insurance	0.00	500.00	500.00
Laser Printer	59.95	100.00	40.05
Parish Meeting	348.22	500.00	151.78
Photocopying	0.00	110.00	110.00
SALC	591.71	580.00	-11.71
Stationery	0.00	200.00	200.00
Website	0.00	110.00	110.00
TOTAL Administration	2,588.91	8,526.00	5,937.09
Run Costs			
Bags of Food	500.00	500.00	0.00
Bus Shelters			
Cleaning	300.00	300.00	0.00
Repairs	0.00	500.00	500.00
TOTAL Bus Shelters	300.00	800.00	500.00
Defibrillator	58.95	200.00	141.05
East Suffolk Planning Alliance	0.00	100.00	100.00
Highways			
SAVID	0.00	50.00	50.00
Snow Clearing	0.00	200.00	200.00
Speedwatch	0.00	150.00	150.00
TOTAL Highways	0.00	400.00	400.00
Local Fighting Fund	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Lunch Club	0.00	200.00	200.00
Pks Open Spa			
Allotments	49.23	300.00	250.77
Benches	0.00	500.00	500.00
Dog Fido Bins	0.00	150.00	150.00
Footpaths & Environment	0.00	150.00	150.00
Millennium Meadow	0.00	1,100.00	1,100.00
Notice Boards	0.00	100.00	100.00
Playingfield	498.10	1,000.00	501.90
River Water Testing	0.00	100.00	100.00
St.Bots	350.00	350.00	0.00

Budget 2024/2025

01/04/2024 Through 31/03/2025 Using Budget 2 (in Pound)

04/07/2024

Page 2

Category Description	01/04/2024 Actual	- Budget	31/03/2025 Difference
St.Mary	640.00	640.00	0.00
Village Greens			
Mowing	960.00	2,000.00	1,040.00
Posts & Rails	0.00	300.00	300.00
Stream	500.00	500.00	0.00
Trees	0.00	100.00	100.00
Xmas Tree	0.00	200.00	200.00
TOTAL Village Greens	1,460.00	3,100.00	1,640.00
War Memorial	0.00	200.00	200.00
Wheeled Bin	106.00	800.00	694.00
TOTAL Pks Open Spa	3,103.33	8,490.00	5,386.67
Youth Club	600.00	600.00	0.00
TOTAL Run Costs	4,562.28	12,290.00	7,727.72
Section 137			
British Legion	0.00	100.00	100.00
Citizens Advice	100.00	100.00	0.00
Communities Together East Anglia	50.00	50.00	0.00
CPRE (Suffolk Preservation Soc)	72.00	48.00	-24.00
Disability Advice Service	100.00	100.00	0.00
East Anglian Air Ambulance	100.00	100.00	0.00
Freshstart	50.00	50.00	0.00
Headway	50.00	50.00	0.00
Lighthouse	100.00	100.00	0.00
Sflk Accid Resc	100.00	100.00	0.00
St Elizabeths Hospice	50.00	50.00	0.00
St.Botolphs Benefice Magazine	100.00	100.00	0.00
Starlight	50.00	50.00	0.00
Suffolk Family Carers	100.00	100.00	0.00
SWLT	100.00	100.00	0.00
TOTAL Section 137	1,122.00	1,198.00	76.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,273.19	22,014.00	13,740.81
OVERALL TOTAL	69,511.49	-364.00	69,875.49