

Tuddenham St Martin's Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8th May 2019 commencing at 7pm at the Village Hall.

Present: Mr W Pipe, Mr H Brightwell, Mr D Lugo, Mrs J Ellinor, Mr P Hodge, Mr J Bird, Mr R Vickery (County Councillor), Mr T Fryatt (District Councillor), Mr C Hedgley (District Councillor) and Mrs C Frost (Clerk).

- 1. Chairman's Welcome and Apologies.** Apologies were received from Ms P Procter, Mrs M Pipe (Parochial Church Council) and Mrs J Bloomfield (Chair of Village Hall Committee). The Chairman welcomed every one present to the meeting. There was agreement to move Items if needed in order to accommodate late arrivals.
- 2. Minutes of Meeting held on 1st May 2018.** These were approved and signed.
- 3. Matters arising.** There were none.
- 4. Chairman's Report.** The Chairman presented his report, which was as follows:

Over the year our activities tend to revolve around highway and traffic issues, planning, and the ongoing upkeep of the playground, together with support for the village hall, church and community at large.

This past year has been particularly busy planning wise, with not only planning applications to consider, but also the contentious issue of the new Suffolk Coastal Local Plan. A public information meeting was held in August, attended by between 30 & 40 local inhabitants, following which the Parish Council submitted comments for consideration, to the planning department. With the publishing of the Council's final draft, the Parish council considered the revised proposals and submitted comments. The draft proposals are now awaiting review by the planning inspector, with a verdict expected later this year. Jean Elinor's contribution to this issue is much appreciated.

Highways matters as always, takes up a considerable amount of time at our meetings. Parking issues remain an ongoing problem, however I can report that the white line outside Brickfield House has been re-painted! SAVID and Speedwatch are ongoing thanks to Pauline Procter, and she has now taken over as chairman of the local group. More volunteers are still needed to man the speed monitoring device.

We are very grateful for the continuing supervision and maintenance of the playing field and playground undertaken by David Lugo and until recently, Trevor Beckett I understand David has had some additional support from another local resident which is much appreciated. Suffolk Norse Ltd. Continue to cut the grass, both for these areas and the various small areas within the village.

We continue to support the village hall committee, who have over this last year been continuing with various refurbishing projects. The village hall provides a well-used valuable asset to the village. I understand plans are in hand to acquire a defibrillator to be located in the entrance covered area, subject to availability of funds.

Sadly I have to report that the Old Stores tea room has closed. This facility had proved popular both within the village and beyond. We await developments.

We continue to provide funding to the church as a contribution to the maintenance of the churchyard. We also make small donations to, the air ambulance, Suffolk Accident Rescue Service and Grundisburgh News.

Our contact with the local police these days is minimal, however it is important that any incidents occurring locally should be reported, even if any follow up may be minimal, as this does help to show the overall picture.

After careful consideration, we have agreed to set the precept at £6,200 for the 2019/20 year. This is set against a budget figure of £7174, however this does include a significant contingency provision and our reserves are more than adequate currently.

Robin Vickery our County Council representative and our District Councillor Robert Whiting, has kept us apprised of County Council and District Council matters, which has been much appreciated. I would particularly like to record our thanks to Robert Whiting for his support over the years since he will not be representing us in future. Following the formation of the new East Suffolk Council we are now part of Carlford and Fynn Valley ward, and our new representatives are Tony Fryatt and Colin Hedgley, with the latter planning to look after our village.

Without volunteers we would not have a Parish Council. Towards the end of the year sadly Trevor Beckett indicated he did not feel able to continue as a councillor and I would like to thank him on your behalf for his contribution to the village since joining the council. Fortunately we have had a volunteer, and I am delighted to welcome Jim Bird as our new councillor. However we do still have one vacancy to fill. The administration involved in running the Parish Council has been particularly heavy this year with the planning issues involving a lot of extra work for Carol Frost our clerk. We are very fortunate in having the services of a very efficient person who just gets on with it in her quiet way. I, and I am sure the rest of my fellow Councillors fully appreciate just how much time she devotes to the task. A very big thank you to you Carol from us all. And finally to my fellow Councillors, thank you for your continuing support and contribution to the village community.

5. Report of County Council and District Council Representatives

Mr Vickery had already attended part of another annual parish meeting earlier in the evening and would be leaving early in order to attend a third annual meeting on the same evening. Mr Vickery was pleased to report that SAVID now had the County Councillor budget allocation of £3000 for their Speed Indicator Device and he presented his report, a copy of which had been earlier emailed to Parish Councillors, which was as follows:

Carlford Division Annual Parish Report 2018/2019.

Throughout the past year I have tried to attend as many Parish Council meetings as I can, and Highways issues have again taken up most of my time, with funding being the main reason for delays in finding solutions.

Last May, I was appointed to the Suffolk County Council Scrutiny Committee, which has meant a lot of extra work, particularly reading lengthy reports prior to the meetings. We have dealt with a number of controversial items, such as the Budget setting process, including the changes to the Citizen's Advice Bureaux Funding, Home to School Transport changes, and the relocation of the Suffolk Records Offices in The Hold on Ipswich Waterfront.

I was also appointed as a substitute member of the Suffolk Police and Crime Panel last May, which has involved quite a lot of training before I could take part in any of the meetings. Gang culture and the County Lines Drug problems have been major topics we have had to scrutinise. I am still on the Suffolk Fire and Rescue Pension Board as an employer representative, and as Suffolk County Council Armed Forces Champion I have attended numerous meetings of the Armed Forces Community Covenant Board, and the East Anglian Army Reserve Force and Cadet Association. I was also very pleased to accompany the Suffolk County Council's new Chief Executive Officer, Nicola Beach, on a visit to RAF Honnington, and further visits are being planned for later this year to Wattisham Flying Station and Rock Barracks at Woodbridge. During 2018, we commemorated the 100th Anniversary of the Signing of the Armistice, which ended the First World War. Since April 2017, I was pleased to serve on the Lord Lieutenant's Centenary Commemoration Committee, and helped organise 5 major events across the County. The first was a Naval Parade and Service which took place in Lowestoft on October 7th. Then on Sunday 4th November we held a Service at Bury Cathedral, called the Crimson Glory Service, where local school children participated with singing and poetry. This was followed by another service at Bury Cathedral on Wednesday 7th November, called the Eve of Peace Service, which was attended by representatives of all the Military and Civil Leaders in the County, as well as Veterans organisations and Charities, and relatives of WW1 casualties.

The following day, Primary School children from across the County laid Poppy Crosses and Commemorative Plaques on all of the 1332 WW1 Commonwealth War Graves across the County. It was a major task, implemented by members of the Royal British Legion, Churches, Schools, Parish Councils and members of the public.

The final event was the Remembrance Day Services held across the County on Sunday 11th November, where record numbers of people turned out to mark this very significant event. As Chairman of Ipswich branch of The Royal British Legion I have been responsible for organising the Remembrance Day Service in Christchurch Park for the past 12 years, and it was estimated we had up to 10,000 people present in the park for the Service. I had given notice that I wished to retire as Chairman at the end of 2018, and I certainly went out on a high, as we had not previously experienced such a high turnout for the Remembrance Day Service. Following the Service I had to dash up to London, as I was very honoured to have been asked to represent Suffolk at the Service of Thanksgiving held in Westminster Abbey that evening, in the presence of the Royal Family.

During the past year I have been pleased to support local groups by funding various projects in Carlford Division. These have included traffic calming measures, and the provision of play equipment, and I hope they will all improve the lives of residents.

Mr Fryatt and Mr Hedgley introduced themselves as the new elected District Councillors for the Carlford and Fynn Valley Ward. Mr Hedgley had already attended part of another annual parish meeting earlier in the evening and presented his report, a copy of which had been emailed before the meeting to Parish Councillors. It was as follows:

The last Full Council meeting of Suffolk Coastal District Council took place on the evening of 28th March 2019. The council heard from Mr Phillip Ridley, Head of Planning and Coastal Management, of the scheme for attracting more people into the planning service nationally but particularly in this area. He went on to describe the Planning apprenticeship Scheme initially developed by SCDC which now has Government backing. Also an extremely interesting and detailed presentation was given explaining the plans for the Lowestoft Tidal Barrier.

First New Full Council Meeting. The first meeting of the new East Suffolk Council will be on Wednesday 22nd May at 1900 at East Suffolk House.

New Council, new number. The new East Suffolk Council, which replaced Suffolk Coastal and Waveney on 1st April, has a new phone number. It replaces the old number used to contact the main switchboard and our customer services team operating across both councils. The new number, 03330 162 000, is now live and covers all of East Suffolk. It is non-geographic, meaning that calls will be charged at a local rate wherever they are made in the East Suffolk area.

Funding boost for Leiston. Leiston is celebrating receiving a financial boost to roll out new information points for visitors and residents. Leiston Town Council, in partnership with Leiston Together, has been granted £43,850 from the Coastal Revival Fund, to create information points for visitors and residents in the heart of the town. Coincidentally, the building adjoining Leiston Film Theatre, both owned by the Town Council, recently became vacant and it was decided that the ground floor space would be used to extend the theatre's foyer, so the new information points can be located in the popular venue. Elspeth Gibson, Leiston Change Manager, said: "We are really excited about this development which means that we can create a central point for visitors and residents to find all the information they need - something that has been on our agenda for quite some time. "Tourism is an important part of our local economy and we are now able to offer visitors an information point where they can find everything they need to make the most of their visit to this beautiful part of Suffolk. "The central location also means that it is a great opportunity to create a community information point where residents can easily get all the relevant community news and information in one place."

John Rayner, Leiston Town Clerk, said: "Leiston Film Theatre has over 30,000 visitors each year, many of them tourists, so this is the perfect location for the new information points." Work to complete the project has already started, with the ground floor wall between the two buildings having been knocked down to expand the theatre's foyer. The project is expected to be completed and running by late spring / early summer – just in time for the holiday season.

Visitors and residents can also visit www.visit-leiston.co.uk to find information such as events, accommodation, food and drinks, shops and more.

European Parliamentary Elections. The European Parliamentary Elections are being held on Thursday 23 May and unless the United Kingdom leaves the European Union prior to that date, voting to elect MEPs **will** take place in this country. Therefore, while an agreement to leave the EU could yet be reached, councils must prepare for the election as normal. Poll cards will be sent out to households in East Suffolk from Thursday 25 April. This will also include cards for those who have chosen to vote by post – and these will be clearly marked. EU nationals resident in this country, and who are eligible to vote in the European Elections, will be required to complete an application form if they wish vote in the UK, rather than their home country. This application form has also now been despatched and deadline for its return is Tuesday 7 May.

Other key deadlines are as follows:

Application	Deadline for receipt
New applications to register to vote	Tuesday 7 May 2019
New applications to vote by post or to cancel or amend an existing postal vote or proxy appointment	5pm on Wednesday 8 May 2019
New applications to vote by proxy	5pm on Wednesday 15 May 2019
Emergency applications to vote by proxy	5pm on Thursday 23 May 2019

Coastal Team celebrates Arts Centre funding. Southwold Coastal Community Team is celebrating after receiving another financial boost to support the development of projects contained within their Economic Plan. Supported by the Coastal Community Team (CCT) and East Suffolk Council, Sole Bay Arts CIO has secured funding of £35,000 from the recent round of Coastal Revival Fund. This will support their ambitions for [Southwold Arts Centre](#), based at St Edmunds Hall, to become a sustainable artistic, cultural and community venue for the town and surrounding local area. The funding will enable the Arts Centre to install retractable seating to provide a multi-use and accessible venue, as well as increase its capacity from 220 to 260, whilst keeping the flexibility required for cabaret-style, church and community events.

Peter Adshead, Centre Manager, said: “This award marks the beginning of a new phase in the arts centre’s development and coincides with the appointment of new trustees, drawn from a broad spectrum of the local community, along with a new management board to deal with all operational aspects of the venue, with the required skills to enable the full community benefit to be fulfilled. Not only will the greater capacity enable the centre to attract more mainstream artists and theatre companies but will also lay the foundations for our planned business expansion into conference and larger cinema / theatre projects. Following consultation with hall users, the new seating will also improve accessibility for wheelchair users who will no longer be marginalised on the edges of the auditorium.” This recent funding follows the announcement earlier this year that £15,000 of Coastal Revival Funding was awarded to Southwold Town Council for a feasibility study for the Southwold Boating Lakes; this project is also contained within the CCT’s Economic Plan. The CCT, formed in 2017, is led by a steering group comprising representatives of Southwold Town Council, Reydon Parish Council, Southwold and Reydon Society, East Suffolk Council and other key business and community representatives. The Coastal Revival Fund is intended to help improve the economic sustainability of coastal assets and coastal communities more broadly.

New beach huts for sale in Felixstowe. More people are being given the chance to enjoy the unique ‘beach hut experience’ in Felixstowe – with sale of new beach huts at The Dip. Three new huts are now on site and available to buy at the cost of £18,000 at The Dip on Cliff Road, Felixstowe, by East Suffolk Council. They are the first brand new sites to be offered by the local authority in this area for many years and are situated in a prime sea view location in Old Felixstowe. In the long term, East Suffolk Council, which is the landowner and runs the beach hut and chalet service, hopes to create more new beach hut sites across the District. The Dip area has space for 17 beach hut sites. Of these, one is being reserved for the exclusive use of the windsurfing club and another will be used by an existing beach hut owner relocating to The Dip, so in total 15 new beach huts could eventually come on to the market. “East Suffolk Council is committed to making beach huts more accessible to a wider range of people. These new huts at the Dip are accessible and represent a fantastic opportunity for people to enjoy the unique beach hut experience in Felixstowe,” said Kerry Blair, East Suffolk Council’s Head of Operations. “The two main drivers of the beach hut review were to improve equality by increasing the opportunities for residents to have access to a beach hut, while also maximising the income generated from this resource to invest in core services.”

“The creation of new sites will provide additional funds to the council, thus reducing the burden on the East Suffolk tax payer.” East Suffolk Council owns over 900 beach hut sites in Felixstowe. During 2016 and 2017, a review was carried out of the service in support of the East Suffolk Business Plan aim to ‘Increase the number of beach huts provided in the District’. The beach hut programme aims to deliver new huts in a number of locations in Suffolk Coastal. Phase 1 of this programme was the identification of the 17 new hut sites at The Dip, Felixstowe, which received planning permission in autumn 2018. There is a good access to this area from the public highway and the huts will be sited close to the sea front promenade. The huts would be of the same standard size, design and construction as existing huts in the area. The approved planning application also allowed ESC to build a new car parking area on the land adjacent to the boatyard, which has space for a small number of vehicles allowing water sport enthusiasts to unload their equipment and provide easy access to the beach. Full details of the new beach huts for sale can be found on the Scott Beckett Estate Agents website.

District Council Election Results. As you are now aware the Conservative Party gained the most seats in the new East Suffolk Council and will form the new Council. Tony Fryatt and Colin Hedgley were returned as members for the Carlford and Fynn Valley Ward. There are 19 Parishes for us to represent. It goes without saying that we will have difficulty in attending every Parish Council meeting and staying for the whole of each meeting bearing in mind that many PCs will be holding their meetings on the same day. However one of us will attend even if it’s only for half an hour or perhaps less. One of us will always send a report. Email addresses for both District Councillors was also provided.

Mr Fryatt added that a leader for the new council, who would select cabinet members, would be elected the following Monday. Business was as usual regarding planning and that the basis of the new Local Plan was to make sure the council abide by the planning rules.

Mr Fryatt gave his apologies and left in order to attend another annual parish meeting.

Mr Hedgley gave more information to his background as a councillor, reported the new full council meeting for East Suffolk Council would take place 22nd May 2019 and reiterated the new helpline for East Suffolk House: 0333 0162 000.

Mr Hedgley reminded the Parish Council of funds available from the Community enabling budget and offered to email the Clerk with a copy of an additional annual report prepared for the existing parishes of himself and Mr Fryatt. This would give an example of the report prepared specifically for parishes in their ward. A copy would be emailed to Parish Councillors

Mr Vickery gave his apologies and left for another meeting.

6. Presentation of Accounts to 31st March 2019. The Clerk presented the Accounts for the year ending March 2019. These would go forward to the meeting of the Parish Council.

7 Report from the Village Hall Committee. Prior to the meeting an update to the report provided at the December 2018 Parish Council meeting has been emailed to Parish Councillors. It was as follows:

Dymphna Jackson has retired as bookings secretary. She remains on the committee. We thank her for her many years of hard work.

Joan Bloomfield is covering bookings from now on and Adrian Frost is being both secretary and chairperson. This is until our AGM takes place in September.

Ian Watson and David Lugo have cleaned, sanded and sealed the floor in the lobby with great success, for which we thank them. They are also currently looking into the possibility of an interim treatment of the main hall floor while we build up funds for a full sand and reseal.

Quotes are currently being sought to block off the outside exit door in the storeroom which houses the tables and chairs. The door is rotted and a security risk.

The exterior of the hall is to be painted at the beginning of July by which time the work on the door will be complete.

Adrian is looking into providing a defibrillator for the village. The plan is for it to be housed inside the porch at the village hall. As the cost is likely to be several thousand pounds we will need to seek funding, possibly from village organisations or consider fund raising. It is also possible to arrange defibrillator training sessions which should also cover CPR.

Mrs Ellinor reported that the sheds, which were included in the £1900 estimate reported by the Village Hall Committee at the December Parish Council meeting, would not now be replaced as repair work would be carried out instead.

8. Report from Parochial Church Council.
Council as follows:

Mr Bird read the report on behalf of the Parochial Church

The Church of England continues to flourish in the village. General attendances have been maintained, with Festival services being particularly well supported. All the Christmas services were well attended, with the church especially full for the Carol Service and the Childrens' Service on Christmas Eve. The Harvest Lunch in the Village Hall following the Harvest festival in church was much enjoyed by the wider community. Our Electoral Roll currently stands at 32 members.

The fabric and churchyard are in generally good order. The south side of the Chancel was re-roofed last year, and thanks to the efforts of Jim Bird, the church clock is now working again. Andrew Offord continues to cut the grass and hedges in the Churchyard, and David Lugo has undertaken various additional tasks which have much improved the appearance of the churchyard. The financial support given by the Parish Council for the maintenance work is much appreciated.

Fundraising - this is a continuing and essential process if we are to maintain our lovely old building and continue to worship there. We are looking forward to a Quiz in the near future followed by the annual Fete which will be held on 8th June at Poplar Farm. In the autumn we will have a Harvest Festival followed by lunch in the village hall and also Gift Day with Jackie Lugo's ever popular Bring 'n Buy. We are very grateful for the support given by the village for all these events, which also give us the opportunity for genuine fellowship and the fostering of community spirit which we are so lucky to enjoy.

9. Date of Next Annual Parish Meeting. 5th May 2020.

The meeting closed at 7.40pm.

Mrs C Frost
Parish Clerk. Tuddenham St Martin