

Minutes of the Tuddenham St Martin Parish Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 commencing at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Present: Mr W Pipe, Mr D Lugo, Mrs J Ellinor, Mr J Bird, Mr C Hedgley (District Councillor) and Mrs C Frost (Clerk).

**1. Chairman's Welcome and Apologies.** The Chairman welcomed every one present to the meeting. Apologies were received from Ms Procter, Mr Brightwell and Mr Vickery. They were also received from Mr Hedgley (District Councillor) as he would be arriving later in the meeting due to already attending another Parish Council meeting and Mr Fryatt (District Councillor) as Mr Hedgley would be attending on behalf of the District Councillors. It was agreed to move the order of Items to accommodate late arrivals, if needed, and declared interests.

**2. The Co-option of a Parish Councillor to fill 1 vacancy** The Parish Council had been approached by 2 villagers to fill the vacancy and as a result Mr Hodge had offered his resignation in order to make way for new members on the Parish Council. Mr Pipe recorded his appreciation for the time, work and contribution to the Parish Council by Mr Hodge over 7 years as a Parish Councillor and as a Parish Clerk for some years before that. As a result of the resignation the District Council public vacancy notice had been put on the noticeboard. The Parish Council would be in a position to co-opt 2 Councillors after the deadline described in this notice if a by-election was not necessary and the Parish Council agreed to hold a short additional meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019 to conclude the matter.

**3. Public Forum** No additional issues were raised.

**4. To receive declarations of interest.** Mr Pipe declared an interest in Item 16.

**5. Minutes of Meetings held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 and 20<sup>th</sup> August 2019.** These were approved.

**6. Matters arising.** The Clerk reported that an additional new dog bin has been installed in Fynn Lane. Guidance had been sought from SALC regarding the correct power to allocate for this purchase and they have confirmed it was s.5, Litter Act 1983. The dog bin will be added to the Parish Council List of Assets and insurance. Guidance had also been sought about the recent purchase of SID associated items (battery and brackets). SALC are currently awaiting legal advice on this very point as it appears there may not be a specific power to use for SID purchase, and councils would have to rely on s.137 if they don't have the General Power of Competence. For the time being these purchases were being included under Section 137 until the query is resolved.

**7. Report on Community Policing** Mrs Ellinor presented a report which had been emailed by Ms Procter to Parish Councillors prior to the meeting following attendance at the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 ASB meeting in Woodbridge. Details had included that a number of villages were experiencing problems with 'bored youth' with limited local facilities for summer holidays leading to various acts of vandalism. Many places were also having problems with speeding and parking issues and concerns had been raised about a couple of homeless individuals in Woodbridge. It seemed positive that a local organisation was supporting them to find settled accommodation. Debris suggesting illegal drug use by the village hall had been reported to the police. A copy of the latest Woodbridge Constables County publication, which now included the SNT reports, had been emailed to Parish Councillors prior to this meeting. Minutes from the last ASB meeting, on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2019, would be emailed to Parish Councillors when received. The date of the next ASB meeting would also be emailed to Parish Councillors when known. Mr Pipe reported that scramble motorbikes had been witnessed on local fields, roads and bridleways recently and the police had been informed.

## **8. Clerk's Report, Financial Report, and Authorisation of payments and correspondence**

- A. The Clerk advised that since the meeting of 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2019 the charge for time worked was 32 hours to date. The Clerk added that lately the work carried out on a voluntary basis had become unsustainable and over the last few months had far exceeded over 100 hours. The Clerk was thanked for the additional work carried out on a voluntary basis, which included extra work due to the District Local Plan and Ipswich Northern Routes consultation, and was approached to agree payment for extra hours. The Clerk declined this offer and a discussion followed about possible resolutions for excessive hours, including the offer from Mrs Ellinor to help with some administrative duties. The Clerk wished to carry out some work on a voluntary basis as Parish Councillors also volunteered their time for the benefit of the village, but it would not be possible for the Clerk to continue with the current amount of hours worked.

- B. The Clerk requested approval, and it was agreed, for the following payments which were still to be made:
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|--|---------|
| (1) East Suffolk Council – May 2019 Parish Council uncontested election cost | £76.16  |
| (2) Suffolk Coastal Norse – Additional dog bin and installation (Fynn Lane)  | £234.00 |
| (3) Clerk’s salary from 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2019 to date                    | £338.00 |
- C. The Clerk reported that the amounts held by the Parish Council accounts as at 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019 were £1016.06 (Current Account) and £19,279.22 (Savings Account). The Final accounts for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to date were submitted, accepted and unanimously approved.
- D. Parish Councillors were emailed prior to the meeting with options to take about the bus timetable information at the village bus stop as Suffolk County Council would no longer be updating roadside bus timetable cards across Suffolk. Mrs Ellinor agreed to download, print and put the information at the bus shelter when it was updated.
- E. Parish Councillors had been emailed prior to the meeting with details of the Sizewell C consultation. There were no comments.
- F. The Public Rights of Way consultation from Suffolk County Council had a deadline of 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019 for comments. More details were available via [www.suffolk.gov.uk/rowip](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/rowip) There were no comments.
- G. Parish Councillors had been emailed prior to the meeting with the request from Suffolk Highways to identify every village grit bin that is a) on the highway and b) needs refilling. Mr Bird agreed to collect the information and forward it to Suffolk Highways.

**9. Report of District Council Representative** Mr Hedgley reported that following recent experience at a neighbouring village his advice to resolve footpath issues quicker was to contact the footpath officer at East Suffolk Council rather than via the Highway reporting tool. Mr Hedgley would forward contact details to the Clerk after the meeting. Mr Hedgley had emailed Parish Councillors with his report prior to the meeting, and a copy is available on the Parish Council website [www.tuddenhamstmartin.onesuffolk.net](http://www.tuddenhamstmartin.onesuffolk.net) Mr Hedgley directed those present to the last item in the District Council report to see the statement from Councillor Steve Gallant about the Ipswich Northern Route consultation, in that the District Council were involved in the consultation and no more than that. Mr Hedgley then gave an overview of other issues in the report.

#### **10. Planning Matters including:**

a) An update on the District Council Local Plan Mrs Ellinor reported that she had attended the first date of the Local Plan Hearing at East Suffolk House in August. Unfortunately the Hearing had overrun and Mrs Ellinor had needed to leave before being heard but a statement had already been submitted on behalf of the Parish Council. The next Hearing session for the Parish Council would be 17<sup>th</sup> September which Mrs Ellinor would attend to give additional background information to the statement already submitted.

b) To consider a Neighbourhood Plan Mrs Ellinor reported that she had received details from Andrew Cann of Planning Direct as they were involved with a Neighbourhood Plan on behalf of Playford. Funding was available for Neighbourhood Plans and perhaps it was time to revisit a Neighbourhood Plan for Tuddenham. Free of charge workshops were available and Planning Direct would contact the Parish Council when the next one was happening. Mr Hedgley also recommended contact with Andy Jolliffe (East Suffolk Community Officer) to obtain additional Neighbourhood Plan information and how to start the process.

**11. Highway Matters, including an update on the SAVID and Speedwatch schemes** Mr Vickery had let the Parish Council know he would be meeting with Suffolk County Council Highways on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019 to highlight long outstanding Tuddenham highway issues and the HGV through traffic problems on The Hill. Mrs Ellinor presented a report which had been emailed by Ms Procter to Parish Councillors prior to the meeting. Details included:

Speedwatch - It had been a difficult time to maintain this but thank you to volunteers for their time, including a new volunteer who was now trained. Police do seem to fairly regularly come to a site in Main Road, and Ms Procter is trying to obtain information about the numbers of people witnessed by police as speeding.

Camera Signs – Ms Procter will try to get an answer from David Chenery (Suffolk County Council Highways).

SAVID - The next Meeting is being hosted by Tuddenham and it will be on Tuesday 24th September at 7.30pm. The purpose of rotating the meetings around villages is to give local people an opportunity to attend and raise concerns about speeding and other road safety concerns. A Grundisburgh resident with a lot of experience in speed reduction activities, and currently a consultant to various statutory organisations, is helping develop a data recording system that can be used to gather details from the various SIDs operating in participating villages. The shared SID is currently in Grundisburgh and the plan is for it to be moved when some data has been analysed and the current holder returns from holiday. It will be placed upon the post near Manor Farm which will enable us to monitor traffic speed and volume coming from the Grundisburgh direction.

Other Road safety issues in the Village – There has been an increase in cars trying to park in The Street and various visitors/ trade vehicles parking on the pavement as well as over the white line in The Street has increased. Is it time to put out another notice? Traffic speeding up downhill towards the Fountain leaves pedestrians feeling very vulnerable. Is it worthwhile exploring getting a 20mph limit in the centre of the village including up the hill towards Keightley way where there is no pavement?

Exploration of a 20mph limit was discussed and Mr Hedgley recommended contact with the Parish Clerk of Little Bealings to check on their experience, including costings. Ms Procter would be asked to pursue this matter.

**12. Management of the playing field and playground** The Clerk had no update to report on the floor area for the swings. Mr Bird reported that grass at the playground and play area had been cut and the Clerk reported that the ROSPA inspection would be carried out later in the month. It was agreed that grass cutting quotes should be obtained for the coming year on the same basis as this year (8 cuts per year) but also obtain the additional cost per additional cut as more frequent cuts may be needed.

**13. To review Parish Council Standing Orders** Parish Councillors considered the Standing Orders and they were unanimously approved.

#### **14. Items for next Agenda**

- The co-option of Parish Councillor(s)
- An update on the Local Plan Hearings

**15. Date of next meeting** 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Mr Pipe gave his apologies and left the meeting in view of his interest in the following Item.

#### **16. An update on the Ipswich Northern Routes consultation including:**

a) To consider the Parish Council response to the Ipswich Northern Routes consultation Parish Councillors considered feedback received from villagers and following recent meetings. Wording was agreed for the comments to put forward from the Parish Council to the Ipswich Northern Route consultation and these included:

There has been no data to evidence the need for an Ipswich Northern Route.

The route would likely cost more than £1bn. Public money which could be better spent on public transport, hospitals, social care and education. Road building does not boost local economies but encourages housing development in car dependant locations, increasing traffic. This proposal appears to be a Trojan horse for a large new town north of Ipswich.

New roads generate new traffic. The Campaign to Protect Rural England looked at 13 road schemes and found an average increase of +47%. The effects of this induced traffic, especially in a village such as Tuddenham St Martin which has a Conservation Area, have not been factored into the bypass proposal.

This new traffic will increase carbon emissions and worsen climate change at a time when Suffolk County Council has declared a 'climate emergency'. Sustainable transport should be prioritised instead.

The Route would destroy beautiful countryside, the Fynn Valley in particular, and the habitats of treasured wildlife species.

The Route would harm rural life, splitting villages in half and destroying centuries of rural heritage. Air, noise and light pollution would increase, destroying the tranquillity that attracts visitors into our local economy.

It was agreed these comments would be emailed to the Northern Route email address and copied to the leaders of Suffolk County Council, East Suffolk District Council, Mid Suffolk District Council and Babergh District Council. It would also be copied to the District Councillors and County Councillor for Tuddenham.

b) To agree a Parish Council donation of £1000 to the Stop! Campaign A flyer had been delivered to villagers prior to the week of 26<sup>th</sup> August 2019 about the proposed donation of £1000 from Parish Council funds to the Stop! Campaign. The deadline of 5pm on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 had been given in order for objections to be received to the donation. The electoral roll for the village is 294. The total number of objections received by 6.30pm on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 was 6, and the views included in the objections received were discussed. It was understood from Parish Council representation at Stop! Campaign meetings that the donation would be to a designated account for the Stop! Campaign, should the Stop! Campaign cease then Parish Council contributions would be refunded on a pro rata basis, and that all Stop! financial statements are made available at the fortnightly Parish Councils Stop! meetings. The donation of £1000 to the Stop! Campaign was unanimously agreed.

The Meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Mrs C Frost  
Parish Clerk. Tuddenham St Martin