



# Mutford PARISH COUNCIL

## **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council**

held at Mutford & Rushmere Village Hall

on Monday 4th December 2023 at 7pm

### **113/23 Present**

MPC Cllr Warnes (Chair), Cllr Greenacre, Cllr Read, Cllr Wilby, Cllr Simpson

**In attendance** Angela Colbridge (Clerk), ESC Cllr Scrancher

Members of the public x 2

### **114/23 Apologies for absence**

SCC Cllr J Cloke, ESC Cllr Rivett

### **115/23 Declaration of interest personal or prejudicial to this agent**

There were no declarations of interest

### **116/23 Minutes of the Annual meeting of the Parish Council of Monday 6th November 2023.**

**It was proposed by Cllr Read, seconded by Cllr Wilby, that the minutes of the meeting of 6th November 2023 be accepted as a true record. This was agreed.** The minutes were signed by the Chair.

### **117/23 Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda**

None

### **118/23 Chairs Item**

None

### **119/23 Reports**

#### **119/23/1 East Suffolk Council**

ESC Cllr Scrancher advised that visitors to the Pakefield Cliffs area should avoid the area after significant coastal erosion over 25th and 26th November. Relevant sections of the beach have been cordoned off and an assessment is due to be completed.

The full council met on Wednesday 22nd November and debated ESC's 'Our Vision' document. There was a split vote on this document but it was voted through. The document can be read on the ESC website.

#### **119/23/2 Suffolk County Council - Report from SCC Cllr Cloke, 4th December 2023**

Angela, Parish Clerk to Mutford has brought to my attention revised plans for the proposed AD Plant at Ellough, which I would recommend you look at; this planning proposal has not yet come to the Development and Regulation committee.

The consultation about the Library contract is underway, residents can have their say by visiting [www.suffolk.gov.uk/LibraryConsultation](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/LibraryConsultation) before Friday 26th January 2024.

In November, Suffolk County Council's cabinet approved an extra £10 million to repair and resurface local roads in villages and residential areas across Suffolk.

4.7 million litres of water has been pumped away and 8,412 highways drains cleared of post-storm debris since Storm Babel hit Suffolk one month ago.

Suffolk County Council has just launched an online consultation as we plan our budget for next year, and we would welcome your thoughts: [www.suffolk.gov.uk/budget](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/budget)

Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk County Council leaders are urging National Grid to reconsider their preferred onshore option following findings of a recent review. The councils jointly commissioned and have now published an independent report into the Norwich to Tilbury pylons project. Leaders of the three county councils are now asking National Grid Electricity and the electricity system planner, National Grid Electricity System Operator to

Signed Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

consider the findings.

**119/23/3 Police** – The Clerk reported the following updates from the Police.Uk website: September 2023 - 1 x reported crime on or near Mutfordwood Lane (Violence & sexual offences).

## **120/23 Correspondence**

### **120/23/1 East Suffolk Council - Litter and Fido waste bins**

A discussion was held on ESC's review of the current provision of litter and fido waste bins within the district which they have a responsibility to empty. The Clerk will re-circulate the document to councillors. The closing date for comments is 31st January 2024.

### **120/23/2 Suffolk Highways - Holly Lane Bridleway/Pavements on Mill Road**

The Clerk reported that the planned works on the Holly Lane Bridleway should take place from late Autumn through the winter months and will be based on the contractors program and when they have other works to undertake in the area.

Two areas of pavements on Mill Road, which are considered uneven, were reported via the online reporting tool. The reported locations have been visited and assessed against Suffolk County Council's Highway Maintenance Operational Plan and do not meet intervention criteria at this time. The locations will continue to be monitored as part of routine inspections.

### **120/23/3 Email from National Landscape Media - Renaming of Area's of Outstanding Natural Beauty**

The Clerk informed council that, as of 22nd November 2023, all designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty in England and Wales will become National Landscapes, reflecting their national importance.

### **120/23/4 East Suffolk Council - Draft Healthy Environments and Draft Rural Developments SPD's**

The two drafts are currently out for consultation with a consultation end date of Wednesday 10th January 2024. The SPD's will be re-circulated to councillors and information on the public consultation will also be included in the January issue of the Mutford News.

### **120/23/5 Suffolk County Council Passenger Transport - Bus Service Improvement Plan**

The Clerk informed council that the Suffolk County Council Passenger Transport department had been in touch following the completion of a show of interest in possible future funding for a bus route through the village. There is currently the option for residents to access other local towns via the Connecting Communities service. The Clerk will look into this further with a view to gaining information for residents who might be interested in this service. It was also suggested that the parish joins up with other neighbouring parishes to increase the evidence base and known demand for a service.

### **120/23/6 Resident - Incidents of dog mess**

The Clerk read out a report from a resident of an increased amount of dog mess opposite the church on Church Road. It was noted that similar concerns have been highlighted on the front page of the most recent edition of the Mutford News, strongly encouraging dog owners to clean up after their pets.

## **121/23 Finance**

### **121/23/1 Approval of Outstanding invoices**

R Sawyer Playground Maintenance October 2023 £40 / November 2023 £40

Roberts & Son newsletter printing December 2023 £40

**Proposed by Cllr Warnes , Seconded by Cllr Read**

### **121/23/2 Account balance**

The Clerk noted a rolling estimate of £10,855.63

### **121/23/3 Approval of Draft Budget for the financial year April 2024/March 2025**

The Clerk put forward a proposed budget for the next financial year. This was approved by the councillors. **Proposed by Cllr Warnes, seconded by Cllr Greenacre.**

Signed Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**121/23/4 Agreement of Precept Request for the financial year 2024/25**

After a discussion, it was agreed that the precept request for the financial year 2024/25 be set at £6,600.24 to show as a 0% change on the council tax bills for the next year.

**Proposed by Cllr Simpson, seconded by Cllr Greenacre.**

**122/23 Planning**

**122/23/1 To consider any planning applications**

**DC/23/4323/FUL** - Single storey side extension, Peacehaven, 92 Mill Road, Mutford, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7UP - **Consultation letter expiry date 6th December 2023.**

The Council have no objections to this planning application. **Proposed by Cllr Warnes, Seconded by Cllr Wilby.** The Clerk will respond to the consultation letter to this effect.

**122/23/2 To receive outcomes of planning applications from ESC**

**DC/23/2817/FUL** Conversion of barn to form two residential dwellings following Class Q prior approval including change of use of surrounding land to garden land. Oakes Farm, Mutfordwood Lane, Carlton Colville, Suffolk, NR33 8HG - **Application permitted**

**DC/23/3586/FUL** Proposed Tractor Store Land South of Woodford Farm, Mutford Wood, Mutford, Suffolk. **Application permitted**

**DC/23/2402/ARM** - Permission for the remaining Reserved Matters - Landscape, layout, scale and appearance. In addition, we seek discharge to Planning Conditions 8, 10, 13 & 14 associated with the outline planning permission | Land to the North of Chapel Road, Mutford, Suffolk, NR34 7UU - **Application permitted**

**The Clerk noted that the planning officer for this PA is recommending that a planning condition it imposed to control external lighting, in view of the rural location and having regard to the Neighbourhood Plan policy.**

**122/23/3 Other Planning Matters**

**SCC/0124/22W - Construction and operation of anaerobic digestion plant and associated infrastructure, Land at Copland Way, Ellough, Beccles, NR34 7TL -**

The Clerk updated councillors that an email had been received from Beccles Aerodrome regarding a revised application for a new AD Plant on Copland Way. Having become aware of the revised application, the Clerk had sought an update from Suffolk County Councillor Cllr Cloke and was informed that there is no consultation at this stage. The Parish Council will continue to monitor this application. The Clerk will respond to the aerodrome to this effect and that the parish councillors agreed with many of the points that they had raised.

**V.C.Cooke - Application for an environmental permit - No update**

**123/23 Speedsign - Handover update**

Cllr Warnes informed Council that he has not as yet discussed the handover of the Speed Indicator Device with the resident who has offered to take over responsibility of it.

**124/23 Telephone box/Book swap**

The Clerk informed council that there had been a small number of volunteers to take over the responsibility of the Book swap facility in the old Telephone Box. The Clerk will email those who have shown interest to ask if they would consider working together on this project.

**125/23 Community Litter Pick - Update on event**

There were 6 volunteers for the community litter pick, collecting just under a dozen bags of waste from around the village. It was agreed that it was very worthwhile arranging this community event and it was suggested that an annual litter pick be arranged in the early spring of each year. The Clerk will contact ESC to request supply of equipment for a Saturday in late February 2024.

**126/23 Noise disturbance from aircraft over the village**

Following receipt of further information from a resident concerning noise disturbances from aircraft over the village, this subject was discussed further by the council. East

Signed Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Suffolk Council Cllr Scrancher suggested contacting Head of Environmental Services at ESC to find information on pointing residents in the right direction for help with their concerns.

**Adjournment for questions from members of the public**

No questions

**127/23 Any other business of which due notice has been given**

It was brought to the attention of the council that some ditches in the village are blocked. It was suggested that the environment agency or internal drainage at DEFRA be contacted for advice. Cllr Warnes is going to try and obtain some information on this issue which will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**128/23 Requests for items to be placed on the agenda for the next meeting**

Blocked ditches, Paddy's Pit.

**129/23 Date and time of next meeting.** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 5th February 2024 at 7pm

**The meeting closed at 20:34 pm.**

Signed Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_