

Hartest Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held in the Institute on Wednesday 5 June 2013 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs Chris Browning (Chair), David Burr, Howard Hirst, Jo Pask, David Turner and Anna Warren-Thomas

In Attendance: Co Cllr R Kemp, 1 member of the public (Mr J Gill) and Mrs P M Lamb (Parish Clerk)

ACTION

- 13/018 Apologies for absence: Dist Cllr J Long, Cllr Scilla Turner and PCSO H Partington
- 13/019 Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the 1 May were approved and signed.
- 13/020 Matters Arising: None
- 13/021 Dispensation Requests re Declarations of Interest: None
- 13/022 Declarations of interest: Cllr D Burr re 13(d) New Planning Applications re Spring Bank, Lawshall Road.
- 13/023 Public Forum: Mr Gill was attending in respect of the planning application re Spring Bank, Lawshall Road. He advised that he was concerned about the height of the proposed first floor extension, which he considered to be some 2m higher than his own property, Oak Barn, which would result in his property being overlooked and overshadowed.
- 13/024 Police Report: No report had been received.
- 13/024 Co Councillor's Report: On behalf of the Parish Council, Cllr Browning congratulated Cllr Kemp on his recent re-election.
Response from Leader of SCC on Broadband
As Richard alluded to, broadband speeds in Suffolk are inconsistent and very often quite poor. Indeed, only 59% of the county will benefit from commercially funded upgrades. To address this, SCC has now awarded BT a contract to intervene in the c41% of Suffolk premises which are outside the scope of commercially funded broadband upgrades (eg BT Infinity, Virgin Media). This contract will ensure that, when combined with the 59% of commercial coverage, 90% of Suffolk premises are served from fibre broadband, and the remaining 10% of premises will enjoy speeds ranging from 2Mbps to 24Mbps, with a minimum universal commitment of at least 2Mbps across all premises in the county. This will be completed in 2015, with incremental progress along the way. Beyond 2015, we intend to secure additional funding to push coverage and speed further.
Work is already underway on delivering these improvements, and in the coming weeks we will be publishing a broad phasing map, showing where in the programme each parish will fall. You will appreciate that the information we currently use is based upon various assumptions, and is therefore fit for a bid, but not complete enough to publish a committed rollout schedule. The current plan is to launch this map at the Suffolk Show this year. There are 9 phases to our rollout, the design work for phase one is underway, and once it is complete we will be able to announce the coverage to be achieved from the first phase. After this, the second phase will follow, and hence a more refined idea of

coverage will be published as the survey and design for each phase is signed off.

Suffolk is in fact one of the first two Local Authorities to proceed under the national government funding scheme, and is also ahead of schedule with the deployment programme. BT has also brought forward the completion date for their commercial rollout by twelve months, so broadband improvements in Suffolk are moving as fast as anywhere in the country. Of course, we would always love to be able to deliver this instantly, but it is a complex engineering process.

Although frustrating, we are unable to publish detailed information on coverage and speeds until survey and design work is completed for each phase of deployment. This is also due to the regulation around broadband provision in that we must announce new areas of coverage on an equivalent basis to all retail service providers (eg Orange, Sky) through an established process. We will however release information on new areas of coverage throughout the programme as soon as it becomes available, via the website www.suffolk.gov.uk/broadband

In terms of the area referred to, I have asked my team to look into this and it appears that the cabinet which serves your premises is one which is currently progressing through the planning system, and should be deployed within the next few months. If you require any further updates, please feel free to contact broadband@suffolk.gov.uk
Speeding traffic and crossing safety for Children in Southgate St, Long Melford

Speed issues will be discussed in the next SNT/Highways meeting so that a co-ordinated response can be prepared. We'll also have a look to see what data already exists. If it looks like a practical scheme could be delivered, it may be possible to use Quality of Life budget. A refuge would be affordable but a formal pedestrian crossing is likely to far exceed the available Quality of Life money.

Water Result!

Do you remember the [Inking About Africa](#) story earlier this month, where CSD's Faye McSloy provided an update on a project aimed at raising money to install a new well in an African village? The project is now complete, with the well in place and fresh drinking water available to residents.

Are You Care Aware?

A new referral service provided by Care Aware has been launched by SCC that will provide sound information and advice on how to fund long term care. SCC is the first local authority in the country to directly refer customers to Care Aware in order to help families prepare for any future care needs. Care Aware offers free and impartial information & advice for the people of Suffolk.

Care Aware is a non profit making information and advisory service specialising in the issues relating to the funding of long term care for older people. Its objectives are to improve public understanding and knowledge about the care system, to reinforce the rights and choices of the individual and to assist the public on the issues associated with the provision of care. The care system can be complex and often has far reaching implications for individuals and their families. The need for care invariably creates issues across a range of professional matters including health, finance, taxation & law and therefore it is important that any advice takes into account each of these issues.

Where individual circumstances require more detailed advice and guidance regarding the legal, tax and financial aspects of paying for care, Care Aware may recommend access to an Endorsed Later Life Adviser provided by Care Asset Management Limited. Each of their advisers is an Endorsed Later Life Adviser and is a full member of the Society of Later Life Advisers (SOLLA). Care Asset Management Limited is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority and provides independent advice from the whole of the financial market. Since its soft launch on 17 October last year, Care Aware has received

over 80 enquiries from the people of Suffolk requesting further information and advice for later life planning and paying for long-term care.

Cllr Colin Noble, SCC portfolio holder for Adult and Community Services, said: "I am delighted to announce the launch of Care Aware in Suffolk. This service is designed to help people make informed choices about paying for care and to reduce the risk of money running out whilst still protecting any inheritance legacies. I am confident this new service will really help people better understand what options are available to them. The service being provided will go a long way to helping individuals and families understand the true cost of care in later life and will help them plan for the future".

For more information about Care Aware service call Care Aware on Freephone 0800 954 0091 or email them at Suffolk@careaware.co.uk Learning the Ropes (and Balloons and Cooking....)

Last week's Learning at Work Day was a first for the council and hopefully just the start of an annual celebration of learning new skills in the workplace. Talented staff volunteered their expertise in the Italian language, Asian cooking, chair Pilates, silver clay jewellery making and much more.

Good News on Stroke in Suffolk

Stroke patients and their families have two reasons to celebrate this week, one short term; the news from the Stroke Review Project board, that both Ipswich and West Suffolk hospitals will be supported to be both "hyperacute" and "acute" stroke units, providing the full range of diagnostic tests, thrombolysis (clot dissolving) expertise and rehabilitation services. The other news is the early work from Glasgow University/Glasgow's Southern General Hospital, where a small number of stroke patients have been involved in a pilot clinical trial to assess the safety of injecting human stem cells into a stroke-affected brain. This marks the first real, but as yet distant promise of significant recovery after a part of the brain has essentially died as a result of blood being shut off.

The residents of Suffolk will, I am sure, continue to support local services for Stroke, the details of which have still to be hammered out at hospital level. Organising a 24 hour day, 7 day week service with rapid access to senior clinicians for decisions after scanning as to the best course of action is not easy. The Health Service has long suffered from a shortage of senior staff "on the front door" and the European Time Directive has not helped in limiting junior doctor's hours (which were of course generally too long) and which, to some extent, has hampered the use of the more "senior" junior doctors in training. Simply put, we continue not to have enough seniors in the hospital at all hours and enough juniors in training. Face to face, doctor to patient relationships are vital and telemedicine (video links between hospitals and specialists) will also have a role to play in helping the speed of diagnosis and treatment, but are not a substitute for the ever-important appearance at the bedside of "the man/woman that knows", who has the confidence of patient and family alike.

The real key to making this work will involve the patients themselves and their close family, as personal support through a time of crisis has so much bearing on the outcome. No doubt patients, relatives, nurses, therapy staff and doctors may all have to travel that extra mile to keep our vital services within the borders of Suffolk. Those of us that are peripheral to the stroke arena at present can also be effective in recognising and minimising the risks in stroke: smoking, inactivity, high blood cholesterol levels and obesity and of course, supporting the voluntary sector which helps patients and families in so many ways.

13/025 District Councillor's Report: No report in Cllr Long's absence.

- 13/026 Finance & Administration:
- (a) Receipts: None
 - (b) Payments: The following items were approved for payment:
St Mary's Church Glemsford: 'Contact' Advertising 2013-14: £48.00
O G S Cornish: Grounds Maintenance: 1st Qtr 2013: £877.50 Clerk
 - (c) 2012/13 Accounts: Copies had already been emailed to Members (with further hard copies provided at the meeting). These were approved and signed in readiness for submission to the Internal Auditor. Clerk
 - (d) Bank Account: With the recent news regarding the Co-operative Bank, Cllr Burr suggested that the PC should consider opening an account elsewhere, as it was felt that, as a business, the PC's funds would be excluded from the Government's protection guarantee. Members agreed to transfer £12k from the Co-op and to deposit it with an alternative bank/building society. A cheque is to be drawn in this regard. Consideration will then be given as to the balance remaining. Clerk
- 13/027 Planning:
- (a) Decisions received: Cllr Burr reported on those received recently.
 - (b) Withdrawn applications: None
 - (c) New planning applications:
 - (d) New planning applications received since the date of this notice:
B/13/00576/FHA – Spring Bank, Lawshall Road
Erection of first floor extension, single storey extensions and other alterations
Cllr Burr outlined the works proposed and withdrew from the PC's discussions.
Members agreed to object to this proposal for the following reasons:
 - (i) The increased height of the proposed building in relation to nearby properties
 - (ii) The current design would result in the overlooking of adjacent Oak Barn and thereby compromise the residents' privacy Clerk
 - (e) Tree Preservation Order/Tree Conservation Area Application: None
 - (f) Appeals: None
 - (g) Other Planning Matters
Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Burr reported that it is proving difficult to collect completed questionnaires from residents.
Social Housing – Banhams Yard: Cllr Browning read an email on this subject from Mr Ben Elvin, Planning Enforcement, dated 5 June 2013 re the Community Land Trust, the sale of a second open market dwelling and the possible introduction of gates to the site. Cllr Burr advised that he understood that the CLT had now agreed to pay a specific sum of money towards maintenance. An update is to be obtained from Mr David Leeming. Cllr Burr was at a loss to understand the need to alter the planning consent mentioned by Mr Elvin. An email is to be sent to Mr Elvin thanking him for the update and enquiring as to how there appears to have been a legal change on the planning permission, as, if the Parish Council had known about it, it would have been against it. Cllr Burr reported on developments from the group working to acquire the affordable property on behalf of Hartest.
Community Emergency Plans: By email dated 3 June, Parish Councils have been recommended to develop such a plan. It was agreed there was nothing to be done in this regard. Clerk
DB
- 13/028 Green, Cemetery and Churchyard
- (a) Cemetery
Adjoining Land: Cllr Pask advised that it is hoped to hear

	something optimistic towards the end of the year.	JP
	Notice Board: Cllr S Turner is to adapt the cemetery leaflet in order to fit the notice board.	ST
	Environmental Management: Cllr D Turner provided an amended version of the proposed article for 'Contact' re maintaining graves in a tidy condition. Cllr Turner advised that Mr Cornish had strimmed and mowed, where necessary, and that the cemetery now looks quite presentable.	Clerk
	Wild Flower Survey: Cllr Pask advised that this survey is to be carried out on the 7 July. (It was noted that plastic bags had temporarily been hung on trees as a deterrent to the deer going into the cemetery.)	
	Suggested Foetal Remains Policy: Cllr S Turner volunteered to review this policy, and its possible implications re Cemetery policy.	ST
	It was noted that Mr Cornish had suggested that a modest sign be appropriately placed to advise visitors of the grave of Hartest's Titanic survivor. It was decided to do nothing at this juncture.	
(b)	The Green	
	Trees: Cllr Pask reported that no work had been done by SCC to the Lime tree alongside the B1066; this is to be expedited.	Clerk
	Ditch near The Crown PH: Following discussion in this regard, it was agreed that Cllr D Turner would obtain quotations for the creation of a land drain (including one from SCC).	DT
	Possible Water Pump on the Green: Cllr Pask advised that she is awaiting a report in this regard.	JP
	Stone Celebration: Cllr Pask advised that this event is to be held on Saturday 6 July commencing at 1 p.m. Cllr Pask advised that the School is involved and it is hoped to have games on the Green a re-enactment of the placing of the stone, etc.	JP
13/029	<u>Highways and Footpaths</u>	
	(a) <u>Traffic Management</u>	
	Speeding: Cllr Kemp is to be reminded of his offer to seek a sensible interpretation of the SID information provided following the last surveys. If this confirms that there is a problem in this regard, information will be sought as to where mobile speed indicator signs could be placed (there is an existing pole by Burnt House Farm) and whether it would be possible to use existing speed sign poles. If there are no poles suitably placed currently, SCC could be asked to provide a quote for the installation of one, e.g, halfway down Workhouse Hill (between The Warrens and the bridge).	RK
	<u>Footpaths/Highways</u>	
	Pot Hole Problems: It was noted that a few had been repaired along Parsons' Walk, and that Shimpling Road is to be resurfaced.	
	<u>Hedge along The Row</u> (from Parish notice board to School): A further email is to be sent requesting the trimming of this hedge.	Clerk
13/030	<u>Correspondence: Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended)/T&CP (LP)(England) Regulations 2012 and Babergh Core Strategy and Policies (2011-2031) – Consultation on Schedule of Further Proposed Main Modifications and Associated Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment:</u> It was agreed to provide a link to these documents via the web site.	Clerk
13/031	<u>Matters of report only:</u> None	
13/032	<u>Matters for consideration at the next meeting</u>	
	Possible Circus Big Top on the Green. Cllr Pask advised that there used to be a circus on the Green. Mrs Burr is to be asked for more information.	DB

13/033 The meeting closed at 9 p.m.

Date of next Meetings:

Tuesday 16 July at 7 p.m. in the School Hall and Wednesday
4 September in the Institute

Approved at the Parish Council Meeting held on 16 July 2013