

CHARSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held on Tuesday, 17th May 2022

Present: Councillors Pedgrift, (Chair), Moor (Vice Chair), Haird, Sharp, McArthur, Murray, Laird and Pam Hembra (Parish Clerk)

District Tony Fryatt, District Councillor,

Members of the Public: 6

		Action
1.	To elect a Chair of the Parish Council To receive the Chair's declaration of acceptance of office Councillor Pedgrift was proposed by Councillor Moor and seconded by Councillor McArthur.	
2.	To elect a Vice-Chair of the Parish Council To receive Vice Chair's declaration of acceptance of office Councillor Moor was proposed by Councillor Laird and seconded by Councillor Pedgrift.	
3.	To elect Financial Officer The Parish Clerk was proposed by Councillor Pedgrift and seconded by Councillor McArthur.	
4.	To fill any vacancies left unfilled at the election by reason of insufficient nominations/Co-option There were none	
5.	Clerk to receive Councillors' declaration of acceptance of office These were signed and witnessed at the meeting	
6.	To decide when any declarations of acceptance of office which have not been received as provided by law shall be received There were none	
7.	Apologies and Approval of Absence County Councillor Elaine Bryce	
8.	Declarations of Interest Recreation Ground – Councillor Pedgrift St Peter's Close – Councillor Laird	
9.	Approval of Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th March 2022 Minutes were approved and signed by Councillor Pedgrift.	
10.	Progress Reports for Information or Matters Arising	

	<p>Bridge Garage - The application was presented to the referral panel as officers were minded to approve the application contrary to the holding objection from the Suffolk County Council Highway Authority. The panel discussed the proposal and decided to delegate the determination of the application to officers. A decision will be issued in due course and will be available to view on the Council's website.</p> <p>Buttons Meadow – the mobile home has not been moved as yet. Dominic Starkey to be written to with copies to Councillor Fryatt and Ben Woolnough.</p> <p>Section 106 Funds – East Suffolk Council felt the provision of a district heating system did not fall within Section 106 jurisdiction.</p> <p>Black Barn house gained planning permission.</p>	Chair/ Clerk
11.	<p>Points from the public – A chance for the public to raise matters of interest relevant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Councillor Fryatt said that a fresh pot of money was now available for road works - There is a very large pothole on the corner of Church Road and The Street which needs to be reported. - It was suggested that we organise a campaign for traffic calming on B1078. 	Clerk
12.	<p>Reports</p> <p>12.1 County Council – Councillor Bryce gave her apologies.</p> <p>12.2 District Council – full report below</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dispensed with Norse Service Local Authority Trading Company taken over. - East Anglia 1 and 2 Wind Farms - Melton Hill sold for housing - Pardon the weeds, we're feeding the bees campaign - Empty Long term homes - New homes - New community play area in Grundisburgh - Fireworks - Road Safety Forum - Planning – housing in clusters - Local validation list – rules and regs for developers putting in planning applications. - Environmental - East Suffolk Survey - East Suffolk Cycling Initiative – did not cover villages, proper recognition needed - CIL payments (Councillor Fryatt on CIL Panel) 	

	12.3	Recreation Ground – Experimenting with new grass maintenance company				
	12.4	Village Hall				
13.	13.1	East Suffolk Community Partnership Three new aims, road and traffic safety, environmental issues, Covid recovery and well being.			Clerk	
	13.2	Highways Despite several communications with Suffolk County Council, Highways Department we have still not received an updated estimate for the signs needed near to Bridge Garage. Clerk to contact again. The chevron sign at the end of The Street which was knocked down by a fallen tree is now being obscured by grass. Clerk to contact.			Clerk	
14.	Planning:					
	14.1	DC/22/1654/FUL - Land Rear of 15 St Peter's Close, Charsfield A separate application to develop the road has been made in advance of the building work. It is not known whether the developers have met Anglia Water criteria. As this work has already been approved within the full application our comment will be as follows “As we understand the application it enables deferment of CIL payment but does not otherwise affect the payment due. If this is the case, the PC has no objection to the application.			Clerk	
	14.2	DC/22/1684/FUL - The Old Post House, Church Road The Parish Council have no objections to this application.			Clerk	
15.	Finance					
	15.1	To authorise payments as listed below:				
		Date	Detail	Ref	Power	Amount
		28/03/2022	HMRC	Bank Transfer	LGA 72 s 112	£79.80
		28/03/2022	P J Hembra – services	Bank Transfer	LGA 72 s 112	£328.13
		29/04/2022	SALC – Training	Bank Transfer	LGA 72 s 111	£74.40
		29/04/2022	SALC – Subscription	Bank Transfer	LGA 72 s 111	£189.88
	15.2	Bank Balance as at 30 th April 2022 – £13,522.84				
	15.3	Bank reconciliations were agreed and are attached to minutes.				
	15.4	To note receipt of income as listed at 30 th April: VAT Return - £421.71 2021-2022 Precept - £6,386 Mapperley Fund - £240.00 Tree Fund - £50.00 District Council Community Grant - £2,000				

	15.5 To approve end of year accounts – Approved was proposed by Councillor Pedgrift and seconded by Councillor Moor.	
16.	St Peter’s Close – Park Properties – Phase 2	
	It had been originally hoped Phase I would be finished this year. Residents are worried about the infrastructure and that the roads will become more dangerous. This needs to be policed. Phase 2 - Still awaiting purchase of land.	
17.	The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022 and the Festival of Suffolk 2022	
	Rotas are being put together for exhibitions. Signs of what is open and where will be placed around the village. Containers for donations for the green canopy will be available. Dr Dan Poulter has agreed to come to Charsfest. Councillor Haird will show him around. Donations of bunting needed.	
18.	Queen’s Green Canopy Initiative - https://queensgreencanopy.org/ We have £70 in donations for this.	
19.	Percy and Phyllis Mapperley Memorial	
	£755.00 is available in donations. We are still awaiting Diocese decision.	
20.	Quiet Lanes Schemes Top of list for consideration for the next round of funding – Davey Lane and Chapel Lane	
21.	Telephone Kiosk	
	Still to be cleaned. Electricity checked out. Councillor Pedgrift has managed to source some photos of Akenfield. It was asked if the Kiosk could temporarily house some of the children’s Jubilee art work after the celebrations.	
22.	Village Historian – Update	
	No report this month as exhibition being put together for the Jubilee Celebrations.	
23.	Village Website – Up-date	
	This is well underway and looking good and should be up and running shortly.	
23.	Date of Next Meetings 19 th July 2022 20 th September 2022 22 nd November 2022	

	The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.	

EAST SUFFOLK ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021 - 2022

Managing Director appointed to lead East Suffolk Services

The creation of a new trading company in East Suffolk - delivering crucial services such as waste and recycling collection, grounds maintenance and street cleansing - has moved a step closer with the appointment of its first Managing Director and confirmation of the organisation's trading name.

Cassandra Clements arrives from Babergh & Mid Suffolk Councils, where she is currently Assistant Director for Environment & Commercial Partnerships, to lead the newly created East Suffolk Services. She will be tasked with driving the highest possible standards of service delivery, while seeking the best possible value for money for residents, businesses and all local stakeholders.

This Local Authority Trading Company (LATCo) will operate as an 'arms-length' commercial business, separate to the Council, following the conclusion of the contract East Suffolk Council holds with Norse for the provision of operational services in July 2023.

Response to planning consent for major offshore windfarm projects

The Secretary of State for the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has awarded planning consents for Scottish Power Renewables East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two Offshore Wind Farms.

The projects will contribute up to 1.7GW of renewable energy, once constructed, and help towards achieving the Government's ambitions of 40GW of offshore wind by 2030. The Council will now be responsible for discharging several of the requirements imposed on the developer via the Development Consent Orders, with the potential that the projects may commence construction in 2023.

Sale completed for former Melton Hill offices in Woodbridge

We have completed the sale of our former Melton Hill offices in Woodbridge, to the family-run Manningtree building firm, Rose. The company has a history of working in the town – most recently on the Queens Drive development of 33 new homes.

The site has been vacant for more than six years since the offices moved to Riduna Park in Melton.

Our wild spaces are back

Returning for its third year, our 'Pardon the weeds, we're feeding the bees' campaign is back, with over 100 wild spaces where grass and wildflowers are left to grow to help wildlife thrive.

This year, we are also encouraging town and parish councils to create wild spaces on their own land – these will be marked with special green 'Pardon the Weeds' signs.

New programme agreed to drive down number of empty long-term homes

An ambitious three-year programme has been agreed to drive down the number of long-term empty homes in East Suffolk. Long-term empty properties are defined as residential properties that have been empty for at least two years.

In East Suffolk, 280 properties in private ownership have been empty for more than two years. These will be prioritised for action according to type, location, duration unoccupied, and housing need in the surrounding area.

Delivering sustainable homes in East Suffolk

A new planning document has been adopted in East Suffolk to help guide the development of sustainable buildings in the district.

The new Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document provides planning guidance on a wide range of sustainable construction topics include energy efficiency, renewable energy, water management and conservation, construction methods, and use of materials.

New community play area is officially open

A new play area in Grundisburgh, created by the local community, has been officially opened. Supported in part by community fundraising, historic Section 106 contributions and funding from the Kesgrave, Martlesham and villages Community Partnership, the creation of the new Grundisburgh Community Play Park has been a community effort, with involvement from across the village, including the Grundisburgh Playing Field Committee and the local Horticultural Society who helped with planting. Funding was also provided by East Suffolk ward councillors, Cllrs Colin Hedgley and Tony Fryatt through their Enabling Communities Budgets.

Surveys and consultations

We have run a number of consultations and we want to encourage participation as feedback from people in East Suffolk is invaluable and helps us ensure we're making the right decisions for our communities.

Firework displays on council-owned land

As part of a review into firework displays on council-owned land, we have launched an 8-week consultation to better understand how residents feel about them and whether the rules need to be reconsidered. The consultation closes on Friday 20 May:

Road Safety Forum

The two meetings of the Forum have been held this year - 17 January and 9 May. We have tried to involve all Parishes to ensure that we have a consistent set of policies across the whole of our area. Many very useful proposals have been put forward

Supplementary Planning Document

The Planning Policy and Delivery Team, alongside Development Management, have prepared a new Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to provide further guidance on the application of two policies in the Local Plans. The review covers:-

SCLP5.4 (Housing in Clusters in the Countryside) and
WLP8.7 (Small Scale Residential Development in the Countryside.)

These have been the cause of several disagreements since the changes were introduced and this is an opportunity to make the changes we need.

East Suffolk Council budget approved

The Council's budget for the 2022/23 financial year has been approved, and as part of our commitment to improve the lives and outcomes of local people, finance has been approved for a range of different areas, including £3.35m for economic development and regeneration, £2.46m supporting and enabling communities and £2.39m for our housing services. The budget also includes a further £428,000 to support our green agenda, as part of our pledge to be carbon neutral by 2030.

Local Validation List

The Local Planning Authority is currently undertaking a review of its Local Validation List, which currently comprises guidance the factors to consider when assessing a planning application.

The content and requirements of any revised/new Local Validation List will need to be in accordance with Town and Planning Act 1990 and the relevant Regulations. It will also seek to reflect local policy requirements. It cannot and will not remove any existing national legislative requirements relating to the plans and documents required to validate an application but will add additional local requirements where those matters/documents are reasonably required to enable the Local Planning Authority to understand the proposals and assess their potential impacts, which in turn will enable the determination of the application.

There will also be an aim to revise and potentially restructure the document to make it easier to understand which documents are required when submitting applications.

This initial consultation period expired on 13 March 2022. However, a further consultation will take place later in the year, during which you will be invited for comments on the revised draft document.

East Suffolk Council distributes oak trees for 'Treebilee' celebrations

Two hundred oak trees have been distributed to communities across East Suffolk to plant in commemoration of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee. The 'Treebilee' scheme was launched by HRH The Prince of Wales to encourage the planting of trees during a year of celebrations to mark The Queen's 70-year reign. As part of its involvement in the project, officially known as the Queen's Green Canopy, East Suffolk Council purchased 200 English oak trees which have been donated to every town and parish council in the district – as a way of marking the occasion while helping to tackle climate change and promoting environmentally sustainable communities.

Environmental Activities

East Suffolk have been very active to plan what we could be doing for the drive to zero carbon emissions particularly during the COP26 activities.

The four headline actions are as follows :

Lead by example

We have pledged to become a carbon neutral council by 2030, which means we will look for environmental benefit in everything we do – this includes radical changes to our vehicle fleets and mileage usage, council buildings and new build housing stock to ensure they contribute to our carbon neutral aims. We will work with communities to establish opportunities for biodiversity and will promote digital solutions to minimise our carbon footprint.

Minimise waste, reuse materials, increase recycling

We will minimise waste generated throughout the district, encourage the reuse of materials and increase our recycling rates.

Renewable energy

We will explore new ways of encouraging and investing in the use of renewable energy, both in terms of our own consumption as a council and the ways we can offer support to our residents and businesses as part of addressing climate change.

Protection, education and influence

We will use our influence at all levels, our regulatory functions and appropriate enforcement to protect our natural environment including our outstanding coastline. This includes working through our community and business partnerships to achieve environmental gain and establishing a network of environmental champions throughout the district.

Surveys and consultations

- **East Suffolk survey**

People who live and work in East Suffolk were asked to take part in a short survey to help us shape East Suffolk. After such a difficult period, we would like to know what they think, what matters most to them and where we should be spending our money. The survey closed on 29 November:

- **The Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document**

Consultation on draft document which will provide guidance on the implementation of our affordable housing planning policies.

The Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document

Consultation on draft document which will provide guidance on our planning policies on sustainable construction, including guidance on a range of topics relating to the construction of environmentally sustainable buildings

The draft East Suffolk Cycling and Walking Strategy

Consultation on draft document which provides a district-wide shortlist of cycling and walking infrastructure opportunities has been completed. The strategy aims to encourage greater use of sustainable forms of transport, reduce contributions to climate change, support the growth of the tourism industry, and to improve the health and wellbeing of residents by ensuring more trips to work, school, leisure, day-to-day errands, or public transport hubs, such as train stations or park and ride sites, are accessible by bike or on foot. Once adopted, this strategy will replace the Waveney Cycle Strategy (2016) and will cover the whole of the district.

East Suffolk Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule.

The Planning Policy Team have issued the following statement:

The council have prepared a single East Suffolk CIL Charging Schedule (to replace the two separate CIL Charging Schedules in place for the former Suffolk Coastal and former Waveney areas). As part of the process an East Suffolk CIL Instalments Policy has been prepared, which allows the payment of CIL in instalments (as with the CIL Charging Schedules, there are currently two separate Instalment Policies, one for the former Waveney area, and one for the former Suffolk Coastal area).

Tony Fryatt, Ward Councillor
10 May 2022