

CHARSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held on Tuesday, 20th July 2021

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

Tony Fryatt, District Councillor, Elaine Bryce, County Councillor

Members of the Public: Margaret Salter, Stephen Fletcher

		Action
1.	Apologies and Approval of Absence	
	Cathy Laird	
2.	Declarations of Interest	
	Councillor Pedgrift – Recreation Ground	
3.	Approval of Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th May and 15th June 2021	
	Minutes were approved and signed	
4.	Progress Reports for Information or Matters Arising	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 15th June 2021 should go on to the website. - Flooding – a protocol for use of sandbags had been written. Emergency Plan can be found on the website at https://charsfield.org.uk/word2/?page_id=3777 On Agenda for next meeting. - Village Assets – The PC wrote to the owners of the field but they have not replied. - The footpath between Buttons Meadow and Percy’s Orchard is in the wrong place but is an official right of way. - Anthony Taylor, Senior Planner at East Suffolk who is responsible for looking at residential development briefs has decided not to progress at this time as there had been a planning application for the land behind No. 15 St Peter’s Close. 	
5.	Points from the public – A chance for the public to raise matters of interest relevant	
	<p>Transport to local schools. Our County Councillor, Elaine Bryce is looking into the home to schools transport policy which is different to how school allocation is justified. Any parent having problems getting their children transport to school can contact the County Councillor. There is sparse public transport in rural areas. There are spaces on the bus to Thomas Mills at this time but cannot be guaranteed for every term and costs £300 per term.</p>	

	No 7 Southview – cannot walk along the footpath due to overgrown vegetation – Clerk to write a letter.	Clerk
6.	<p>Reports</p> <p>6.1 County Councillor – report attached – Cassius – new assisted care policy, to help elderly people to live in their homes longer. Technology helps the therapist. Disability review going on Covid vaccine – one of the top 2-3 counties in country Parking and cycle initiative For more information on all stories visit: Suffolk County Council Conservative Group (suffolkconservatives.org.uk)</p> <p>6.2 District Councillor (full report at end of minutes) Sizewell C traffic – proper study of what is going to happen to traffic, Section 106 improvements (not necessarily beneficial). Wickham Market to be implemented. Councillor Fryatt to keep pursuing and follow up. Partnership meeting. EDF did a modelling on increased traffic but uncertain where information came from. All local villages to implement. Do we know anticipated traffic – did say 2,000 vehicles per day but now saying 1,000. Suffolk Highways have only implemented one of their recommendations. Needs to be driven by Forum (and SAVID).</p> <p>Chapelfield at Grundisburgh (who said safe enough)? Trying to find someone to do independent view.</p> <p>Councillor Fryatt has resigned from the Planning Committee so he can be independent.</p> <p>Planning measures in the Queen’s Speech will take away communities’ rights for planning.</p> <p>Community Partnership – Councillor Pedgrift had attended for Charsfield – smaller villages need to come together to have a strong voice.</p> <p>New planning document regarding conserving and enhancing the Suffolk historic environment. (Colin Hedgley’s report to be sent and placed on website)</p> <p>6.3 Recreation Ground – play equipment wearing out and picnic benches. Asked if the PC would buy a bench this year? This was proposed by Councillor Moor and seconded by Councillor Murray.</p> <p>6.4 Village Hall – up and running again with new enquiries for renting.</p>	

7.	<p>Road Safety</p> <p>After a previous meeting with Suffolk Police and Suffolk Highways the Parish Council was quoted in excess of £2,000 for appropriate signage to improve safety at a dangerous site near the garage. We understand there could be some money available in the Sizewell pot to pay for this. We also believe a STOP sign is needed at the junction of The Street.</p> <p>EDF have completed a modelling exercise related to road safety measures in relation to Sizewell C. Councillor Fryatt to highlight the B road aspects.</p>																																		
8.	<p>Planning:</p> <p>DC/21/3268/FUL and DC/21/3269/LBC – Shrubbery Farm, Ipswich Road, Charsfield, Suffolk, IP13 7PS - Conversion of redundant traditional farm buildings into 6 no. residential dwellings, with associated driveways, parking spaces etc.</p> <p>Visibility splays for the driveway on to the road still do not look good. Bullards report does not seem correct. Also when vegetation is growing up it will be much harder to see. The current fence is also in the way (is this coming down)? PC to comment reiterate their previous concerns. There are no affordable houses in this project. The PC feel the new planning application has not addressed our problems. Why not use the main driveway? Traffic will build up once Sizewell starts. Dates of recent accidents to be quoted.</p>																																		
9.	<p>Finance</p> <p>9.1 To authorise payments as listed below:</p>																																		
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	<p>9.2 Bank balance as at 30th June 2021 - £8,486.59</p> <p>9.3 To note receipt of income as listed below: None</p>																																		
10.	<p>SALC Audit Report</p> <p>Items mentioned in audit:</p> <p>S2/P4 Clerk as Financial Officer to be noted in the minutes – this usually happens at the meeting after the Annual Parish Meeting – as this was not undertaken for 2020-2021 it was overlooked.</p> <p>S3/P5 Incorrect Power was used for a few items – Clerk to be more vigilant</p> <p>S3/P5 Internet banking transaction not signed – these are always printed off and signed by the Councillors, but the ones sent to the audit were the copies downloaded and filed on line. In the past paper</p>																																		

	<p>copies were presented for the audit, as this has not been the case since Covid-19 precautions it would have meant scanning all the transactions after signature and storing twice!</p> <p>S3/P6 Payment to SARS was not attributed to S.137. There was also a contribution to the Citizens Advice Bureau which was not noticed.</p> <p>S4/P7 Note to be added in Risk Assessment that the Annual Return is sent to the external auditor ‘unless the Council is exempt from a limited assurance review’.</p> <p>S4/P7 Clerk to note in minutes the annual review of the insurance policy against the asset register.</p> <p>S4/P8 Review of Internal Control Document not undertaken this year due to Covid-19</p> <p>S4/P8 Evidence is required in minutes that Internal Audit has been discussed by full Council – this was done in July 2020</p> <p>S9/P13 Council needs to note in the minutes that the Council’s Risk Assessment documentation had undertaken an annual review of assets for insurance provision.</p> <p>Council’s bank balance should be noted in the minutes of each meeting.</p> <p>S10/P14 Council needs to note in the minutes that it is exempt from external audit</p> <p>S11/P15 Notice of the period for the exercise of public rights and a declaration that the accounting statements are as yet unaudited – Sections 1 and 2 were not on the website</p>	
11.	Neighbourhood Plan	
	<p>If the PC plans to go ahead the first stage is to ask the village. It is not as expensive as it used to be to undertake a plan and we can buy separate services. Need to look at CIL statement on recent planning applications.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plans should carry more weight than a Parish Plan.</p> <p>Sub Committee needed – Councillors Moor, Pedgrift, McArthur, Sharp volunteered. Initially need to look at local parishes who have an NP and ask how much they paid.</p> <p>The Sub Committee will publicise the need for an NP and follow up with a meeting in the Village Hall. Fifty per cent of the public needs to be in favour to go ahead.</p> <p>Margaret Salter expressed her willingness to be involved if we go ahead.</p>	

12.	Planning Sub Committee	
	Delegation to Clerk – Clerk to find out	Clerk
13.	The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee 2022 and the Festival of Suffolk 2022	
	Councillor Haird offered to be our Champion for this. The Suffolk Community Foundation will be holding meetings which Councillor Haird will attend. It will involve four days of celebration. Need to involve other villagers/organisations.	
14.	Queen’s Green Canopy Initiative - https://queensgreencanopy.org/ Stephen Fletcher is involved in this and discussed with the PC. Each PC or voluntary organisation, schools etc are to be encourage to plant trees hopefully to join other trees and footpaths to help with the carbon footprint. Suffolk Community Foundation will record where each tree is planted. A site is needed of circa half an acre which villagers would be able to use. Mr Fletcher offered to investigate possible sites and report back to the parish council. A Plan B could be for every householder to plant a tree in their garden.	
15.	Cyril Kindred Memorial	
	Councillor Pedgrift has spoken to Cyril’s family and they would like a tree on the Recreation Ground and a seat which could possibly go by the telephone kiosk. A walk for Cyril around the village on a Saturday could be organised and people could donate a £1 or so towards the bench will would cost circa £350.	
16.	Discovering Suffolk – Fingerpost Plaques	
	Councillor Pedgrift to speak to Ben Heather to identify which posts farmers put up and which SCC put up in the first instance.	
17.	Internal Control Report	
	The latest version of the Internal Control Report was proposed by Councillor Pedgrift and seconded by Councillor Haird for adoption.	
18.	Telephone Kiosk	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Still trying to get someone to glaze this. Glazing has been purchased. - Stills from the film Akenfield to be obtained from the British Film Institute 	Clerk JP
19.	Village Historian – Update	
	Information board placed in churchyard next to main path and near the main group of Pemberton graves. This describes the family’s story since their arrival in the village in the 1770s and links to Charsfield houses. Continued interaction with ex-resident Hugh Fletcher who is a mine of information, and anecdotes, on past Charsfield life.	
20.	Village Website – Update	

	A suggestion has been made to merge the Village website with the Village Hall website. The PC will pay the initial merging costs as the Village Hall has just had their website upgraded but on going costs should be shared by the two groups. Clerk to contact Village Hall Committee to ask if it is feasible to share on going costs? This was proposed by Councillor and Pedgrift and seconded by Councillor Murray.	Clerk
21.	St Peter's Meadow Development – Update	
	Councillor Pedgrift has an appointment with Matt Pepper from the Environment Agency tomorrow at 1 pm. Any Councillors welcome to attend.	
22.	Date of Next Meetings	
	<p style="text-align: center;"> 21st September 2021 } dates for the rest of the year 16th November 2021 } 18th January 2022 } 15th March 2022 } </p>	
	The meeting closed at 21.50 pm.	

Tony Fryatt – Briefing headlines for July

Sizewell C

Awaiting Transport document. Consultation in progress on a number of issues but mainly about the changes relating to HGVs on the A12. We have a brief summary of the Section 106 negotiations:

Sizewell C Negotiations SECTION 106 Issues.

5. B1078 ROAD SAFETY CONTRIBUTION

- 5.1 On or before the Commencement Date, SZC Co will pay Suffolk County Council the B1078 Road Safety Contribution, which Suffolk County Council will use to fund the following road safety improvements, the final scope and design of which are to be finalised but may include:
- 5.1.1 A14 signage strategy – a signage strategy to be developed and agreed with Highways England, as the strategic highway authority, to direct all Sizewell C traffic to route via the A14 in order to reduce Sizewell C car and LGV related traffic on the B1078 corridor;
 - 5.1.2 A140/B1078 junction – improvements including vegetation maintenance to improve visibility for vehicles turning right into the B1078 and left onto the A140 as well as additional signage and road marking, or alterations to existing signage and road marking;
 - 5.1.3 B1078/B1079 junction, Ottley - improvements including vegetation maintenance to improve forward visibility on the B1078 between Easton and Otley College and the B1079 and additional signage and road markings on the B1078 approach to the B1079.; and highlighting the centre warning line of the carriageway with studs to increase driver awareness;
 - 5.1.4 B1078/Ashbocking Road junction, Ashbocking – improvements which may include a speed reduction to 50 mph using gateway features and additional signage, including 50

mph repeater signs, to reinforce the new limit and retain the 40 mph limit in Ashbocking; and may include some resurfacing near Stonewall Farm, at Hare and Hounds Corner and at Blacksmiths Corner;

5.1.5 B1078/B1079 junction, Clopton – improvements which may include additional signage and a gateway feature at Clopton Corner, together with high friction surfacing on the approaches to the Manor Road and Shop Road junctions;11/68068899_1 95

5.1.6 B1078, Charsfield – improvements which may include the extension of the 30mph speed limit and a gateway feature and additional signage to reinforce the speed limit

5.2 SZC Co will regularly check the condition of roads signs at the B1078/B1079 junction and, where necessary, clean or replace them during the Construction Period.

Chapel Field, Grundisburgh

Not passed because of concerns about highway safety. Awaiting a site visit.

Planning changes following the Queen's speech.

Great deal of concern. Has become very political. One of the major factors in the recent local election.

Aldeburgh Result. Lost a seat to the Greens. Close run race

Community Partnership

The latest was held on 12 July and the meeting concentrated on:

Consideration of new Environmental Care Projects

Key areas:

- a) Rewilding Project
- b) Environmental Advice Hub
- c) Green Communities

Presentation on Road and Transport Safety

Discussion on Road and Transport Safety

To discuss the Community Partnership's road and transport safety priority
Community Partnership.



Our upcoming priority – Road Traffic and Safety

The Kesgrave, Martlesham Rushmere, Carlford and Fynn Valley Community Partnership are calling for important representation from village Parish Councils to participate in tackling our next priority – Road Traffic and Safety.

In the first year of the Community Partnership we allocated £35,000 towards practical actions to address local issues, including a contribution to a speed reduction initiative. In July, we will begin looking at the issue of road traffic and safety in more detail.

We recognise it is an issue across our Community Partnership area. We are working with partners to understand the issues better, but to funnel resources to the greatest areas of need we require Parish Council attendance and engagement. Without this, we won't be able to understand the local issues and therefore cannot have a practical impact in your parish.

The Partnership is seeking representation from Parish Councils in the Carlford and Fynn Valley area to participate in this exciting piece of work, starting with our next formal meeting on 12th July. Ongoing attendance at quarterly meetings will be required along with occasional working group meetings where appropriate. We work on a problem solving basis, so representatives with local solutions in mind are most welcome.

Further information regarding Community Partnerships can be found via the East Suffolk Council website, SALC, District Councillors Hedgley and Fryatt, or via your Communities Officer below. Our Year One Impact Map can be found on the following page.

Representation should be sent to Andy Jolliffe, Communities Officer by Monday 28th June via andrew.jolliffe@Eastsuffolk.gov.uk.

We look forward to hearing from you in due course and working together to address this issue.

Protecting East Suffolk's historic environment

A new planning document has been adopted in East Suffolk to help conserve and enhance the District's historic environment.

East Suffolk Council has adopted a new Historic Environment Supplementary Planning Document (SPD), which will seek to facilitate change in a way that protects and enhances the historic environment, to support existing policies used when determining planning applications. (See Colin Hedgley's report.)