

MINUTES of the MEETING of LEAVENHEATH PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday 2nd November 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at The Village Hall, Leavenheath.

PRESENT: B Rowe (Chairman), P Mortlock, C Jackson, C Morgan, H Bonnar, R Cowell, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr) and no members of the public were present at the start of the meeting, however, arrived late into the meeting.

APOLOGIES: B Sadler and J Jenkins.

PUBLIC FORUM: Later in the meeting, the main meeting was closed briefly to allow the public to share views. Concerns were expressed about "Hargreaves field" including letters preventing access, a query about the exact boundary and on-going issues over a prolonged period in relation to the maintenance of the field. It was agreed for the public to liaise with J Finch for assistance.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST: Nothing was declared.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 5th OCTOBER 2016: These were accepted as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: P Mortlock reported the on-going investigation towards a new noticeboard or boards. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for reducing the size of the Minutes as agreed.

BABERGH DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT: District Cllr J Jenkins had sent her apologies but had provided a report. The new Chief Executive is due to start in the New Year. There have been some encouraging developments in relation to Devolution, however, a Mayor is still required. Outreach offices will be provided at Sudbury and Hadleigh to ensure local public access accompanying the move to Ipswich.

POLICE REPORT: There was no report.

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT: County Councillor J Finch attended and reported as follows: -

➤ **Good news for Suffolk's Early Years Foundation Stage Profile Results 2016**

Provisional figures which have been published by the Department for Education show an increase in Suffolk children achieving a Good Level of Development and achievement in their Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) results. These include key areas of learning and development such as communication and language; physical development; and personal, social and emotional development.

Children are assessed by their teacher at the end of the Reception class in school. For most children their early learning will have included attending an early education place at a pre-school, day nursery or childminder before moving into school.

In Suffolk 70.2% of children achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD) this year. This is slightly above the rest of England. The percentage of children eligible for free school meals achieving a GLD compared with those not eligible, has also improved this year. This means the gap between the groups has narrowed by 7% points.

It is particularly pleasing to note the improvement seen for children eligible for free school meals across the county. The results include a group of children who first received a free place at two years old rather than aged three, because their parents were eligible, for

economic reasons. This national policy seems to be making a difference to the children whose families are less well off, because we can see they have achieved more compared to children with similar backgrounds who did not have a place at two in previous years.

To find out if your two year-old is eligible for free childcare, visit <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/childcare-information-and-support-for-parents-and-providers/guidance-for-parents-and-carers/free-early-learning-for-2-year-olds/>

All children, no matter their family circumstances, are entitled to free early education (childcare) from the term after their third birthday up until they start school full time. More information and details of how to apply can be found here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/childcare-information-and-support-for-parents-and-providers/guidance-for-parents-and-carers/>

➤ **Delivery of the new Greater Anglia rail franchise is key focus at this year's Suffolk Rail Conference.**

Rail network infrastructure requirements needed to deliver the new Greater Anglia Rail Franchise were the key topics discussed at this year's rail conference held on Monday 24 October in Ipswich.

The phasing of rail infrastructure was one of the issues delegates explored with rail industry leaders and representatives from Government departments including Network Rail. Improving track capacity, signals and level crossings are just some of the areas required for improvement to support new rolling stock and additional train services, which have been confirmed as part of the new Greater Anglia rail franchise contract announced in August.

The conference was attended by speakers from Greater Anglia, Network Rail, and the Department for Transport. Representatives from the Transport Research Laboratory, Crossrail and The East West Rail Consortium also provided presentations on rail innovation and new opportunities for businesses that wish to use this opportunity to benefit from faster, more reliable services.

This annual conference is a key date in the diary each year in helping to lobby Government and rail organisations to deliver better East Anglian passenger and freight rail services. The new passenger franchise is the reward for this effort but there is still more to do for the Suffolk's residents and businesses to make it a reality in the next decade.

➤ **Be Safe and Seen in Suffolk - Thousands of children to receive free safety reflectors as part of new road safety campaign**

Suffolk County Council is working in partnership with BBC Radio Suffolk to launch a new road safety campaign this autumn - 'Be Safe and Seen in Suffolk.'

The campaign will see over 12,000 badge reflectors given to primary school aged children, which can be worn on their coats or backpacks to reflect the beam of vehicles in darker conditions to ensure that children are seen as they walk with friends and parents.

The idea and concept for the campaign was developed earlier this year through discussions with BBC Radio Suffolk. A design competition took place as part of the events and activities at this year's Suffolk Show with the winning design selected from over 190 entries.

A major part of undertaking this campaign was the determination to promote exercise, walking and physical activity amongst young people. It was understood that to achieve this, the children and their families needed to feel safe before stepping out during the darker months. So the reflector campaign was born!

The campaign is part of Suffolk's Year of Walking, which celebrates walking in Suffolk, promotes walking events and encourages new walking opportunities. Children are most active during the spring and summer months. An average of around 65 minutes of activity a day in April drops to around 48 minutes during the colder months of January and February. Staying active promotes physical and emotional wellbeing and it is important that young people stay active as there is emerging evidence that suggests links between physical activity and better academic attainment and attention.

Suffolk County Council's Road Safety Team and Public Health Team have invested £9,550 into the campaign to deliver enough reflectors to benefit over 60 primary schools across the county.

The campaign was officially launched at the Suffolk Show by Cllr James Finch and BBC Radio Suffolk at the beginning of June.

CORRESPONDENCE: The report had been issued ahead of the meeting and key areas were discussed. Information about accessing S106 money or other grants to provide more sustainable play equipment was discussed. It was agreed for the Village Green Committee to consider at their next meeting. A notice was to be put on the phone boxes on the subject of the BT Consultation regarding an alternative use.

HIGHWAYS: The appearance of long black poles were commented upon.

FINANCE: The bank balances as at 2nd November 2016 were **£28824.40** in the Community Account, **£15321.88** in the Reserve Account making a total of **£44146.28**. The work to the oak tree near 2 Sweet Briar Close was approved. Members acknowledged receipt of the **Annual Risk Assessment** document to review and it was agreed to seek advice from B Sadler on his return - **Action All**. The half year budget review figures were read to members and it was agreed to circulate the document including up to date percentages to members - **Action Clerk**.

The following were authorised for payment: -

1416	414.40	D K Hattrell	Clerk's Salary
1417	93.60	Inland Revenue	Clerk's ddtns & ERS NIC
1418	153.59	SCC - Pension ACC	Clerk's Pension
1419	362.40	Tree & Lawn Co	V Green
1420	60.00	Community Action Suff	PC Website servicing
1421	36.00	Leavenheath Vill Hall	Hall hire
1422	108.00	AIS	Playground inspectionVG

1423	125.00	Pete Irving Tree Serv	Tree work
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Total	£1352.99		
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FOOTPATH REPORT: R Cowell gave a report of recent activity and members agreed for him to explore changing some cutting priorities on certain paths.

RESERVING POLICY: It was agreed to defer this item pending information from SALC - **Action Clerk to include as an Agenda item for December Meeting.**

VILLAGE HALL: P Mortlock gave a report on recent activity, no decisions were required from the Parish Council.

VILLAGE GREEN: P Mortlock gave a report on recent activity, no decisions were required from the Parish Council.

CHURCH PATH DITCH: A report was made of recent observations and it was agreed to arrange another site meeting with the Environment Agency representative, H Bonnar and P Mortlock - **Action Clerk.**

IDEAS TO IMPROVE THE VILLAGE: This was deferred in view of time.

REPORTS AND QUESTIONS FROM CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS: It was agreed to issue a thank you letter to Bob Lindsell for litter picking subject to his address being provided to the Clerk.

The meeting closed at 9.23 p.m.

Planning Meeting on 2nd November 2016

The following applications were discussed: -

- 1) **B/16/01244 - Keebles Cottage, Nayland Road** - Erection of two storey dwelling and garage (following demolition of existing dwelling). **No Objections.**

- 2) **B/16/01416 - 71 High Road** - Erection of a 2 storey front extension; removal of a pitched roof on existing garage and replace with new flat roof. Render and clad existing elevations; amendments to bay window on front and rear elevations, single and two storey rear extensions and render existing brickwork. **No Objections.**

- 3) All agreed to share the funding of Planning training with neighbouring Parish Councils.

- 4) R Cowell reported on his outstanding enquiry about access to Breaches Grove, Kingsland Lane.