

# CLOPTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes** of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Clopton Village Hall at 7.00pm  
on Thursday 17th May 2018.

<p><b>Present:</b> Cllr Angwin (Chair)</p>	<p><b>In Attendance:</b> Cllr Pryke Cllr Fryatt Cllr Yallop Cllr Raffell Mrs T Embury (Clerk) 3 Clopton Residents</p>	<p><b>Apologies</b> Cllr Vickery Della Hughes Sue Christensen Doris Main</p>
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**CPC APM 001/18 To Receive Apologies**

Cllr Angwin informed the meeting of apologies he had received. (See above)

**CPC APM 002/18 To Approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 18th May 2017**

The minutes were previously circulated via Clopton News and also displayed on the noticeboards. They were approved and signed as a true record. Proposer Cllr Raffell, Seconder Cllr Pryke.

**CPC APM 003/18 Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**CPC APM 004/18 Parish Council Chairman's Report** (See attached report)

Cllr Angwin read the report he had prepared.

**CPC APM 005/18 Summary of Parish Council Accounts 2017-2018**

A summary was given by the Chairman in his report and a full breakdown of the accounts was available for the public to view. There were no questions about the accounts.

**CPC APM 006/18**

**Report from County Councillor Vickery** presented by the Clerk (See attached report)

County Cllr Vickery has been re-elected as County Councillor for Carlford Division and has been appointed to numerous committees.

Having been appointed to the Lord Lieutenant's 2018 Committee for Commemorating the Centenary of the Signing of the Armistice Cllr Vickery has been planning events across the county and encouraging the planting of oak trees as a living memorial to all those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Cllr Vickery has been part of an interview panel and as a result, Lt Col John Ogden Ret. has been appointed as the Armed Forces Commissioner.

In addition to attending the main Suffolk County Council meetings Cllr Vickery has also attended as many Parish Council meetings as possible, and numerous social events, to meet as many parishioners as possible.

Most of the concerns encountered at Parish Council meetings are issues relating to Highways, potholes, speeding through villages, speed restrictions, hedge cutting, footpaths, signage, etc. Cllr Vickery was not allocated a local highways budget and has therefore not been able to achieve much due to lack of finance to resolve these issues. However, Cllr Vickery has been able to finance various projects such as defibrillators and improvements to village halls, and a bench in memory of Peter Bellfield, all from his Locality Budget.

Apart from the Education Budget, the two main areas of expense are Children and Young People and Adult Social Care. Both budgets have overspent in the last year and the shortfall has come from the Council's reserves. As a result, Suffolk County Council's basic council tax rate has been

increased for the first time in seven years and the amount raised has been ring fenced for Adult Social Care.

Suffolk County Councillors have had some very difficult decisions to make and as Councillors, they are having to find different ways of providing services in a very difficult economic climate.

#### **Report from District Councillor Fryatt (See attached report)**

- 1 Deben Leisure Centre is being redeveloped to meet modern requirements and is scheduled to open again later this year. It is part of a five-year scheme to modernise our leisure facilities. Plans are in hand for the redevelopment at Leiston and proposals are being formulated for the amenities at Felixstowe.
- 2 The problems with the shortage of houses (particularly affordable houses) has been a major issue for the Local Planning Authority. After lengthy consultation this has resulted in some proposed changes in planning law and in the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 3 Planning consent has been granted to the Adastral Park development which will bring around 2000 homes to Martlesham and surrounding area together with supporting infrastructure. This should keep costs down as well as improve services.
- 4 Planning - the final version of the Issues and Options documents will be circulated for consultation in July, for 8 weeks.
- 5 Creation of East Suffolk District – the enormous task of bringing all the activities of the two Councils together is now underway to ensure that they become one functioning team in time for the District elections in May 2019. Proposals have been put forward for a total of 55 wards which is a reduction of 35 on the current numbers. As a result, the current 'ward' pattern has to be changed and the proposed name for the new ward is Carlford since the parishes in this area represent almost the entire Carlford diocese. There will be one Ward member. The final decision will be made by the Boundary Commissioner in the Autumn.
- 6 Recycling – there is a campaign to help people to understand what can/can't be put in their recycling bins as this year it is costing Suffolk taxpayers over £500,000 to remove the wrong items. For information about what can be recycled in your blue bin, please visit [www.suffolkrecycle.today](http://www.suffolkrecycle.today)
- 7 Food Hygiene – all food businesses are checked by the Council's Food and Safety Team to ensure they are compliant with food hygiene laws. People are encouraged to take food hygiene seriously when choosing where to eat, so if the black and green FHRS sticker is not visible, always ask 'where's the sticker?'
- 8 Power Cuts – there's a new number to call if you have a power cut – **105**  
This is a free service and when you dial **105** it will put you through to your local electricity network operator.
- 9 Suffolk Walking Festival – The three-week festival launches on 12<sup>th</sup> May with over 120 walks on offer for all capabilities. For details of the walks go to [www.suffolkwalkingfestival.co.uk](http://www.suffolkwalkingfestival.co.uk)

#### **CPC APM 007/18 Police Report**

Due to a major change in Police operating systems, reports are no longer available in their previous format. The new format is a ward-based newsletter which is uploaded to the Constabulary website, [www.suffolk.police.uk](http://www.suffolk.police.uk) On the home page there is a link to 'My Neighbourhood' where the ward newsletter can be accessed.

**CPC APM 008/18 Reports from Organisations** (See attached reports)

**Local History Recorder's Report** prepared by Mrs Doris Main and presented by the Clerk (attached).

**Parish Church Report** prepared by Mrs Doris Main and presented by the Clerk (attached).

**WJ Steel & Poor's Charity Report** prepared by Mrs. Sue Christensen and presented by the Clerk (attached).

**Clopton Communications Report** (covering the Clopton website, Clopton eNews and the Clopton Annual Newsletter) prepared by Mrs Della Hughes and presented by the Clerk (attached).

**Village Hall Report** prepared and presented by Mrs Diana Dawson (attached).

Work during the last year has concentrated on maintaining the standard of the hall and continuing to make improvements. The main items include:

- Grass cutting by residents in the village rather than an outside contractor.
- Completion of the installation of swings on the playing field.
- A plaque fixed to the wall acknowledging sponsorship for the play equipment and swings.
- Replacing the external kitchen door to match the windows and other doors.
- Installing a drainage gully at the end of the path to the main door to alleviate flooding.
- Adding a key box by the main door to provide flexibility in giving access to hirers.
- Replacement of the electricity slot meter to take new £1 coins.
- Adding a new clothing and shoe bank to the recycling area.
- Further work on the hedges and shrubs.

Maintenance costs have risen in the past year and will continue to rise, therefore the committee is considering fund-raising activities to compensate.

There are some major expenditure items that will be required in the next few years, most notably on the heating system as the boiler is now quite old and on the exterior woodwork of the hall which is deteriorating.

**CPC APM 009/18 Matters raised by Parishioners**

**Parking Shop Road/Rouse Hall** – A resident raised concerns about the cars/vans parking on this junction making it hazardous to exit Rouse Hall. This has already been reported to the Police Woodbridge Safer Neighbourhood Team who will monitor the situation and deal with any offending vehicles. The Clerk will liaise with the Police and ask for further guidance. We politely request that where possible, cars be parked in driveways to try to alleviate the problem and reduce the risk of serious accident.

**Rubbish/recycling bins** – It was brought to the attention of the Council that bins are being left out for up to a week prior to collection. This is resulting in rubbish being blown from the bins or animals removing waste, causing litter to be strewn along the road/pathway. We politely remind residents that bins should remain on their own property until the day before your collection is due.

*Meeting closed at 7.50pm.*

Chairman: ..... Date: .....