

EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Edwardstone Parish Council at Edwardstone Parish Hall on
Monday 15 July 2019 at 7.30pm.

Present: P Baker, S Norman, P Clarke, M Gibson

In attendance: R Jones (Clerk) J Finch (SCC), B Hurren (BDC)

1. **Apologies for absence – D Williams.**
2. **Councillors' Declarations of Interest in any item on this Agenda – None**
3. **Reports from Suffolk County Council and Babergh District Council**

3.1 Councillor James Finch reported the following:

Electric vehicle charging points to be installed at 100 business premises across the County.

Reduction in Bus services due to removal of some public funding. Services were currently costing SCC roughly £25 per customer journey which was unsustainable. Applications were being taken from local people over 18 for placements at museums across Suffolk and Essex following a National Lottery Grant.

Superfast Broadband should be connected in Priory Green area by the end of July. Councillors were asked to provide Councillor Finch with details of any properties not receiving the service or with poor signal.

Suffolk Health and Wellbeing Board working with Public Health England to improve mental health provision in the County. Councillor Finch was taking part in a number of Sponsored Walks to help raise awareness and funding for Suffolk Mind, his chosen charity as Chairman of SCC.

Members of the public in attendance asked Councillor Finch for an update on the changes to School bus provision for Edwardstone which was adversely affecting local families. Councillor Finch to make enquiries and contact them directly.

3.2 Councillor Bryn Hurren reported the following:

First meeting of the new BDC Council had taken place with less members due to the boundary changes. Council under 'No Overall Control' following the May elections. He was now the Chair of BDC Audit and Standards Committee which looked at spending and protocol.

BDC Local Plan now out for consultation. Edwardstone had been classed as a Hamlet. BDC was required to build 422 new homes per year in the district, including villages.

SCC cuts to the local transport budget meant a reduction in some services including route 91 between Hadleigh and Sudbury and buses connecting Brent Eleigh and Monks Eleigh.

Members of the public wished to place on record their thanks to Councillor Hurren for his help with the way school transport changes were affecting them.

4. **Reports and Questions from Councillors and Members of the Public – See 3.1.**
5. **Minutes of the Meeting of 13 May 2019 - agreed.**

6. Councillor Vacancies

Clerk to advertise in local shops, pubs, Box River News, Notice Boards and other local magazines

7. Highway and Footpath Matters

7.1 Footpath Cutting

Complaint received from member of the public about overgrown footpaths. The Chairman had spoken to SCC and had been told that the next cut was due on 29 July but could not be brought forward as all areas were similarly overgrown due to the seasonal weather. There was also a discussion on whether the paths had been cut back properly during the previous cut in May. It was agreed to inspect the paths following the next scheduled cut and to look into the option taken by Groton PC to have the paths cut back independently in future years, in lieu of compensatory payment from SCC. The Clerk to reply in writing to the member of the public who had complained, informing her of the action being taken.

7.2 Footpath Signs – None

7.3 Other Footpath Matters

Previously reported broken stile had now been repaired contrary to SCC Highways staff who had said it would be replaced by a gate. It was unclear who had carried out the repair. Footpath 9 Tree Collars had now been cleared by Councillors Baker, Clark and Gibson along with a local resident. They had been left in piles awaiting removal by the landowner.

Previously reported potholes in Mill Green had not been repaired despite being marked by SCC. It was agreed that the Clerk draft a letter to SCC requesting action in this matter.

8. Defibrillator Training

As the cost of training by Community Heartbeat Trust was deemed prohibitive (£210), it was agreed that 3PR in Boxford be approached to provide training. Councillor Hurren offered to contact an acquaintance involved with 3PR to ask for assistance.

9. Home Security

In the absence of D Williams, it was agreed to defer this matter until the next meeting. Clerk had informed local Police of the date and asked them to attend and would now phone them to discuss.

10. Neighbourhood Plan Update

It was agreed to look at BDC local plan before deciding whether to proceed any further.

11. Planning Matters

11.1 Planning applications received - None

11.2 Planning Decisions received – Land East of Mill Green. Outline Planning Permission given for erection of one dwelling. Decision noted.

Mill Green House – listed Building Consent and Planning Permission given for Installation of windows and internal alterations

Quicks Barn – Prior Approval refused for conversion of agricultural building to dwelling.

12. Financial Matters

12.1 The Statement of Finances & Order for Payments was approved as shown and the cheques were signed.

Business Savings Account as at 28 Jun 2019	£2,525.76
Business Current Account as at 28 Jun 2019	<u>£5,649.26</u>
Total	<u>£8,175.02</u>

Payments received:
BDC £2,911.50 (1st part of precept)
Bank Interest £1.26

Cheque no	Amount £	Payee	Purpose
1000884	£29.99	R J Jones	Clerk's Expenses Jun 19 – Jul 19
1000885	£325.96	Zurich Municipal	Insurance 2019/20
1000886	£530.64	R J Jones	Clerk's Salary Apr – Jun 19
1000887	£30.80	HMRC	Tax on Clerk's Salary to 5.4.19
d/d	£23.80	Eon	Electricity Apr – Jun 19

The Q1 2019/20 accounts were approved.

13. Future Agenda items

Home Security, Defibrillator Training, Neighbourhood Plan, Footpath Cutting 2020

14. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 16 September at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.

Chairman

Date