

## EDWARDSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Edwardstone Parish Council at Edwardstone Parish Hall on  
Monday 16 September 2019 at 7.30pm.

**Present:** P Baker, S Norman, P Clarke, T Woods

**In attendance:** R Jones (Clerk) J Finch (SCC)

**1. Apologies for absence – D Williams, M Gibson**

Tristan Woods was co-opted as a member of the Council. Proposed by P Baker seconded by S Norman.

**2. Councillors' Declarations of Interest in any item on this Agenda – P Baker**  
declared an interest in item 12.1 Quicks Barn.

**3. Reports from Suffolk County Council and Babergh District Council**

*3.1 Councillor James Finch reported the following:*

Improvement in GCSE results across Suffolk with more than 6,500 pupils entered for GCSE's.

Local schools well represented in the Creating Suffolk's Greenest County Awards celebrating environmental achievement and local Strawberry grower Andrew Sturgeon from Lindsey received an Outstanding Achievement Award. In addition to this, Stoke-by-Nayland Hotel had won an International award for being 'carbon-neutral'.

Red House Residential Care Home in Sudbury had beaten 38 other care homes to become Suffolk Care Homes Olympic Champions, competing in Boccia, Fishing and Curling.

Two new Lorry Watch schemes had started aimed at reducing the number of HGV drivers ignoring weight restrictions on the County's roads. Since 2012 nearly 3,000 incidents had been reported by the scheme's volunteers.

As of 16<sup>th</sup> September, the window had opened for parents to choose their preferred school for their Children from September 2020.

Councillor Finch continuing his sponsored walk for Suffolk Mind with three stages left to complete.

Broadband upgrades almost completed but any properties still experiencing problems should be reported to Councillor Finch for referral to the Broadband operatives. Clerk to compose a list of telephone numbers and addresses.

Further discussion took place about the difficulties with the changes made to school transport for local children.

*3.2 Councillor Bryn Hurren did not attend and sent his apologies.*

**4. Reports and Questions from Councillors and Members of the Public – See 3.1.**

**5. Minutes of the Meeting of 15 July 2019 - agreed.**

**6. Highway and Footpath Matters**

*6.1 Footpath Cutting – None*

*6.2 Future Footpath Cutting*

Councillor Baker had spoken to Andy Adams who carries out cutting for Groton PC with a view to EPC arranging its own cutting and receiving an allowance from SCC

for this. SCC was currently responsible for cutting certain paths as per an historical arrangement based on use. Should EPC take over the cutting it would receive 5p per metre from SCC. Concerns were expressed that should this arrangement begin, and SCC reduce or discontinue the budget in future years, EPC would be left with the financial burden. It was pointed out that this would be the case whether or not EPC took over. It was also suggested that taking over the responsibility would give EPC more freedom to carry out cuts when needed. The question of Public Liability Insurance held by EPC and any contractor it chose to use was also discussed.

*7.3 Footpath Signs* – Several signs and posts were broken or missing. S Norman to provide the Clerk with details.

*7.4 Other Footpath Matters*

Complaints had been received about an overgrown hedge surrounding the sewerage station in Mill Green. The Clerk to inspect and report to the relevant authority.

**7. Defibrillator Training**

Councillor Hurren had been due to report back from his discussions with Boxford 3PR. Clerk to contact Councillor Hurren for an update.

**8. Street Party 2020**

Working Party being set up by Boxford Community Council to plan for a Street Party to celebrate 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day. T Woods agreed to contact the organisers to join the Working Party on behalf of EPC.

**9. Home Security**

In the absence of D Williams, it was agreed to defer this matter until the next meeting.

**10. Neighbourhood Plan Update**

Babergh DC Local Plan consultation was taking place. The proposed plan referred to Edwardstone as a Village Hamlet with no plans for development being proposed. It was agreed to keep this item on the agenda in lieu of the final plan being published.

**11. Members Register of Interest Submissions**

Councillors were reminded to complete their online Register of Interest forms for BDC.

**12. Planning Matters**

*12.1 Planning applications received*

DC/19/03960 Quicks Barn – No comment

DC/19/03648 Well House – The Council resolved to support this application.

DC/19/03593 Sherbourne Street – The Council resolved to support this application providing adequate water pressure and drainage issues were addressed.

*12.2 Planning Decisions received* – None

12.3 There were no other Planning matters

### 13. Financial Matters

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

Business Savings Account as at 31 July 2019	£2,525.76
Business Current Account as at 31 July 2019	£4,708.07
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£7,233.83</u></b>

Payments received: Nil

Cheque no	Amount £	Payee	Purpose
1000888	£107.30	R J Jones	Clerk's Expenses Aug 19 – Sept19
1000889	£104.78	Babergh DC	Parish Election recharges
1000890	£533.24	R J Jones	Clerk's Salary July – Sept 19
1000891	£31.40	HMRC	Tax on Clerk's Salary
d/d	£23.80	e-on	Electricity 1 April – 30 June
d/d	£40.00	Information Commissioner	Data Protection Fee

Clerk to arrange for former Councillors to be removed as Bank Account signatories.

### 14. Chairman and Clerk's Report and Correspondence – None

### 15. Future Agenda items

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

### 16. Date of Next Meeting

Monday 18 November at 7.30pm.

A request was made that members of the public be made aware that the Notice Boards are available to advertise local events. The Clerk to publicise this.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05pm

Chairman

Date