

BRADFIELD ST CLARE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2023

AT 7PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Parish Councillors present: Chair Cllr John Kirk, Cllrs Malcolm Hignett, Sue Partridge and Alex Duchesne. Cllrs Karen Soons and Sara Mildmay-White present.

Members of the public were present, including two residents from Thorpe Morieux who attended for the Anglian Water presentation and Q/A session.

1. Apologies for absence: Clerk was unwell and unable to attend the meeting. Cllr Partridge agreed to take notes for the Minutes to pass to the Clerk. Cllr Foster sent his apologies.
2. Declarations of interest: Cllr Hignett declared an interest with respect to any discussion regarding the placement of the defibrillator.
3. Anglian Water representatives:
The following persons from Anglian Water attended the meeting:-
Polly Williams – Stakeholder and Communications
Jamie Watson – Construction Manager

They had prepared a presentation and a hand out of the presentation was given to those at the meeting. A copy of the handout will be put on the parish website.

The pipeline runs from North Lincs to Essex. A 40 km stretch (Lincoln-Norwich) has been laid so far.

Satellite compound on plan for the village includes parking and 'welfare' for pipelayers, and pipe storage. Aiming to minimise hedge removal and avoid environmentally critical areas. Work planned June 2023-June 2024 followed by commissioning and reinstatement. There will be an impact on those adjacent to the route and road closures. Mainly open cut methodology (dig trench, lay pipe, fill trench) including where pipe crosses a road. Timescales will be produced for works in this area.

Questions:

- (a) *When will work complete?* – No additional info to above;
- (b) *Have preliminary works been done?* – Yes – site investigation done before planning applications made form part of Environmental Impact Assessment. Includes surveys for protected flora and fauna (including badgers, bats and reptiles). There have been some archaeological finds (still with Coroner);

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- (c) *Fragility of roads noted* – whose responsibility to fix? Anglian Water liaise with Highways England. There is a 'haul road' beside pipeline for everything except trailers bringing in pipework;
- (d) *Are transport routes predetermined?* Proper Traffic Management Plan (including contractors);
- (e) *Will work affect land drainage? (existing problems with field drainage at Thorpe Morieux). Will field drainage be reinstated?* Yes. Mike Morley noted that the system of drainage will need additional reinstatement to that identified by the original survey. Anglian Water representatives noted this;
- (f) *Satellite compound (Sheepsgate Lane end) what size? Initial response was 'don't know'. There will be 4-5 site huts so approx. 100 x 50 m (including sufficient parking for all workers and vehicles);*
- (g) *Where will the water come from?* Reservoir at Elsham. There will be no change to the local water supply;
- (h) *Hedges.* These will be replaced and fenced. Not clear who will be responsible for ongoing maintenance e.g removal of fencing in due course. *Will additional trees be planted?* The net biodiversity gain on those areas of land owned by Anglian Water is 10%;
- (i) *Where will the pumping station be? Rede with a new one at Raydon.*
- (j) *Will contact details for Anglian Water be available to the public?* Yes, these will be publicised;
- (k) *Does Planning Permission ever get refused?* Planning Permission is required because this is not a national infrastructure project (question not answered);
- (l) *What is the level of compensation e.g for farmers?* Level is set by Government;
- (m) *How long will road be closed (Felsham Road)? 1.5 – 2 weeks. Anglian Water will liaise with local farmers re: timing to take account of harvest etc. Detail will be communicated nearer the time. Road closures will be advertised for the preceding 2 weeks;*
- (n) *How long will the cut be open after the pipe is laid?* Reinstatement 'will follow' – timescale can be provided. As soon as Planning Permission is granted, the area of cut and haul road will be fenced off to disturbed/nests destroyed. Ecological checks will be performed before digging commences;
- (o) *What is the total cost of the project? Info will be provided. Approximately 800 staff will be recruited (10% from the local area);*
- (p) *Estimate of the number of vehicles on site at one time?* Approximately 30 cars maximum, plus loaders, tippers etc (i.e a lot!);
- (q) *How long are the pipe sections?* 14m lengths which are welded together.

4. Public Forum:

- (a) Speed cameras. Concerns raised re: Pitchers Green (5 properties, 7 children) – correspondence received at the meeting and will be passed to the Clerk. Could the 30 MPH speed limit be extended? Also re: the strip of road from the end of 30 MPH zone to Bury Road (and Elm Green). County Cllr Karen Soons was asked

to reopen the discussion with Highways. Also noted the increase in traffic along Bury Road. Meeting with some residents, Karen Soons, Highways Officer and Chairman and one Cllr was subsequently arranged for 10/03/2023 and update will be given at next meeting;

- (b) Discussion regarding speed cameras/TVA – the multiple conditions associated with use of TVAs noted (notably that only in 30MPH areas) so not possible for Bury Road. Agree to ask Police to come and deploy their mobile speed camera at Pitchers Green and on Bury Road;
- (c) Litter left by delivery vehicles e.g Amazon (including delivered parcels). Debbie Thomas has photographs. County Cllr Karen Soons advised that if there are further episodes then these should be reported to County Council as fly tipping – however this only applies if on the public road, not privately owned land;
- (d) Dog fouling signs. These were provided by West Suffolk Council. Chairman John Kirk asked Karen Soons who they belong to, as a number are being repeatedly damaged. Agreed that this would be highlighted in the Grapevine with reference to them being Council property.

5. Planning:

DC/22/2206/HYB – Hybrid planning application – A. Full application – proposed 69 kilometres pipeline and above ground infrastructure at Raydon, Rushbrooke, Raydon Tee and Wherstead; and B. Outline planning application – proposed ancillary above ground infrastructure at Little Saxham, Little Whelnetham, Nedging Tye, Hadleigh and Great Horkesley. Land along Bury St Edmunds to Colchester - Water pipeline Rushbrooke Lane, Bury St Edmunds.

Comments as per Agenda item 4 (above), but the Parish Council did not object to the application.

6. Minutes: Draft Minutes of 8 November 2022. Cllr Hignett proposed and Cllr Duchesne seconded that the Minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

7. Matters arising:

Matter	Update	Any next steps
Defibrillator	<p>Anglian Water confirmed we cannot use electrical supply at Pumping Station.</p> <p>Spoken to several companies about solar powered defibrillators. Concern is tree canopy and a remote battery would be needed to heat the cabinet and provide a light source above the canopy so</p>	<p>PC discussed the matter (and it has been discussed across several PC meetings). Ultimately, it was agreed that it was not appropriate for the defibrillator to be sited on a private dwelling because of the potential for</p>

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	<p>people can see the keypad to get into the cabinet if defib is needed. Spoken to electrician located at Long Melford who has installed lots of defibs. His experience is that the remote batteries are not good, as they are not strong enough for the trickle charge needed for the heater/light.</p>	<p>4/2023</p> <p>change of ownership of dwelling. Cllrs voted unanimously not to ask villagers if they would allow the defibrillator to be sited on their property.</p> <p>Cllrs agreed that the back of the Village Hall is not an option because of light spillage to nearby gardens but also because of proposed extension works on the Hall in the future.</p> <p>Councillors concluded with regret that there was no practical option for siting a defibrillator in the village.</p>
Street Lighting	<p>Proposals agreed at PC Meeting on 8th November forwarded to SCC for their approval and forward on to WSC for their consideration and hopefully approval.</p>	<p>The agreed changes are due to be implemented during the week following the meeting.</p>
ANPR/TVAS	<p>Cllr Partridge kindly offered to have an ANPR unit sited in her front garden to make drivers aware of the speed limit on Bury Road.</p> <p>Having looked at the matter further, an ANPR can only be placed in an area where the speed limit is 30mph (the area proposed is 40mph) and this is due to safety reasons (workers putting up and taking down the ANPR).</p> <p>SCC Highways have suggested that an TVAS (Temporary Vehicle Activated Sign) could be worth the PC considering but it is subject to meeting criteria.</p>	<p>Discussion concluded that it does not appear that the village meets the criteria for implementing either the ANPR or TVAS. The possible use of intermittent signage (such as is used in Cockfield) was raised. This will be discussed at the next meeting. Cllrs preference is however for a review of speed limits in the village, as outlined above.</p>

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8. Borough and County Cllrs reports: on the website at bradfieldstclare.onesuffolk.net/

Borough Cllrs report highlighted the following:

Council Tax reduction and financial support available to those in need.

WSC to phase out the use of glyphosate weedkiller. Noted that more environmentally friendly replacements are more expensive. There are no public open spaces in Bradfield St Clare where such agents would be used.

'Solar for Business' support the retrofitting of solar panels.

Changes to Electoral Regulations – the need to take photo ID to polling station, or obtain the approved substitute ID. This needs to be publicised [electoral commission poster now put on the village notice board].

Change of venue for Polling Station – Bradfield St Clare VH not suitable so we must go to Bradfield St George.

WSC has just given planning permission for the new hospital on Hardwick Manor site.

Alternative Fuel Payment for those off grid for gas - £200. Some confusion as to whether this goes into bank account or is deducted from electricity bill [subsequently advised that was credited to electricity account for parishioner that raised this].

Highlighted the extent of telephone and on-line scams.

Council Tax proposed budget is equivalent to an increase of 10p per week. Suffolk Police component is 12.9%. Councillors expressed their concern as to the level of service received considering the rurality supplement paid.

WSC aims to be 'Zero Carbon' by the end of 2023.

Discussions about the new building development on Sicklesmere Road. Concerns about traffic (including on the new link road), flooding (areas prone to flooding within the site will not be developed), and the need for new schools, doctors surgery and shops to support the additional residents.

The proposed development on Rougham Airfield was also discussed, and similar concerns raised.

Councillor Mildmay-White was asked if new developments are subject to regulation about light emission levels – no.

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Councillors were encouraged to feed into the Local Area Plan consultation as the Council is required to produce a LAP as the only way of controlling development.

9. Correspondence (all correspondence has been forwarded to Cllrs ahead of the meeting):

- (i) Email correspondence (via County Cllr) regarding Speed Limit at Pitchers Green.
See comments under public forum. Meeting subsequently arranged for Highways Officer to meet with some Cllrs, some residents and Cllr Karen Soons on 10 March 2023 and update and next meeting. Other areas in the village to also be discussed at that meeting, not just Pitchers Green.

10. Clerk's Report

Income since meeting on 8 November 2022

West Suffolk Council	300.00	KIT Café community café grant
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Schedule of Invoices

Village Hall	300.00	KIT Café grant monies	chq470	LGA 1972
N Sturgeon	390.96	salary from 09/11/22	chq 471	LGA 1972

All Cllrs present approved the expenditure.

11. Cllrs reports:

Cllr Partridge described her efforts to get a tree on the Bury Road cut down as it is leaning progressively and if it falls it will take down the Fibre cable to the village. Highways came and trimmed branches off the wrong tree, and have subsequently declined to engage in discussion on the matter. County Cllr Soons requested that Cllr Partridge send her details and she will kindly follow it up.

Concerns were raised about the increasing number and size of potholes, and the inadequate repair of them [pothole repairs are due to commence on 29 March and road closure for 6 days].

Grit bins – several are in poor condition. Agreed to consider this in more detail at the next meeting. Points to consider are: site (need to be accessible, but also where they wont be damaged by activities such as hedge and verge trimming) and size (likely that smaller bins in place of those currently damaged would be sufficient; Cllr Partridge suggested that Cllrs look at the new bins in Bradfield St George).

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7/2023

12. Date of next meeting: Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting 9 May 2023 at 7pm in the Village Hall

Meeting closed: 8.55pm

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