

GREAT LIVERMERE PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of Great Livermere Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 26th March 2019
7:30pm in Great Livermere Village Hall.**

1. Present: Cllrs: P Johnson, J Hartley, H Johnston & C. Cllr Hopfensperger. In the absence of the Chairman Cllr Hartley chaired the meeting

2. Apologies for absence A Hudson, B Clay, & B. Cllr S Brown

3. Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

3.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda. None.

3.2 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests. None.

3.3 To grant dispensations as appropriate under Section 33 of the Localism Act. None.

4. Minutes Minutes of the Tuesday 29th January 2019 meeting were agreed and signed as a correct record.

5. Meeting open to the public

Trevor Chamberlain came to speak to the Councillors about The Bull at Troston. Troston Parish Council is aiming to register the pub as a community asset. There is going to be a public meeting on the 3rd April to gauge interest from local residents. Mr Chamberlain asked if Great Livermere would also be interested in registering the pub as a Community Asset. The Councillors decided to wait until after the public meeting before making any decision regarding registering the pub as a community asset for Gt Livermere.

6. Report from County Councillor: R Hopfensperger

Cllr Hopfensperger reported a council tax rise of 1.99% for the general element and a 1% increase in the Adult Social Care element. More money is being made available for Highways work. Some of this being spent on thermal patching equipment, this is more efficient and quicker than the previous method for pot hole filling. Cllr Hopfensperger has asked for the road outside of the village hall to be resurfaced.

7. Report from B. Councillor: S. Brown

Cllr Brown was unable to attend the meeting and sent the following report: s St Eds Borough Council has now come to an end, after approx. 150 years, as of April we shall become West Suffolk District Council and in May there are the respective Council elections. The most recent Council meeting was one of recognition to long serving members of the Council, past and present. Not too much was voted on and passed.

Previously though, as I was unable to attend the last Gt. Livermere PC meeting, St Eds BC has:

- Not raised its part of the Council Tax for the ensuing year
- Given a nominal rise to its Councillors for the next financial year by circa £500, but per resident head it reduces from £2.14 to £2.10, so an overall reduction across West Suffolk District Council
- Finances have been set for the next term and are at breakeven for the first 2 years; it will be up to the new council to make decision in its first 2 years how it will move forward
- A badge is required for West Suffolk Council, with a new one costing approx. £17,000. This was rejected by Councillors and they have proposed using a previous version which will cost £1400 to put in place.

As there will be a new Council from May, there's nothing further to raise moving forward and with elections/purdah upon us, there will be limitations on what I or the Council can do.

8.1 Chairman's Report

The Chairman was unable to attend the meeting.

8.2 Clerk:

7.2.1 Works in village to include: Addition of post repair works, play area.

The contractor is concerned that he may not be able to carry out the works 'the letter' as detailed in the contract. It was suggested that a less prescriptive contract, more proportionate to the nature of the works, be submitted. The Clerk has prepared a new contract to this end. The was agreed.

The Clerk will send this to the contractor.

Action Clerk

7.2.2 Feral Chickens, plan for ongoing control.

Cllr Hartley has this matter in hand.

Action Cllr Hartley

7.2.3 County Lines, information following film presentation.

8.2.1 County Lines, information following film.

The Clerk attended a screening of Henry Blake's film about the growing national crisis of '**County Lines**'.

The film was primarily for partners working with children, young people, families and communities in West Suffolk, Babergh and Mid Suffolk and highlights the serious threat 'County Lines' poses to Britain's children. The Clerk was asked for her input as someone not directly involved with working with children.

Henry Blake is a filmmaker who is passionate about realism. His work is heavily research-based, character- lead drama that is often raw and uncompromising.

The film director has made a hard-hitting short film, 22 mins long, which focuses on 14-year-old Tyler Hughes who is sent from London to a small coastal town to sell Class A drugs. Alone and unprotected, he finds himself trapped in a series of complex and high-risk situations with some of the UK's most dangerous adults.

Then followed information about the organisations, official and voluntary, involved in trying to plan ways to assist victims, prevent young people becoming victims and the networks being set up.

Issues raised:

- The main points are that nothing is easy, there are no easy solutions.
- The Home Office has seen the film. The debate now is how to go forward, although Brexit is overshadowing all other issues at the moment.
- How can parents and schools be made aware? Henry Blake invited 100 parents of children at a PRU (Pupil Referral Unit) only 5 invited turned up to the session, but 5 is better than none.
- School exclusions raise the safeguarding risk to a child. What else can schools do?
- Referral Units do what they can, but it is difficult. Excluded pupils are easy targets.
- How can youth workers be protected when dealing with those involved in County Lines?
- Youth Justice – the dilemma is that victims are also perpetrators, so of interest to the police
- KEY is Management of what is done and Family.
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Useful Charities

Fearless (help for young people)

Growing Against Violence

St Giles' Trust (offering training in West Suffolk in May and June)

The Children's Society

County Lines Co-ordination Centre

Safe all

Multi-agency panels – forming in different localities

7.2.4 Village Litter pick update.

There was a good turn out, despite the weather! 15 bags of rubbish were collected. Another successful litter pick for the village.

7.2.5 CAS, membership update.

The next years membership, at no cost, was confirmed.

7.2.6 Website error

An error on the website has been brought to the attention of the Clerk. This has now been amended.

7.5.7 Gras cutting,

West Suffolk confirmed the areas that they cut in the village. The Play Area & village Hall areas have been added as, although they are being cut, were missing from the schedule. Birds croft is cut under a St Edmundsbury Service Level Agreement.

9. Finance.

9.1 Payments. The following payments were approved:

Admin	£484.69
Westcotec	£201.00
Broxap	£642.00

8.2 End of year accounts

The end of year accounts has been prepared by the Clerk. These were checked by Cllr Johnson and will be submitted to LCPAS for internal audit.

9. Elections 2019

8.2.2 Elections 2019

The four-year term of office, for all Parish Councillors, is coming to an end. Anyone wishing to stand again needs to be nominated and consent to their nomination. The nomination papers need to be hand delivered to the Returning Officer at St Edmundsbury Borough Council. It is recommended that an appointment is sought with the Returning Officer, or their deputy to ensure the papers have been filled in correctly. The clerk has collected the nomination papers and will deliver them to the Council offices for the Councillors. Cllrs Clay and Johnson have both decided not to stand again. Their input at the Council will be greatly missed.

Action Clerk

10. Bus Shelter

No report.

11. Footpath leaflet

The Clerk has received a text template from SCC to begin work on the footpath leaflet. It was agreed that a meeting with SCC would be beneficial. Cllr Johnston is willing to become involved in the project forward. The Clerk will arrange the meeting.

Action Clerk

12. Welcome Pack.

The changes were noted. There is likely to be further changes, to the councillor details, so printing will be put on hold at this time.

Action Clerk

13. Highway/village matters

13.1 Streetlights, Troston Road.

The Clerk has been in contact with UKPN and they are trying to arrange a meeting with Richard Webster from SCC and then an application for the works to be carried out.

13.2 Parking at Mere View.

A complaint has been received about parking in the road leading to the Play Area. The Clerk has suggested that the residents contact Havebury about this issue.

13.3 Dog litter bin replacement.

The dog bin, on the footpath on to Troston Road, has lost its lid. Clerk has sourced prices for a new bin at £136 or a new lid at £46. Cllr Johnson will have a look at the bin before a decision regarding any purchase is made.

Action Cllr Johnson

13.4 Finger post, Village Hall

The damaged finger post at the village hall has been reported.

14. Village Hall No report this month.

15. Questionnaire, analyses of responses

It was agreed to wait until May to decide what to take forward. The footpath leaflet will need to be worked on first.

There is definite interest in have a Defibrillator, although when the questionnaires went out there was funding available. Funding is not available at the moment. There was also considerable interest in having an Emergency plan.

Fit village and Suffolk Cinema also seemed popular. This is something that the village hall could potentially pursue. There is a resident who would be interested in starting an oil syndicate. And although there was a lot of interest in Neighbourhood watch, there was only two people willing to be involved.

16 Play Area to include:

16.1 Play area report. This was circulated.

Ivy on the trees, a fallen bush and ducks roaming in the Play Area were highlighted as a problem. All of these matters will be monitored.

16.2 West Suffolk service agreement.

On 1 April Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury Borough Council will be abolished and a new, district level Council for West Suffolk will be formed. The approach to playground inspection services will be aligned. A standardised playground inspection will be offered, without charge for financial years 2019/20 & 2020/21. This will include a monthly inspection by a Council parks officer and an annual inspection by an external organisation. We need opt in to this new agreement. The Clerk has done this on behalf of the Parish Council.

17. VAS, Rota

This will be reviewed once the new Parish Council is in place in May.

18. Planning Matters

18.1 DC/18/1153/HH, Church Close Church Road Great Livermere. Granted by West Suffolk.

18.2 Planning newsletter

As of the 1st May 2019 hard copies of planning applications will no longer be sent out

Action Clerk

19. Councillors reports and items for future agendas.

Roots, from adjacent trees, are coming up through the footpath in front of the Paddock on The Street. The Clerk will report this.

Action Clerk

20. Data Protection Act

No action to be taken.

21. Correspondence for information

21.1 Proposals from Friends of Ixworth Library to 'User Villages'

21.2 The Keeper's Daughter Theatre Company, Christmas 2019

22. Date for next meetings: Tuesday 7th May APM 7.00pm APCM 7.30pm

23. To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items: 23.1 Personnel Issues. New pay scale and contract of employment. Cllr Johnston has been working on this and will meet with the Clerk to discuss the details. **Action Cllr Johnston/Clerk.** 23.2 Legal Issues. None.