**Glemsford Parish Council Meeting**

**Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 14th January 2020 @ 7pm at Glemsford Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs: Plumb (chairman), Southgate, Leopold, Cain, B Stephens & R Stephens

The clerk. CClr Kemp

5 members of the public.

**01.01 Parish announcements**

**None**

**02.01 Apologies for absence**

DCllr Holt, Cllr Sewell and Lesli Tunbridge

**03.01 Declarations of interest/dispensation requests**

Cllr Plumb declared an interest in all planning matters due to being a member of the planning committee at BDC.

**04.01 To adopt minutes of council meeting held on 10th Dec 2020**

***It was resolved*** to adopt the minutes.

**05.01 Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting**

Cllr Cain asked about the flooding situation at the Church. CCllr Kemp explained that Suffolk County Council is duty bound to use Kier for all works. Councillors questioned whether this was legal. The Parish Council is to write to CCllr Kemp regarding this matter.

**06.01 To receive reports**

**CCllr Kemp –** Best wishes anda healthy New Year were conveyed to all. Also, thanks were given to all volunteers who have helped throughout the year.

Very little has been happening at SCC due to the General Election.

West Suffolk Council is to become responsible for parking enforcement.

A full report can be viewed on the website or at the clerk’s office.

**DCllr Plumb –** The General Election had a big impact on work at BDC, however, the council is now fully functioning.

DCllr Plumb read out the following report:

***January 2020***

***General Election – December 12***

*Last month saw the General Election on 12 December with many of our staff  involved administering and counting the votes. You can* [*find the full results on our website*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/elections/general-election-2019/)*.*

***Four days left of free swimming this Christmas***

***Please promote the last few days of free swimming over the Christmas period which finish on 5 January 2020 available at*** *Kingfisher Leisure Centre, Sudbury or Hadleigh Pool and Leisure.*

*New cycling proficiency area for Sudbury youngsters*

***Sudbury’s Belle Vue Park has seen the latest improvement to its play provision, with the creation of a new cycling proficiency area opened last month by Babergh District Council.***

[*Read the full story*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/new-cycling-proficiency-area-for-sudbury-youngsters/)

***Councils to consider move to clamp down on Council Tax fraud – while helping those in need***

***Penalties may be introduced in Babergh and Mid Suffolk to tackle council tax fraud, alongside a new Citizens Advice council tax protocol to help those in genuine need, following cabinet discussions this month.***

[***R****ead the full story*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/councils-to-consider-move-to-clamp-down-on-council-tax-fraud-while-helping-those-in-need/)

*Tearoom and Chinese takeaway to pay more than £4k*

***A tearoom in Lavenham and Chinese takeaway in Sudbury are to pay more than £4k after they were found guilty of multiple food offences at Ipswich Magistrates Court.***

[*Read the full story*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/tearoom-and-chinese-takeaway-to-pay-more-than-4k/)

*1000 Endangered Animals*

*Over Christmas the Suffolk Waste Partnership’s celebration of recycling took on a theme of endangered animals.*

*The artwork created by schools across Suffolk will be on display at Ipswich Town Hall café Gallery until 11 Jan, and The Apex , Bury St Edmunds until March 2020.*

[*Read the full story*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/1000-endangered-animals/)

*More than £791k funding boost for communities*

*Communities across Babergh and Mid Suffolk received a funding boost totalling £791,000, for local projects including a community gallery at Gainsborough’s House in Sudbury, as well as a new car park and bus shelter.*

[*Read the full story*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/more-than-791k-funding-boost-for-communities/)

*Belle Vue House – options for its future*

***A community health and wellbeing centre, sheltered housing with a café and heritage centre, or residential conversions are amongst the options suggested for Belle Vue House in Sudbury.***

[*Read the full story*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/belle-vue-house-options-for-its-future/)

*Artist commissioned for new pool*

*Suffolk-based artist Jo Chapman has been commissioned to work with community groups in Hadleigh to design a sunshade for the new pool.*

[*Read the full story*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/artist-commissioned-for-new-pool/)

*New study promises exciting future for Sudbury*

***A new study is set to propose a range of options to breathe new life into*** *Sudbury town centre – boosting the local economy and positioning Market Hill as the cultural heart of the community.*

[*Read the full story*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/new-study-promises-exciting-future-for-sudbury/)

*Tree for Life for new arrivals*

*A new Tree for Life scheme means families across Babergh can join those in Mid Suffolk in claiming a free tree to mark the arrival of a child, enhancing biodiversity in the districts.*

[*Read the full story*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/tree-for-life-for-new-arrivals/)

***New recycling wrap up***

*The festive and New Year period are a great time to encourage residents to think about*[*reducing waste*](https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/reduce-your-waste) *and improving their recycling knowledge and this year, Suffolk Recycling have launched a new* [*Christmas Wrap Up*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/assets/Waste-Services-Bins/Documents/Suffolk-Recycling-Christmas-Wrap-Up.pdf)*.*

*The guide has tips on how to reduce waste and improve recycling habits over Christmas, all in one place - including information on what to do with fairy lights, wrapping paper, baubles, trees, food, metals and more.* [*You can find the full guide on our website.*](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/assets/Waste-Services-Bins/Documents/Suffolk-Recycling-Christmas-Wrap-Up.pdf)

*Suffolk's Recycling Centres also  offer free ‘Reduce, Reuse and Recycle - not a Waste of time!’ sessions to interested parties to learn more about ways to reduce waste and recycling. Providing an alternative way to access information about recycling which is also available on the* [*Suffolk Recycling website*](https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/)*.*

*To book a visit from their Information and Education Manager any interested parties can email* [*Sharon Lockhart*](mailto:Sharon.Lockhart@fccenvironment.co.uk)

***Hot topics on social media***

*Tree for Life*

*Christmas waste calendars/bin collections*

**07.01 Planning**

**New applications:**

**DC/19/05833 – St Andrews, Bells Lane**

Replacement of fascia, soffits, bargeboards, rainwater goods and door on front elevation

***It was resolved*** no reason to object

**DC/19/05961 – 43 Tye Green**

Tree works – crown reduce by 30% Acer trees T1, T2, T3, T4

***It was resolved*** no reason to object

**DC/20/00057 – Wentworth House, 1 Rectory Close**

Tree works in a conservation are – T1 (scots pine) – fell

***It was resolved*** no reason to object

**DC/20/00058 – 39 Tye Green**

Tree works in a conservation area – T1 (sycamore) – remove 3no branches and- T2 (yew) – fell

***It was resolved*** no reason to object

**DC/20/00059 – Michaelmas House, Bells Lane**

Tree works in a conservation area – T1 (silver birch) – fell and grind stump

***It was resolved*** no reason to object

**Granted applications:**

**DC/19/04834 – The Little Cottage, 13 Fair Green**

Variation of condition 9 on listed building consent DC/18/04308

**DC/19/04534 – Willow Farm Shop, Lower Rd**

Change of use of storage building to hairdressers

**DC/19/05395 – 11 Spring Meadow**

Severance of garden and erection of 1no single storey dwelling and cartlodge including alterations to existing access

**Withdrawn applications**

**DC/19/05442 - Hi Tor, Skates Hill**

Erection of single storey front and rear extensions; conversion of garage to additional living accommodation and erection of a utility extension.

**08.01 Public question time**

Enquiries were made regarding the speed limit at Brook St; this is an agenda item 11.01.

**09.01 Accounts for approval**

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| KLH Architects | 1560 |
| Moritmer Contracts | 1878 |
| Mortimer Contracts | 150 |
| BDC-playground inspections | 120.43 |
| Charge card | 17.2 |
| Cowlin Plant Hire - Cemetery wks | 4447.78 |
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**10.01 Reports from working groups**

Cemetery – the new fencing and gate is now in place and the large mound of soil from the side of the cemetery has been moved.

Village hall – A further meeting has been held with the architects.

An exhibition of proposals for the village hall extension is to be held at the village hall on Saturday 25th Jan 10-4. There will be the opportunity for villagers to give their opinions and ask questions. The architect together with councillors will be present. Cllrs are asked to help on the day.

Finance – none

Climate Emergency – the following report was read:

Climate Emergency Working Group Report 14th January 2020

*Date of ﬁrst meeting.*

*The group will be meeting for the ﬁrst time on Wednesday 15th January, 7pm at 41 Hunts Hill. This is primarily to get to know each other and ﬁnd out what we can bring to the group in terms of knowledge and experience of climate change and biodiversity issues. The group will be discussing adapting the Environment Policy, kindly provided by Long Melford PC, so it reﬂects the situation in Glemsford. Planting shrubs on the land opposite Wong’s will also be on the agenda.*

*Two members (Jackie Coote and Lesli Tunbridge) have already embarked on initiatives provided by Cambridgeshire Climate Emergency group, such as Community Organiser training in December 2019 and, on Saturday 11th January, an Open Afternoon at Buckden Village Hall, near St Neots. This event was run by Buckden PC’s Carbon Mitigation group, and had display stands plus speakers.*

*Carbon footprint of Glemsford Village Hall*

*Nick Butt has worked out roughly the CO2 footprint per annum for the village hall assuming a mix of coal / gas power sources for the electricity generation, currently supplied by EON. It is about 2.55 tonnes. An easy way to get this ﬁgure audited to zero would be to source the electricity from a 100% renewable supplier like Bulb (there are several others).*

*Show the Love display, Glemsford Surgery*

*Show the Love is an annual event of the Climate Coalition. Glemsford WI will be setting up the display of crafted green hearts to raise awareness and to suggest ways to reduce contributions to climate change. The CE working group has an overlap with members of Glemsford WI hence the inclusion of this event.*

*Lesli Tunbridge Chair, CE working group*

**11.01 Speed Limit, Brook St – update**

***It was resolved*** to progress with applying to have the speed limit moved at Brook St to incorporate the Fern Hill area at an approx cost of £4712.00.

**12.01 Parking issues opposite Wongs/Cheery Tree – possible planting of rose bushes**

Varieties of shrubs were discussed for this project. However, it was felt that planting large shrubs near to the highway would not be suitable; roses are the best option. Cllr Ruth Stephens is to consult with Lesli Tunbridge from the climate emergency group regarding this matter.

**13.01 Speed Indicator Devices – maintenance contract**

***It was resolved*** use the services of Swarco to maintain the two SID’s at a cost of £526 + VAT per annum.

**14.01 Permanent Christmas tree – village hall**

Cllr Southgate suggested planting a permanent Christmas tree at the village hall instead of purchasing one each year. Prices are to be looked into.

**15.01 Correspondence to report**

The following letter was read out:

*Last year the good Council Tax payers of Suffolk agreed an inflation-busting increase of 12.7% to the grant awarded to the Suffolk Constabulary from the Council Tax pot.  The Police and Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore, made a case to increase front-line police numbers, civilian staff numbers and improve policing across the county.*

*This year I am hearing that his “begging bowl” is out, yet again, seeking approval from Suffolk County Council for an above-inflation increase to the Police award granted.*

*This comes in the same week that we hear that Suffolk Constabulary are 5th from bottom (of 43 constabularies)  in the league that measures Public Confidence in their police force.*

*I would like to ask the Parish Council whether they feel there has been any noticeable improvement to the quality of policing provided to our Parish over the course of the past year.  The same question might be posed to the District Council members present with regard to Babergh/South Suffolk.*

*I for one have seen no noticeable improvement and question how and where this additional money has been spent.*

Cllr Plumb felt there had been a better Police presence in the village and the clerk reported that a recent Police matter had been dealt with promptly and efficiently.

A letter of thanks has been received from the Brownies for the donation towards the pack holiday.

An enquiry was made as to whether Fair Green could be made a one-way system. Councillors felt this was not appropriate.

Cllr Stephens asked about the possibility of a village hall sign as it had been noted that people are not aware of what the building is. The clerk is to look into the cost of a sign.

It was agreed to allow use of the village hall (free of charge) for a meeting of local Parishes and the Police.

**16.01 Date of next meeting – 11th Feb 2020.**

Meeting finished at 7.50pm

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