

**GLEMSFORD PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON 10TH MAY 2011 AT GLEMSFORD VILLAGE HALL**

Present Rex Thake Nigel Sandford
Stephen Plumb Lynn Bloomfield
Len Young Ann Mallalieu
Michael Brown Adrian Southgate
Tiffany Carr Fiona Dinning Cole

In attendance Sara Turner

Apologies Richard Kemp

The Clerk welcomed members of the public to the meeting and explained that as there was no outgoing Chairman to chair the meeting until a new Chair was appointed then the meeting should take nominations for a temporary Chairman. Cllr. Thake explained the procedure for voting on a new Chair and stated that at Babergh should there be a tie, then lots were drawn instead of someone having the casting vote.

It was agreed that Cllr. Bloomfield, as the outgoing Vice-chair would take the chair for the first Agenda item.

PROPOSED: Cllr. Brown

SECONDED: Cllr. Young

001 Appointment of Chairman

Nominations for a new chairman were received.

Stephen Plumb

PROPOSED: Cllr. Sandford

SECONDED: Cllr. Dinning Cole

Four votes received.

Len Young

PROPOSED: Cllr. Thake

SECONDED: Cllr. Bloomfield

Six votes received, therefore the motion was carried to elect Cllr. Young to the Chair for the forthcoming year.

Cllr. Young would now chair the remainder of the meeting.

002 Appointment of Vice-Chairman

Nominations for the Vice-Chair were received.

Michael Brown

PROPOSED: Cllr. Young

SECONDED: Cllr. Bloomfield

Nine votes received.

Cllr. Plumb abstained from voting.

As no other nominations were received, Cllr. Brown was duly elected as Vice-Chairman for the forthcoming year.

All declarations of acceptance were duly signed and authorised by the Clerk.

04 Election of planning committee

The Planning Committee would consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Southgate, Cllr. Carr, Cllr. Bloomfield and Cllr. Dinning Cole.

Cllr. Thake advised all members to take advantage of the planning training provided by Babergh, and also suggested that more site meetings should take place before Parish Council meetings.

05 Election of Finance and Burial Committee

The Finance and Burial Committee would consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Cllr. Mallalieu, Cllr. Plumb and Cllr. Bloomfield.

06 Police Matters

The police had sent a breakdown of crime for the previous month, this was as follows:-

Burglary Dwelling	–	No Reports
Burglary Other Building	–	2 Reports
Vehicle Crime	–	3 Reports
Assault/Public Order	–	No Reports
Theft	–	2 Reports
Criminal Damage	–	2 Reports

07 Minutes

Cllr. Plumb queried why the Annual Parish Meeting was not separately minuted from the normal parish council meeting dated 28th April 2011. The Clerk assured him that the Annual Parish Meeting would be approved at the following years meeting and that all matters arising from the APM had to be ratified at this meeting along with the approval of the minutes from both meetings.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 28th April 2011, having previously been circulated, were adopted and signed.

PROPOSED: Cllr. Thake

SECONDED: Cllr. Bloomfield

08 Public Question Time

Harriet North asked if the Parish Council could apply for a temporary entertainment licence for Glemfest.

PROPOSED: Cllr. Carr

SECONDED: Cllr. Dinning Cole

09 District Councillors Report

Cllr. Thake would be meeting with the new Chief Executive and would report back to Parish Council when the meeting had taken place.

Cllr. Thake advised that it was most important that parishioners voted for the mid Suffolk proposal as it was a very important decision. The Independent Party would not be advising which way to vote, but would advise voters to make their own decision. Anybody who wants any help or guidance, can get business case from Cllr. Thake to peruse.

Cllr. Plumb asked for the voting procedure to be explained. Cllr. Thake advised that votes would be able to be placed by text, email and post. Information for voters had been posted out on the 9th May.

Cllr. Young thanked the people of Glemsford for re-electing himself and Cllr. Thake as District Councillors.

10 Suffolk County Councillor's Report

The County Council has handed the Libraries a late reprieve, after the level of opposition voiced by communities.

It was announced that the County Council would be looking to create a community interest company that would be run by the Council to look after the libraries. This means that the County Council still wishes for individuals and communities to help run the Libraries, but that the immediate threat to closure may have been reduced, ensuring that the County still plays a role in the future of the Library service. Although there has been no clarification to suggest that all Libraries will remain open.

It is still unclear as to what the new proposals mean for the Libraries across the County, but this can be seen as a good step to hopefully retain our much loved and enjoyed community libraries.

The County Council has recently announced that the planned increase in costs to families of Home to School Transport will be reduced.

This is the result of a grant from the Government for two years.

According to the press release sent out by the Council, the funding from the Government means that rather than the entirely removing the subsidies, the Council provides for transport to Roman Catholic students and increased in the cost for post 16 students to £200 per term, there will be a modest £20 increase in the price of bus passes to £150 per term.

There will be no changes in the eligibility criteria for passes for 2011/12 – so no student already studying, or with a place offered to start in September 2011, on a school, sixth form or college course should need give up their studies or move to another school due to the cost of transport.”

The Council further adds that from September 2012 onwards young people transferring to a new Roman Catholic School will not be able to apply for a home-to-school bus pass, except for those who qualify on the present criteria.”

A paper containing more detail will be presented to the Cabinet on 24th May, and I will update you in due course with the relevant information.

Now that the Easter break is over, and the election period has now passed, the County Council has a number of important meetings in the near future.

The Cabinet meeting for April was postponed due to lack of business, so the next meeting will be on 24th May, and will cover a number of important items including the provision of Care Homes by the County Council. This is a result of the consultation over the Christmas period which asked whether the public their views.

On 26th May, there will be the Full Council Annual General Meeting, this will see a new Leader, and Deputy Leader voted in. Cllr Mark Bee, as the new Leader of the Conservative Party, will almost certainly be voted in as the New Council leader, with Cllr Jane Storey retaining her role as deputy. There will more than likely be an item regarding the Libraries in the petitions segment of the meeting due to the number of signatories achieved.

In addition to this, there will be a scrutiny meeting held on 17th May; on the agenda for this meeting is the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership in Suffolk and the Stoke Rehabilitation services, this may well be subject to change.

All of the above meetings are open to members of the public, with both Full Council, and Cabinet, allowing public questions.

Not only were there district elections in Suffolk on the 5th of May, there was also a County Council election, in the Wilford division in East Suffolk.

The winner of this seat was the Conservative candidate Andrew Reid.

The results were as follows;

Burgon, Roy	Labour	758
Hancock, Christine	Liberal Democrat	796
Reid, Andrew	Conservative	1,913
Number of votes cast - 3,495	Number rejected as spoilt – 28	

This means that the County Council consists of 55 Conservatives, 11 Lib Dems, 4 Labour, 2 Greens, 2 Independent, and one UKIP Councillor.

As for the districts and boroughs, all seats were up for election, except Ipswich, which had 1/3rd of the seats up.

The political make up of much of Suffolk remains Conservative with four out of the seven being Conservative authorities, Babergh however, remains in No Overall Control, with the Conservatives losing one seat, the Lib Dems losing 4, and the Independent candidates gaining two.

In the two urban areas of the County, the Labour party gained a number of seats; in Ipswich it gained a total of five seats, allowing the party to take full control of the Council. In Waveney it managed to take a total of eight seats, to put the party on level terms with the Conservatives.

The referendum on changing the electoral system from First Past the Post, to Alternative Vote, was won by the No campaign, which received 12.6m votes (68%), compared to the 5.9m (32%) from the Yes campaign.

10 Clerks Report

The request for the bench to be sited at the cemetery was discussed. Councillors agreed that the bench could be sited as the family concerned had said they would be responsible for its maintenance.

PROPOSED: Cllr. Carr

SECONDED: Cllr. Southgate

The Clerk advised the meeting that all new councillors should abide by the code of conduct passed in 2007, and this had previously been circulated to all councillors. She also reminded new councillors to check their email regularly as correspondence was sent out on a daily basis and the majority was sent by email to avoid postage costs.

11 Financial Matters**Account Status**

Income	41,662.50
Expenditure	4,863.59
Cash in hand	44,160.52
High Interest	5,398.18
Sports Club	1,477.84

Accounts to be paid

Inland Revenue	490.84
Mr. R. Benson	40.00
Mr. S. Lawrence	12.00
AON Limited	3,275.41
Cash	400.00

Any other financial matters

The mandate for bank signatories was discussed. Cllr. Thake expressed his desire to be removed from the signatories. The Clerk would also arrange removal of Mrs. Knox, and would add Cllrs. Mallalieu, Bloomfield, Brown and Dinning Cole.

Cllr. Thake asked that all account balances be mailed to councillors prior to the meeting.

PROPOSED: Cllr. Thake

SECONDED: Cllr. Mallalieu

Cllr. Plumb asked if the accounts could be produced at the next meeting. The Clerk would print off copies of her records but reiterated again that these would not have been audited.

12 Planning Matters**New Applications****B/11/00371/FUL 5 Causeway Close**

Erection of single-storey detached dwelling and erection of detached garage (including demolition of existing garage).

Agreed to recommend this application for approval.

PROPOSED: Cllr. Brown

SECONDED: Cllr. Bloomfield

B/11/00427/FUL New Street Farm, New Street

Change of use and extension of existing agricultural barn and linked yard buildings to provide 2 no. dwellings with garage/carport and workshop/store. (Demolition of grain store attached to barn.

Cllr. Southgate declared an interest and left the room.

Agreed that the planning committee would have a site meeting the following day (subject to applicant's approval and bestowed a delegated power to the committee to report back to the Clerk).

The Planning committee have since visited the site and agreed to recommend this application for approval.

PROPOSED: Cllr. Young

SECONDED: Cllr. Carr

B/11/00456/FUL The Old Filling Station, Lower Road

Change of use from A1 furniture retail to suit generic furniture Auction House.

Agreed to recommend this application for approval.

PROPOSED: Cllr. Brown

SECONDED: Cllr. Plumb

B/11/00508/FHA 5 Greyhound Road

Conversion of garage to living accommodation and extension to form cloakroom. Erection of single-storey rear and front extension.

Cllr. Plumb declared an interest and left the room.

Agreed to recommend this application for approval.

PROPOSED: Cllr. Brown

SECONDED: Cllr. Bloomfield

Applications Granted

B/11/00268/FHA Field View, Flax Lane

Erection of rear conservatory.

B/11/00163/FHA 33 Hunts Hill

Erection of replacement garage door.

B/11/00266/FHA/LM 15 Angel Lane

Erection of single-storey rear extension and front porch.

Applications Refused

B/11/00338/FHA 14 Whitlands

Erection of single-storey rear extension.

Any other planning matters

The Clerk had received a complaint about some windows sited in the Philips Avent building. The Clerk could find no record of a planning application for these so would correspond with Enforcement to ascertain if any applications had been made.

Cllr. Young reported that he had been in correspondence with Enforcement regarding noise at Philips but had received no notification of the outcome at present.

13 Any other matters

Cllr. Thake asked that an item be put on the next Agenda for any parishioner wanting to voice an opinion about a planning application. He suggested that there should be a three minute slot in which parishioners could state their case.

The Chairman asked about the plaque for the village of the year award. Cllr. Carr informed him that this had already been erected.

The Chairman reported that the base of the village sign on Tye Green was cracking but he hoped that the work would be carried out at no charge.

Cllr. Mallalieu reported broken guttering to the rear of the Village Hall.

The Chairman stated that he would like to see the reformation of the Village Hall committee and also the Playing Field Committee. This would be added to the next Agenda.

Cllr. Dinning Cole asked if any training was available for new councillors. The Clerk informed the meeting that once the council was a member of SALC this could be arranged.

Cllr. Mallalieu asked that an item be put on the agenda for a four year plan.

The Clerk would contact Patrick Currie along to the next meeting for a progress report on the Village Plan survey.

Cllr. Plumb asked what the procedure was for putting things on the Agenda. Cllr. Thake explained that these could be asked for in any other matters at the preceding meeting or could be sent to the Clerk at least eight days prior to the meeting.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20.40 pm.

Next meeting 14th June 2011

Approved

Date