

# KETTLEBASTON PARISH COUNCIL

[www.kettlebaston.cloud.com](http://www.kettlebaston.cloud.com) email: [kettlebastonpc@hotmail.com](mailto:kettlebastonpc@hotmail.com) Tel: 0743 460 1141

## Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on Saturday 09 March 2019

### **1. Chairman's welcome and tribute to Councillor John Alliston**

- (i) Apologies received from June Carpenter
- (ii) Council agreed to accept apologies
- (iii) Councillors present: Robert Butler, Stuart Kaye, Alexander Polson, Steve Phillips. There were 4 members of the public present.

### **2. Declarations of Members' Interests:**

- (i) There were no disclosures of pecuniary or non pecuniary interest on matters for consideration at the meeting.

**3. Minutes of previous meeting:** Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the 24 November 2018. (previously circulated) were agreed as a correct record.

**4. Elections:** The Chairman and three current councillors confirmed they wish to continue to stand as councillors for the elections to be held on the 2nd May 2019. Three further expressions of interest have been received. Nomination papers will be completed following the meeting, which will be handed in to the Returning Officer at Babergh Council by Sylvia next week. Councillor Alex Polson has agreed not to stand for the 2019 election.

### **5. Public Forum:**

- (i) **Report from County Councillor Robert Lindsay**

**Budget cuts approved by cabinet:** Council Tax is due to rise by a total of 3.99% - 2.99% increase in general council tax and 1% for the Social Care Precept; The budget includes a savings requirement of £10.1m, divided across all departments. This financial year's forecast deficit has reduced from over £8m to £5.9m. But a lot of this is due to not replacing staff, particularly social workers, who have left, so is not sustainable. However a big part of the cost over runs is to do with sending SEN children out of county which the planned £45m investment in Special Educational Needs places in Suffolk over the next five years should tackle.

**Citizens Advice reprieve:** The NHS in the form of Clinical Commissioning Groups in Suffolk has come forward to match fund the county's cut grant of £184,000 for 2019/20. But the full cut is still going ahead next year and it is not clear whether the CCGs will renew their funding. I voted against the council's budget at the last full council meeting in February mainly because of this cut to CAB.

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**New opt in policy for school travel:** For pupils eligible for free school travel from September 2019, parents must now opt in to confirm their child has a seat on the bus from March 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of May. Under the former school travel policy, the seat was reserved automatically, even if pupils did not show up.

**Suffolk fails its Special Needs inspection again:** Two years after failing its inspection, Suffolk County Council special needs service is still not meeting children's needs, according to Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission. The inspectors said they had made progress on improving governance but not on three other areas. **Parents are having to go to multiple authorities and are waiting too long** to get the new version of "Statements" - (EHCs) "Education, Health and Social Care plans" for their children, particularly for autism where there is a backlog of referrals.

**Lack of understanding among parents of support available** including access to child and adolescent mental health services.

**A lack of joint working** to monitor outcomes for children

**Flooding by road at Bridge Farm on way to Preston St Mary:**

A resident alerted me to the collapsed gully that was causing this and I have asked that Highways repair it. I am told they have dug out the gully, though we shall see whether this lasts.

**(ii) Report from District Councillors Clive Arthey**

**2019-20 Council Tax:** Band D Council Tax for the coming year is Suffolk County Council £1292.13 (+4%), Suffolk Police £212.76 (+13%), Babergh District Council £163.86 (+3.15%) and Kettlebaston Parish Council £67.82 (+9.4%). Band D total is £1736.57 with 74.4% of that going to SCC, 12.3% to Suffolk Police, 9.4% to BDC and 3.9% to Kettlebaston PC.

**BDC 2019-20 Budget:** Included in the budget is another £25 million of borrowing to fund commercial property through **CIFCO Capital Ltd**. This will bring the total investment in CIFCO to £100 million split equally between Babergh and Mid Suffolk DCs.

**Local Plan:** I am sorry to tell you that the next LP consultation **will now be delayed** until the summer. The 'revision to the timetable' now anticipates presentation to Council in June, followed by public consultation. There are then periods for preparation of the 'submission version' and a 'technical consultation' before the Examination in Public. Adoption of the new plan will now not take place until next year.

**Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):** Bid round 2 applications approved include electric vehicle charging points in Lave ham's car park, funding for the Lavenham 'Community Hub' (former TIC) where Post Office

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facilities are also provided, and Preston St Mary Village Hall extension. Unspent bid round 2 funds will be carried forward to the next bid round in May.

**2019 Elections:** District and parish elections will be held on 2nd May. Ward boundaries have been changes and Kettlebaston is now in 'North West Cosford' ward, together with Bildeston, Brettenham, Hitcham, Preston St. Mary, Thorpe Morieux and Wattisham. Polling has been moved from the village hall to Hitcham Village Hall.

**Farewell:** I will **not be standing for election** in the new North West Cosford ward, so this is likely to be the last Parish Council meeting I attend as your District Councillor. I have been fortunate to have been returned to serve you continuously for the past twenty eight years and thank you for the support, hospitality and respect I have received. I have known Kettlebaston since my childhood in the 1960's and I will maintain a close interest in your wonderful little village. I wish you all the very best for the future.

## **(iii) Reports from Parish Councillors**

Update on Grit Bin - Following a meeting by Steve Phillips with Salsabil Stud, they have agreed to fund 5 bins to be placed at strategic points in the village. Suggestion that he should be invited to a future parish council meeting. Rob will send a letter of thanks to the Stud. Sylvia will complete the necessary permission forms from SCC Highways. Highways will deliver grit free of charge, upon request.

## **(iv) Reports on Village Matters**

**(i) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)** Clive suggests the parish maybe eligible for CIL funding, which could be used for improvements to the village hall. An application will need to be made to Babergh District Council.

## **6. To receive updates on Village Matters:**

- (i) Defibrillator Training - no decision taken
- (ii) Highways and Footpaths. Sylvia has written to Suffolk County Council requesting that should be considered to reduce speeding at Evans' Corner. No reply yet received. Sylvia will follow up. A 30 mph hour sign post needs to be moved from private land inside the garden of Church House. Sylvia to follow up.

**(iii) WW1 Memorial** - suggestion that the Church Wardens might contact the War Graves Commission about possible grant aid.

## **7. Finance:**

- (i) Copy of the Cash Book and Bank Reconciliation for the year to 31 March 2019 was circulated and approved.
- (ii) A quarterly cheque payment to the Clerk and an invoice for training costs to SALC were approved and cheques signed.

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(iii) The 2018-19 will be audited by PKF Littlejohn. Stephen Marszal will act as local auditor for the accounts.

(iv) Babergh D.C. has estimated that election costs (uncontested) will be £104.78. This will be included in the 2019-20 budget.

## **8. To receive Clerk's Report:**

(i) A discussion on changing the day of future meetings to Friday evenings. To be discussed at next meeting.

## **9. Planning Issues:**

(i) Update DC/17 06303 Land at side of parish church. There is to be a Newt survey and an archaeological dig on the site.

(ii) Planning Application DC/19/))287 The Old Convent, The Street - Raising height of chimney stack - no objections received.

## **10. Correspondence:**

(ii) To consider all correspondence coming forth (circulated)

## **11. Address closing comments from Public Forum**

(i) Rob has an old parish council Minutes Book, which he will pass to Sylvia for depositing in the Records' Offices in Bury St Edmunds

## **12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: AGM will be held on Saturday 11 May 2019**

Sylvia Watson

Clerk to the Parish Council