

MINUTES OF TROSTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING Monday 6th September 2021 at Troston Village Hall

Present: Cllrs G Norris, P Johns, R Anderson, J Moffat, S Rose, C.Cllr R Hopfensperger & W.S. Cllr S Brown

1. **Apologies for absence.** Sqd Ldr M Fixer

2. **Members Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:**

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

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

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

3. **Minutes** The minutes of the Monday 5th July 2021 Parish Council meeting agreed and approved as a correct record.

4. **Report from RAF Honington:**

Indy Saunders reported that things have been quite quiet on the Base. There is a new Youth Worker, Susan Allington. The youth services are open to civilians' children as well as to those who live on the Base, so it is worth getting in touch to see what is going on. Cllr Norris will include a piece in the next newsletter highlighting this. **Action Clerk**

5. **Meeting open for questions from the public**

The Parish Council were made aware of a number of incidents where walkers, including dog walkers, were being told they could not walk through Pear Tree Close as it is a private road.. Pear Tree Close is a privately-maintained road where the public has a right of way. The residents of Pear Tree Close have formed a management committee to maintain the road and surrounding areas. To clarify this means that walkers, including dog walkers are allowed to use Pear Tree Close to access any adjacent public areas. Cllr Norris will include a piece in the next newsletter to clarify the situation. **Action Cllr Norris**

It was understood that a demolition order has been raised for Custom Bikes and that environmental work to excavate the site is to begin.

6. **Report from County Councillor: R Hopfensperger.**

To include update on funding options and report for works to Ixworth Road, Cllr Hopfensperger is still chasing answer in response to Cllr Anderson report on the condition of Ixworth Road. The speed survey, at the playing field entrance, should be done before the end of September. Cllr Hopfensperger is still waiting for a more definite answer regarding who makes the rules around waste disposal, and if this will change now we have left the EU. The Councillors were told that a charge for DIY waste is made because it costs more to dispose of. SCC believe it is more cost effective to charge for DIY waste disposal than to arrange for fly tipping to be picked up. SCC do not believe there has been an increase in fly tipping since the charge was introduced. A co-ordinated litter campaign was discussed. Cllr Hopfensperger will look at ways to facilitate this. A resident in Paddock Way has been experiencing problems with flooding at his property. It would appear that the drainage is inadequate there and it is suggested that the kerb, near the property, is raised. Cllr Hopfensperger will escalate this with SCC. She also is going to suggest they put a camera down the drain to see what the water level is.

Action Cllr Hopfensperger

7. **Report from B. Councillor: S. Brown**

Cllr Brown said he would be happy to get involved in any litter campaign that may be organised. Cllr Brown provided the Councillors with the following information:

Community Meals

In partnership with Honington & Sapiston Parish Council, there are Community Meals (lunch & evenings) available for residents in Troston. These are FREE and have received grant funding by me to support all residents and families. Any person(s) wishing to know future dates, please contact 01359 268880 to receive regular updates. Cllr Norris will include some further information in the Newsletter.

Action Cllr Norris

Wheelchair Access Vehicles in Taxis – Council Survey

Two surveys will go live today 6th September. One of the surveys is specifically for taxi drivers to gauge the experiences and views of those working in the taxi trade while the other is for people with accessibility needs, including people who are wheelchair users, people who have other disabilities as well as people who have mobility issues but would not identify themselves as being disabled.

For your information, there are a few different ways people can take part as outlined below; *(Please note the survey links below will not work until the survey goes live).*

Online at <http://www.ctstraffic.co.uk/westsuffolkwav> (for taxi drivers)

Online at <http://www.ctstraffic.co.uk/westsuffolkwavuser> (for community members affected by this policy because either they have a disability or they have mobility issues but would not identify themselves as being disabled)

By email to either traderesponse@ctstraffic.co.uk (for taxi drivers)

westsuffolkresponse@ctstraffic.co.uk (for all other interested parties)

By letter to West Suffolk Council WAV Review 2021, CTS Traffic and Transportation, Unit 14 Aqueduct Mill, Aqueduct Street PRESTON PR1 7JN

By telephone 01772 251400

The surveys will be live from Monday 6th September until Monday 4th October at 5pm.

Housing Consultation(s)

An update has been distributed with regards to the updates on housing enquiries in relation to Troston. All of the comments received during the Issues and Options consultation from land promoters and the parish council have been logged on the consultation system and can be seen here by selecting the Troston section of the document:

[Part 3 - settlements - West Suffolk Local Plan \(Regulation 18\) Issues and Options October 2020 - West Suffolk Planning Policy Consultations \(inconsult.uk\)](#)

West Suffolk are currently completing evidence based work to determine the final settlement hierarchy which will help decide what level of growth will be appropriate in each settlement and site selection. We will be sending all parishes the latest update of the services and facilities matrix for each settlement and inviting comments in early September as part of this work. The next consultation is scheduled for March 2022 when we will be consulting on preferred sites.

8. **Finance.**

8.1 The following accounts were approved, either at the meeting or by prior consultation with the Chairman.

West Suffolk	Bins	£113.40
Suffolk Cloud	Website	£30.00
Tramar	Grass cutting/Playing Field	£300.00
Tramar	Grass cutting/Playing Field	£350.00
Westcotec	VAS brackets	£69.00
Kallkwik	Newsletter	£54.72
	Admin	£624.37
Mijan	Accounts software	£100.00
ICo	GDPR	£35.00
BT	Wi-Fi	£35.99
BT	Wi-Fi	£35.99

8.2 Bank reconciliation and accounts update.

The Clerk provided an up to date budget report, schedule of payment for September and a bank reconciliation.

8.2.3 Following a discussion it was agreed to include an update on our responsibilities under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) **Action Clerk**

9 **Play Area** to include:

9.1 Installation of new equipment in children's play area.

The Clerk has received a quote for supply only, for the balance beam and water lilies of £1316.28 and for supply and installation of £5662.64 from Kompan. The Clerk is waiting for a price from Tramar for installation. In addition she will see if she can find out who provided the wooden equipment at Knettishall Heath. **Action Clerk**

9.2 To discuss replacement trees for playing field and options for Wildlife Meadow on the Playing Field

Cllrs Norris, Rose, Moffat and the Clerk met Natasha, from Sicon, the Charity offering to plant trees on the playing field. A plan for planting was discussed and following discussion it was felt that there was no need to plant meadow grasses & flowers on the patch of field near Pear Tree Close. It was proposed that the field edge from the young children's play area to Garden Fields would continue to be left "wild". The following was decided on -

1 Oak tree in the far corner,

5 silver birch between the football goal and the house,

3 trees in the corner by the play equipment – perhaps a willow, a cherry and a rowan

4 trees along the front of the car park near the bins – perhaps birch, rowan, alder?

3 trees in the corner at the end of the car park – fruit trees, to be confirmed.

The Charity will arrange for help to plant the trees and residents of the village will be invited along to help. A date of Sunday the 12th of December was agreed along with the suggestions above.

Cllr Norris will include information about the project in the next newsletter. **Action Cllr Norris**

9.3 Installation of new fence and gate

The gate is still to be installed. It was decided, that as the hedge has grown so well, that we no longer need the fence. The Clerk will inform the contractor of this change. **Action Clerk**

9.4 New bin at playing field car park.

A new bin has been installed by West Suffolk on the field near the car park. This was installed as the existing bins were not meeting the waste needs on the field.

10. Village Maintenance/matters

10.1 Update request for speed survey at play area car park entrance

See under Cllr Hopfensperger report, item 6.

10.2 Parking at Pear Tree Close, update.

Cllrs Norris, Rose and Anderson met Ben and Sam, from the Bull to discuss concerns over residents parking. Ben and Sam acknowledged the concerns of the residents of Pear Tree Close about parking and are keen to be good neighbours. They agreed the signs erected by residents would help deter unwelcome parking and would give some authority to them in asking drivers to find somewhere else e.g. the cinder car park next to the playing field off the Livermere Road and down the Street towards Honington

The possibility of the Bull using some of their garden for parking was discussed – as it had been previously discussed some years ago by the Parish Council with the Planners of St.Eds on the future of the Bull Site. Apparently, no record of these discussions and map (prepared by Thurlow for Greene King in December 2016) were in the legal documents in the sale of the Bull...

With regard to the upcoming Beer Festival, Simon Burgess's offer for the pub to use his part of the playing field was discussed. As representatives of the Parish Council, Cllrs Norris and Anderson thought this seemed a practical idea - on condition there is no cost to the Parish. Ben said they had experience of organising extra car-parking at the other venues they worked.

It was agreed the need for the Bull to erect road signs, make an entrance gate and lay protective matting, and ensuring clear demarcation of where parking was permissible etc. Any special events, like the beer festival, tickets would have maps of where to park on them and parking marshals recruited. It was agreed, residents of Pear Tree Close and the Parish Council should be involved in the planning of these events so any problems can be mutually solved.

The Parish Council will also request that Suffolk Highways paint yellow lines on the corners near the pub. The planting of new trees next to the recycling bays should be delayed until there is clearer understanding of how the parking arrangements work.

The Bull will put up notices in the pub and website to tell customers there is overflow parking on the Parish Council's cinder car park at the entrance to the playing field.

10.3 Parking Concerns, to discuss options to help with the problem of parking in the village.

In addition to the above the Parish Council will also request that Suffolk Highways looks at painting yellow lines on the corners near the pub. The planting of new trees next to the recycling bays should be delayed until there is clearer understanding of how the parking arrangements work. It would be helpful to gather some photographic evidence to help support our request to Suffolk County Council.

Action Clerk

10.4 Passing places on Ixworth Road, update on progress.

See under Cllr Hopfensperger report, item 6.

10.5 Emergency Plan, to discuss options

The old plan needs to be updated. The Clerk has a new template that can be used, she will do some work on this for circulation and input by the councillors.

Action Clerk/All

10.6 Church directional sign, update on position.

Cllr Moffat has turned the sign so it is now pointing in the correct direction.

10.7 Troston welcome leaflet, to discuss update of text.

Cllr Johns has been discussing the village welcome leaflet with Tony Redman. Cllr Johns felt that a brief welcome, which would all fit into a small leaflet, less than two sides of an A4, folded in to a three fold leaflet, with signposting to information should be sufficient. Most of the information should be available either on the website or Facebook so signposting to these platforms should do the job.

10.8 Overgrown trees, Livermere Road, including at Forge Corner

The overhanging trees have been reported to SCC and UK Power Network are coming out on the 21st September to assess the problem.

11. 2023 Review of Parliamentary constituencies

To note response submitted by the Chairman:

I am the Chairman of Troston Parish Council, a small village about 5 miles North of Bury St. Edmunds.

At our regular Parish Meeting on Monday, villagers were dismayed to learn about the Boundary Commission's proposal to place our village in the vast new seat of North Suffolk - stretching from the outskirts of Thetford to the West and Saxmundham in the East. We appreciate the idea is to create new seats of roughly equal population-size - but the proposal apparently is regardless of any thought to where people receive their services like hospitals, schools, shops and need transport links.

This is particularly important as "Place-based Locality" considerations seem to be the way health, education and transport requirements are estimated. The focus of the village is Bury St. Edmunds and we feel you are best placed to understand our issues and represent us. We fail to see any common issues that would connect the sweep of small rural communities into a coherent parliamentary constituency.

On behalf of the village we object to these proposals most strongly!

12. Website

12.1 Update on progress

The problem with the drop down menu, on the mobile phone site has been rectified. The blurred picture has been replaced, with a picture of the church.

13. Planning

None received.

14. Councillors reports and items for future agendas.

14.1 Following a request from the Pear Tree Management Committee, the Parish Council agreed to take over the maintenance of the bushes on the footpath from Pear Tree Road to the Ixworth Road.
Action Clerk

14.2 Cllr Burrige reported that Village Hall Committee has had a meeting and that they are still looking for a secretary. Their current income is exceeded by outgoings but they still have some Covid grant money to make up the shortfall.

14.3 It was asked if the upkeep of Troston Woods and the lottery could be items for the agenda for the next meeting.
Action Clerk

14.4 Cllr Norris has exchanged some footpath leaflets with Great Livermere. He has put them in the Church with the Troston leaflets.

15. Correspondence for information

15.1 Cllr Norris has re-entered in to correspondence with Edward Vipon about the possibility of a permissive path between Troston and Great Livermere

16. Date for next meetings. 1st November 2021

The working party budget meeting will be held, via zoom 15th November 2021

17 To consider the exclusion of the public and press in the public interest for consideration of the following items: 17.1 Personnel Issues. None. 17.2 Legal Issues. None