

HOXNE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on
Thursday 5 December 2019 at St Edmund's Hall, Hoxne at 19.30 hours

Present:

Cllrs Edward O'Connor (Chairman), Gill O'Connor, Katherine Farthing, Alan Garnham, Iain Gibson, Paula Tebbs and Simon Wilby, District Councillor Matthew Hicks (left 19.38) and County Councillor Guy McGregor (arrived 20.25 and left 20.47).

Before the meeting started the Chairman reminded all those present of the public participation protocol.

1. Apologies

2. Order of Business

All those present were reminded of the Openness of Local Government Bodies Act 2014 and that the meeting may be filmed or recorded by any member of the public.

3. Declarations of Interests

None.

Councillors were reminded of the requirement to update their register of interests as necessary.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

Mid Suffolk District Council – Cllr Mathew Hicks reported that business at MSDC was 'on hold' due to the general election. Cllr Hicks confirmed that he had requested planning application DC/19/04594 Goldbrook Nurseries would be heard at planning committee in the new year. Mid Suffolk and Babergh building control work projects being undertaken in the private sector.

Eight members of the public were in attendance.

A parishioner thanked the Parish Council for the design and creation of the village sign and suggested that the fact sheet on the history of the sign be replicated in some way in a sign/noticeboard somewhere near the sign.

Other parishioners were hoping to hear about the safety audit on the B1118 but it was confirmed that this, for legal reasons, could not be released. Comments were made on the safety of the whole stretch of the B1118 through the village.

A request was made for a hard copy of the minutes to be placed on the noticeboard.

A further request was made for repairs to take place on the damaged highway surface on the B1118 opposite to the traffic calming build out.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on 7 November 2019 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

6. Matters arising from Minutes of 7 November 2019

None.

7. Planning

a. The following planning applications were considered:

Ref	Location	Application
DC/19/05214	26 Heckfield Green	Erection of a single storey rear extension including 3no. rooflights.
It was proposed and unanimously agreed to recommend support of the application.		
DC/19/01544	Barn at Home Farm, Eye Road	Change of use and conversion of agricultural barn to residential dwelling and associated temporary siting of caravan.
It was proposed and unanimously agreed to recommend support of the application and would like the conservation officers' comments on design scheme to be taken into account.		
DC/19/05217	Home Farm, South Green Road	Installation of a new sewage treatment plant and fill in old septic tank.
It was proposed and unanimously agreed to recommend support of the application.		
DC/19/05345	13 Cross Street	Erection of two storey and single storey rear extension. Insertion of roof light.
It was proposed and unanimously agreed to recommend refusal of the application due to over development of the site (six votes in favour, one against).		

b. The following planning determination was noted:

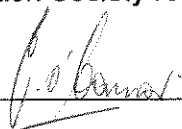
Ref	Location	Application
DC/19/03339	Corner Farm, Green Street	Conversion/replacement of agricultural buildings to form 5no. dwellings including alterations to existing vehicular accesses and erection of associated garages. Planning Permission had been granted.

c. Other planning matters:

i. The Suffolk Preservation Society response to planning application DC/19/04594 erection of five dwellings at

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Signed :



Chairman.

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former Goldbrook Nurseries was noted.

8. Neighbourhood Development Plan

It was noted that the Working Group would meet immediately before the next Parish Council meeting at 6.00 pm on 9 January and all those that had previously expressed an interest in the NDP had been invited to attend the meeting.

9. Donation Requests

The following requests for financial support were considered:

- Fressingfield Scout Group – it was unanimously agreed to make a donation of £200. *Cheque No 100494*
- Eye and District Volunteer Centre – it was unanimously agreed to make a donation of £250. *Cheque No 100495*. The Parish Council were keen to support the hospital lift service provided by the Volunteer Centre since the local bus service had been stopped.

10. Provision of Post Office

Councillors considered the limited options available to the Parish Council to assist in the retention of the Post Office Stores in the village. It was agreed to submit a response to the Post Office Limited consultation and request all that was possible to retain a post office service within the village was undertaken and how the post office was of vital importance to the community which had no public transport links to neighbouring towns.

11. Vehicle Activated Sign

It was agreed that the post on the traffic calming build out was now redundant (since the construction of the build out) and councillors would consider alternative locations to site the VAS. These locations needed to be within a 30 mph limit and have the appropriate visibility.

12. Correspondence

The following correspondence previously circulated for information was noted:

Date	From	Subject
27.11.19	Post Office Limited	Branch temporary closure – Low Street, Hoxne
25.11.19	Suffolk County Council	Street Lighting for 24 December and 31 December
21.11.19	Suffolk Association of Local Councils	Summary of Shaping Suffolk conference
06.11.19	Babergh Mid Suffolk District Council	Tree for Life

20.32 Suffolk County Council – Cllr Guy McGregor reported that he would support any initiative to provide a community run shop/post office as had been realised in other villages. Cllr McGregor then reported on the decision of the Ipswich CCG to cease funding the "Step Down" provisions at Hartismere Place and the end of the local bus service as well as updating the Parish Council on church related matters.

Members of the public respectively asked Cllr McGregor about the safety audit for the B1118 and suggested that it was not appropriate for church matters to be delivered in a County Council report.

13. Finance

a. The Council's financial statement was noted as £25,820 in the current account and £5,678 in the business saver account.

c. **Payments:** it was agreed to make the following payments as detailed: Cllr G O'Connor abstained from the vote of this matter.

Amount	Payee	Details	Chq No	Power
£441.00	S Foote	Clerk's salary December 2019	101487	LGA 1972 S112
£324.00	R Williams	Street Caretaker Salary Oct/Nov/December 2019	101488	LGA 1972 S111
£326.20	HMRC	PAYE	101489	LGA 1972 S111
£132.29	S Foote	Clerk's expenses including Village Sign launch and street caretaker equipment reimbursement	101490	LGA 1972 S111/ S114/S140(1)
£67.30	Cllr G O'Connor	Reimbursement of expenses relating to Christmas Tree in Church Event.	101491	LGA 1972 S137
£305.76	Community Action Suffolk	REPLACEMENT CHEQUE for Annual Insurance Premium	101492	LGA 1972 S111
£476.49	P Prochner and Son Builders	Expenses for plinth for village sign, posts and chains for St Edmunds monument, ballast and clips for Goldbrook sign.	101493	LGA 1972 S111

c. To consider the budget for the 2020/2021 financial year

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Signed : _____

Chairman.

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- c.i. It was noted that the tax base for 2020/2021 had decreased by -0.6%.
- c.ii The 3% increase in services delivered by Babergh Mid Suffolk District Councils was noted and the likely costs to the Parish Council were thought to be approximately a £5 increase for bin emptying.
- c.iii. Projects and expenditure including; community transport, support for Post Office provision, extension of pavement in Green Street, improved street lighting in Low Street, development of Hoxne Neighbourhood Development Plan would be considered further at the January meeting when the budget and precept for the forthcoming financial year would be set.
- c.iv The anticipated level of reserves at end of 2019/2020 financial year and anticipated spend for 2020/2021 were noted.

14. Reports

The following reports were received:

Brakey Wood and Footpaths – Cllr Farthing reported the paths were very muddy due to the heavy rainfall of late.

Hoxne Playingfield – no report available.

St Edmund's Hall – Cllr Wilby reported that the fire audit had been carried out for the hall. Cllr Wilby confirmed he had passed on the Parish Council's suggestion that a name sign be placed outside of the hall.

Suffolk Association of Local Councils – a summary of the Shaping Suffolk conference had been supplied to councillors. No one had been able to attend the area meeting held this week.

Vehicle Activated Sign – as reported above.

15. Matters of report by individual Councillors

16. Urgent matters and matters for information

Cllr Garnham asked if the Parish Council could insure the Christmas tree being erected on the village green. This was agreed and the Clerk was asked to ensure a risk assessment was in place and that cover commenced from 6 December.

20.47

17. Pursuant to the Public Bodies Admission to meetings Act 1960 the meeting was closed to the public and press to consider

The Suffolk Highways Safety Audit of the B1118 at Chickering was considered and further information was awaited from both Planning Enforcement and Suffolk Highways before the information contained within could be considered further.

The meeting was closed at 21.03.

