

## MINUTES OF MEETING OF EARL SOHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Monday 14th September 2015 at 7.30pm

AT EARL SOHAM Village Hall

Present:, Cllrs Richard Tinkler (Chair) Andrew Patterson, Lucy Murrell, Jackie Barrow, Chris Pratt, Celia Peacher, David Grose

Jane Page (Clerk)

Public: None were present

The Minutes are in the order of the Agenda:

**1. Apologies – to accept apologies for absence** Apologies accepted for Cllr Hulme, Rutherford

**2. Declarations of Interest** - no declarations

**To hear reports from:**

### SCC News Update – September 2015

**Suffolk GCSE results rise****The story:** More of Suffolk's 16 year olds achieved expected levels of GCSE attainment this year, it emerged last month. Provisional results collated in Suffolk suggest around a 4% rise in the number of students getting five or more A\*-C grades, including English and Maths. It means that 56% of Suffolk's year 11s got the expected level of attainment. The validated figure for 2014 was 52%. Some schools have made significant gains on last year: For example: Kesgrave High School – 71% of students achieved five or more A\*-C grades (including English and Maths), up 16% on last year; Copleston High School – 63% of students achieved five or more A\*-C grades (including English and Maths), up 10% on last year; Stradbroke High School– 72% of students achieved five or more A\*-C grades (including English and Maths). This is up from 54% last year, an increase of 18%. The results also saw a significant improvement for disadvantaged pupils – these are children looked after and pupils eligible for free school meals. The early results reported to SCC indicate 72% of schools have seen a rise in the attainment of pupils who are disadvantaged. Some schools that have made significant improvements in the attainment of disadvantaged pupils on last year: Thomas Mills High School - Up 20% on last year to 62%; Kesgrave High School – Up 18% on last year to 46%; County Upper School - Up 27% on last year to 54%; Sir John Leman High School – Up 10% on last year to 50%. *(NB: These figures are based on self-reported data from schools and academies to Suffolk County Council. The results are subject to validation by the Department for Education in the New Year).* **Key message:** These results are extremely encouraging. The overall rise in students meeting our expected attainment levels is testament to the hard work and commitment of heads, governors, teachers, parents and, most importantly, students. We will continue to work with, and challenge, schools to drive up educational attainment. Ofsted has recognised that our Raising the Bar vision and strategy is moving us in the right direction, and we are implementing our action plan to increase the speed of improvement”.

**Key Stage 2 results show significant improvements for Suffolk Schools****The story:** The percentage of pupils achieving the expected level in reading, writing and maths in primary schools in Suffolk is continuing to rise. Data released by the Department for Education today show that 77% of 11-year olds achieved level 4 or higher in their SAT tests in the three subjects in 2015 – up from 73% in 2014.

The Suffolk figure of 77% closes the gap to the national average, which stands at 80%. These results mean that Suffolk has improved on its ranking against all authorities, moving up 22 places to 118<sup>th</sup> and is now 118 out of 150. This is an improvement of 22 places from last year. Another positive figure emerging for Suffolk is the progress in writing between Key Stages 1 and 2. The percentage of pupils making the expected progress went up from 89% in 2014 to 91% this year. The percentage of children making expected progress from key stage 1 to 2 in Reading and Maths also increased. Both areas seeing a one percentage point rise. *(NB: All results at this stage are provisional. The validated figures will be published in October.)*

**Key message:** Driving up educational attainment levels remains our top priority. These results are a real vindication of the work being put in by everyone involved. In the past few weeks we have received very encouraging A-Level and GCSE results; the Key Stage 2 grades today continue that trend and show definitive progress is being made.

**Suffolk's broadband programme gets new cash injection as take up passes 20 per cent**

**The story:** Around £3.9 million is being made available to extend further the reach of high-speed fibre broadband across Suffolk as part of the Better Broadband for Suffolk Programme. This additional amount is funding that BT is making available to extend Broadband Delivery UK (BDUK) projects as a result of the success of the projects in achieving higher than expected take-up levels so far. The money is for SCC to re-invest in further superfast broadband coverage to more homes and businesses, earlier than originally planned. As Colin Noble, SCC's leader, said: "This cash injection into the roll-out programme is great news as we pass the 20% take-up rate. It will help us to maintain our current momentum in getting communities across Suffolk switched on. We are on course to hit our target of reaching 100,000 properties by the end of this year and entering our second agreed contract with BT to deliver even more coverage in 2016 and beyond. We are committed to reaching 100% of properties by 2020. It is important for all residents and businesses to understand that where high speed broadband service is available, they must contact their service provider to make the switch. It is not an automatic process." **Key message:** The roll-out of broadband across Suffolk is one of the most profound infrastructure projects we have seen for decades. We are committed to supporting this project through to completion: generating economic growth and jobs, but also having a major positive impact on the quality of life for people across the county.

**Suffolk Skills Show 2015: Are you showcasing your business?**

**The story:** The Suffolk Skills Show will take place at Trinity Park on 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2015 between 9am and 6pm. It will provide a great opportunity for businesses to showcase their work, the people they employ and what they are looking for in future employees. The young people attending will be looking for career inspiration, information and a wide range of hands-on experiences to help inspire them to explore skills, further education and apprenticeships, there will also be education providers and careers guidance helping them to gain advice on how to take the next step into the world of work. The inaugural event in 2014 attracted over 44 schools and recorded over 3,500 people through the gates. 2,760 of those being a key age group for choices over subject options, further education or apprenticeship routes. In total, 91 organisations exhibited on over 100 stands, split into zones to reflect the economic diversity and growth sectors of Suffolk. The show will see a range of training providers and employers discuss apprenticeships, training, college, university courses and employment opportunities. Numerous "Have a Go" activities, tasters and demonstrations will also offer hands-on experience of new skills, from a range of different sectors. For more information, visit the Suffolk Skills Show website at: <https://www.suffolkskillsshow.com> **Key message:** "The Suffolk Skills show is a fantastic opportunity for both local businesses and young people in our area. It is an ideal chance for employers to speak with the next generation of workers, giving them a clear picture of the skill set required to obtain the work they want. For younger people, it will help them as they consider which area of work interests them and what practical steps they can put in place now to get on the pathway to employment.

**Scams go up in flames thanks to Suffolk Scamnesty The story:** Over 400 pieces of scam mail and other fraudulent printed documentation have been binned and taken out of circulation as part of Suffolk Trading Standard's successful Scamnesty campaign that ran throughout July, in partnership with BBC Radio Suffolk's Mark Murphy show. The campaign came to an official end with a spectacular bonfire containing all the scam materials collected over the past month. The bonfire also included over 8,000 pieces of scam mail that has been sent to SCC's Trading Standard's team since January 2015. The post is being logged and the information sent to the National Trading Standards Scams Team for them to utilise in their enforcement and in their training work with other agencies, such as Royal Mail. Every year, more than three million people in the UK fall victim to scams, losing thousands of pounds to fraudsters. Scamnesty was a month-long initiative managed by the Trading Standards team, encouraging people to report potential scams and help prevent others from falling victim. **Key message:** People across our county should be able to live their lives without being subject to scams and fraudsters. It has been hugely encouraging to see the response to the Scamnesty project.

**New vaccination programme launched to protect against meningitis The story:** This month, SCC's Public Health team are welcoming the start of the new MenACWY vaccination programme that will offer teenagers protection against meningitis (inflammation of the brain) and septicaemia (blood poisoning) caused by four meningococcal strains including MenW. GPs will be inviting all teenagers aged 17 and 18 (born between 01 September 1996 and 31 August 1997) for the vaccine. It's important that anyone who plans to go to university this year gets vaccinated before they leave. This group is at increased risk of getting meningococcal disease, as many will be mixing closely with lots of new people at university, some of whom may unknowingly carry the meningococcal bacteria. As well as MenW, the vaccination also protects against other forms of the disease – meningococcal disease types A, C and Y – which can also be fatal or cause long term complications for those affected. This vaccine programme is being introduced in response to a growing increase in cases of a highly aggressive strain of meningococcal disease, group W. Cases of MenW have been increasing year-on-year in the U.K., from 22 cases in 2009 to 117 in 2014. It is currently responsible for around a quarter of all laboratory-confirmed meningococcal cases in England. **Key message:** Keeping people safe is of prime concern, and this new vaccination programme is a great step forward in terms of helping people live healthier lives. It is hugely important to encourage all teenagers in the appropriate age bracket to get the vaccinations

There were no further reports

**3. To consider confirming the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting of 13th July 2015 - the Minutes were confirmed**

#### **4. Matters for debate**

**4.1** Charging for brown bin collection - resident concerns have been raised that SCDC will follow Waveney and SCC in introducing charging for brown bins.

DECISION - Councillors unanimously support opposition of this charge

ACTION - Clerk will pass on comments to Cllr Hudson

**4.2** Coastal Accessible Transport survey - the survey was completed

ACTION - Clerk will submit the survey

**4.3** Christmas Tree on The Green

DECISION - Councillors voted unanimously to have a tree this year

ACTION - Chair will get quotes for and source a tree

**4.4** Use of Village Green - A pop up cafe appeared on the Village Green over the last bank holiday. It was requested to move as this is a Registered Village Green not Common Land and it is under the ownership of the Parish Council.

DECISION Councillors unanimously agreed to restrict any use of the Green to non commercial as allowing this venture would leave the Green open to use by any business rather than leisure use. The edge is becoming increasingly eroded but the PC failed to get grant funding for kerbing on the grounds that it is Highways responsibility. Parking on the roadway is causing vehicles to run over the Green to enable them to pass

ACTION Clerk will post Polite Notices, contact the owner of some of the larger vehicles and contact Highways

**4.5** Manorial Land - Following a query about parish land ownership, parish records show that both the Village Green and Little Green are Registered Greens and under the ownership of the parish council who hold the Deeds and conveyances.

## **5. Planning applications and Notifications**

*To consider any planning applications received by the date of the meeting where reasonable and practical to do so*

DC/15/2705/OUT Yew Tree Court - Creation of new highways access (and stopping off of existing access) together with the expansion of an employment area (offices, studios and workshop uses) *no objections*

DC/15//3151/TCA

Anstey Gate. Little Green - To reduce 2 Cupresus Leylandii by 40% to reduce risk of wind damage *no objections*

DC/15/3180/TPOTheOldRectory

T1Ash-liftcrownthinandshape

T2Sycamore-Removetwolowerbranchesandreduceothers

T3Ash-40%reduction

T4Sycamore-reduction

T5-7-Beech-Liftcrownandreduceoverhang

T8 - Sycamore - reduce by 30% *no objections*

## **6. Correspondence since last meeting** circulated to Councillors \*emailed

Community Emergency Plan Document\*

Sizewell C community feedback\*

Suffolk Coastal/Waveney joint report\*

Land re-generation for wildlife Dial Lane/ Church Lane\*

Grant funding application response\*

## **7. Financial matters and payments due:**

Cheques for approval	Payee	Amount
	100710 Church & Gooderham	1268.4
	100711 SCDC election fee	100
	100712 C Peacher Petrol	38.45
	100714 Clerks expenses	53.88
	Total	1490.73
Uncashed cheques		0

s/o deposit acc	D Peacher - Aug + Sept	124.5
s/o deposit acc	Clerk - Aug+ Sept	476.78
Transfers		1000
Income received	Memorial stones x 2	80
Bank interest		0
Before cheques paid	Current Account	1767
	Business Account	6263.05
After payment	Current Account	273.27
13th July 2015	Business Account	5962.41
plus bank interest		0

## 9. Reports

Clerk has reported drains by School and The Causeway

Clerk has written to The War Graves Commission - War Graves payment no longer under threat  
War Memorial now grade II listed

Clerk rearranged Coffee Caravan for 19th August - sadly few people attended

Clerk has contacted SCC re blocked ditch

Cllr Tinkler attended Enabling Communities Conference on the 29<sup>th</sup> July

Notice boards are installed - village keyholder is Chairman Richard Tinkler

The cleared amount in the Earl Soham play pot is £2,045.71 - this item to go on next Agenda

Grant funding re kerbing village Green has been refused

Pop Up Cafe on the Green was requested to move

Next meeting November 9th

Signed

Dated