

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BRENT ELEIGH PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2019 IN THE VILLAGE HALL COMMENCING AT 7.30PM**

**Present:**

Cllr Kevin Went (Chairman)  
Cllr Martin Austin  
Cllr Karen Marshall  
Cllr Natalie Shewring

**Apologies:**

Cllr Francesca Scoones

**In Attendance:**

County Councillor Robert Lindsay (part)  
District Councillor Clive Arthey (part)  
One member of the public  
William Grosvenor (*Clerk to the Council*)

		<b>Action</b>
<b>19.01</b>	<b>CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME</b> Cllr Went welcomed all present to the meeting.	
<b>19.02</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies were received from Cllr Francesca Scoones.	
<b>19.03</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
<b>19.03.01</b>	<b>To Receive Amendments to the Register</b> There were no amendments to the Register.	
<b>19.03.02</b>	<b>To Receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda</b> There were none.	
<b>19.03.03</b>	<b>To Receive Declarations of Non Pecuniary Interest in Respect of Items on the Agenda</b> There were none.	
<b>19.03.04</b>	<b>To Receive Full / Partial Dispensations for Pecuniary Interests Declared</b> It was noted that there had been no requests for dispensations.	
<b>19.04</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS</b> Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 22 November 2018 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.	
<b>19.05</b>	<b>TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b> Cllr Lindsay reported as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In November 2018 Suffolk County Council (SCC) announced its intention to cut all funding for Suffolk's Citizen Advice services as part of budget savings, subsequently amended to a phased cut over 2 years – a reduction of 50% (£184k) in each year. A public equalities impact consultation has been run on the proposal, which closed on 23 January.</li> <li>• On 6 December 2018 a motion calling on SCC to do more to tackle single-use plastic waste was agreed unanimously. The measures include a commitment to work towards using only sustainable or re-useable plastics in all Council buildings, communicating with the public on how to reduce plastic waste,</li> </ul>	

	<p>and creating a “plastic free Suffolk network” of councils, businesses and other organisations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A motion at the same meeting however, asking SCC to set an annual “carbon budget” and create targets for reducing carbon emissions was rejected.</li> <li>• SCC has now appointed a new Head of Growth, Highways and Infrastructure and the appointee will start in February.</li> <li>• SCC’s Cabinet will next week consider a report from a Cross-Party Policy Development Panel, recommending that the Council invests £45m in building three new special needs schools and another 36 specialist units within mainstream schools, which together will create 828 new places for children with special educational needs. Such children will then be able to have their needs catered for in-county, rather than have to be sent (as often happens at present) to board in other parts of the country.</li> <li>• SCC has finally dropped plans to build a new Orwell crossing in central Ipswich, after already spending £8.3m. The plan for two smaller bridges to connect Wet Dock Island to the Waterfront will go ahead at a cost of £10m.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>19.06</b></p>	<p><b>TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT</b>  Cllr Arthey reported as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2019/20 Budget - Work is at an advanced stage, with a likely 3% increase in Babergh’s element of the Council Tax (less than 10% of the total Council Tax bill).</li> <li>• Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – In the first round of bids for Regulation 123 funds only £65k was spent, with the remaining £316k carried forward to the October 2018 bid round (with over £600k available). Bids included proposals for electric vehicle charging points in Lavenham. Unspent funds will be carried forward to the next bid round in May 2019.</li> <li>• Local Plan – The next round of consultation on the new Local Plan will now take place in the summer of 2019. This will then be followed by the preparation of the submission version and technical consultation before the examination in public takes place. Adoption will not be before 2020.</li> <li>• Waste and recycling – There has been a slight reduction in blue bin recyclables collected. Although electricity is generated from residual waste, it is less profitable than blue bin recycling. Therefore the message is that residents should continue to present the blue bins with all recyclable items clean, dry and loose.</li> <li>• District and Parish elections – These take place on 2 May. The District elections will be based on the new Wards, with Brent Eleigh in the new Box Vale Ward, grouped with Boxford, Edwardstone, Milden and Monks Eleigh.</li> <li>• Brent Eleigh Conservation Area – The updated Conservation Area Appraisal is expected to be completed in the summer of 2019.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>19.07</b></p>	<p><b>TO DISCUSS ANY VILLAGE MATTERS</b>  Following discussion on improvements for the village hall, it was suggested that The Village Hall Committee might wish to bring</p>	



19.09.07	<p><b>To Agree the Precept for 2019/20</b> Councillors considered a paper, previously distributed, which set out the Council's financial situation and options for precept setting for 2019/20. Options considered were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To keep the total precept the same i.e. £2,150.00 This would result in a decrease in band D equivalent contributions of approximately £4.</li> <li>• To keep the existing Band D payment the same, which would result in a precept of £2,263.95.</li> <li>• To apply Option 2 and increase in line with the consumer price index level of inflation (currently 2.1%) which would give a precept of £2,311.49.</li> </ul> <p>Following discussion <b>it was RESOLVED</b> to seek a precept of £2,250 for 2019/20 (which is a decrease of 0.63% for Band D from 2018/19). <b>Proposed by:</b> Cllr Went                      <b>Seconded by:</b> Cllr Austin</p>	Clerk
19.09.08	<p><b>Data Protection Matters</b> Nothing to report.</p>	
19.09.09	<p><b>Grant request from Citizens Advice, Sudbury</b> Councillors further considered the grant request from the Chairman of Trustees of Citizens Advice, Sudbury. <b>It was AGREED</b> to review this request again at the next meeting.</p>	Clerk
19.09.10	<p><b>Babergh funding event</b> The Clerk reported that Babergh DC will be holding a funding event on Wednesday 6 February 2019 at Chamberlin Hall, Bildeston, from 9.30am to 3pm.</p>	
19.10	<p><b>TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Village litter pick Spring 2019 – Cllr Marshall is liaising with Monks Eleigh residents over loan of equipment etc.</li> <li>• Cllr Went reported that discussions were taking place about restoring the grit bin in Mildon Road. This would be subject to the agreement of the residents at 2 Red Cottages, and Cllr Marshall is talking to them.</li> </ul>	Cllr Marshall  Cllr Marshall
19.11	<p><b>TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT</b></p>	
19.11.01	<p><b>Elections and the Annual Meeting 2019</b> As District and Parish elections take place on 2 May, the May meeting of the Parish Council, as well as being its Statutory Annual Meeting, will also be the first meeting of the new Council. In those circumstances, <b>it was AGREED</b> to break with tradition, and hold the Annual Parish Meeting separately at an earlier date – on 11 April.</p>	Clerk
19.11.02	<p><b>Membership of Community Action Suffolk (CAS)</b> The Clerk reported that the Council's free membership of CAS has been renewed for another 12 months - until 1 November 2019.</p>	
19.11.03	<p><b>Electoral briefing</b> The Clerk went through the 2019 electoral briefing provided by SALC. As far as parish elections are concerned, the election notices will be issued between 12 and 26 March. 4pm on 3 April will be the deadline for delivery (by hand) of nomination papers. From the date on which the election notice is issued until 10pm on election day - the moratorium period – the existing Council should avoid doing or saying anything that could amount to an infringement of the Code of Recommended Practice on Local Authority publicity. All current councillors retire on 7</p>	All

	May and the persons elected take office.	
19.11.04	<p><b>Babergh DC Community Strategy Consultation</b></p> <p>This runs from 21 January 2019 to 1 March 2019, and sets out Babergh's vision for the type of future it wants to develop with communities and stakeholders, and provides the foundations of what is needed to achieve it. Responses will help to shape how Babergh responds to key issues within the final Strategy document.</p>	
19.11.05	<p><b>Village Telephone Box</b></p> <p>The Clerk drew Members' attention to the condition of the telephone kiosk in The Street, which needs to have the surrounding undergrowth cut back and be repainted. <b>It was AGREED</b> to bring this back to the next meeting for further discussion.</p>	Clerk
19.12	<b>PLANNING ISSUES</b>	
19.12.01	<p><b>Babergh / Mid-Suffolk Joint Local Plan</b></p> <p>As reported at Item 19.06 above, public consultation on the draft new Local Plan will now take place in the summer of 2019.</p>	
19.12.02	<p><b>Brent Eleigh Conservation Area – draft appraisal</b></p> <p>As reported at Item 19.06 above, the Conservation Area appraisal will hopefully be completed in the summer of 2019.</p>	
19.12.03	<p><b>To Consider Planning Applications Received</b></p> <p>No new applications were received.</p>	
19.12.04	<p><b>To Consider Updates on Planning Applications</b></p> <p><b>(1) DC/18/04906/7 [Planning &amp; Listed Building applications] – Abbots Hall Farm Barn, off Cock Lane – Conversion and extension to barn to form 1no. dwelling following the demolition of 2no. adjacent agricultural stores. Erection of studio outbuilding.</b></p> <p>The Parish Council's comments were sent to Babergh on 30 November 2018. No decision on the application has yet been advised.</p>	
19.12.05	<p><b>To Receive Notification of Decisions of Planning Applications as Determined by Babergh DC</b></p> <p><b>(2) DC/18/01987 – Second Meadow Stables, Brent Eleigh Road (Lavenham Parish) – Proposed erection of detached dwelling in association with the use of Second Meadow Stables.</b></p> <p>Planning consent was refused by letter dated 28 November 2018.</p> <p><b>(3) DC/18/04958 – Barns A, B and C, Bridge Farm, Lavenham Road, Brent Eleigh - Notification for Prior Approval for a proposed Change of Use of agricultural buildings to 5no. dwellinghouses.</b></p> <p>Planning consent was refused by letter dated 27 December 2018.</p>	
19.13	<p><b>DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 March 2019 Ordinary Meeting of the Council</li> <li>• 11 April 2019 Annual Parish Meeting</li> <li>• 23 May 2019 Statutory Annual Meeting of the Council</li> </ul> <p><i>All meetings are held at Brent Eleigh Village Hall and start at 7.30pm.</i></p>	
19.14	<p><b>CHAIRMAN'S CLOSING REMARKS</b></p> <p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.</p>	