**Minutes of the Meeting of Thrandeston Parish Council held on Tuesday 1st November 2022 at Thrandeston Village Hall.**

# Present:

Councillors Anthony Ronchetti, Andrew Colchester, David Rose, Colin Swinbourne and Alison Murton.

District Councillor David Burn.

County Councillor Jessica Fleming.

Philip Freeman - Parish Clerk.

Three members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence.
* None.
1. Chairman’s Opening Remarks
* The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests from members on any agenda item. To consider any requests for dispensations.
* None.
1. Minutes of the previous meeting.
* The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman.
1. Matters arising from the minutes:
* At the next meeting the Clerk will bring a sheet to be signed by Councillors to say they will abide by the New Code of Conduct. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* It was agreed that The Clerk would investigate the Suffolk County Council Self-Help Scheme and obtain a quote for the traffic management work. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed. Following a discussion it was agreed that Councillor Colchester should approach Mr Ashby and Mr Bird and ask if they would wish to quote for the work to cut the grass verges in May 2023. **Action: Councillor** Colchester. The Clerk will approach Mellis Parish Council to ask if they wish to be involved in the scheme to cut the Mellis Road. **Action: The Clerk.**
* A local resident has complained about noise which comes from the direction of the Cranswick factory on Eye Airfield. The Clerk will contact Cranswick and ask if the factory is the source of the noise. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.
* Application for Planning Permission - DC/22/04021.
Location: Land At The Leys And Ivy Farm, Mellis Road, Yaxley, Suffolk IP21 4BT

It was agreed that no decision could be made about this without additional information. The Clerk will request an extension to the time for the comments by the Parish Council. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed. An extension was given until 23 November 2022.

1. Notification of any urgent business.
* None.

**Public Forum.**

Meeting closed at 7:40 PM.

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

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**Local Cost of Living Assistance** – This scheme is intended to locate practical help for those experiencing financial hardship this winter, refer to a [Cost of Living leaflet](https://suffolk.pagetiger.com/cost-of-living-support/scc1). Refer also to <http://infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/costofliving> which includes details of local support.

**Highways Reporting Reminder** – Reports of potholes, flooding or any highways issue can be made to Suffolk Highways. All defects should be reported preferably with photographs to: [Report a pothole | Suffolk County Council](https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads-pavements-and-verges/potholes/report-a-pothole/) and a report number obtained.

**Foot and/ or Cycle Path into Diss** – The District Council led Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) has been published and the link from Stuston (or Eye) initially has been assigned as ‘medium priority’. Next step is to arrange a site meeting with Suffolk Highways and Mid Suffolk officers to assess local conditions and a potential route, Mid Suffolk has initiated dialogue with Highways and awaiting response. A meeting is planned in the near future.

**Highways Drainage Programme Update –** Suffolk Highways has procured two Combi Machines to both investigate and clear blocked drains in an effort to address the several hundred schemes outstanding. These machines can both cut and water jet blockages and have greatly reduced the list of high priority problems. Information about both cyclical / seasonal and reactive drainage work or to report a blocked drain refer to: [Highway drainage | Suffolk County Council](https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage/highway-drainage/)

**Flood Risk Scrutiny Committee and Water Quality –** In May this committee considered water quality and performance of sewerage treatment works in Suffolk. Anglian Water, the Environment Agency, the Waveney River Trust, and others attended and agreed that much remains to be done however the condition of Suffolk’s rivers is generally poor. A subsequent workshop in September followed up this topic. Refer to [Meeting Documents - Committee Minutes (suffolk.gov.uk)](https://committeeminutes.suffolk.gov.uk/DocSetPage.aspx?MeetingTitle=(17-05-2022),%20Suffolk%20Flood%20Risk%20Joint%20Scrutiny%20Sub%20Committee)

**Investment Zones Expression of Interest -** Suffolk County Council, in partnership with district and boroughs has submitted an expression of interest to Government seeking Investment Zone status for sites along Suffolk’s key transport corridors (A14, A12 and A11) and near Lowestoft, Sudbury and Mildenhall. Refer to <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/investment-zones-in-england/investment-zones-in-england>

**Suffolk Waste Partnership and Recycling Contamination**– SWP is urging residents to avoid contaminating their green bins, most common are Glass, Nappies, Tetrapacks, Food, Metals Pots, and Dirty Containers. Metal is a valuable resource and aluminium cans, empty aerosols, tins and foil (tennis-ball sized) are welcome but not hard metal items. See what should go into [your recycling bin](https://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/my-bins/together-we-can-get-our-recycling-right)

**Bird Flu in Suffolk -** Avian influenza H5N1 has been confirmed in Suffolk and the region. Please report suspicious dead wild birds to Defra on 03459 33 55 77, keepers should report suspicion of disease to APHA on 03000 200 301. All keepers should register poultry with Defra so you can be contacted, this is a legal requirement for 50 or more birds - Find out [how to register your birds](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/poultry-registration)**.**

**News from our Health Partners -** The new Integrated Care Board and IC Partnership have started meeting as of this summer replacing the role of Clinical Commissioning Groups **-** [Read the latest news from NHS Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB)](https://midsuffolk.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b92522d28bbfbe421813f5565&id=45cc1a8ef6&e=5db4b369f7)

**Ukraine –** We still need wide range of homes for single people, mums with children and complete families. Anything “self-contained” is especially helpful. If you think you can help, or know anyone who is interested, please visit [homesforukraine.campaign.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/register-interest-homes-ukraine)

In response to a question the following point was made:

* The pollution of rivers in Suffolk is part of a national problem. It is also an historic issue with the release of excess water into waterways and agricultural run-off.

District Councillor David Burn’s Report

*SEPTEMBER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**The death of Her Majesty the Queen**

Thank you to all our towns and parishes who helped residents to pay tribute to Her Majesty the Queen and send condolences to the Royal family. We recognise the effort behind the scenes in supporting our communities across our districts. Thanks in particular to our Town Council colleagues, who had the additional responsibility of staging the local proclamations of the reign of King Charles III.

[Condolences to the Royal family from our councils](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/babergh-and-mid-suffolk-district-councils-sadness-at-the-death-of-her-majesty/)

[More information on the historic proclamations that took place across our districts](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/historic-proclamations-take-place-in-the-babergh-and-mid-suffolk-districts/)
**Councils set out parking strategy for the next 20 years**

Supporting the needs of local trade and residents, while putting the brakes on climate change – Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have set out their plans for improved parking provision for the next 20 years. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/councils-set-out-parking-strategy-for-the-next-20-years/) (27-Sep)
[**Bird flu outbreak**](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/bird-flu-detected-in-nedging/)

Information on the recent bird flu outbreak in Suffolk. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/bird-flu-detected-in-nedging/) (latest update 5-Oct)

**Latest CIL funding sees thousands ploughed back into communities**

More than £420,000 in developer contributions is to be ploughed back into communities – funding a study into Thurston railway station and improved play equipment and bus facilities for villages. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/latest-cil-funding-includes-support-for-rail-study-and-national-gallery/) (5-Sep)
**A chance to stand for what you believe in**

Residents across Babergh and Mid Suffolk are being encouraged to consider adding their name to the ballot and stand as a district councillor next May.

(*Although this news release relates to an information event that took place on 29 September there is still plenty of time for would-be councillors to register their interest.*) [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/a-chance-to-stand-for-what-you-believe-in/) (2-Sep)

**What’s Next for Stowmarket?**

Almost 350 residents, businesses and community groups attended the John Peel Centre for our public exhibition to find out more about major projects underway in Stowmarket. The event was coordinated by the Stowmarket Vision Group which includes Mid Suffolk District Council, alongside partners including Stowmarket Town Council, the John Peel Centre, Old Fox Yard, the National Food Museum and others. [Find out more about the projects.](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/business/economic-development/stowmarket-vision/whats-next-for-stowmarket/)
**Households urged to get Food Savvy and plan ahead to save money and avoid waste**

As the cost of living continues to bite a new campaign has been launched in Suffolk to help families reduce food waste and save money. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/households-urged-to-get-food-savvy-and-plan-ahead-to-save-money-and-avoid-waste/) (7-Sep)

*OCTOBER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

**Residents urged to have their say over whether council tax bills should be reduced by up to 100% for those on low incomes**

A public consultation is underway over a plan to cut council tax for the poorest households in Babergh and Mid Suffolk. The consultation, which runs to November 24, asks for views on how the councils should run their Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2023/24, and whether bills should be reduced by up to 100% for working age adults with the lowest incomes. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/residents-urged-to-have-their-say-over-whether-babergh-and-mid-suffolk-district-councils-should-reduce-council-tax-bills-by-up-to-100-for-those-on-low-incomes/) (13-Oct)

**Winter warmth funding for community causes**

Thousands of pounds were made available to grassroots groups last month to keep the doors of their activities open for longer this winter. The [Winter Warmth Support Grant](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/communities/grants-and-funding/winter-warmth-support-grant/), offered groups and non-profit organisations between £250 to £5,000 to cover the rising costs of energy, rent and food, and to keep operating without passing on increased costs to residents across Babergh and Mid Suffolk. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/winter-warmth-funding-for-community-causes/) (21-Oct)

**Winners announced for the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Innovation Awards 2022**

The winners of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council Innovations Awards have been revealed. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/winners-announced-for-the-babergh-and-mid-suffolk-innovation-awards-2022/) (21-Oct)

**New Innovate to Elevate programme launches for businesses**

Businesses in Babergh & Mid Suffolk are set to receive an innovation boost as a new 12-month partnership between the University of Essex and the District Councils launches in the region. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/new-innovate-to-elevate-programme-launches-for-businesses/) (6-Oct)

**Councils’ commercial property arm continues to generate income for districts**

Babergh and Mid Suffolk’s commercial property company CIFCO made a £6.7m profit last year and generated £3.7m in net income for the councils to plough back into services, councillors heard during October. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/councils-commercial-property-arm-continues-to-generate-income-for-districts/) (28-Oct)

**Residents to help name Babergh and Mid Suffolk’s new bin lorries**

**Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have launched a competition to help them name their new environmentally-friendly bin lorries – in the biggest upgrade to their fleet in almost 10 years.**

**Residents across Babergh and Mid Suffolk are being invited to submit names for 22 brand-new bin lorries at** [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/binlorrycompetition](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/binlorrycompetition)**. The competition closes at midnight on Sunday 13 November, with winners contacted later in the year.** [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/residents-to-help-name-babergh-and-mid-suffolks-new-bin-lorries) (31-Oct)

[**Bird flu outbreak**](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/news/bird-flu-detected-in-nedging/)

Information on the recent bird flu outbreak in Suffolk. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/suffolk-bird-flu-outbreak/) (17-Oct)

**First stage of Women’s Tour brings more than a million reasons to celebrate**

The Women’s Tour 2022 has revealed the fantastic impact of the first stage of the UK’s biggest women’s cycling event, with more than £1m of net economic benefit poured into the regional economy. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/first-stage-of-womens-tour-brings-more-than-a-million-reasons-to-celebrate/) (28-Oct)

**Anyone can become homeless**

In recognition of World Homelessness Day, Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils encouraged residents to challenge their view of what homelessness looks like. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/anyone-can-become-homeless/) (7-Oct)

**Campaign launched to improve metal packaging recycling rates across Suffolk**

A new initiative encouraging households to recycle food and drink cans, aluminium foil and trays, empty aerosols and metal screw caps has been rolled out by the Suffolk Waste Partnership, which includes Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/campaign-launched-to-improve-metal-packaging-recycling-rates-across-suffolk/) (3-Oct)

**Three finalists for Babergh and Mid Suffolk at Building Excellence Awards**

The councils’ Building Control Team has won three regional awards in the annual Local Authority Building Control (LABC) Building Excellence Awards for Angel Court, Hadleigh (Best Small Social Housing Development), The Regal, Stowmarket (Best Non-Residential Extension or Alteration) and Low Street, Glemsford (Best Small New Housing Development). They now move onto the national final in London in January 2023. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/three-finalists-for-babergh-and-mid-suffolk-at-building-excellence-awards/) (30-Sep)

**Global bank to give students unique careers advice in jobs clinic**

Young people looking for help, advice or an insight into a new career were able to take part in a career’s session last month, with advice from global employer and high street bank HSBC as part of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk’s Careeriosity programme. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/global-bank-to-give-students-unique-careers-advice-in-jobs-clinic/) (24-Oct)

**October half-term fun to keep the kids active**

Dozens of council-funded activities took place across Babergh and Mid Suffolk during October half term, keeping children and families, happy, healthy and active. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/october-half-term-fun-to-keep-the-kids-active/) (20-Oct)

**New unit for retail giant The Range gets go-ahead at Gateway 14, Stowmarket, and will create 1,650 jobs**

Detailed planning consent has been given for the first unit at Gateway 14, Stowmarket, to be occupied by home, garden and leisure products retailer The Range - creating an estimated 1,650 jobs. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/new-unit-for-retail-giant-the-range-gets-go-ahead-at-gateway-14-stowmarket-and-will-create-1650-jobs/) (13-Oct)

**Exemplar housing development for Elmswell to be considered**

Council-owned land in Elmswell could be used for a development of 50 environmentally friendly low carbon homes in a scheme going before Mid Suffolk District Council’s cabinet members this month. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/exemplar-housing-development-for-elmswell-to-be-considered/) (28-Oct)

**Stage is set for expansion at the John Peel Centre**

Iconic Stowmarket venue, the John Peel Centre for Creative Arts, is set to welcome more visitors, events, and experiences, as they expand into neighbouring 11 Market Place. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/stage-is-set-for-expansion-at-the-john-peel-centre/) (17-Oct)

**How council scheme helped Harleston’s wildflower Jubilee Meadow bloom**

Harleston’s wildflower Jubilee meadow showcases a colourful example of how we are helping to tackle biodiversity and climate change. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/how-council-scheme-helped-harlestons-wildflower-jubilee-meadow-bloom/) (11-Oct)

**Raising awareness of chosen charity**

Mid Suffolk's Chairman, Cllr James Caston, hosted a fund-raising wine tour and tasting experience at Burnt House Vineyard in Little Finborough raising funds for the [Stowmarket ASD Saturday Clubs](https://midsuffolk.us15.list-manage.com/track/click?u=b92522d28bbfbe421813f5565&id=eddcde2cab&e=79bc0c3085), which support families looking after children and young people with autism. [More information](https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/news/raising-awareness-of-chosen-charity/) (10-Oct)

There were no questions.

There was a discussion of the plans that the Parish Council had for work on the willow trees by the pond on Little Green.

The following points were made by a member of the public:

* He was disappointed about the planned work on the trees and the Parish Council had not taken advice.
* It was now too late to remedy any problems with the pond following the work to clean out the silt.
* He objected strongly to any more work on the trees and made the point that they do not shed quantities of leaves into the pond. In addition, they are an important feature of Little Green.

The Clerk explained the situation:

* The Parish Council had sought and taken advice from a tree surgeon and had consulted the Arboricultural Officer at mid Suffolk District Council.
* A substantial amount of material had been removed from the pond and it is difficult to imagine that the source of this is anything other than dust from the local area, run off from the road and track around little green but mostly it must be the leaves from the willow trees. The plan has always been to cut back the willow trees and an application will be made to Mid Suffolk District Council for this to take place.

Meeting reopened at 8:05 p.m.

1. Correspondence received.
* Various documents from SALC.
* Town and Parish Council Newsletter.
* Various emails from the Highways Department of Suffolk County Council.
* Constables’ Country
* Suffolk View.
1. Report from Committees:
	1. Village Hall Committee
* There have 3 pub nights at the Village Hall which have been well received.
* Other events are planned.
1. The Common
	1. Report from the Commons Co-ordinator.
* Councillor Colchester thanked the Murton family and Mr Bird for their work to clean out the pond. He thanked the Murton family in particular for their generosity by providing the equipment to cart away the silt. If this had been done commercially it could have cost the Parish Council an additional £2,000
* There is little doubt that the work done on the pond will allow it to recover and improve the environment.
* Mr Bird will cut the grass on Little Green later during the week of this meeting.
* Councillor Colchester expressed the opinion that the Government will stand by conservation agreements. However, there is a risk to the agreement which applies to Little Green as it cannot be cut until 15 July each year which means that there is a significant fire risk from the grass which will have died off.
1. Councillors to sign the Code of Conduct
* Councillors signed the Code of Conduct.
1. Pond on Little Green and work on the willow trees
	1. Freedom of Information request to Mid Suffolk District Council.
* Councillor Burn agreed to chase up the Parish Council’s Freedom of Information request which had been made to Mid Suffolk District Council.
	1. Discussion of the plan for the work on the willow trees.
* Following a discussion it was agreed to contact the tree surgeon and ask him to recommend, in consultation with the Arboricultural Officer, the work that should be carried out on the willow trees and the ash tree and then complete the necessary forms for the application for this to be done.
1. Highway matters:
	1. Self-help scheme for cutting grass verges.
* See above.
1. Procedural. (Attachments)
	1. Review of the Asset Register.
	2. Review of the Standing Orders
	3. Review of the Terms of Reference for Committees
	4. Review of the Financial Regulations
	5. Review of the Statement of Internal Control.
	6. Review of the Council’s Risk Assessments.
* The above procedural documents had been circulated to Councillors, they were unchanged from the version in 2021, and were agreed.

1. Dates of Meetings in 2023/2024.
* The dates of the meetings in 2023/2024 listed below were agreed:

Tuesday 3 January 2023, Tuesday 7 March 2023, Tuesday 9 May 2023 and Annual Parish Meeting, Tuesday 27 June 2023, Tuesday 5 September 2023, Tuesday 7 November 2023 and Tuesday 9 January 2024

1. Finances and financial report.
	1. Balances on Accounts 29 September 2022.
		1. Current account: £8,343.39
		* The bank balance was noted.
	2. Financial report and bank reconciliation.
* Detailed accounts had been given to Councillors, which recorded all items of income and expenditure, and compared them to the budget. The spreadsheet also showed both as a percentage of the budget.
* The accounts were to the date of this meeting.
* There were no questions from Councillors
	1. To authorise cheques for signature:

N.B. Cheque signatories to initial cheque stub and invoice.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee** | **Details** | **Cheque Number** | **Amount** | **Power** |
| P Freeman | Clerk’s Pay and Expenses. | 100695 | £346.82 | LGA 1972 S112 |
| HMRC | PAYE | 100696 | £82.20 | LGA 1972 S112 |
| Community Action Suffolk  | Hosting website | 100697 | £60.00 | LGA 1972 s111 |
| M.B. Farm Services | Digging out and clearing the pond | 100698 | £720.00 | LGA 1972 s111 |
| P & W Murton and Son | Diesel for carting away waste from the pond cleaning. | 100698 | £180.00 | LGA 1972 s111 |

* It was unanimously agreed to pay the invoices listed above, proposed by Councillor Colchester. and seconded by Councillor Ronchetti.
	1. Requests for financial support: Headway Suffolk.
	2. Receipts due:
		1. VAT Claim: £908.42
		2. MSDC – Precept: £1,250.00
		3. Thrandeston Village Hall: £1,016.45
1. Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station).
* Nothing to report.
1. Planning:
	1. Applications:
* Application for Planning Permission - DC/22/04021
Proposal: Full Planning Application - Construction and operation of Synchronous Condensers with ancillary infrastructure, and associated works including access and landscaping.
Location: Land At The Leys And Ivy Farm, Mellis Road, Yaxley, Suffolk IP21 4BT.
	+ Yaxley Parish Council has requested responses to various points that it had raised with Conrad Energy. These may have a bearing on the Parish Council’s response to this application.
	1. Applications – no decisions to date:
		1. Application for Outline Planning Permission - DC/22/00416
		Proposal: Application for Outline Planning Permission. (All matters reserved) Erection of petrol and electric charging facility with associated shop, roadside restaurant with drive through facility, B1 and B8 starter units, HGV lorry parking facility for rest area and drivers' facilities as a phased development.
		Location: Land Adjacent North Roundabout, A140 Ipswich Road, Brome, Part In The Parish of Thrandeston IP23 8AW
	2. Planning decisions:
		1. Approved: None.
		2. Refused: None.
1. AOB - Any items raised earlier but not for an extended discussion or decisions and items for inclusion at the meeting on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.
* None.

Meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.