**Minutes of the Meeting of Thrandeston Parish Council held on Tuesday 2nd November 2021 in Thrandeston Village Hall.**

# Present:

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

County Councillor Jessica Fleming

District Councillor David Burn

Philip Freeman - Parish Clerk.

One member of the public.

Mr Shaw – Grange Solar Farm.

1. Apologies for Absence.
   * + None.
2. Chairman's Opening Remarks
   * + The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.
3. To receive any declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests from members on an agenda item. To consider any requests for dispensations.
   * + None.
4. Minutes of the previous meeting.
   * + The minutes of the previous meetings were agreed as a true record and were signed by the Chairman, proposed by Councillor Colchester and seconded by Councillor Swinbourne.
5. Matters arising from the minutes:

**Action Points:**

**Action Points Carried Forward from the Meeting on 21 July 2021.**

* The Clerk will report the posts for the footpath signposts need replacing. Cllr Colchester offered to erect the new posts, if necessary. **Action: The Clerk.** Posts delivered to Councillor Colchester.
* The Clerk will contact the Rural Payments Agency about clearing the area between the two rail bridges to plant wildflowers and obtain advice from the RPA on the areas which could not be cut for hay on Little Green **Action: The Clerk.** This area can be cleared, and Councillor Colchester will arrange for this to take place. **Action: Councillor Colchester.**
* Highways problems: **Action: The Clerk.**
  + Exit from BP/Marks & Spencer Filling Station. The grass verge was cut by a member of the public.

**Action Points from the Meeting on 22 September 2021.**

* The Clerk will approach Mr Cotter about cutting the areas which could not be cut when was cut for hay. **Action: The Clerk.** Mr Cotter was unable to carry out the work and Councillor Colchester will arrange for this to take place. **Action: Councillor Colchester.**
* The Clerk will invite Mr Shaw from The Grange Solar Farm to the next meeting to speak about the Solar Farm between Palgrave and Wortham. **Action: The Clerk.** Completed.

1. Notification of any urgent business.

* None.

**Public Forum.**

Mr Shaw from The Grange Solar Farm.

* Mr Shaw had been invited to the meeting to speak about the Solar Farm plan for the area between Palgrave and Wortham.
* There are three Solar Farms in Norfolk, and their development is due to climate change and the move to zero carbon. This will reduce emissions and help the move to renewable forms of energy.
* The Solar Farm will be to the west of Palgrave and will have a capacity of 48 MW which would be enough to power 16,000 homes.
* It is a big project, but it will use the existing pylon system to distribute electricity.
* There have been two meetings in Palgrave and some changes have been made following the meetings.
* There was a 25% response to the consultations and new hedgerows will screen the solar panels.
* The panels are designed to allow sheep to graze beneath them.

In response to questions the following points were made:

* The panels will be on metal stakes and the only concrete will be pads for transformers.
* The panels may need to be replaced after 40 years and this is also the period for the permission for the Solar Farm.
* The public footpath from the west of Palgrave to the A143 will remain open.
* There will be a security fence around the panels and no hedgerows will be removed.
* There are discussions with Palgrave Parish Council about permitted parts.
* Power generated will go into the National Grid and will not specifically benefit local people.
* The application will go to Mid Suffolk District Council in December 2021 and there is a 13-week application process. The plans will take three months and it will take 35 weeks to build the system. Construction traffic will be from the A143 to the site.
* There are no batteries at the substation.
* The biodiversity management is down to the landowner, but Grange Solar Farm will have responsibility if the landowner fails.

The Chairman thanked Mr Shaw for his presentation.

Report from Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

* **Greenest County Awards on 12th November at The Hold, Ipswich** –This year’s award categories include biodiversity and landscape, business, community, schools, waste and recycling. [READ MORE](https://www.greensuffolk.org/awards-categories/)
* **An Offshore Electricity Grid Task Force (OffSET)** – has been set up to respond to the Government’s Offshore Network Transmission Review (OTNR). This task force of regional MPs and Councillors chaired by Sir Bernard Jenkin will engage with the OTNR and the current Planning regime. OffSET supports national targets of Net Zero by 2050 and delivery of 40GW of Offshore Wind by 2030. However, this demands significant new connection infrastructure (pylons and substations) with projects planned in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex over the coming decades; these will have significant impacts on the environment, landscape and communities.
* **Sizewell C –** SCC submitted its last set of comments on the proposal in October.However, a number of issues remain most notably the blight of the additional pylons at the main site, effects on the SSSI, transport methods and the Sizewell Link Road which should be removed after construction. Read the county council's response in full on the [**Sizewell C nuclear power plant page**](https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/planning-waste-and-environment/major-infrastructure-projects/sizewell-c-nuclear-power-plant/).
* **New Trees** - A joint bid by Suffolk authorities to the Forestry Commission has secured around 3,000 trees for this coming planting season. The successful bid will see £149,712.55 come into the county for new trees from the Local Authority Treescapes Fund. With the Suffolk Tree Warden Network, we are following the ‘right tree, right place’ policy, to be sure that the planting is effective.
* **Suffolk Lorry Route Review** - The review will update and validate the Council’s existing lorry route network through technical and community-led phases, including: Collision records, Traffic Regulations; Road network; Public complaints and Data from Lorry Watch schemes. The Community led review will run from **22 Oct. 2021** to **17 Dec. 2021.** A survey will be sent to all Parish and Town Councils and their County Councillor. Each local council will be limited to three issues within their community. The review will be completed in Spring **2022**when the Council will publish a new interactive Lorry Route map. For more: [Lorry Route Plan review in Suffolk | Suffolk County Council](https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/lorry-management/lorry-route-plan-review-in-suffolk/)
* **Covid Vaccination and Booster Service** – Information about the Suffolk and NE Essex services for Covid vaccinations and boosters can be found on: <https://sneevaccine.org.uk/> Boosters are available for people who meet the eligibility criteria six months after their second vaccination, regardless of vaccine received, and others in vulnerable categories. Walk in clinics offering the booster are listed on the web site or contact the Patient Helpline - [0344 257 3961](tel:03442573961) .

Report from District Councillor David Burn:

* Local Plan: Mid Suffolk District Council has questions to respond to from landowners and developers and therefore the Local Plan will not be completed until 2022.
* Community infrastructure Levy: £1.5 million is available to parish councils and bids can be made to the fund in October and April of each year.
* Containers on Roy Humphreys site:
  + The Enforcement Team has visited the site.
  + The containers are from Felixstowe.
  + Options open to the enforcement team are:
    - A temporary stop notice.
    - An injunction.
  + There are questions over who owns the containers and how long they will be on site.
* Planning application from Flavours Farm:
  + This application stems from an enforcement enquiry and is to rectify a breach.
  + Councillor Burn will monitor the situation.
  + The applicant is entitled to use the land for something else if it is not used as a herb farm.
  + The Parish Council believes this is an abuse of the system and Councillor Burn will discuss it with the Enforcement Team.
* Question from Mr Rickard: there was a discussion of the application to transfer ownership of the pond on Little Green. The Parish Council is still waiting for advice from its solicitor.

Meeting reopened at 8:32 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.
* Cranswick Foods Update.
* COVID-19
* Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan

1. Report from Committees:
   1. Village Hall Committee

* The Chairman reported that materials will be delivered on 19 November 2021 and work will commence on 22 November 2021.
* The project should take three weeks to complete, and decoration will follow the completion of the work.
* There is a plan for a grand opening in January 2022.

1. The Common
   1. Report from the Commons Co-ordinator.

* The grass around the perimeter of Little Green will be cut during the winter.
* The cattle will be removed from the Marsh as soon as possible so that there is no ‘poaching’ of the ground.
* Councillor Colchester will install the footpath posts as soon as possible.
  1. Transfer of the remaining one fifth of the pond in front of Bramley House on Little Green, to the owner of the property. Update.
* See above.
  1. Email from Mr and Mrs Rickard about access across the Common to their property. Update.
* Nothing to report.

1. Highway matters:
   1. Quiet Lanes

* Nothing to report.
  1. Accidents on the A140 close to the entrance to Goswold Hall.
* Councillor Fleming had sent an email with a response to the Parish Council’s queries on Highway matters which included the problem of accidents on the A140 close to the entrance to Goswold Hall. The Highways Department of Suffolk County Council have concluded that the accidents that have taken place in the last 18 months are all due to driver error.

1. Finances and financial report.
   1. Balances on Accounts 30th September 2021.
      1. Current account: £8,616.69
      * 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.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Payee** | **Details** | **Cheque Number** | **Amount** | **Power** |
| P Freeman | Clerk’s Pay and Expenses. | 100660 | £272.98 | LGA 1972 S112 |
| HMRC | PAYE | 100661 | £63.80 | LGA 1972 S112 |

* It was unanimously agreed to pay the invoices listed above, proposed by Councillor Murton and seconded by Councillor Colchester.
  1. Requests for financial support: Headway Suffolk. No donation will be made.
  2. Receipts: None.

1. Dates of Meetings in 2022/2023.

* It was agreed that the meetings will take place on the following dates:

Tuesday 4 January 2022, Tuesday 8 March 2022, Tuesday 3 May 2022 and Annual Parish Meeting, Tuesday 5 July 2022, Tuesday 6 September 2022, Tuesday 1 November 2022, Tuesday 3 January 2023

1. Lorry Route Map Review for Suffolk – email dated: 22 October 2021.

* At present there is no official Lorry Route through the roads within the Parish.
* There are incidents when due to road closures or the new roundabouts, lorries use the roads through the village. In addition, lorries will access local businesses.
* It was agreed to make no comment on this consultation.

1. Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) – invitation to join Community Liaison Group.

* Nothing to report.

1. Planning:
   1. Applications:
      1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/21/05882  
         Proposal: Planning Application. Demolition of original intake/dryer/mill building destroyed by fire and erection of replacement intake/dryer/mill building  
         Location: Camstar Herbs Ltd, Chestnuts Farm, Langton Green, Eye IP23 7HL

* It was agreed to make no comment on this application.
  + 1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/21/03946  
       Proposal: Planning Application. Retention of erection of utility shed.  
       Location: Flavours Farm, Mellis Road, Thrandeston, (Part In The Parish Of Mellis) Suffolk IP21 4BD.
* It was agreed to make no comment on this application.
  + 1. Application for Discharge of Condition(S) - DC/21/05647

Proposal: Approval of Details Reserved by Requirement 22 of the Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) Order 2015 (S.I. 2015/1570) as Amended, concerning requested alterations to previously approved plans regarding requirements 3, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 11.

Location: Progress Power, Potash Lane, Eye, Suffolk IP23 7HE

* It was agreed to make no comment on this application.
  + 1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/21/05684  
       Proposal: Planning Application. Change of Use of field from agricultural to private equestrian. Creation of 60m x 20m menage  
       Location: Rectory Farm, Great Green, Thrandeston, Suffolk IP21 4BN
* It was agreed to support this application.
  + 1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/21/03944

Proposal**:** Planning Application. Siting of 1No 20ft shipping container for storage of camping equipment.

Location: Flavours Farm, Mellis Road, Thrandeston, Suffolk IP21 4BD

The Parish Council agreed to object to this planning application for the following reasons, proposed by Councillor Ronchetti and seconded by Councillor Rose:  
1. Camping equipment is not required for a herb farm. There appears to be no progress in the work to begin the cultivation of herbs and it would be helpful to know when this will take place.  
2. A container to store camping equipment suggests that the applicant is planning to change the use of the land and local people observed over the summer period that the site was regularly used for camping.  
3. The development of this site for camping will result in an increase in the risk to crops in nearby fields of fire damage as a result of sparks from campfires on the site spreading to them.  
4. It will result an increase in traffic to and from the site and it is served by a single-track road which is frequently used by horse riders, cyclists and walkers.  
5. There will be an increase in the quantity of waste produced if people use the site for camping and there is no facility for the disposal of human waste.  
6. The water supply to the site is from a bore hole and this shares an aquifer with a neighbouring property. If this application is the beginning of a move to change of use, this would without doubt result in a considerable increase in water consumption, there would need to a limit placed on the quantity of water that can be used.

* 1. Applications – no decisions to date:
     1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/21/04099

Proposal: Planning Application. Erection of a storage and distribution warehouse

Location: Land at Eye Airfield, Eye, Suffolk, IP23 7HU

* + 1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/21/04697

Proposal: Planning Application. Erection of new storage building No.10 for B8 use

Location: Land on Eye Airfield, Ipswich Road, Eye, Suffolk

* + 1. Application for Planning Permission - DC/21/01973

Proposal: Full Planning Application - Change of Use of land for the stationing of 15 holiday lodges

Location: Oak Lodge Retreat, Nicks Lane, Brome And Oakley, Suffolk IP23 8AN

* + 1. Statutory consultation on proposals for Sunnica Energy Farm.
  1. 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 4th January 2022.

* None.

Meeting closed at 9:06 p.m.