**Minutes of the Meeting of Thrandeston Parish Council held on Tuesday 8th September 2020 by Zoom.**

**Present:**

Councillors Andrew Colchester, David Rose and Alison Murton.

Philip Freeman – Parish Clerk.

Jessica Fleming – County Councillor.

David Burn – District Councillor.

One member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence.

* Councillor Ronchetti.
* Councillor Cotter has resigned from the Council. The Clerk will notify Mid Suffolk District Council. **Action: The Clerk.**

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 meetings on 30th June 2020 and 13th July 2020.

* The minutes of the previous meetings were agreed as a true record, proposed by Councillor Colchester and seconded by Councillor Rose.

1. Matters arising from the minutes:

**Action Points:** Updates in red font.

* Footpath 15 signage is unclear. **Action: The Clerk.** The Clerk had contacted the Footpath Officer and was told that they would take no action. It was agreed that the Clerk would try to contact the landowner. **Action: The Clerk.**
* The Clerk will contact parishioners on Mellis Road and ask if they will arrange to have the trees which overhang the road, and damage vehicles using it, cut back.

**Action: The Clerk.** The Parishioners had booked a tree surgeon to carry out the work. A contractor who has carried out hedge cutting work for Councillor Colchester was suggested as an alternative. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact the Parishioners involved. **Action: The Clerk.**

1. Notification of any urgent business.

* None.

Meeting closed at 7:45 p.m.

**Public Forum.**

Councillor Jessica Fleming, Hartismere Division, Suffolk

[Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.fleming@suffolk.gov.uk) Tel: 07714-597980 Twitter: @jesstfleming

**School Transport** - The Passenger Transport team has put plans in place to ensure that all children eligible for transport can get to school. Guidance on school travel and health can be found at <https://www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel> and [www.suffolkonboard.com/covidguide](http://www.suffolkonboard.com/covidguide). Unfortunately, spare seats cannot be committed at this time, but this position will be reviewed in October once numbers are better known. If under exceptional circumstances a parent has **no means whatsoever** of getting their child to school, please contact [transport.review@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:transport.review@suffolk.gov.uk) to seek immediate assistance.

**Schools –** To date schools have had a successful start to the term with very high attendance levels across Suffolk. This is a direct result of the high level of planning and preparation that each school, teachers and support staff have put in over the summer. The spare seats policy has not so far been implemented.

**A140 Roundabouts –** The roundabouts are progressing, and both are anticipated to be complete by the end of February 2021.

**Remembering VJ Day, 75 years ago -** Saturday 15 August was the 75th anniversary of VJ Day in the UK, marking Victory in Japan at the end of the Second World War. The team at Suffolk Archives have put together a[**special online exhibition marking VJ Day,**](https://www.suffolkarchives.co.uk/displays-online/the-road-to-vj-day/) exploring the stories of two Suffolk men who were taken prisoner in the Far East, Able Seaman Harold Lock and Private Raymond Suttle, from the 4th Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment, as well as looking at the way our county marked the end of the Second World War.

**Planning and Government White Paper** – the changes proposed to various aspects of the planning system are substantial and have wide implications across all authorities. The consultation closes on 29th October. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/planning-for-the-future> Changes to local planning and district housing delivery are also currently proposed.

**County Council and Suffolk Corona Watch –** Suffolk Public Health has set up its own web site available on [www.healthysuffolk.org.uk/jsna/coronawatch](http://www.healthysuffolk.org.uk/jsna/coronawatch). This holds national and local data, including confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19), deaths from coronavirus, care home outbreaks, and Google social mobility data.

Report by Councillor Burn:

The following points were made in Councillor Burn’s report:

* There is a large amount of money (£12 billion) available for affordable houses to anyone who can make use of it.
* There is a new affordable homes programme for 180,000 new homes which will be affordable and for social rent. There is a new model for shared ownership.
* ‘Planning for the Future’:
  + There is a modification to the standard method for assessing housing numbers in a local plan and this will significantly increase the number of houses from 450 to 700+ in Mid Suffolk.
  + Much more land will be needed to be found for the building work. The new local plan may have to accommodate this until it is reviewed which may take place in the near future.
  + There will be support for small and medium-sized developers.
  + The main White Paper has upset the whole planning process: it will include areas where it is assumed planning permission will be granted, an instant development zone, brownfield zone and a protected zone which will be difficult to develop.
  + If Councillors have any questions, they should be sent to Councillor Burn and Councillor Fleming. **Action: Councillors.**
* Since the beginning of the pandemic Mid Suffolk District Council has allocated £13 million to small businesses, including retail and hospitality. Some of the funding is still available for distribution.

In response to questions the following points were made:

* Originally the plan was for 450 houses in mid-Suffolk, but this will increase to over 700. Thrandeston has little scope for new development. The new developments will be near the main road arteries and does not extend to smaller villages, but this will be assigned to a neighbourhood plan. The concept of a countryside village may well go and instead the village will be surrounded by a settlement boundary, but applications can be made for any spaces. Outside the boundary there will be no building without an extremely strong case, and it will have to meet other criteria and be sustainable. More homes in Thrandeston would lead to a greater impact. There is concern within the Council that there is an ageing population in the village, and it is difficult for young people to afford properties.
* The Local Plan will be reviewed quickly, and it will involve changes. Affordable homes are different, and it is possible to set up the rural exception sites because the development is affordable and can be done. Any exceptions will have to be for affordable houses.

Meeting reopened at 8:17 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

1. Report from Committees:
   1. Village Hall Committee

The following points were made:

* The surveyor has visited the Village Hall and the plan is for an acoustic friendly ceiling. Plasterboard will help with the insulation of the building but will not prevent the echo.
* Two builders have visited, and the Committee is waiting for quotations for the work. A parishioner is happy to help with the electrics.
* There had been a power cut to the Village Hall, but the electricity has been reconnected.
* The Clerk will send the phone number for Network Power to Councillor Colchester. **Action: The Clerk**.

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

* The cattle are still on the marsh
* The Village Green has been cut by Matt Bird
* In future it will be necessary to arrange for someone who is available to cut Little Green.

1. Consultation on Licensing Act 2003: Statement of Licensing Policy (Revision). (Circulated on 19th August 2020.)

* It was agreed the Council would make no comments on this item.

1. Procedural.
   1. Review of the Asset Register.
   2. Review of the Standing Orders
   3. Review of the Financial Regulations
   4. Review of the Statement of Internal Control.
   5. Review of the Council’s Risk Assessments.

* The documents listed above had been circulated to Councillors and the only change from 2019 was the preparation of a risk assessment for volunteers during COVID-19.
* It was agreed to approve the documents.

1. COVID-19 measures and impact on our village events.

* Nothing to report.

1. Highway matters:
   1. 20 mph speed limit through Thrandeston.

* A parishioner had suggested that the speed limit through Thrandeston should be reduced to 20 mph.
* It was agreed, following a discussion, that the Clerk should contact Suffolk County Council Highways Department about what action can be taken to reduce speeds through the village. **Action: The Clerk.**

1. Finances and financial report.
   1. Balances on Accounts 28th August 2020.
      1. Current account: £8,144.30
      * The bank balances were 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. Audit Report.
* The Clerk reported that he had not received the audit report and it was agreed that he would contact the internal auditor to chase this up. **Action: The Clerk.**
  1. Agree to accept the National Salary Award for the Clerk.
* Councillors agreed to accept the recent National Salary Award for Clerks, proposed by Councillor Murton and seconded by Councillor Rose.
  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 |  | £269.15 | LGA 1972 S112 |
| HMRC | PAYE |  | £55.73 | LGA 1972 S112 |
| MB Farm Services | Cutting village green, baled up and carted away |  | £540.00 | LGA 1972 s111 |

* It was unanimously agreed to pay the invoices listed above, proposed by Councillor Colchester and seconded by Councillor Rose.
  1. Requests for financial support: none.
  2. Receipts: none.

1. Planning:
   1. Applications: none.
   2. Applications – no decisions to date:
      1. Various Applications for Progress Power Station listed previously.
      2. Progress Power Limited (PPL) a “non-material change” application which seeks to address the uncertainties and constraints posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, in relation to its ability to formally commence construction works by August 2020, in accordance with the [Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) Order](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/progress-power-station/) (‘the Order’). The application seeks to extend the time limit for commencing construction by up to 12 months. No other changes are proposed to the Order.
      3. Application DC/19/00667

Proposal: Full Planning Application - direction of 2NO. B8 storage buildings and link extension between buildings 6 and 7.

Location: land on Eye Airfield, Ipswich Road, Eye.

* 1. Planning decisions:
     1. Approved:
        + Application DC/20/01952

Proposal: Planning Application. Use of part of site as a farm shop and associated cafe, and the siting of Nissen hut (for use as museum for Eye airfield and the 490th bomb squadron)

Location**:** Oak Lodge, Nicks Lane, Brome and Oakley, Eye Suffolk IP23 8AN

* + - * Application DC/19/00108

Proposal: Full Planning Application - erection of factory with an adjoining two-storey production office, warehouse extension, a loading dock building, material stockpile and two-storey administration office building. Provision of 9no. caravans for temporary accommodation for seasonal staff. Creation of vehicular access.

Location: Chestnuts Farm, Langton Green, Eye.

* + - * Application for Advertisement Consent - DC/20/01109

Proposal: Application for consent to display advertisements - New Renault Trucks brand signage to replace the current ones

Location: A140 Norwich-Ipswich Road, Brome and Oakley, Suffolk, IP23 8AW

* + 1. Refused: None.
    2. Discharge of Conditions:
       - TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/20/00353- Condition 3 (Fenestration)

Location: Styles Piece, Little Green, Thrandeston, Diss Suffolk IP21 4BX

* + 1. Withdrawn: None.

1. AOB - Any items raised earlier but not for an extended discussion or decisions and items for inclusion at the meeting on Tuesday 3 November 2020.

* Mrs Lucas has proposed a joint event between the Church and the Village Hall Committee in 2021. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact Natural England for guidance on whether this can take place on the Village Green. **Action: The Clerk.**

Meeting closed at 8:55 p.m.