BRADFIELD ST CLARE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7 FEBRUARY 2017

The Parish Council Meeting was held on Tuesday 7TH February 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The Chairman, Cllr R Walton, had sent his apologies as he was in London with work commitments. The Vice Chairman. Cllr B Deacon, also sent his apologies as he was unwell.

The Clerk confirmed to Councillors M. Newlands, G.Thomas and J. Kirk that they did have quorate and could rely on section 3 (n) of the Standing Orders and agree who would Chair this meeting in the absence of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman. The Clerk had already spoken with Cllr Newlands who was happy to Chair this meeting if Cllrs G.Thomas and J.Kirk were happy for her to do so, which they confirmed they agreed to.

Therefore Cllr Margaret Newlands Chaired the Meeting and welcomed Cllrs G.Thomas and J.Kirk, along with the Parish Clerk, Borough Councillor Mrs Sara Mildmay-White and three members of the public. County Councillor Mr Terry Clements was unable to attend the Meeting due to a prior commitment.

1. Apologies for Absence: Chairman, Cllr R Walton and Cllr B Deacon sent their apologies as set out above. Cllrs consented to accept the apologies.

2. Declaration of Interest: None.

3. Confirm Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 8th November 2016: Cllrs confirmed that they had received the draft Minutes and agreed the contents. Cllr Newlands duly signed and dated the Minutes.

4. Matters Arising: from the Meeting on 8th November 2016

4 (b)	Potholes - see attached update on highways/potholes. Only change from Meeting on 8th November 2016 is that reference number 153439 – blocked drain – Felsham Road near the Water Tower. This matter has been added to works to be undertaken within this current financial year.
4 (c)	Speed Limit on Bury Road – Clerk has arranged a site meeting between Keith Sampson of SCC Highways, County Councillor Terry Clements, Chairman Cllr Robert Walton and Cllr Margaret Newlands for 10th February 2017. Cllrs will report back at the meeting on 9 May 2017 (Annual Parish Council Meeting).
9iii	Clerk has submitted Precept to St Edmondsbury District Council. Precept payment will be received in April 2017. Clerk has confirmed to CAS that the Parish Council would like CAS to host the village website for the next year. Clerk registered Parish Council with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) in accordance to comply with Data Protection Act.
11	Broadband – Clerk has liaised with County Councillor Terry Clements and Jonathan Chown from Suffolk better Broadband, who has confirmed that the village is planned to receive superfast upgrades between March and September 2017.

Update on highways/potholes as referred to above:

Reference No:	Details of Report
148904	Pothole – on left hand side of road heading towards Cockfield just after turning Reported: 28/08/16 Closed: 26/09/16 Reason: Work Undertaken
148923	Pothole – Bury Road, just Cockfield side of Church Lane Reported: 29/08/16 Closed: 26/09/16 Reason: Work Undertaken
148924	Pothole – outside Mouse House on Felsham Road Reported: 29/08/16 Closed: 14/09/16 **Added to Inspection Programme**
149029	Pothole – just pass the sign o the church on the left hand side of the road Reported: 30/08/16 Closed: 26/09/16 Reason: Work Undertaken
149030	Pothole – on the brow of the railway bridge just outside of BSC Reported: 30/08/16 Closed: 14/09/16 **Added to Inspection Programme**
153439	Blocked drain – Felsham Road near the Water Tower. Reported: 27/10/16 **Added to works to be undertaken in this financial year.**

In addition to these Highways matters the Clerk confirmed that there were reports on the highway reporting tool regarding the roadside signs indicating "road closed" that had been on Bury Road and Felsham Road for several weeks, despite it seeming that no work has been undertaken. Clerk confirmed that she had raised this with SCC Highways Department who had confirmed that Anglian Water had the Bury Road closed due to repairs to a burst water main, which had now been repaired, and the signs would be removed. Anglian Water had also closed Felsham Road between 9/1/17-11/1/17 for a previous leak, and it would seem had not cleared the signs. All the temporary signs would be cleared within a few days of 7th February 2017.

5. Police Report: the Clerk had been unable to print off a Police Report for Bradfield St Clare from the Suffolk Police website. However, the Parish Council were aware of a burglary that occurred in the Village in December 2016. Borough Councillor Sara Mildmay-White added that she had spoken to Suffolk Police about this spate of burglaries which are continuing. The Police are putting resources into this matter. In the meantime parishioners are urged to be vigilant and report any unusual activity to the Police.

6. To receive a report from the Borough Councillors, Mrs Sara Mildmay-White:

    1. Eastern Relief Road and A14 junction 45. Progressing well, due to be completed early summer. Ongoing discussions around cycle path link.

2. Suffolk Business Park. First outline application for the western side received at Christmas. The application seeks to confirm B1 and B8 uses.
3. Rushbrooke Lane development, outline application approved at January development control meeting subject to completion of section 106 and conditions.
4. Bury St Edmunds town centre masterplan. Formal six week public consultation on the Issues and Options Report will take place from 27th February.
5. Farmers market. Pilot event took place on 11th December in conjunction with the Sunday Christmas market. Further pilots will take place in the Traverse with the regular market traders offered the chance to trade as an additional market in the Cornhill.
6. Cupola House. Bourgee Restaurants have confirmed that they will be opening a new restaurant early in 2017. They are keen for a high quality external seating area in The Traverse, officers are working with the applicants on this.
7. Street Begging. Police have requested a new order to ban begging be added to the public space protection order for the town centre. Cabinet will consider this at their next meeting.
8. St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath have awarded Community Chest grant to a total of £340,000. This includes a grant of £182,000 to West Suffolk Citizens Advice Centres.
9. Civil Parking Enforcement. Agreement has been reached between the Police, SCC, St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath that we will put forward a business case for taking control of civil parking enforcement.
10. Westely Bridge will be closed to all traffic from 13th February to 7th April. SCC will be issuing further details.

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor, Mr Terry Clements: As the County Councillor was unable to attend the meeting due to other work commitments, the Clerk read out the report as follows:

GCSE results continue to improve

Validated figures published on the Department for Education's website confirm that Suffolk's GCSE progress has for the first time risen above the national average. Suffolk is now ranked in the top half of all authorities for progress at GCSE level, at **55th out of 151**. This is a real improvement since 2014 when Suffolk was ranked 119th for English progress and 108th for maths.

It is important to recognise that the way a school's progress is measured has changed this year nationally. Progress 8 is the Government's new way of measuring GCSE results. It measures how well pupils of all abilities have progressed by comparing them with students who achieved similar levels in Key Stage 2 across the country. More information about the new Progress 8 measure can be found on the Department for Education's website at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/progress-8-school-performance-measure.

Across Suffolk, 60.1% of students achieved the national measure of attaining a grade C or above in English and maths. This is **3% higher than last year** and marks a **6% increase since 2014**. Suffolk students have also closed the gap to the national average state funded schools from 6% in 2014 to just 3% this year. Suffolk continues to be above the national figure of 59.3% for all schools. This is a real sign that Suffolk is making good progress.

We are now into the fifth year of the Raising the Bar programme which aims to improve levels of educational attainment and ensure that every child in Suffolk is able to achieve their full potential. Since the programme began in 2012, there has been a more than 20% rise in Suffolk Schools being judged 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted. This rate is currently improving more than twice as fast as those across the country. We will not become complacent and will continue to build on the momentum of the positive results we have seen since the programme started and will continue to ensure that every child and young person in Suffolk reaches their full potential.

Post-16 Home to School Travel Policy Consultation

Suffolk County Council annually consult on their Post-16 Home to School Travel Policy for a six-week period which this year commenced on 4 January 2017.

All sixth form schools and colleges, special and secondary schools have received notification of the consultation which they will distribute to parents and carers.

All students in Year 11 will also have received a letter directly from Passenger Transport to advise that the consultation process is underway along with details of how they can give their feedback.

The consultation will run until Friday 10 February 2017. All responses received by midnight at the end of that day will be considered.

The consultation document can be viewed at the web address below. Feedback on the proposal, the clarity of the policy or any other issues will be valued. Should stakeholders wish to respond to this consultation they can do so in the following ways:

- Online at **www.suffolk.gov.uk/consultations**
- By printing and completing the paper questionnaire which can be found at the web address above
- In writing to Post-16 Travel Consultation, Suffolk County Council, Endeavour House, Russell Road, Ipswich, IP1 2BX
- Via email at **Post-16TravelConsultation@suffolk.gov.uk**

All feedback received will be reviewed. The final policy will then be approved and published online by 31 May.

New report announces vision for mental health in Suffolk

Suffolk's Director of Public Health releases his annual report on 26 January 2017 setting an ambition to improve mental health services in Suffolk over the next 10 years.

Suffolk Minds Matter: Suffolk Annual Public Health Report 2016 will be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board at today's meeting, proposing recommendations for long-term improvement to mental health in Suffolk.

An estimated 1 in 100 people are affected by severe mental ill health in Suffolk and around half of lifelong mental ill health conditions develop before the age of 14.

One in four people in Suffolk are affected by mental health problems at any one time, therefore a lot more than that actually suffer mental health problems in Suffolk.

In the same month that the Prime Minister outlined government commitments to better mental healthcare for young people and the wider population, this new report sets a Suffolk-wide aspiration for improved mental health at all ages.

The independent report, which has been produced in collaboration with a range of partners, lists seven cross-cutting recommendations to promote good mental health and reduce demand in Suffolk over the next five to 10 years:

1. To work to promote mental health and to reduce stigma and discrimination;

2. Promote emotional wellbeing and resilience in communities throughout Suffolk by working to address the social determinants of mental health;

3. Ensure those with physical health needs have good mental health, and that those with mental ill health have equal support to improve their physical health;

4. Promote the mental health of women and ensure children have the best start in life;

5. Ensure the effective recognition and treatment of depression in older people, especially those at increased risk;

6. Work to promote active healthy ageing programmes to delay the onset of dementia at any age;

7. Reduce suicide in Suffolk by 10% over the next five years using the 2012-14 data as our baseline.

The report is divided into sections that correspond with different stages in people's lives, from pre-birth children to older people's mental health. It recognises that good mental health is a fundamental human right for everyone and that good mental health is essential for good physical health, and vice versa.

8. Public Forum - the following matters were raised:

(i) Mr Hignett bought to the attention of the Parish Council the problems with the height and thickness of the trees behind the sewerage treatment plant (by the Village Hall). The hedge along there has also been an issue but Mr Lee the farmer has, as a matter of neighbourly goodwill, cut that back.

Mr Hignett had kept the Parish Clerk up to date with his communications with Anglian Water and Mr Lee (the farmer). Anglian Water had sent someone out to investigate and have indicated that the section of the ditch running along the site boundary will fall under riparian ownership, and as such it would seem that everything from half way across the ditch is owned by Anglian Water (this includes the side on which the trees are planted). The other half of the ditch heading across to the fields is the responsibility of the landowner.

The trees cause quite some nuisance. Mr Hignett has found that over the last 30 years that they have been growing he has found that increasingly the corner of his

garden where his Summer House is situated has become very damp, as sufficient light is not getting through. The Summer House itself is suffering with damp because of it. He would like to refurbish his Summer House but is reluctant to spend good money doing this until the trees are cut back to a more appropriate height.

In addition, the trees shed a great number of leaves which fall on the pathway leading to the Village Hall, which makes it slippery and at times hazardous to walk along there.

Mr Hignett will keep the Parish Council updated, but hopes to have a resolution shortly.

(ii) Mr Foster stated that he was glad to see that Cllrs were meeting with a representative of SCC Highways on 10th February in relation to the speed of traffic along the part of Bury Road that goes through the village.

In addition to his concerns over the speed of the traffic, he also believes that the volume of traffic has significantly increased over the last 12-18 months. Mrs Deacon confirmed that she also thought that the volume of traffic had increased. She indicated that the traffic can start as early as 4.30am -6am, and the lorries come thundering through. In addition there are more delivery vehicles than ever before coming through the village on both the Bury Road and the Felsham Road.

Mr Foster stated that there are now five families with young children that live on that part of Bury Road. Are SCC waiting for a fatality on that part of the road before they do anything, or will they take preventative measures? Cllr Newlands discussed in quite some detail about the hurdles the Parish Council are facing to try to get SCC to do something about this matter. The Clerk will email the SCC Highways representative ahead of the meeting on 10th February to put forward the concerns raised by parishioners at this Meeting.

(iii) Mr Foster said that he has noticed a large crack in the brickwork on the bridge. Cllrs confirmed that it had been reported and inspected some years before and think that it is the responsibility of the railways. Cllrs agreed that Clerk should report the problem again, as it had been some years and it may have worsened over that time.

9. Clerk's Report

i. Schedule of items approved and awaiting authorisation;

Income Received since 08/11/16 – nil

Expenditure (movement since last meeting)

N Smith	Clerk's Salary	102.40	LGA 1972 s112
HMRC	VAT and NIC	17.20	Inc&Corp Taxes Act
ICO	Data Protection	35.00	LGA 1972
CAS	Website hosting	60.00	LGA 1972
TOTAL		**214.60**	

Schedule of verified invoices agreed for payment

N Smith	Clerk's Salary	99.60	LGA 1972 s112
HMRC	VAT and NIC	20.00	Inc&Corp Taxes Act
TOTAL		**119.60**	

ii. Report on the Council's financial position;

Balance carried forward from 08/11/16	
Current Account	3090.70
Business Reserve Account	143.04
Add income received	0.00
Less expenditure (since last meeting)	214.60
Less expenditure (verified invoices)	119.60
Bank Reconciliation	
Current Account	2876.10
Less unlogged cheques	119.60
Plus uncredited lodgements	0.00
Business Reserve Account	143.04

In addition the Clerk had provided Cllrs with a Review of Income and Expenditure in the Financial Year 2016/2017, (Appendix A). Income has been £1700.08 and expenditure to date has been £1395.70, with a further £56 to be paid for the rent of the Village Hall for the year. Therefore total expenditure for the year will be £1451.70

The Clerk reminded Cllrs that the sum of £142.50 in transparency funds which is effectively "ring fenced" monies is being held. The Clerk requested that, ahead of this years audit, the Parish Council consider and approve how those monies will be spent. Following discussion Cllr Thomas proposed and Cllr Kirk seconded, that the monies should be spent as follows:-

(i) A sum of monies will be spent on time spent training;
(ii) The balance of the monies remaining after training will be paid to the Clerk for the additional hours undertaken to set up the website in the first instance to ensure that the Council complies with the Transparency Code.

10. AOB:

Clerk reported that she had been in contact with Mr Peter Newlands regarding the Internal Audit. Mr Newlands had kindly agreed to undertake the audit on 22 March 2017, if Cllrs agreed to the same. Cllr Thomas proposed and Cllr Kirk seconded that Mr Newlands undertake the Internal Audit. The Clerk will liaise with Mr Newlands.

Discussion regarding the Annual Parish Council Meeting. No Guest Speaker is booked as of yet. It was agreed that the Clerk will contact Mr Tim Passmore, Police and Crime Commissioner to see if he would attend as it was noted that during his re-election in 2016

one of his concerns was rural roads in Suffolk. Clerk will also contact the PCSO and Rural Crime Officer to see if they can attend.

11. Date of next meeting – 9th May 2017 at 7pm – Annual Parish Meeting, followed by Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Appendix A

Review of Income and Expenditure in Financial Year 2016/2017

Income	
Precept	£1700
Interest	£0.08
	£1700.08
Expenditure (to 07/02/17)	
Clerk's Salary	£412.45
HMRC	£62.00
Audit Fee	£36.00
CAS – PC Insurance	£157.08
ICO – Data Protection	£35.00
CAS – website hosting fee	£60.00
SALC subscriptions	£133.17
A Spall (grass cutting)	£200.00
R Walton (grass cutting)	£100.00
PCC (grass cutting)	£120.00
Grapevine	£80.00
	£1395 .70
In addition rent for Village Hall to be paid	£56.00
	£1451.70

Signed..... Dated.....