



LITTLE CORNARD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held on 8th November 2022 at Little Cornard Village Hall

Present: Councillors ('Cllrs') Clive Johnson (Chairman), Ruth Adams, Cheryl Crane, Karen Gilbert, Nick Hammond, Nigel Monk and Mark Irwin

Attending: Martin Quinton (Clerk), James Finch (Suffolk County Councillor), Lee Parker (Babergh District Councillor)

Councillor Johnson welcomed Councillors and members of the public to the meeting and gave a statement about his time as chairman, giving his thanks to the current and previous Councillors, to the Vice Chair and to the Clerk and said that he would continue to work on behalf of the Parish as a Councillor.

Ref.

Action

22/123 Election of Chairperson

It was resolved that Cllr Hammond be appointed as the Chairman of Little Cornard Parish Council, who signed the Declaration of Acceptance accordingly. (*Cllr Gilbert nominated Cllr Hammond, Cllr Monk seconded*).

22/124 Election of Vice chairperson

It was resolved that Cllr Gilbert be appointed as Vice Chairperson of Little Cornard Parish Council (*Cllr Johnson nominated Cllr Gilbert, Cllr Monk seconded*).

22/125 Apologies for absence

Cllr Adams sent their apologies

22/126 Declarations of interest

none

22/127 Agree minutes of Little Cornard Parish Council ('LCPC') meeting held on 22 September 2022

The minutes of the meeting were approved by the councillors who resolved that the minutes should be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

22/128 Public participation session

Suffolk County Council report – see appendix 1

Babergh District Councillor Report

Cllr Parker gave an update regarding the following:

1. the new council tax reduction of 100% for low income households which should be introduced in April 2023. Residents are urged to have say.
2. Hydro vegetable oil fueled refuse collection fleet. Residents have the opportunity to name the new fleet.

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3. Corks lane development now well under way (49 new dwellings). Work started in summer. Site cleared.
4. No date for commencement of new doctors surgery.
5. No date for car parking charges. Decision has been postponed indefinitely. Watch this space.

Public

Resident asked about line painting on junction to preserve boundary. – Cllr Finch to follow up.

Finch

Cllr Gilbert raised a resident's concern over state of Black house lane – considerable damage to ditch. At risk of flooding. Persimmons responsible for not maintaining ditch. Overgrown hedges. Silt all over the place. Silt that has ended up into the mere which has impacted the SSI status.

James & Lee to discuss enforcement of conditions on persimmons

**Update at
next
meeting**

Cllr Hammond – Highways top of the list of frustrations amongst residents. A lot of issues with Highways. James echoes frustrations

22/129 Update on Defibrillators

Cllr Gilbert confirms that:

- each unit will cost c.£1,500+VAT per unit.
- £2,100 pledged.
- Replacement pads, once used, will cost £50
- Will need to raise a further £1,000, or secure funds from the Council
- Current regulations state that each defib has a useable radius of 1600m but this may be reduced to a smaller distance in the future.

Gilbert

Cllr Parker confirmed he would be fully supportive of defibs – offered to contribute from locality budget. Clerk to follow up.

Clerk

Cllrs resolved to use the reserves earmarked for the village hall to fund the balance of the defibrillators. Clerk to update budget accordingly

Clerk

Cllr Gilbert to write something for the parish magazine to ask for donations to the defibrillator fund.

Gilbert

22/130 Update on Cornard Mere

See minute 22/135.

22/132 Emails circulated by the Clerk

The Clerk advised that they have received 2 complaints about the recently erected barbed wire on Upper Road that runs along the boundary of the field next to the road. The complaints were founded on the concerns to local wildlife, horses and local residents who walk along the road as there is no footpath. The issue was discussed with the landowner who was in attendance at the

Signed _____

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	meeting. The landowner advised that the barbed wire was not illegal, and they would not take it down. Cllr Hammond to liaise with the Landowner	Hammond
22/133	Any action after Clerk's report No action required	NFA
22/134	Village hall archives Cllr Irwin confirmed this is still very much a work in progress given the volume of the information contained in the archives. Colchester museum is a proposed location for physical artifacts etc. Cllr Irwin to pursue	Irwin
22/135	Update from Neighbourhood plan sub-committee Report attached (see appendix 2) Cllrs discussed the report from the Neighbourhood plan sub-committee and resolved that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SWT will be responsible for cutting the mere 2. C Johnson to liaise with D Gotts re footpath 3. Cllr Hammond to liaise with neighbouring parishes to ensure LCPC is consulted as part of their respective neighbourhood plans 4. Clerk to draft an informal letter re boundary issue to residents 5. Cllr Irwin to confirm who owns property with pill box 	Johnson Hammond Clerk Irwin
22/136	Update on National Grid Cllr Hammond confirms that no update from NG yet. But anticipates no changes to proposal in Little Cornard. Undersea issue keeps being raised, unlikely to impact LCPC. Cllr Hammond to monitor.	Hammond
22/137	Consider Zurich Insurance quote Cllrs resolved to accept the Zurich insurance quote of £240 and requested that the Clerk accept.	Clerk
22/138	Training needs To consider at the next meeting subject to recruitment of new clerk	Next meeting
22/139	Finance <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review and agree expenditure budget for 2023/24 Cllrs requested that the Clerk update the budget to allocate £3,000 from the earmarked reserves for the village hall to the Defibrillator fund. Review RFO Report and agree payments Payments and receipts authorised and agreed. Update on online banking To consider at next meeting 	Clerk - Next meeting

Signed _____

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22/140	Highways Cllrs discussed the need for Road sweeping – <u>Cllr Johnson to enquire re costings etc.</u>	Johnson
	a. Update on kissing gates – Cllr Johnson confirmed is liaising with the landowner about the best location and type of gat. to update at next meeting.	Johnson
	b. Update on village sign – to consider at next meeting	Next meeting
	c. Update on Road sweeping – Cllr Johnson to update at next meeting.	Next meeting
	d. Consider additional dog waste bin on upper road – to consider at next meeting once Clerk has confirmed costs.	Next meeting
22/141	New Clerk Recruitment Process Cllrs requested that the clerk advertise the role using the existing job summary and that the Clerk liaises with Clerks at other local Parish Councils to see whether there would be anyone who could help in the short / long term. The existing Clerk has said they will be able to assist until the end of December. It was resolved that if no Clerk is found, Cllrs Crane and Monk volunteered to take over the role as Clerk and RFO respectively.	Clerk
22/142	Questions to the Chair No items raised	
22/143	Next scheduled meeting is on Tuesday 10th January 2023 starting at 7pm.	Clerk

Meeting closed at 21:00

Signed _____

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Appendix 1 – SCC report

A Report for Little Cornard on 27th September 2022 From James Finch – County Councillor for the Stour Valley

Tel: 01206 263649 Mobile 07545 423796 Email: james.finch@suffolk.gov.uk

➤ **Cost of Living Support for households in Suffolk – for the next 2 years.**

The government has announced on 9th September the following immediate, short-term action to support households:

- Replacing the price cap with a new Energy Price Guarantee
- The Energy Price Guarantee will ensure that a typical household in Great Britain pays an average £2,500 a year on their energy bill, for the next 2 years, from 1 October 2022.

The consumer saving will be based on usage, but a typical household will save at least £1,000 a year (based on current prices from October). Energy suppliers will be fully compensated for the cost of the Energy Price Guarantee.

£150 of this £1,000 a year saving will be delivered by temporarily suspending green levies. These costs will be transferred to the Exchequer, so customers don't bear the costs, but benefit from the low-carbon electricity generation.

This is in addition to the £400 Energy Bills Support Scheme. This will be paid in 6 instalments from October. The most vulnerable UK households will also continue to receive £1,200 of support provided in instalments over the year.

Suffolk County Council County Council has also summarised for our residents' potential sources of help for those facing hard times this next winter and beyond. I plead with all in our parishes to keep your eyes and ears open to ensure that those who do need help are supported in going to the right place to help them. Attached to this report is a summary of some of those sources for that help.

➤ **Could you help a Ukrainian family in need?**

Suffolk has a proud history of supporting people in need and in the last six months, we have seen people and communities across our county come together to do all we can to help those fleeing the conflict in Ukraine.

More than 1,050 Ukrainian guests have now arrived in Suffolk **via the Homes for Ukraine scheme** and I want to say a huge thank you to each and every person and family who has taken Ukrainian guests into their homes and into their hearts. You are making a real difference every day, supporting and welcoming Ukrainian families into our communities.

Sponsors originally signed up to host guests for at least 6 months, with the option for those who are willing and able to continue beyond this. The Suffolk County Council team are extremely grateful to those who are able to continue to provide this invaluable support to families beyond this initial period, however they fully understand that some will be unable to, due to changes in their circumstances in this time. Again, thank you to all in my division for everything you have done - supporting a person or family fleeing conflict is no mean feat and it cannot be underestimated how much of a difference you have made in these people's lives.

Guests on the Homes for Ukraine scheme who are not yet ready to leave sponsorship and move into their own alternative accommodation, but who cannot stay with their current host after 6 months, can move to a new host.

We also sadly continue to see more people fleeing the conflict each day. We are therefore asking anyone who thinks they may be able to help a family in need to sign up to the Homes for Ukraine scheme."

For more information see this link: [Support for Ukraine | Suffolk County Council](#)

Signed _____

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➤ **Changes to the National Grid Targeted Bramford to Twinstead 400kV proposals**

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in response to the death of Her Majesty the Queen

Following the sad passing of Her Majesty the Queen, National Grid have reviewed their engagement strategy for the ongoing targeted consultation for the Bramford to Twinstead Reinforcement. The consultation launched on Thursday 8 September 2022 and was due to conclude on 7 October 2022. The consultation relates to changes made to the proposals following their statutory consultation held earlier in the year. Their response has been formed following engagement with the host authorities and event venues and careful consideration within National Grid taking account of external guidance.

The most significant changes proposed are to the alignment in Essex to the north of Alphamstone (which would include the use of the non-open trench cable installation) and a new haul route to the A131 to avoid impacts on local roads. Regrettably only minor changes are proposed in Suffolk to refine the boundaries and access points to the construction site.

In respect to the Queen and the national period of mourning National Grid have extended the deadline for submitting consultation responses. **The deadline for submitting feedback is now 23:59 on Wednesday 19 October.** This will allow stakeholders and the community more time to respond.

The developer's website can be reached by following the link provided below.

<https://www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/bramford-twinstead>

➤ **Virtual Fostering and Adoption Sessions for the Stour Valley**

A Foster Carer Recruitment Event is held the **1st Wednesday of every month**, and an Adoption Event is on **the 1st Thursday all 7:00pm** in your home.

To book a place please email Claire.Gwatkin@suffolk.gov.uk.

My Priorities

Education - Supporting Vulnerable People - Jobs and Growth - Localism and the Stour Valley - Building on Suffolk's Strength all underpinned by strong financial management and fair council tax.

Signed _____

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Appendix 2

Neighbourhood Plan Committee

25 October 2022

Action points for consideration by Little Cornard Parish Council

The Neighbourhood Plan Committee ('The Committee') met on 25 October 2022 to consider how the Committee, if it shall continue, may enable Little Cornard Parish Council ('LCPC') to use the Neighbourhood Plan, for the benefit of Parishioners, as it is intended.

The future of the Committee

The current Committee has completed its objective and has facilitated the creation of the Neighbourhood Plan. However, to assist LCPC in the implementation of The Neighbourhood Plan, the Committee would like to ask LCPC to consider the long-term need for an independent group or Committee outside of LCPC to monitor the following:

- The impact of the Neighbourhood Plan
- The condition of the footpaths
- The Mere

Recommendations to LCPC

- To start a footpath bulletin in the magazine & on the website to attract volunteers to help monitor the footpaths
- To make positive contact to neighbouring parishes (Bures, Great Cornard and Assington) to ensure we are a part of their neighbourhood plan
- To pursue the previously raised issue concerning the boundary at the Mere
- To remind residents to direct any lighting in a respectful manner
- To confirm the plans for the Pill Box and to confirm the ownership and, more importantly, to consider an appropriate approach to maintain and preserve the Pill Box for the future.
- To encourage LCPC to work in conjunction with the PCC
- To request that LCPC continues to continually refer to The Neighbourhood Plan when considering planning applications and when liaising with National Grid surrounding their intended reinforcement works.

This concludes the final report from the Neighbourhood Plan Committee. No further work will be undertaken without express consent from LCPC.

Regardless of the future long-term plans for some form of group or committee, the Neighbourhood Plan Committee would like to reconvene in 12-months' time and hereby requests the permission of LCPC to do so.

The Neighbourhood Plan Committee

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End of appendices

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Signed _____

Date