

**Minutes of Kettleburgh Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

Present: Cllrs J Bater, T Chase, T Jessop (chair), A Wheeler-Rowe. Invitee's present: SCC Cllr Bellfield The Parish Clerk was in attendance. One member of the public was present. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting which began at 7:30pm in Open Session. No items were raised so Open Session was closed and the meeting began.	Minute numbers and Actions K2013012
<b>1. DPI declarations:</b> There were none.	K2013013
<b>2. Apologies for Absence:</b> Cllrs D Bell, R Durbin, D Germain and D Harris, SCDC Cllr Snell, PCSO Hassler	K2013014
<b>3. Minutes</b> of the meetings held on 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2013 were approved and signed.	K2013015
<b>4. Reports from the County and District Councillors and Suffolk Police</b>	K2013016

**SCC Councillor Peter Bellfield:**

Cllr Bellfield reported that SCC have frozen Council Tax this year and that the Council leader has promised that if he is returned to power the Council will not increase Council Tax for the following 4 years which would mean it will have been frozen for a total of 7 years.

He reported that there is a campaign against the change in the last area of Suffolk in which the transition from the 3 tier education system to 2 tiers is planned and there will be a consultation on how the change is implemented.

There were 7427 secondary school applications this year, out of which 97% got into their first choice school and only 35 did not get any of the three schools choices they had made.

Many children are not getting Free School Meals that they are entitled to and because of this the schools are losing out on the extra funding they receive for pupils taking this service Cllr Bellfield urges anyone aware of such a case to point out the funding loss to the parents.

The Police and SCC have purchased 20 new Vehicle Activated Signs, 10 of which will be semi-permanently positioned and 10 will be operated as mobile systems. The locations of deployment have not yet been finalised.

The Fire Service merger with Cambridgeshire will no longer go ahead as there is an insurmountable funding imbalance. The two services are still looking to co-operate though, where it will provide savings.

Cllr Bellfield reported on 3 planning applications: the North Ipswich Fringe Development of 3000 homes is lacking detail, specifically regarding infrastructure

and highways, he has recommended the application is refused unless the lack of detail is rectified; the cabling from the Offshore Wind Farm to Bramford Sub-station will pass north of Ipswich close to the Bealings and Playford but the plans have minimal details on the temporary disruption this will cause to the many minor roads in those areas that will be affected and Cllr Bellfield has requested these details; Cllr Bellfield is asking for there to be no disruption in parishes to the west of the A12 resulting from the Sizewell C project.

**SCDC Councillor Bob Snell:** Cllr Snell sent a report which is attached below. Cllr Jessop read it to the meeting and added that EDF are expecting their plans for Hinkley C to be approved next week.

**Suffolk Police:** PCSO Hassler has no reported crimes in the parish since our last meeting.

**5. LDF Main Modifications consultation:**

K2013017

Cllr Jessop explained that this consultation has resulted from the inspectors reviewing the SCDC LDF suggesting increases in housing projections and that therefore it was important to review the effects this would have on the Council's original submissions to the LDF. He read paragraph SP1A which is the much publicised presumption of approval for planning applications and noted the increases in housing relevant to our parish. Kettleburgh was classified as an "Other Village" and the projected housing increases in "Other Villages and the Countryside" up to 2027 is from 600 without these modifications to 950 with (8% increase to 12% increase). Cllr Jessop agreed to investigate to ensure Kettleburgh is still classified as an "Other Village" and review any effects on the submissions previously mentioned. He will then draft a consultation response for circulation amongst the Council members before submitting it.

TJ

**6. Future of the Parish Council:**

K2013018

Cllr Wheeler-Rowe reported that there were many questions about the Council that could be discussed and that he would like his work for the Council to add more value to the community.

An open village meeting was suggested but it was agreed it would be more appropriate to hold a formal Full Council Meeting just on this subject.

A vote was taken to go ahead. The Clerk will seek Cllrs availability and call the meeting.

Clerk

**7. Finance:**

K2013019

- a) The Financial Statement was approved and initialled.
- b) The Payments Required list was approved and initialled.

The Clerk clarified the Precept situation that was unresolved at the last meeting explaining that the available grant had been accepted meaning that parishioners' Council Tax contribution increase was reduced while the Council would still get the Precept agreed.

**8. Clerk's Matters:**

K2013020

a) The Clerk explained the system of internal control which was deemed suitably effective and approved.

b) The Risk Assessment was approved.

It was resolved to perform an annual check of Council account signatories' willingness to retain the roll.

Clerk

**9. AOB:**

K2013021

Two new families have moved into Church Road. The Clerk will deliver a Welcome Pack once the relevant house numbers have been confirmed.

AWR/Clerk

It was reported that there had been water gushing from the soak away provided for the heritage housing and that this water had flowed down Church Road causing a danger in the recent cold spell. The Clerk will write to Hastoe Housing requesting some remedial measures.

Clerk

It was reported that some hedges on the bend at the top of School Hill were overhanging the road and required cutting back. It was resolved that a Cllr would have a friendly word with the land owner and that the Clerk should ascertain who is responsible for such maintenance and the Council's relevant powers.

JB  
Clerk

The Clerk requested permission to share the expense of the Clerk's Manual with the other parish he works for and this was granted.

**10. Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday 15th May 2013 at 7:30pm

**11. Close Meeting:** The meeting closed at 8:50pm

# Suffolk Coastal District Council

## Councillor Bob Snell's report to Kettleburgh Parish Council, 13 March 2013

### 1. Council tax 2013/14

Council Tax is frozen for a third successive year with £5.4 million of efficiencies having been achieved in the three years since the Comprehensive Spending Review of 2010. This will generate £6.9 million towards our budget of £12.7 million. We had to bridge a budget gap of £1 million this year, on top of the £2.1 million we saved in 2012/13, whilst key priority services have been protected. We will have to find a further £4.3 million savings by March 2017.

To help encourage more empty homes back into use, new rates will apply to unoccupied dwellings from 1 April 2013:

- Properties that are unoccupied and unfurnished (old Class C) will receive a discount of 25% for up to three months and then will be charged 100%.
- Properties that are unoccupied, unfurnished and undergoing major repairs (old Class A) will receive a discount of 25% for up to 12 months.
- Second homes that currently receive 10% discount will pay 100% from 1 April 2013.
- Properties that are left unoccupied and unfurnished for two years or over will be charged 150% (known as an empty homes premium).

### 2. Benefit changes from April 2013

- Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme – the current Council Tax Benefit scheme is being changed to a local scheme run by the Council
- Housing Benefit changes for council and housing association tenants to the way Housing Benefit is calculated for working age people living in social rented property are being introduced.
- Local Housing Allowance annual uprating – will see the end of Local Housing Allowance anniversary dates and will mean the Local Housing Allowance rate will increase each year alongside the annual uprating of other welfare benefits.
- The Benefit Cap – introduction of the Government's maximum benefits cap for working age people.
- Personal Independence Payment – replaces Disability Living Allowance in stages from April 2013.
- From April 2014 in SCDC – Universal Credit, a new single payment for people who are looking for work or on a low income

### 3. Local Development Framework

As forecast in my last report, at the request of the examining inspector, the Council is consulting on proposed Modifications to the Core Strategy and accompanying Sustainability Appraisal from 21 February until 5 April 2013. Full details of the LDF and the inspector's examination are available on the Council's website.

### 4. Planning applications

After site visits to all three locations and to a working solar park in Cambridgeshire, the applications mentioned in my last report were determined at recent Development Control Committee meetings as follows:

- Hacheston 25MW – refused
- Parham Airfield, Great Glemham 15MW – deferred to 27 March DC meeting for more information on land classification
- Croft Lane, Stratton Hall, Nacton 12MW – approved

## **5. Sizewell C consultation**

The joint District and County Councils' response to the first Consultation on EDF's plan was delivered to EDF on 6 February and is available on the Council's web site.

## **6. Number of SCDC Councillors**

At its meeting on 28 February full Council recommended to the Local Government Boundary Commission for England to trim the number of councillors from 55 to 43. A Review is being conducted by the Commission, whose aim will be to achieve electoral equality across the district, so that each councillor is representing roughly the same number of electors.

## **7. Quality of Place Awards**

SCDC is now accepting entries for the 2013 Quality of Place Awards for structures in the district – application form available on the web site for four categories, Building Conservation, Design, Nature & Landscape and Community Project, to be judged on the criteria of quality of design and detailing, quality of workmanship, materials and sustainability.