

Minutes of Kettleburgh Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 12 January 2011

Present: Cllrs. R Durbin, P Garland, D Germain, D Harris (chair), T Jessop, V Neilson.

The Parish Clerk was in attendance. Representatives from Anglian Water (AW) and the Environment Agency (EA), Peter Bellfield (SCC), David Risk (chairman of Brandeston Parish Council) and seven members of the public were present. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting which began in Open Session at 7:15p.m. He requested that questions from the floor be limited to subjects which would not be addressed during the meeting. Two public transport issues were raised:

- The bus shelter is in need of repair – The Clerk will contact SCC.
- The future of bus route 118/9 which runs between Framlingham and Ipswich – Cllr Bellfield was able to confirm that there are no plans to suspend this route; however the contract is to be renegotiated and there may be reductions to the timetable.

Open Session was closed and the meeting began.

ACTION

1. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** There were none
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs J Bater, T Chase.
3. **MINUTES** of the meetings held on 10 November and 8 December 2010 and 5 January 2011 were approved and signed.

4. **REPORTS FROM SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL AND SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCIL**

SCC Cllr Peter Bellfield: More details of the cost cutting measures for 2011/12 planned for the New Strategic Directive can now be found on the County Council's website. The devolving of services to the private or voluntary sector will not show savings until 2012/13. Cllr Bellfield has requested details of how the top-heavy management structure of the County Council is being tackled to achieve savings. SCC is organising a symposium in London which will consider the future use of pylons and how to trunk electricity across the country.

SCDC Cllr Bob Snell: (*read by the Clerk*) Government funding cuts will be 7.25% on average for each of the next four years with a 14% cut in year one. In addition to joint working with Waveney District, a further £2million of savings has been identified, with an inevitable impact on services offered. However it is expected that Council tax will be frozen next year. In November the Government confirmed Sizewell as a suitable site for the building of a new nuclear power station and Suffolk Coastal's new Sizewell task group met for the first time and will continue to address, with Suffolk County Council, the potential impacts of the development and any mitigating measures that might be necessary. (*LDF report included under item 7.*)

5. **PLANNING DECISIONS FROM SCDC:**

C10/1789: Kettleburgh Hall – Conversion of disused barn to holiday let/annex.

C/10/2911: Kettleburgh Hall – alterations & extensions.

C/10/3168: Part rear garden of Maple House - Erection of single storey dwelling with garage.

C/10/3150 & 3151: Low Farm, Easton (partly within the Kettleburgh Parish boundary) - Change of use to wedding venue

No decisions on any of these applications as yet.

6. **KETTLEBURGH PUMPING STATION**

The Chairman welcomed Hugh Crerend (Collections Manager) and Pete Holland (Catchment Manager) from Anglian Water (AW) to give details of their plans to prevent further instances of effluent overflow. Mr Holland gave a brief summary of the problems that have occurred in the Cretingham, Brandeston and Kettleburgh catchment area and suggested that the problem of excess surface water could be solved in one of two ways:

1. The installation of additional storage facilities at Kettleburgh.
2. The reduction at source of surface water entering the foul drainage system.

Solution 2 was AW's preferred option as it was both more environmentally friendly and it reduced capital expenditure for AW. He then detailed the measures that have already been taken:

- The pumps have been uprated so that more flow is passing forward.
- The Brandeston and Kettleburgh pumps now communicate with each other via telemetry in order to balance out the flow of effluent and avoid overloading the tank at Kettleburgh.
- £70,000 of relining work has been carried out to the pipes of the drainage system.

Proposals to minimise any further problems were:

- There are plans to carry out a ditch survey to discover which ditches need clearing.
- The flow of surface water into the foul drainage system needs to be reduced.

Mr Holland concluded by asking for the Parish Council's support when contacting particular householders to make them aware of the problem of surface water from their properties entering the foul drainage system. They would be asked to consider diverting their surface water drainage to soakaways and ditches. It was unclear whether there would be any financial assistance from AW for this purpose.

The Chairman invited comments from Councillors. The following points were made:

- Although there had been an issue over the maintenance of the pumps and numerous occasions of severe effluent overflow, there has been a definite improvement since August 2010.
- The Parish Council is still not aware of the maximum capacity level of the system.
- The ownership of ditches needs to be ascertained.
- It will be important to use knowledge of local flood risk areas before considering increasing ditch capacity.

The meeting was then opened to allow comments from the floor:

- If ditch capacity is increased, there could be an increased risk of flooding from the river.
- It would be unreasonable to expect elderly and those on restricted means to pay for diverting their surface water and for maintaining ditches.
- It was suggested that AW should contribute to any drainage works that householders are asked to undertake.
- The Chairman of Brandeston Parish Council offered his support for the measures outlined.

The Chairman invited John Daniels from the Environment Agency to speak:

He approved the measures taken by AW but was surprised that action had not been taken earlier. He reinforced the point that surface water belongs in ditches. Whilst the care of rivers is the responsibility of EA, any matters concerning ditches were outside their remit. It was suggested that any future planning permission should ensure that surface water goes to soakaways or ditches, and that AW could monitor this.

The Chairman concluded by suggesting that the request from AW for support for their proposal to curtail the flow of surface water to the foul drainage system needs some thought, that other parishes would also be involved and we should wait for the ditch survey to be completed. He thanked Hugh Crerend, Pete Holland (AW) and John Daniels and Rebecca Mason (EA) for attending.

7. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Cllr Jessop led a discussion on the implications for Kettleburgh of the revised draft core strategy. His report accompanies these minutes.

8. TRAFFIC CALMING

Cllr Durbin was pleased to report that work had started on the gateways, as scheduled, on 11 January.

9. VILLAGE GREEN

a) Transfer of licence –7 Church Road: no progress.

b) Vehicular Access to 11 Church Road: The deed of easement has been changed into the names of the current owners and is with Ross Coates (solicitors).

c) Provision of lease to KGT: We await the return of the draft lease from Birketts (solicitors).

d) Deborah Bell is now the Chairman of Kettleburgh Green Trust and will in future be reporting to the Parish Council.

10. COMMUNITY EVENTS

First Fridays in the month - Coffee morning.

Mondays at 10:00a.m Keep Fit sessions

3,4,5 February – Kettleburgh Players Pantomime – Snow White & the Seven Dwarfs

Councillors gave their support the proposal from Rev Robin Alderson for a Parish Picnic on Sunday 10 July.

The Clerk will reply to his letter.

JC

11. FINANCE

a) The Financial Statement was received and approved.

b) Invoices for payment were approved and signed. A further cheque (to a maximum of £100) was authorised for the payment of the locksmith in fitting new locks to the notice board.

c) The budget proposals for 2011-12 as discussed at the meeting in November were approved and accompany these minutes.

d) The precept for 2011-12 was set at £2700. The Clerk will inform SCDC.

JC

12. CLERKS REPORT

- a) Councillors approved the request for funding of £14,136 to Framlingham Sports Club for resurfacing and extending their car parking facilities from the Outdoor Playing Space Fund which totals £16,761 at present. The Clerk will inform SCDC
- b) Councillors approved two training sessions to be attended by the Clerk:
'Election Briefing' on 13 January and 'Working in Collaboration' on 27 January, at a cost of £35 in total.

JC

13. CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence was circulated amongst Councillors

14. REVIEW OF ACTIONS REGISTER

The Actions Register was reviewed and brought up to date.

15. A.O.B:

No matters were raised.

16. DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:

Wednesday 16 March at 7:15p.m (*agenda items by 1 March please*)

17. The meeting closed at 9:05p.m.

SCDC Local Development Framework Reviewed Draft Core Strategy November 2010

- This reviewed draft Core Strategy takes the district to 2027
- The previous Core Strategy (the 'Interim Core Strategy') has been on hold since May 2010 following the election of the new coalition government.
- This SCDC review results in a reduction of new homes being planned (70 No.).
- It takes account of the Government's initiative 'Community Right to Build' (CRB) although this still requires an "identified need". See SP2 on Page 41 (represents 50 homes per year [from CRB] not included in the LDF).
- The revoking of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) was deemed unlawful by the High Court; this shall be reconciled on the passing of the 'Localism Bill' (which is expected to become law by the middle of 2011).
- It is expected that the new core strategy shall not be adopted until early 2012, until then the 'Interim Core Strategy' (i.e. the one put on hold in May 2010, not the latest review) shall be used as planning guidance alongside the previous 'saved' local plan.
- To promote the building of new homes the Government are to introduce a 'New Homes Bonus' which for SCDC is worth the value of an average Council Tax for a property x the number of new properties x 6 years.
- The Core Strategy is now based upon national and local policies, data and circumstances rather than regional policies. However many RSS evidence based issues remain valid and are still covered in the revised Core Strategy.
- The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) is now included.

The list is on Page 16:

1.15 *In light of the available evidence and an evaluation of the challenges and opportunities that face the district, the Suffolk Coastal LSP has identified ten key issues for the district that need to be addressed by 2021. Crucially, it has identified six of these issues as priorities, to help direct the work of the Partnership into areas where it can uniquely make a difference.*

The six priorities are:

- 1. Access to services*
- 2. Strong, supportive communities*
- 3. Climate change and the environment*
- 4. Economy and skills*
- 5. Healthier lives for all*
- 6. Young people*

- See 'Key Housing Issues' on Page 23 as follows:

2.17 *The district attracts many second homeowners (4.4% of the total dwellings at the 2005 Housing Needs Study) especially along the coast. In some parishes the level of second homes reaches as high as 30%. This has social and economic implications for the viability of these local communities. However, the powers of control of the District Council are restricted.*

Key Housing Issues

- Lack of houses at prices affordable to local people
- Lack of social rented housing
- Imbalance between housing needs and supply
- Second homeowners in some areas effectively denying local people the opportunity to buy homes, particularly small homes.
- To accord with national policy and the principles of sustainable development new development should be concentrated where access to employment, facilities and services is available, or where it is necessary to enhance the viability of local communities;
- Lack of authorised sites for Gypsies and Travellers.

The Local Strategic Partnership – “what needs to be done?”

- The focus of effort from all sectors should be to improve quality of life – especially for vulnerable people, including the growing population of older people, who should be supported to live in their own homes and communities if they should wish.
- There is an identified shortage of affordable housing in the district and more will need to be provided to help the workforce to live and work locally.
- The need to ensure that the increased jobs and housing included in the Regional Spatial Strategy (now the role of the local authority) are planned with the required infrastructure. Focus needs to be placed on the Ipswich Policy Area (now Eastern Ipswich Plan Area and Felixstowe as part of the Haven Gateway (see para 2.04), one of the fastest growing sub regions in the Eastern area. In addition tourism, and the economic and social benefits to local communities it brings must be supported.
- **Note** ‘windfall provision’ (e.g. back garden development [although such land is now deemed to be ‘greenfield’]). ‘Windfall’ is included in the LDF but only in the 3rd Phase (2022 to 2027)(as previously), see Page 43 as follows:
 * Note: Windfall numbers are included only for the third phase in accordance with national planning guidance. Windfall sites may occur in all settlement types including those classified as Other Villages and Countryside but the locations and timing cannot be predicted.

Table 3.3 – Percentage increase of existing housing stock from the Core Strategy

Area	Existing Housing Stock April 2010		Identified New Housing			Totals 2027 (existing stock + new housing)	
	Units	%	Units	% of new housing	Per annum	Units	% of total housing stock
Eastern Ipswich Plan Area	12,185	21%	2,320	31%	136	14,505	22%
Felixstowe Walton & the Trimleys	13,763	24%	1,760	23%	104	15,523	24%
Market Towns	11,789	20%	1,520	20%	89	13,309	20%
Key & Local Service Centres	16,771	29%	1,350	18%	79	18,121	28%
Other villages and countryside*	3,503	%	640	8%	38	4,143	6%
District Total	58,011	100%	7,590	100%	446	65,601	100%

Previously there was no “Identified New Housing” for ‘Other Villages and Countryside’. The 640 units allocated appears to be made up of 540 ‘small windfall’ and 100 ‘outstanding planning permissions. Either Table 3.2 or Table 3.3 is misleading as 3.2 indicates windfall to be spread across the District whereas 3.3 shows it all under ‘Other Villages and Countryside’. (This should be one of the comments to SCDC from KPC.)

- See Section 4.04 on Page 77 re the importance of the Settlement Hierarchy:

(“Within the Hierarchy, the town and village settlements are categorised according to sustainability factors including size, level of facilities and their role in relation to locality and neighbouring communities, as well as their physical form.As such, accordance or not with the hierarchy is the first issue of principle to which any future site allocation or individual development proposal should accord.)

- In regard to Table 4.2 ‘Summary - Scale of Development Appropriate to Each Tier of the Settlement Hierarchy’, on page 83 the wording

“Small scale developments within or abutting existing villages in accordance with the Community Right to Build or in line with Village Plans or other clearly locally defined needs with local support”

has been added within the ‘Housing’ column.

- The wording of Strategic Policy SP28 – ‘Other Villages’ under “The strategy for new housing in Other Villages is that it be strictly controlled and limited to:” has had a fourth item added –

“(d) where there is proven local support in the form of small allocations of a scale appropriate to the size, location and characteristics of the particular community. An exception may also be made in respect of affordable housing in accordance with policy DM1.”

- See Section 5.13 on page 113 re ‘Community Right to Build’ which requires 75% support. (It was confirmed at the ‘drop-in’ session at SCDC on Friday the 6th January 2011 that no one knows yet what the 75%, or indeed other %age, is of, i.e. residents on the electoral roll, residents, households, etc.. This shall only be made clear within the Localism Bill.).

[Note produced by TE Jessop for the Kettleburgh Parish Council meeting to be held on 12th January 2011.]