

Minutes of Elmsett Parish Council meeting held on 26 July, 2022 at the Elmsett and Aldham Village Hall.

- 07.22.00 **PRESENT:** Alan Newman in the chair, Andrew Morton, Nick Bird, Andrew Woodgate, John Sones, Paul Firman, District Councillor L Jamieson, one member of the public and the clerk was present.
- 07.22.01 **APOLOGIES:** Fiona Watt, delayed transport, Nick Bird work commitments, County Councillor R Lindsay
- 07.22.02 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON AGENDA ITEMS:** There were no declarations.
- 07.22.03 **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** The minutes of the meeting held on 21 June, 2022 were signed as an accurate record.
- 07.22.04 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:** Robert sent his apologies due to ill health. The parish council sent their best wishes via Leigh Jamieson.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Leigh's report was circulated prior to the meeting - **Garrards Road** Following further discussions with the Neighbourhood Team at Babergh, they confirm that they will now look at it for grasscrete. **Mill Farm Application** The officer dealing with the applications confirmed she was looking to refuse the application on grounds that there was no Housing Need. Following this the applicant withdrew the application and intends to complete a Housing Needs Survey.

Council Matters Community Causes Funding Babergh and Mid Suffolk community groups can now bid for a share of £450,000 to improve their neighbourhoods, thanks to the two new Community Development Grants. **Energy rebate extension** Residents in Babergh and Mid Suffolk who have been unable to access financial support through the Council Tax Energy Rebate Scheme may now be able to do so through a discretionary fund. The discretionary fund is for people who live in a house where the property owner pays the Council Tax or for those in a house of multiple occupation, in any Council Tax band that was not eligible for the Council Tax Energy Rebate. **Local community climate fund** A £150,000 fund has been opened to applications from not-for-profit organisations looking to deliver community-based carbon reduction projects in Suffolk. The fund is available to:

Charities, Community interest companies, Parish councils, Voluntary groups, Not-for-profit organisations

Projects could include:

improving the energy efficiency of buildings, promoting walking and cycling, using sustainable/recycled materials, raising awareness of climate change through events, among others.

It will support up to 50% of costs (up to a maximum of £10,000) for projects that can demonstrate support from others in the community - in the form of contributions from multiple other sponsors for the remaining project costs.

Wildflower Verges Babergh is trialling wildflower verges across the district, as part of efforts to tackle biodiversity and climate change. As part of Bees' Needs Week, the Council is celebrating their wildflower verges getting

underway. The step sees the councils reduce grass cutting in specific council-maintained areas to give existing wildflowers a chance to thrive.

Initially, the grass will be left to grow to see which wildflowers already exist. The councils will then cut and seed the areas with complimentary flower mixes as needed in the Spring in a way that encourages more flowers to grow over coming years.

07.22.05 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:** The Chairman updated the council on footpath Whatfield Road a letter has now been sent to the Planning Inspectorate seeking deregistration of part of The Green. He also reported on the problem of agricultural machinery being obstructed by parked vehicles in Ipswich Road. It was agreed to take up the matter with owners. The chairman said that a number of problems with footpaths had been reported by residents and referred to landowners and thanked Andy Morton for dealing with this.

07.22.06 **CORRESPONDENCE:** BDC reminder of Parking strategy survey/consultation taking place. Rural transport conversation update – unfortunately due to illness Andy Morton had been unable to attend the event but it is hoped that feedback will be forthcoming. BDC – notification of a scheme for parish trees, planting hedgerows and wildflowers. Agreed to forward to ECO group. Email from resident in Whatfield Road drawing attention to the dangers where the road narrows opposite the entrance to Mill Lane and lack of adequate road signage. Agreed to take the matter up with Highways. Email from resident regarding the state of the footpath leading from Church View. Agreed to take the matter up with Suffolk Housing Association and highways. Email from resident suggesting a snail trail which she would be prepared to organise. Agreed that the council would have no objection should she wish to organise.

07.22.07 **FINANCE:** The following invoices were verified, and cheques signed

E & A V hall	Hire 26.7	26.00	LGA 1972
A Newman rmbt	Stamps & printer cartridge	108.13	LGA 1972

07.22.08 **PLANNING:** - Councillors had received the latest update from Babergh on the large scale energy projects.

07.22.09 **DATES FOR NEXT MEETINGS:** 13 September, 25 October, and 6 December
at the village hall.

The meeting closed

Signed:-..... Dated:-.....
Chairman