

Notice of Annual Parish Meeting

**To be held at
The Erskine Centre, Chevington Road, Chedburgh, IP29 4UL**

Monday 9th May 2016 at 7.30pm

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for Absence**
- 2. Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting (Attached A)**
- 3. Report from the Chairman of Chedburgh Parish Council (attached B)**
- 4. Report from Ickworth Park Primary School**
- 5. Report from Chevington, Chedburgh, Depden and Rede Community Council**
- 6. Report from the St Edmundsbury Borough Councillor (Attached C)**
- 7. Report from the Suffolk County Councillor (Attached D)**
- 8. Public Forum**

Peter Westcott
Chairman - Chedburgh Parish Council
9 Kings Park
Chedburgh
Bury St Edmunds, IP29 4TY

25th April 2016

Chedburgh Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at the Erskine Centre, Chevington Road, Chedburgh on Monday 11 May 2015 at 7.30pm

- Present:** Councillors (Cllrs) Michael Chester, Pat Fisher, Teresa Landymore, Margaret Rickard, Clare Varney and Peter Westcott (Chairman)
- In attendance:** Paul MacLachlan (Executive Officer), County Cllr Terry Clements, Borough Cllr Angela Rushen and 5 members of the public.

The following documents will be appended to the signed minutes:

- the Agenda;
- the following appendices:
 - A: Chairman's Report and Statement of Accounts;
 - B: Report from Ickworth Park Primary School;
 - C: Report from the Safer Neighbourhood Team;
 - D: Report from Chevington, Chedburgh, Depden and Rede Community Council;
 - E: Borough Councillor's report;
 - F: County Councillor's report.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from PCSO Anthony Welford.

2. Report from the Chairman of Chedburgh Parish Council

The Chairman, Peter Westcott, gave a report which is produced in full at Appendix A. Cllr Westcott thanked fellow councillors for their willingness to stand for a further term of public service.

It was noted that the Parish Council were still working with the Planning Authority and Brocket Park to deliver a satisfactory outcome to the public open space in the former fireworks factory.

3. Report from Ickworth Park Primary School

Headteacher, Ann Morley, gave a report which is produced in full at Appendix B.

It was noted that the school's planned admission number (PAN) had been reduced to 30 and that only one extra classroom was being built despite becoming a full primary school.

4. Report from the Safer Neighbourhood Team

In the absence of PCSO Anthony Welford, Cllr Westcott gave a report which is produced in full at Appendix C.

5. Report from the Chevington, Chedburgh, Depden and Rede Community Council

Chairman, Elizabeth Williams, gave a report which is produced in full at Appendix D.

It was noted that the Community Council were experiencing difficulty obtaining quotations for the replacement/repair of the Erskine Centre roof.

6. Report from Borough Councillor, Angela Rushen

Borough Councillor, Angela Rushen, gave a report which is produced in full at Appendix E.

Chedburgh Parish Council

Cllr Westcott congratulated Cllr Rushen on her re-election and thanked her for her regular attendance at Parish Council meetings and her interest and support in parish matters.

7. Report from County Councillor, Terry Clements

County Councillor, Terry Clements, gave a report which is produced in full at Appendix F.

It was noted that the vehicle activated signage sponsored by Cllr Clements was about to be installed on Chevington Road.

It was further noted that BT has upgraded the street cabinet on Chevington Road serving premises with postcodes beginning IP29 4.

8. Public Forum

Hannah Parry, from Havebury Housing Partnership, spoke about a possible plan for 8 two-bedroom, shared ownership houses on land opposite the Marquis Cornwallis pub. Hannah commented that, if the scheme progressed, it would not impact on the ability of the Marquis Cornwallis to continue trading as a public house.

Councillors expressed some concern at the prospect of further housing development in the parish and felt strongly that it ought not to proceed if it in any way threatened the future of the Marquis Cornwallis.

It was agreed that the minutes be approved at the Parish Council meeting dated Monday 13 July 2015.

The meeting ended at 8.15pm.

Chedburgh Parish Council

Chair's Report 2015/16

Membership

Following elections in May one place on the Council remained unfilled. We have been pleased to welcome Sam Parrett to the Parish Council, via unanimous co-option, meaning that all 7 places are now filled. The members are:

Michael Chester
Patricia Fisher
Teresa Landymore

Sam Parrett
Margaret Rickard

Clare Varney
Peter Westcott

Finance

I am pleased to report that finances are healthy. Full details, including the budget for 2016/17, are published regularly by the Parish Council, on its website and on the village noticeboard.

Planning

The Parish Council is consulted on most planning matters within the village (although some issues, such as certain agricultural buildings are excluded from the normal process) and responds to the planning authority with recommendations.

This year, once again, the most significant planning business has related to the former fireworks factory. This longstanding project has at last reached a significant landmark, with the occupation of 26 affordable homes at the end of February. We hope that the next phase of building - private homes and completion of the Public Open Space - will proceed without further mishaps.

The Council has been keen to ensure that the developer fulfills all aspects of the approved plans, including the open space within the development, and that it respects the environment within which it is working. To this end we monitor progress, liaise with residents and the planning authority and maintain regular contact with the development company itself.

Village Handyman

Although you may not notice Ian Leggett's work, the village would be considerably less pleasant without his steadfast contribution.

Amongst the many tasks that Ian attends to, he empties village litter bins, collects litter from across the parish, monitors street lights and reports those not working, checks the field and play area (cleaning and repairing where necessary and possible), organizes the village gritting teams, monitors the drains within the village for obstructions and blockages and rotates the flashing speed sign (VAS).

As ever we are hugely grateful to Ian for this and all the other work that he undertakes.

Floral Displays

Another way in which our village is enhanced is through our many shrubs and plants. For many years Cllr Pat Fisher has planted and nurtured these and we are very grateful to her for continuing to develop planting in all corners of the village.

Parish Clerk

Paul Maclachlan's short period as our clerk finished at the end of February. We have been pleased to welcome Max Clay to the role and we look forward to working with him in the future.

Endnote

Finally, after 15 years at the helm, I have decided not to stand for re-election as Chairman this year, which means that I will finish my term at the annual meeting of the Parish Council, later this month.

My thanks go to all the councillors with whom I have worked over the years; their support has certainly helped to make the job much easier.

Peter Westcott
Outgoing Chair
May 2016

Report for the Annual Parish Meeting for Chedburgh

Another year has gone, although I am not sure where! I continue to enjoy the work I am doing in the Borough Council and representing my residents in the villages. I still attend almost all of the training sessions we are offered as I think it very important to be up to date with what is going on, both locally, and nationally.

My main interests, however, remain in the planning and development areas. I am vice chair of both Development Control and Sustainable Development and these committees take up the majority of my time. I also chair the Grant awarding committee which keeps me up to date with projects in villages and towns across the Borough and I am a member of a further 4 committees.

There are a number areas scheduled for development around Bury which are coming forward at the moment to be developed in phases over the next couple of decades.

In the north there are 2 such areas. To the north-west the area will stretch from the current edge of the built up area towards the Tut Hill road in Fornham All Saints; to the north east Moreton hall will be extended eastwards and will link up with the projected Suffolk Business Park and the Eastern Relief Road and new secondary school. To the south, the south east development in Rushbrooke and the Nowton area has now been adopted. These areas are scheduled for development within the next 15-20 years.

The redevelopment of two major areas within Bury are also now moving forward. Station Hill and the Tayfen Road area are part of a large brownfield area, which will lead to 200 more houses and jobs: a care home, a family pub, new retail and commercial areas. The second area relates to the brownfield site on Western Way, which borders the already developed ASDA and West Suffolk House, but will extend to include amongst others the current Borough refuse depot, the NHS building and the Olding Road car park. The area is intended to become a service village for the Borough and the wider area. A multi storey car park and student accommodation is also part of the plan. We would also like to see provision for a magistrate's court here as well.

On a much smaller scale, but possibly of more importance to residents of Chedburgh, several individual planning applications have been made. The majority of the applications have been approved enabling people to build extensions or make alterations to their property. Not all applications go smoothly however,

and I would strongly advise people wanting to put in an application to talk to your Parish Council who make comments pertinent to each application. In addition it is worth having some pre-application advice from Planning Officers. I am also readily available to discuss any individual plans with anyone in the village and I frequently act as a go-between between resident and Planning Officer to try to resolve any problems on an informal basis.

If plans do cause problems by not following the guidelines set out, we do now have a good and very active Enforcement Team working within the planning department. If you have any concerns it is worth contacting them to seek their advice. Again, this is something I could potentially advise on.

Council Tax has had to be raised this year to take account of the government's spending cuts and the increase of money to be set aside for the elderly and the police. It is the first time this has been raised for six years. For a Band D property, the increase amounts to about 77p per week.

Brown Bins. Having collected and emptied brown bins free of charge for a number of years, a charge has been introduced this year to help pay for the £500,000+ cost incurred in this service. At the moment the take up in this Ward is 31% which is amongst the highest in the Borough. By asking people to opt in to this service, it does mean that if people do not want a brown bin, they do not subsidise those who do. This was deemed to be the fairest way forward.

West Suffolk Operational Hub. SEBC received 550 responses to the second round of consultations offering opinions as to if a Hub was needed to where such a Hub should be sited. Work is now progressing on the analysis of these responses. This will include assessing any new potential sites, or comments on sites previously considered, as well as other issues raised. Once that analysis is complete, recommendations will be put to the three Councils involved in the process that is St Edmundsbury, Forest Heath and Suffolk County Council

Housing Company. A Housing Company, called Barley Fields, has been set up which is jointly owned by St Edmundsbury Borough Council (25% share), Forest Heath District Council (25% share) and Suffolk County Council (50% share). The purpose of the company is to act commercially, to build homes for sale and private rent, and provide up to 30 per cent of the homes as affordable housing (rented, shared ownership and/or low cost starter homes) in line with planning policy. The councils will use the income to help deliver services and plan to start to deliver later this year.

National research has shown that every new home built creates 2.4 long term, sustainable jobs and every £1 spent on housing adds £2.41 to the local economy.

Locality Money. I was again given £2,500 of Locality money to be spent in my Ward this last year to help promote community spirit and to get villagers together. Of the £500 that I allocated Chedburgh, two hundred pounds helped establish the Community Choir through the purchase of song books helping towards the cost of hiring the Erskine Centre. A further £300 went to buy new kitchen utensils for the Erskine Centre.

The Locality money scheme will be repeated next year, so can I ask you all to think about your projects and contact me so we can discuss the possibility of some locality budget funding?

We still have approximately £70,000 remaining in the **Rural Initiative Grant Scheme**. This is a match funding grant which is used for capital projects of up to £10,000. Several villages have taken advantage of this scheme in recent months and I flag this up in case there are any emerging ideas for projects in Chedburgh.

On a personal note, I would like to say that I am sorry to hear that Peter is to give up the job of chairman of Chedburgh PC. I have enjoyed working with him since I became a Borough Councillor, and would like to wish him well for the future.

Please remember that I am always available to any resident who may require help and advice. I am at the end of a phone, or am very willing to come and meet with people. Please feel free to take me up on this offer!

I am looking forward to working with you all once again and I am now happy to take any questions you may have.

Angela Rushen

Tel: BSE 346647. Email angela.rushen@stedsbc.gov.uk

County Councillor's Annual Report and News Highlights from 2015/16

I would like to thank the Parish Council for the support they have given me over this last twelve months.

Nothing is easy or straight forward in Local Government, but I am pleased how we have been able to work together in trying to get the best for the residents of the Parish.

I believe VAS (Vehicle Activated Signs) are working really well in slowing traffic down and I am pleased how Parishes are working together with the three I bought through my Highways Budget. Was a fight to get them but funnily enough more are being bought by Police and County 😊

Locality Budget Money :-

Rural Coffee Caravan all my areas, new vehicle

£500

Hire of digger for drainage

£100

Here is a short selection of the stories from Suffolk County Council from over the last 12 months.

SCC freezes Council Tax for sixth year in a row

SCC's share of council tax is to be frozen for a sixth year in a row. This means that Suffolk residents will not pay any more than they did in 2010/11. The council has had to make savings in excess of £170million since the Government's deficit reduction programme began in 2011/2012 and faces the need to make further savings of over £80million during the next two years. The budget passed in April saw a ZERO% increase in base Council Tax. The Administration decided to implement the 2% National Adult Social Care Levy to support the implementation of the National Living Wage. The budget for Adult Social Care and Children's Services increased. SCC has achieved its target savings and looks set to achieve next years.

I keep saying though it is not just about making savings, there is also a need to carry on being more commercial in our business. I am pleased that we have out-sourced and created businesses that are winning contracts outside Suffolk which will I believe benefit our residents.

As to building on our resources as of the end of this financial year a New Housing Company has been formed Barley Homes (Group). This exciting venture is a joint Company formed between West Suffolk Councils (St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath) and Suffolk County Council. This development company has been set up to build more homes within our Areas. This is another proactive way of not just getting more housing but also putting our finances to full use for the benefit of our residents. In 2013 Suffolk Conservatives pledged that they would not increase Council Tax for four years if elected, and that manifesto promise has been upheld. The National Adult Social Care levy was implemented to help fund the National Living Wage.

SCC's Children's Services Department rated 'Good' by Ofsted

Suffolk County Council's Children's Services has been rated GOOD by Ofsted following the publication of its inspection report on 15th February 2016. The report praises the work of the council in protecting and looking after children and young people, with some areas of outstanding practice highlighted in the report. The

inspection was carried out between 23 November and 17 December 2015. Suffolk now sits in the top 22% of local authorities in the country. 78 councils have been inspected so far under Ofsted's new framework. No authority has been judged outstanding and of the last 17 inspections across the country, just one authority had been judged GOOD, until Suffolk's rating. Whilst SCC Children's Services meets its savings targets we are actually improving the service that we provide. I would like to compare Norfolk County Council (which has similar demographics) has injected an extra £30m into its service and has consistently been rated 'Inadequate'.

Education attainment in Suffolk

I am very pleased to report that there has been a 4% rise in the number of students getting five or more A*-C grades, including English and Maths. It means that 56% of Suffolk's year 11s got the expected level of attainment. The validated figure for 2014 was 52%. Suffolk's results have increased by 2.6% from last year's provisional results and see Suffolk rise 17 places in the overall league table, going from 124th to 107th and with 77% of 11-year-olds achieved level 4 or higher in their SAT tests in the three subjects in 2015 – up from 73% in 2014. This closes the gap to the national average to just 3%. This is the third consecutive year the gap between Suffolk and the national figure has closed. Suffolk was 7% points behind the national average in 2012 - the results show Suffolk as the most improved local authority in the entire Eastern region, with a higher percentage rise than the other 10 local authorities in the area. Suffolk has also improved in the national ranking and is now in 134th place out of 152. This is an improvement of six places from last year.

Progress in Writing between Key Stages 1 and 2 is another improvement. The percentage of pupils making the expected progress went up from 89% in 2014 to 91% this year. The percentage of children making expected progress from Key Stage 1 to 2 in Reading and Maths also increased – with both seeing a 1% point rise. In all three subject areas the increase in Suffolk was greater than the national rise.

The gap in performance between Suffolk's disadvantaged pupils and other pupils has also narrowed by 5% compared to a 1% increase nationally. I know residents were concerned when the SOR process was started that pupils would suffer during transition, so it is even more pleasing to report the above.

Broadband rollout on target

A resolution has now been reached between DCMS and the EU which will enable us to spend our full £30m of public funding, as well as the monies clawed back from the first contract a total of £33.9m on Phase 2

Work on the Broadband rollout continues as we progress Phase 1 of the Superfast Extension Programme (the 2nd contract). The first phase of rollout will be shared onto a map on the SCC website, and the second phase will be added within the next couple of months. To date, we have enabled 35 cabinets, and reached over 3,000 premises under the Superfast Extension Programme, towards a target of over 1,000 cabinets, and over 50,000 premises by the end of 2019. I did say that satellite connections were available but this isn't I will admit the greatest success in some areas.

For more information and updates please visit www.betterbroadbandsuffolk.com I will give you an assurance that we will continue to hold BT to account to push the rollout of Broadband across the County. This will become more challenging as we

reach the final percentages in the most rural areas but this remains a priority for SCC.

Rural Transport Provision

The changes to how Rural Transport is provided should bring a positive difference to communities, providing residents with a single phone number for each area. The whole county is covered so there are no longer any areas where there may have been gaps in service. We've worked hard on our approach throughout this service transformation, engaging with range of people and organizations including those who currently provide services. This has helped us develop these new service contracts. The people who have been supplying these services have told us what is needed, not the other way around. As part of this project, we took into account the needs of all residents who use these services to ensure there will be no issues with access, particularly for elderly and disabled residents.

This Service redesign has been built around the need of the users. It is another example of making a service better at a reduced cost. This smarter, more streamlined service will be easier to use and will allow users to have greater access to the public transport network in Suffolk. I really believe that this is a real step forward as I have worked with bus operators in the past and have in fact chaired their meetings. The message I got was there are operators out there who are filling seats and providing an expanding service, this is what we need to build on.

£1bn Devolution Deal announced for East Anglia

Last but not least Devolution, the subject that is most talked about at breakfast and dinner tables by Suffolk residents throughout Suffolk.....NOT!!!!!!!

Something is going to happen fact. I am of the belief and other Councillors feel the same way that it is best to be on the inside working rather than on the outside looking in. I just hope that real Devolution takes place and that more responsibility is passed down so that more "Local" issues can really be dealt with locally.

I have seen how "Locality Budgets" can bring groups together and provide real benefits for residents.

I have included below latest proposal

The Government, Local Councils and the LEPs, working/deliberations has led to a proposed deal worth over £1bn for East Anglia. As part of the deal, announced by George Osborne MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, East Anglia will receive:

- £900m (£30m a year for the next 30 years) to invest in infrastructure
- £175m to invest in housing

The Proposed Deal, which sets out a fundamentally different relationship between Government and local public services, was negotiated by Leaders from councils across Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and the New Anglia and Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough LEP. The Proposed Deal would see decisions currently being made by Government on such things as infrastructure, growth, employment and skills being made in East Anglia in the future.

The Propose Deal requires the creation of a Combined Authority and directly elected Mayor and it is proposed that the first mayoral elections would be in May 2017 alongside county council elections.

The directly elected Mayor would act as Chair to the East Anglia Combined Authority and would exercise the following powers and functions devolved from Government:

- Responsibility for a multi-year, consolidated and, devolved local transport budget
- Responsibility for a new Key Route Network of local authority roads that will be

- managed and maintained by the Combined Authority on behalf of the Mayor
- Powers over strategic planning and housing, including £175m ring-fenced funding to deliver an ambitious target of new homes

The new East Anglia Combined Authority, working with the Mayor, would receive the following powers:

- Control of a new additional £30 million a year funding allocation over 30 years, to be invested to the East Anglia Single Investment Fund, to boost growth
- Responsibility for chairing an area-based review of 16+ skills provision, the outcomes of which will be taken forward in line with the principles of the devolved arrangements, and devolved 19+ adult skills funding from 2018/19.
- Joint responsibility with the government to co-design the new National Work and Health Programme designed to focus on those with a health condition or disability and the very long term unemployed.

More information can be found here www.gov.uk/government/publications/east-anglia-devolution-deal.

County Councillor Terry Clements
May 2016