

HINTLESHAM & CHATTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Meeting Room of the Community Hall
On Thursday 10th April 2025 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Les Cole	Stephanie Coupland	John Whyman
Ian Bryce	Trevor Martin	Jamie Bostock
Debbie Archer	Ben Cox	Peter Eaton
Diane Chase	Jim Hammond	Choose an item.

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Caroline Bates

IN ATTENDANCE:

Liga Sendall (Parish Clerk)

2 Members of the public present

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Cllr Martin kindly agreed to submit the report for the Village Link this month.

CHPC875/25– APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Bates and Cllr Busby prior to the meeting.

CHPC876/25– TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 13TH MARCH 2025

The minutes from the 13th March 2025 meeting had previously been circulated to all Parish Councillors via email. The Chairman asked if everyone present was happy with the minutes. Cllr Archer proposed minutes and Cllr Whyman seconded them. The minutes were signed by the Chairman at the end of the meeting.

CHPC877/25– DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON ANY ITEMS ON AGENDA

The Chair asked if there were any declarations of interest for any items on the agenda. Cllrs Bryce, Bostock signed the declarations of interest in relation to Pylons.

CHPC878/25– MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES DATED 13TH MARCH 2025

The Chair asked council members if they had any matters arising from the minutes. No matters raised by Councillors.

Huge thanks from all to Cllr Archer for setting up email addresses for all councillors.

CHPC879/25–ADJOURNMENT FOR REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS, COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

Cllr John Whyman opened this part of the meeting, his below report had been circulated before the meeting.

District Councillor Report (April 2025)

Dear Members,

I've 'banned' LGR & Devo from my thoughts, at present, as its fairly meaningless at this early stage and it's taking up too much of our joint 'headspace' and thinking. As I alluded to in March there's too much political self-interest (disguised as 'what's best for you'...!)

The major talking point these last few weeks, taking up a good bit of my time, was the launch of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk – Planning for the Future briefing document with the accompanying Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council Neighbourhood Planning – Interim Housing Requirement Advice document. We (BDC) briefed district council members online with an open meeting for parish councillors and interested members of the public held in Sudbury Town Hall. As I understand it, invitations, may not have reached all our parish councils. I apologise, on behalf of the council, if you

didn't receive this invite. I have the full briefing pack, which I have already sent to parish councils and or, specific members, where either requested or I felt would help better inform members involved with parish planning issues. Please ask me for a copy should you wish to read the full text. This is the very beginning of an extensive process of allocating future development into our communities. The data is a rounded 'indicative' number and not precise quantum. The intention is to give Town and Parish Councils an idea of the district-wide requirements broken down by Town and Parish over 20 years to help inform Neighbourhood Plan development, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework. The Interim Housing Requirement Advice note (my reference document above) is the application of this formula that enables the Councils to indicate an interim housing requirement for each Town and Parish area, in advance of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk's Joint Local Plan Review, where a full range of alternative spatial strategy options will be identified and explored. I hope this helps give some context to this process and I remain open to talking this process principle through with members.

At our Council meeting on the 20th March members agreed their support to petition UK Gov for a multiple unitary model of revised local government (English White Paper on Local Government Reform) which we expect to see in place by 2028 (I'm due for re-election in May 2027, but this may be extended to May 2028 with the arrival of the unitary authority and unitary councillors) replacing both district and county councils. We also agreed to support two Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD's) forming additional parts of our move towards JLP Pt 2. These included our policy on Biodiversity and Trees. We also supported the councils' position to increase the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) on future developments paid by developers/housebuilders. This wasn't a straightforward decision as there was some contention from members that these costs could and can be, effectively, passed on to the buyer/end user. The joint council's have taken external advice on the viability of this change which indicated that the changes wouldn't adversely impact the housing market.

I mentioned in March, when reporting on the Housing paper and 30-year strategy, the potential for additional community/social housing. I'd be interested to hear from residents whether they consider this to be a potential priority?

Brockley Woods – The application was heard on Tuesday 4th March at the meeting of SCC Development & Regulation Committee. Bentley, Copdock & Washbrook Parish Councils both spoke at the meeting (Marianne & Adrian) along with Tom Hill KC requesting an immediate deferment of any decision to allow the new evidence posted by SCC to be fully scrutinised. We were fortunate that Tom Hill's presentation combined with those of our own Cllr Busby and the powerful message from PC Chair's caused SCC members to reconsider the 'Recommendation to Approve' from SCC Head of Planning, James Cutting, to be reversed with a deferment to 24th April meeting. The shadow of JR 2.0 loomed over the minds of SCC committee members supported by very sensible interventions from Cllr Andrew Stringer (MSDC Cabinet Member for Planning) and Richard Kemp (SCC Member for Long Melford). Needless to say, this matter hasn't gone away, and I continue to urge members and residents to oppose the application.

Babergh Notes

Babergh planning committee met on 19th March to consider an application to refuse an application on the outskirts of Lavenham for a 'Wellness Centre'. This was a particularly constrained application as it was contrary to the wishes of the parish council members (it conflicted with the Neighbourhood Planning strategy) and was in direct conflict with our Local Plan. After consideration and a very comprehensive planning officer report, the committee agreed with the officer recommendation to refuse planning permission. The application was unsupported by both Lavenham Ward councillors (Cllrs Margaret Maybury & Paul Clover)

The BDC Overview and Scrutiny committee met on the 17th March to consider the new BDC tenants board report and the recommendations following their consultation exercise with BDC tenants. Our next meeting will be Monday 14th April.

As ever, I remain open to any members or residents who would like to be briefed on specific anonymised examples of the council's work, in this area, please let me know. These meetings are also open to both parish councillors and members of the public wishing to attend either in person or online.

District Councillor Resident Surgeries

My regular meeting opportunity for residents in Capel Library will be Tuesday 15th April 9.30 – 11.00am. The forward date for next month will be Tuesday 13th May 9.30 – 11.00am. No appointment is necessary, but if residents need more of a confidential chat, please let them know beforehand so I can arrange some privacy. I'm also available 'on demand' at the PC office in conjunction with Julie.

John (Whyman) Cllr - Babergh Council Member – Capel St. Mary

Briefly explains the main points of the meeting held in Sudbury. A 20 year plan. The data provided is rough calculation considering the area population. Will need proactive approach and support from community.

Discusses neighbourhood plan, local authorities need to provide substantial support for housing needs assessment.

Cllr Eaton asks about 5 year land supply. What will be status with joint local plan. Cllr Whyman says the slicing exercise is first step of planning for the Babergh land supply. It is early stages, however there has to be some consideration for best places for potential development options.

Members of public.

The Chair opened the public meeting.

- David expressed thanks for the installation of the village gates and thanked the Council for efforts to reduce vehicle speeds through the village.
- Peter raised concerns about footpaths on Duke Street, noting ongoing pipework and confusing signage. He will send photos to the Chair for further review.

The public meeting closed.

CHPC880/25-PLANNING

All planning applications had been sent to parish councillors with the agenda prior to the meeting. The Chairman introduced this section.

DC/25/01439

Birch Farm Silver Hill Hintlesham Ipswich Suffolk IP8 3NJ

Full Planning Application - Construction of 4no. commercial units for market rent including associated landscaping.

The Councillors discuss the proposed planning. It seems the planning application is out of date as there seem to be some discrepancies in the data provided. It will definitely be visible from the road. There is no farm shop or cycle path on the site.

Sustainability for a commercial development is a concern. Based on location the access will be vehicular.

Suggestion to reply in two parts. Fact check if all points are valid.

Another point is traffic – there have been few accidents there.

Cllr Eaton suggests we should object to the plans.

CHPC881/25– CIL UPDATE

Items for CIL projects:

- Village gates - got installed a day after the last meeting with no issues.
- Signs at school crossing – requested if quote is still valid and also incorporate the posts and brackets. After several attempts of contact to obtain a new revised quote there still is no quote. Will keep trying.

CHPC882/25- NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The Chair and Cllr Eaton met with the consultant on Monday. He is currently working on 16 other plans. At present, the plan template is basic and has not yet been tailored to local parishes. The discussion included built-up areas. It was noted that the only way to prevent backfill development is to extend the current built-up area.

There was a question raised as to whether creating a plan is simply a means to guarantee approval from planning authorities. Peter Eaton mentioned a few examples related to the current built-up area boundary and the potential for extending it.

There is concern that the plan may end up being fairly generic and not sufficiently adapted to the parish's specific requirements.

Three options are available, each with very different timescales.

A review of the settlement boundary is considered key. No sites have been allocated following the initial consultation.

Currently, proceed with Option 1 and consider any additional requirements in the meantime.

CHPC883/25– POLICE JOINT SURGERY

The Chair has written to Katie Jarret regarding recent findings of large canisters of nitrous oxide in the area. While anti-social behaviour is not currently a concern, there is potential for it to become an issue.

Katie is happy to meet with councillors and is open to holding a public session on a Saturday.

The Chair asks councillors whether they believe it would be a good idea to set up a surgery in May or June.

CHPC884/25 - ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS – DUE 8TH OF MAY 2025

Chattisham meeting first at 6pm, Hintlesham afterwards at 7pm, then AGM at 7:30.

CHPC885/25– FINANCE

The Chairman read out the items on the finance section of the agenda;

Elan City Cheque re issue	£26.40
Keith Avis Cheque re issue	£55.00
Suffolk Cloud - Hosting and Support	£120.00
SCC – Street light maintenance	£438.08
Clerks Salary & Expenses	£195.78
Petrol for strimmer	£6.30
Key for post box	£6.00
Lunch Hall Group – Locality Award	£272.00
Groundwork UK – Unspent grant	£36.00
Places4People – Neighbourhood Plan	£8,947.20
MTG Investments Ltd – Gates installation	£2,968.20

It was agreed on block that the finance items be paid Cllr Archer proposed and Cllr Bostock seconded. Agreed by all.

CHPC886/25– REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS

The Chair opened this section of the meeting by inviting councillors to contribute updates.

Cllr Bryce reported an issue regarding a telephone pole. He contacted BT Openreach, who indicated that the issue had not been reported since December. They suggested someone would be sent to inspect it soon.

Cllr Chase attended a police forum and delivered a brief report. Key points included:

- Reports of vans being broken into and burglaries in homes that appeared unoccupied.
- No incidents of robbery were reported.
- There were instances of shoplifting and violence towards shopworkers.
- Anti-social behaviour is down overall.
- Local villages were not specifically mentioned in the police report.
- An ANPR camera at Copdock was used to catch drag racers.
- Results from camera safety vans have been received.
- Police are keen to support Community Speed Watch teams.

Cllr Martin raised an issue with Footpath 13 in Chattisham, near Gaskins Lane. There has been a suggestion to form a working party to resolve the issue. Suffolk Highways has yet to respond, and it may be necessary to contact the landowner. This is considered a serious safety concern.

Cllr Whyman suggested exploring the use of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funding for Rights of Way improvements. He requested details from Cllr Martin.

- Councillors discussed potential options and who might own the affected land.

Cllr Whyman reported a message from a member of the public regarding the need for a litter bin near the hut. Currently, a dustbin with a liner is being used. As with other bins near the playing field, Peter King is responsible for emptying them.

Cllr Bostock praised the MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area), describing it as “fantastic” and noting that many children use it both after school and in the mornings.

The Chair: Contacted Suffolk County Council regarding lampposts, as discussed in the previous meeting. A quote has been requested for replacing them with LED versions, including potential running costs.

Reported that one member of the Community Speed Watch team has left. A note will be placed in the *Link* newsletter to recruit new volunteers, as more are needed.

CHPC887/25 - CORRESPONDENCE RECIEVED

All correspondence received by the council had been circulated to members prior to this meeting. Nothing further was introduced for discussion.

CHPC889/25– ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- Neighbourhood Plan update – outstanding
- CIL – outstanding

CHPC890/22- DATE OF NEXT MEETING

8TH May 2025

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:05 PM.