

GROTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Groton Parish Council held remotely on Wednesday 2nd September 2020 at 7.00pm via Video Link

Present: P Roberts (Chair), N Cox, A Dixon-Smith, A Crane, R Cheeseman, R Jones (Notes)
Guests: Councillor J Finch (Suffolk County Council), Councillor B Hurren (Babergh DC)

1. Apologies for absence – G Becker
2. Councillors' Declarations of Interests - None
3. Minutes of the Meeting of 1 July 2020 - Approved
4. Reports from Suffolk County Council and Babergh District Council:

4.1 Suffolk County Council – Councillor J Finch reported the following:

SCC was working closely with bus companies to ensure safe travel for children returning to school. Three types of transport; Dedicated School buses, shared buses and public transport. No need for children to socially distance on dedicated buses but need to do so on shared routes or public transport.

Thanks passed on from Councillor Mary Evans to school's staff for their dedication and hard work to ensure safe returns for pupils.

SCC Highways had completed 1,000 miles of road resurfacing as per the Council's commitment made in 2017.

£1,000 grants being offered to small and medium-sized businesses across Suffolk and Norfolk who take on new apprentices between the ages of 16-24.

Fostering and Adoption sessions were continuing 'on-line'. <https://www.fosterandadopt.suffolk.gov.uk/>

4.2 Babergh District Council – Councillor B Hurren reported the following:

No progress from Hastoe Housing regarding the local housing development. Councillors' expressed concern at the lack of progress as they had supported the project despite some local opposition and were keen to receive some positive updates. Councillor Hurren to provide update at next meeting.

5. Planning Matters

5.1. Planning Applications

DC/20/03446 - Erection of extensions and detached workshop outbuilding - Ramblers, Bulmer Lane – Councillors agreed to support this application.

5.2 Planning Decisions Received – The following decision was noted:

DC/20/02557 Buildings North of Lodge Farmhouse, Daisy Green

Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to Dwelling houses (Class C3), and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion. The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q - Conversion to form 1No dwelling. – Application for Prior Approval refused.

5.3 Other Planning Matters - None

6. Financial Matters

6.1 The Statement of Finances and Orders for Payment were approved as follows:

Reserve Account as at 31 July 2020	£3,532.03
Current Account as at 31 July 2020	<u>£3,786.00</u>
Total	£8,073.88

Payments received:

Interest on Reserve Account £0.03

Cheque No	Amount £	Payee	Purpose
000828	£225.00	A Adams	Footpath Cutting – 1 st Cut
000829	£225.00	A Adams	Footpath Cutting – 2 nd Cut
000830	£69.99	R J Jones	Clerk's Expenses
d/d	£35.00	Information Commissioner	Data Protection Fee

6.2 Annual Governance and Accountability Statement 2019/20 – The Annual Accounting Statement 2019 and Annual Governance Statement 2019 were approved

6.3 Other Financial Matters - None

7. **Highway and Footpath Matters** – It was noted that the fence at Mannings Farm Barn discussed previously had been replaced with a more 'suitable' fence. Councillors expressed their gratitude to those involved in making this happen. Overgrown hedge abutting the road between Groton and Kersey.
8. **Any Other (Urgent) Business** - None
9. **Next meeting** –Wednesday 4 November at 7.00pm