



# Waldringfield

## Parish Council

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### Draft Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019

**Present:** Parish Councillors Kay, Videlo, Reid, Lyon, Gold and Matheson; SCC Cllr O'Brien; SCDC/East Suffolk Cllr Harvey; and 24 residents

1. Apologies for absence received – Cllr Elliot, Cllr Archer
2. It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018. Proposed by Cllr Videlo, seconded by Cllr Lyon and agreed by all.
3. There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018.
4. The Chair of the Parish Council, Ian Kay, provided a Powerpoint presentation. He spoke about the role of the Parish Council and outlined other responsibilities held by members of the parish, including tree warden and Neighbourhood Watch. Cllr Kay reminded residents about the district election on 2<sup>nd</sup> May; there will be no Parish Council election, as there will be two unfilled vacancies for Parish Councillors. Cllr Videlo will be stepping down from her role on the Parish Council; Cllr Kay thanked her for her many years of dedicated service. As SCDC/East Suffolk Cllr Harvey has decided not to stand for re-election on the new East Suffolk Council, Cllr Kay also thanked her for her many years of service, sentiments echoed by many residents in the meeting. Cllr Kay's presentation detailed dates of the 2019 Parish Council meetings and reminded residents that anyone can attend. He detailed the council's activities and responsibilities, including its role as statutory consultee for planning applications. Cllr Kay thanked volunteers for distributing the Parish Newsletter to over 250 properties. The presentation included information about the latest status of the East Suffolk Local Plan and the Adastral Park/Brightwell Lakes development (including the recent variation of conditions, to build the boulevard after completion of approximately 300 houses). Cllr Kay showed residents images of the storm damage to the playing field, and spoke about the widening of Village Way and the replacement of its trees. There was information given about road improvements in the village, including new signage on the Fishpond Road/School Road junction. A speed indicator device has been purchased for use in four sites in the village and Cllr Kay asked for volunteers. During this last year, bollards have been placed along the playing field to deter parking. At this point, a resident expressed concern that the issue may now have been pushed further down to the corner near the school, which is a dangerous blind bend. Four new benches (made of long-lasting recycled material) have been installed. After Cllr Kay asked if there were any questions, a resident said that he thought there were now too many traffic signs in the village and questioned the need for the new 20mph sign on School Road, which he described as huge. Cllr Reid answered that consultations have shown the area was considered the greatest risk for speeding motorists. Cllr Kay informed residents that the issue will be discussed at the next Parish Council meeting and comments are welcomed. An information slide produced by the Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer was shown, outlining the financial position and spending for the year. There were unexpected costs due to the playing field damage. Other increased costs against budget were due to the purchase of a speed indicator device pole and a single-user licence fee for the accounting software. As at 31<sup>st</sup> March, there is an expected carry-forward of £11,945 (£13,118 including reclaimable VAT), of which £4,212 is earmarked funds. The precept for 2019-20 will be £13,444, a total increase of £232 (or 1.8%) on 2018-19, explained by a loss of some Band D properties.
5. Suffolk County Councillor Patricia O'Brien spoke from her report, outlining some of the council's successes and challenges, and voicing a message of working together collaboratively. New firefighting and rescue equipment has been purchased. There is £6 million being spent on upgrades to the recycling centres, including traffic access improvements to the Foxhall Road site, which receives 20% of the total county waste. Cllr O'Brien highlighted the importance of tourism to the county, an estimated £6 billion, which is the largest amount to date. Cllr O'Brien also spoke about the importance of sport and physical activity, and the Suffolk Climate

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Change Partnership. On the subject of roads, 1,700 potholes so far have been repaired by the newly-purchased machinery. For 2019-20, there will be a 4% council tax increase. There will be a change of speed limits to the A12. A resident expressed her pleasure that Suffolk County Council has signed up to play a part in reducing climate change, but stressed the need to 'act now'.

6. Suffolk Coastal District/East Suffolk Councillor Susan Harvey outlined her experiences this year, as a month by month report (including the percentage uptake of the new 'brown/green' bins). May 2018 saw planning permission given for the Adastral Park/Brightwell Lakes development. June saw Nicky Yeo become Chair of Suffolk Coastal District Council and Waldringfield was separated from Martlesham. Under October, Cllr Harvey spoke about the Sizewell C consultation and highlighted that, if approved, it will be situated in an Area of Outstanding Beauty measuring 403 square kilometres. Cllr Harvey concluded her report by welcoming residents to join her at the event to celebrate Suffolk Day which is being held at the Kirton Recreation Ground on 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

**The Chair closed the formal part of the meeting at 8.35pm.**

The following groups then gave a report: Greener Waldringfield, Waldringfield Gardeners and Waldringfield History Group. (Reports from these groups and others can be found on the website.) The meeting concluded at 9pm, after which refreshments were provided by the members of the Village Hall committee (these were gratefully received).