

# Appendices to the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Little Bealings held on 2 March 2020

## APPENDIX 1

### Little Bealings Parish Council: Chairman's Report 2019 – 2020

Since our last Annual Parish Meeting we have had a very interesting year.

Firstly, I would like to place on record our thanks to the previous chairman, Mrs. Margaret Wilson for her service and support to the village. I just wonder how she knew what a year it was going to be when she decided not to continue as Chairman.

Last May saw a Parish Council election, when 12 candidates stood for election to our Parish Council. Mr. Barnaby Rufford and Mrs. Toni Cornish had both decided not stand for re-election and I would like to, again, place on record our thanks to them for their commitment and support during their tenure. As a result of that election we have welcomed Helen Saagi and Mike Garnham to the parish council and at our first meeting following that election, my fellow Councillors saw fit to elect me as Chairman. Margaret Wilson is the Vice-Chairman.

No sooner had we held our Annual Parish Council meeting, than The Admirals Head Public House was put onto the market. As you are aware we had to fight very hard to keep this as an Asset of Community Value. Thus we had 6 months in which to place a bid for that venue, before it could be sold on the open market.

The Parish Council had instigated a group to save the pub which has become the Friends of The Admirals Head group and the Parish Council have supported them throughout their journey. No doubt you have read of their endeavours in the Fynn Lark News and more from them later.

On the day of our 1 July meeting we first heard of the launch of the Ipswich Northern Bypass consultation. At that meeting our county councillor Robin Vickery announced he was in support of the project. We immediately circulated a 'flyer' with details to every household. We invited the Stop campaign to our parish council meeting on 22 July and once the views of our parishioners were clear to the Council, we supported the Stop campaign. We then designed, printed and delivered our own questionnaire to every household - with a 75% response. Our county councillor continued in favour of a bypass, despite numerous requests that he represent the views of his electorate. This led to a vote of 'no confidence' in him at our meeting in September.

I am grateful to the professional manner in which the Stop campaign has been managed. Without that cohesive programme of activities, our villages would have been fighting each other trying to ensure such a road sat in someone else's backyard.

My thanks to our clerk who produced an excellent draft response to the County Council consultation document, pulling together our thoughts and ideas to form a concise, well-reasoned case to oppose the idea of any bypass, especially the inner route, for the Parish Council to approve at its meeting in September.

You know the result. SCC Chief Executive, Matthew Hicks has pulled the plug and at the SCC cabinet meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> February a resolution was passed to abandon this project. A written update has been received from the Stop campaign for this meeting, which I will read out later.

Onto more 'local' issues.

In addition to the six planned parish council meetings, there have been an additional ten meetings. Stop the bypass, The Admirals Head and planning applications have added to the load.

The Parish Council tries to ensure that the neighbouring properties associated with any planning application are advised and aware of the date of the parish council meeting that will consider that

application. Unfortunately, East Suffolk Council will, from the 1 April this year, only send out applications electronically. Bealings Village Hall, our normal meeting place, has acquired funding from one of our district councillors to enable a wireless network to be installed along with a 'smart' TV so that we can display applications/plans to meeting attendees. Our thanks to the Village Hall trustees for taking such swift action and to Tony Fryatt, one of our district councillors for proving the funds.

One planning enforcement issue is on-going with ESC – we await an update.

Ease of access for our website. A requirement has been placed upon all parish/town councils to review their websites to ensure their ease of access for disabled users. Our volunteer webmaster has undergone training and is going to undertake this considerable piece of work for us – which she estimates will take around 50 hours. A huge 'thank you' from the Parish Council to Jenny Shaw.

Sinks Pit. Local residents managed to hold a meeting with relevant SCC officers following two exchanges with the SCC Chief Executive. A liaison group has been formed and Douglas Hunter and Helen Saagi sit on that group. We hope that East Suffolk Council will attend these meetings especially now that they have approved the building of two more workshops. A permanent solution to the continual noise and dust problems is still awaited.

The parish council continues to support the Safer Village Driving Initiative and is in the process of seeking SCC consent for two positions within The Street to enable the SID (speed indicating device) to be employed in order to remind drivers of the 20mph limit. Thanks to Mike Garnham for his work identifying suitable locations for the Council to consider and for his work with this initiative. SCC continue to rotate their SIDs with other parishes for the Playford Road and Martlesham Road 30 mph sites.

The Parish Council continues to press Anglian Water and the Environment Agency for a speedy solution to the drainage problems in the centre of the village. The Parish Council won its previous appeal against Anglian Water's refusal to provide a new public sewer, but having initially said it would install a sewer between 2020 and 2025, Anglian Water has now changed this to the next five year programme. We have appealed this postponement and the Environment Agency is again investigating Anglian Water's decision.

The EAOW project nears completion and the temporary road signs have been removed. We are waiting to hear if there will be any new planting along the closed crossing point in Holly Lane.

Our thanks to the Plymouth Brethren Church Trust for their donation of a new grit bin by the level crossing, the repair of the one outside All Saints church and for their offer of assistance within the Parish.

The Parish Council remains a member of the Suffolk Association of Local Councils, Community Action Suffolk, Suffolk Preservation Society and the Police/ESC tier1 community. Colin Hopkins and Mike Garnham have attended the Police Tier 1 meetings.

Margaret Wilson attended the ESC Community Partnership event on behalf of the Parish Council. Denise Head has continued to represent us on the Village Hall committee. I have attended ESC and SALC meetings and along with our Clerk the various Stop meetings.

Our thanks to Colin Hedgley, our District Councillor, for his attendance, advice and support throughout the year.

Finally, my thanks to my fellow Councillors for their support during this hectic year and a special thanks to our clerk, Carol, for her professional approach and commitment to this Parish Council and to me during my first year as Chairman.

## APPENDIX 2

District Councillors Report to the Annual meeting of Little Bealings Parish Council

**March 2020**

**Cllr Tony Fryatt**

**Cllr Colin Hedgley**

### The Past Year

#### NRR

The past Year has seen a number of high profile challenges for this area the most important of which was undoubtedly the proposal for a Northern Relief Road.

It seems a long time ago now that myself and Cllr Fryatt met at Dan Poulter's office in Framlingham along with Nick Green and Nick Deacon in order to decide the best way to go about opposing the recently published plans for a Northern Relief Road.

We formulated a rough plan and then set about it with the two Nicks fronting the organisation. The rest as they say is history. But it should be noted that Little Bealings Parish Council was the first Parish Council out of the blocks so to speak, with some parish councils not declaring a view until a couple of months later.

### New Council

District Council Elections were held in May of last year and the new council took over a couple of weeks later. I was voted in as the first Chairman of East Suffolk Council for the year May 2019-May 2020. I also sit on the Planning Committee and the Licensing Committee.

### Climate Change

Climate Change went to the top of the agenda on most local councils and a harder line is now being taken over waste put out in wheelie bins, fly tipping and dog fouling. The council is now carrying out a review of all its actions and operations to identify energy and material savings. We now consider ourselves in the fore-front of defining all our actions by environment issues.

We have even for the last year been purchasing tea and coffee only if it is Fair Trade.

### Enabling Communities Budget

*I had £7500 this Financial year to spend within my community area.*

12th July 2019

£1,000 Tuddenham St Martin Village Hall Committee. Funding to purchase a defibrillator for the village hall.

18th July 2019

£1,000 Dalinghoo Parish Council. Funding to purchase a notice board for the main village. 26th July 2019  
£500. Great Bealings Parish Council. To help fund the planting of new trees (replacing missing or dying trees).

6th August 2019

£1,340. Project 21uk. Funding to support musical theatre workshops for Downs Syndrome people..

7th November 2019

£500. Just42 To purchase a projector and carry case for the group.

19th November 2019

£750. Playford Parish Council. To help funding towards a local history project - Playford Stories.

10th December 2019

£1,500. Hasketon Parish Council. Funding to upgrade the playing field equipment.

17th December 2019.

£910. Tuddenham St Martin Parish Council. To help funding towards the replacement of the safety area under the swings in the playground.

### Bealings Village Hall

Also after a plea from Keith Beaumont to myself and Tony Fryatt, Tony managed to find just over £1000 for the installation of Broadband and Wi-Fi in the hall, so hopefully very soon Parish Council meetings will be transformed.

### Exemplar

In addition to the ECB there is also a budget called the "ExemplarFund" whereby projects that require larger sums can apply for up to £10,000. However a good case must be made and there are lots of organisations within the East Suffolk Area that apply. The important thing to remember is that any application must be supported by the local District Councillor who has to write a letter of support and an explanation why he or she believes that a particular project deserves financial support.

I am pleased to report that both the ACH and the Hub were successful in their bids and both received sums in excess of £8000. So Little Bealings received £16,000 out of the £100k that was available. Good news!

### Statement from the Leader, Cllr Steve Gallant on Ipswich northern bypass

Having studied the findings from the strategic outline business case and the public consultation, I can confirm that East Suffolk Council does not support the proposals for the new Ipswich Northern Route. I have been clear throughout this process that impacts on communities in our district would have to be taken into consideration and I do not believe our residents' interests would be best served by continuing with the project.

The reality is that this new road will only happen if additional homes are built to justify it and, at the moment, a figure as high as 15,000 new properties would be required to make it financially viable. According to standard Planning estimates, this could lead to a new settlement with a population greater than Felixstowe and three times the size of Woodbridge, with a further 20,000 additional cars on the road. It is clear that new homes are needed in the district. However, the required growth has already been carefully considered and is laid out in our Local Plans. East Suffolk has a duty to represent the interests of our local residents and the significant extra housing that this project demands would place a genuine strain on existing communities and their quality of life.

The primary purpose of a new road would be to cut down congestion elsewhere, however the potential volume of new and additional traffic is worrying. In addition, the cost estimates are troubling and even without any legal challenge we would not see a road built before 2027.

The focus of East Suffolk in respect of transport infrastructure improvements needs to focus on potential projects which have the greatest positive impact on our district. These include improvements to the Orwell Bridge, The Copdock and Seven Hills junctions, and enhancements to the A12 from Felixstowe to Lowestoft, including campaigning for the re-trunking of this strategic road.

East Suffolk Council entirely supports infrastructure projects which provide clear, unarguable benefits to our local communities and businesses. We fully support the decision by Suffolk Public Sector Leaders to complete this study and public consultation. However, it is clear from the outcome that there will be significant impact on residents in the south of our district and I remain unconvinced that the benefits will outweigh a range of negative effects.

## Other News

**TV Series** East Suffolk Council will be starring in a brand new series for BBC daytime TV, which gets underway soon. The new series of *Britain's Housing Scandal* will be shown daily (Mon-Fri) from Monday 24th February at 09.15 on BBC One.

Presenter Matt Allwright, and crew, shadowed our Housing Team last Autumn and learned more about our efforts to improve outcomes for tenants and communities through improved housing offering and enforcement. The East Suffolk Council stories feature in episodes 2, 3, 7 & 9. For further information on the programmes, visit <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0c3gjh0/episodes/guide>.

If you are unable to see them live, they will of course be on the iplayer for a period after broadcast.

## Funding secured to help rough sleepers in East Suffolk

East Suffolk Council has secured over £600,000 to help support rough sleepers in the district.

Following a successful bid to the Government's Rough Sleeping Initiative, the Council has been awarded an additional £693,735 to support work with rough sleepers over the next year. The national initiative has allocated £112million to help get people off the streets and into safe accommodation.

The East Suffolk funding will enable the employment of new street outreach and a specialist to work with vulnerable adults. The funding will also enable the council to retain the services of a rough sleeper coordinator, specialist mental health workers and ensures the continuation of an eight-bed rapid assessment hub. Staff will be solely focused on working with those sleeping on the streets, providing increased support and helping to find accommodation for those in need.

## Improvements in sight as date agreed for plans to tackle Suffolk's parking problems

Council's in Suffolk are ramping up activity in order to take on responsibility for local parking management from 6 April 2020 in a bid to improve parking locally and drive down nuisance and unlawful parking.

Traditionally, roadside parking offences were a matter for the Police. However, this has become lower priority for them, so Suffolk County Council is transferring this responsibility to local district and borough councils under the process known as civil parking enforcement, or CPE.

Suffolk Constabulary is supportive of the move because the transfer of responsibilities will enable them to spend additional time on keeping communities safe and arresting and bringing offenders to justice.

## Community groups help keep East Suffolk clean

East Suffolk Council is keen to encourage, enable and reward people to show more love for the environment we live in, and as part of the 'Love East Suffolk' scheme, community groups have a winning way of cleaning up their neighbourhood while helping themselves.

Last year a total of 170 litter picks were carried out in East Suffolk by 133 community groups. Under the 'Love East Suffolk' scheme, funded through the Council's partners East Suffolk Norse, those that carried out litter picks between 1 March and 31 May 2019 were entered into a prize draw with the chance to win £200 for the benefit of the community.

The winners were drawn earlier this month by Cllr James Mallinder, Cabinet Member for the Environment and they are: North Cove & Barnby WI, St Margaret S.E. Village Hall, Pakefield Park Litterpickers, Ashby Herringfleet and Somerleyton Parish Council, Priority Court Resident's Association, Martlesham Parish Council, Thorpeness Beach Baggers, Dennington Parish Council and Blaxhall Commons & Open Spaces.

The Love East Suffolk scheme will be repeated again this year and any community groups that take part will receive £20 for their nominated community fund or charity and will also be entered into a £200 grand prize draw. More details will be released in the spring.

### Flower Club helping community to grow

Following a successful funding application to East Suffolk Council, a local flower arranging group has successfully hosted a wreath-making workshop to bring the Kesgrave community together.

East Suffolk ward councillor for Kesgrave, Cllr Debbie McCallum, donated £1,000 from her Enabling Communities Budget to the Orwell Flower Club to support an intergenerational event run with Kesgrave High and Health Primary Schools.

Students from the two schools were invited to attend a Christmas wreath-making workshop, held at the Royal British Legion Hall and organised by the Orwell Flower Club. Using materials supplied by the Flower Club, the students each worked with an older member for the community to create a wreath.

The Council's Enabling Communities Budgets support activities delivered by community, voluntary and social enterprise organisations. A total of £412,500 has been allocated for 2019/20 from the New Homes Bonus, funding generated through new houses built in the district.

### What communities really need: Innovative approach to funding gets underway

An innovative and progressive scheme, established to provide critical funding for projects which local people want and need most of all, will begin allocating money this month.

The East Suffolk Community Partnerships have been created to "bring ideas to life" and eight separate partnership groups, covering the whole district, will now each decide who to spend £10,000 this year and a further £25,000 for each of the next three years, based on one or more priorities which were agreed at a series of community workshops.

In addition, an overarching pot of £150,000 this year and £300,000 for each of the next three years will be available for the partnerships to bid for.

The eight partnerships cover the whole of East Suffolk and are based on natural grouping of communities, using the new East Suffolk Council ward boundaries as building blocks. Working alongside East Suffolk councillors will be County and town & parish councillors, the police, health bodies, community groups, businesses and other key organisations.

### Help available to those struggling with hoarding

East Suffolk Council has been awarded £56,950 from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to trial an innovative approach for housing tenants who may be hoarding items in their homes and neglecting their health and wellbeing.

Working in partnership with Lofty Heights, Access Community Trust and Flagship Housing, the Council's Private Sector Housing Team will work with tenants and landlords to address poor housing standards in properties where the tenant is showing signs of hoarding and self-neglect.

The trial will offer support to tenants through the decluttering process as well as help to improve their mental wellbeing, addressing the causes of their hoarding and reducing the risks of hoarding recurring in future. Following the clearance of hoarded items, any underlying housing issues and hazards will be addressed by the Private Sector Housing team to ensure the home provides a good standard of accommodation.

As well as supporting vulnerable residents, Access Community Trust will also operate a fortnightly 'Tenant Tuesday Café', providing a safe space for tenants in need of further support. Training will also be available in Lowestoft and Saxmundham for landlords who want to learn more about supporting vulnerable tenants, such as those leaving care.

## Refilling your weekly shop without unnecessary plastic is getting easier in Suffolk

A number of shops in Suffolk are offering refills for a host of household items in a bid to cut down on the amount of plastic and packaging we use.

The Suffolk Waste Partnership has launched a handy online directory which lists the shops, businesses or charities that host refill points for items such as cleaning products, toiletries and dried foods, such as rice or oats and even loose-leaf tea and chocolate. Now there are 22 organisations which stock refills, but the partnership is encouraging other businesses to consider introducing similar schemes.

Peter Stevens, Chairman of the Suffolk Waste Partnership, said: "These refill points allow people to make a decision about what plastic they use. Of course, we have a long way to go before these refill points replace our weekly shop, but it is absolutely fantastic that Suffolk is showing such initiative in beginning the process. This is exactly the kind of 'green' thinking we welcome and encourage. I would ask everyone to have a look at the directory and see what is offered in their neighbourhood."

Residents can search their local area on the directory to find where their nearest refill point is.

If any retailers or businesses would like to offer refill services and get listed on the online directory please contact [Waste.Management@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Waste.Management@suffolk.gov.uk). The directory can be found [HERE](#).



## APPENDIX 3

### Report from Friends of The Admirals Head

#### *Recap:*

The Admirals Head closed in 2012. To try and ensure that its pub should not be lost to the village and wider community for ever, Little Bealings Parish Council applied to register the Admirals Head as an 'Asset of Community Value' – an ACV.

A Save the Admirals Head group formed soon thereafter. This saw the advent of the 'Pop up Pubs' at the village hall usually attended by well over 100 people.

However, nothing could be done as regards the Admirals Head itself unless and until the owners decided to put the pub on the market, which they did in May last year. The Pub going on the market triggered a six-month 'preference' period during which the owners could only accept a bid from a community group. However, the owners are not obliged to accept a community bid, or indeed any commercial bid, wither within or following that six-month period.

The current Friends of the Admirals Head group was formed to launch a bid to purchase, re-open and run the Admirals Head for the benefit of the community, provided of course that there was support for such a project. The vision of The Friends of The Admirals Head is to see a thriving, community-owned pub returned to its invaluable place in the community, a place to meet, socialise and enjoy great food and drink.

A public meeting at Bealings Village Hall in June 2019 was attended by more than 80 people. The meeting was overwhelmingly supportive of a proposal to try and re-open the village pub.

The Management Committee has worked tirelessly ever since on budgets, business plans, publicity, website, surveys, grant applications and setting up a Community Benefit Society.

#### *Our Bid:*

Following the commissioning of a 'Red Book' valuation from specialist RICS surveyors, we lodged with the owners within the preference period, a bid of £275,000 to purchase the pub. Our bid was not accepted, but remains on the table. It is not our intention to increase our bid or seek to purchase the pub at any price. We know that there has been commercial interest in the pub too and our hope is that either our bid, or a commercial bid will, in time, be accepted. Time will tell!

#### *How much do we need to save the pub?*

Our feasibility and business planning estimates that we realistically need £450,000 to purchase the pub at £275,000, refurbish it (including installation of a new kitchen), reopen and run the pub viably.

#### *How are we raising finance?*

We aim to raise the required £450,000 through a combination of different funding sources:

- Raising community shares
- Securing charitable funding and social investment



- Support from local Parish Council via Public Works Loan Board

### Community shares:

Without our bid even having been accepted we have received just over £87,000 in pledges to purchase community shares

We anticipate that acceptance of a bid from the owners (or should it come to it, compulsory purchase by the Local Authority with a view to selling to the community) will allow us to launch a renewed funding drive which would be well received and lead to a significant groundswell of further interest and pledges from the local community and indeed further afield.

### Charitable funding and social investment:

We are confident of being successful in our bid to raise £100,000 of financing through charitable funding and social investment. Although our bid to purchase the pub has not yet been accepted, we have decided to submit now (and have just done so) our application for a loan and grant to The Plunkett Foundation. The Foundation's 'More than a Pub' programme has some significant funds to commit in principle before the end of this financial year, during which Suffolk is a priority place for their funding programme.

We should hear from the Plunkett Foundation over the course of March as to its commitment to support our project in principle.

### Financing shortfall

We do not at this stage expect (although would love to be proved wrong!) that Community Shares and Charitable funding alone will raise £450,000. On current figures there would be a maximum shortfall of £250,000 but again we are confident that such shortfall would be mitigated by an upsurge in both interest and goodwill (and community pledges!) if and when our bid is accepted.

As to the shortfall, we have spoken to the three local Parish Councils (Little Bealings, Great Bealings and Playford) about the possibility of financial support. Around the country, local councils have used advances from the Public Works Loan Board to support community projects by way of grants and shares, including in the purchase of community pubs.

### How can support from local Parish Councils work?

Parish councils can access affordable finance (2.8% per annum) through a Public Works Loan Board.

Advances from the Public Works Loan Board are very flexible, loans can be repaid over any period up to 50 years.

We are very grateful to Little Bealings Parish Council for having passed a resolution in support of investing in the Community Pub project in principle, to be financed through an advance from the Public Works Loan Board, although this would not go ahead until there had been a referendum of residents. That remains the case, although as far as the community group is concerned, the time

for a referendum, when support can be properly gauged, is when a bid has been accepted in principle!

Whilst (of course!) there would be an increase in the precept, in pub parlance this would be something around the cost of half a pint of beer or a packet of crisps, per household per week.

Thanks to all those who have supported and helped in any way. We remain hopeful that by the time the next Annual Parish Meeting comes around, we might repair afterwards for a pint at The Admirals Head!!

Chris Mason

Chair, Friends of The Admirals Head

<https://friendsoftheadmiralshead.org.uk>.

## APPENDIX 4

### PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR BEALINGS VILLAGE HALL TRUST

The Village Hall continues to be well used with a number of regular hirers, plus one-off events. Over 7,000 participant hours spread over 360 days of the year reflect the high demand for all the facilities of this vital community hub.

The reinvigorated Admirals Head Pub Group coordinated with the BVH fundraising committee and arranged regular “Pop Up Pub” events every other month which were very successful and enjoyed by over 100 revellers at each event enjoying food, drinks and raffle.

Another application for a grant to extend/resurface the car park for £43k was unsuccessful and so it was decided to refurbish “self help” with road planings and re-submit at a later date.

The proposed project for extension/re-roof/extra toilets/expanded car park/enhanced access for the hall came back costing over £577K. Whilst we were getting our plans prepared, three other Village projects sprang to life: All Saints Church refurbishment, Angela Cobbold Hall sale & The Admirals Head Pub community purchase appeal, and it was felt that due to the high cost we could not proceed at that time with so many appeals for community cash ongoing.

Last year bookings for using the Sports Court were down on the previous year, and the committee have increased subscriptions this year to help cover costs. The new sports court bookings system continues to be successful with easy booking via the Little Bealings Parish website or directly at [bealingsvillagehall.org.uk](http://bealingsvillagehall.org.uk).

We had our first case of vandalism of the play equipment in May with damage to the climber net legs and water tap, these were repaired in house along with regular maintenance of new zip wire chain, new bearing for spica (spinner).

Working parties on the field were supported by numerous volunteers from the community, who helped remove tons of leaves, clear paths and spread tons on fresh soil.

The Trustees of the Village Hall greatly appreciate the donations given each year by the two Parish Councils towards the upkeep of the hall and playing field.

## APPENDIX 5

### ACH Report to the Parish Council

On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019, Ropeth purchased the Angela Cobbold Hall from the PCC of All Saints. The purchase date may reflect my Pythonesque sense of humour, due to the trials and tribulations experienced before the purchase.

Prior to our purchase, we had arranged for a structural survey which disclosed not only various obvious requirements, but also that once certain repairs were made, the Hall's life expectancy would probably continue into the next century. However, our purchase was only possible, thanks to the massive financial support we received from the villagers of Little Bealings, who gave some £70K to cover purchase and legal costs, the cost of registering our company which also acquired Charitable Trust status, producing another good sum by Gift Aid approval. All legal aspects of our journey were handled professionally by Birketts.

We then set about obtaining grants and raised £35K, thankfully due to the fact that, thanks to our Donors, we had ourselves funded the Hall purchase. In addition further donations enabled us to quickly attend to the repair of 2 large cracks and install, long overdue attention to the guttering and drainage. We separated the £35K into new equipment, £19K and repairs, £16K. in order to. install new Double Glazing to replace the 1939 Crittall windows, re-felt the flat roof section and decorate the inner Hall. Future plans include provision of a new kitchen and outside store room.

Since last year we have purchased, new chairs and tables, mobile staging, a dance mirror with curtain cover, a huge 75 in TV, with Freeview, Films by DVD, under proper licence, lap top and mobile link, for images on the TV screen and Wi Fi. This offers the opportunity for small conference opportunities, stage lighting is coming shortly. We are introducing Social Fridays with use of our new T/T table (the Joan Moon special), a small snooker table, a professional darts board with properly marked floor mat, and for increased fitness, we have 2 Special Keep fit bikes., supplemented by full drinks licence availability.

The usage of the Hall is now increasing: Knit and Natter Club, a Play Reading Group, both in the reading room, NOT TOGETHER! Pilates Group, Yoga group with Dance Mirror use, an Enthusiastic Wine Tasting group, enthusiastic Guides, but not related, Bowls, Film Club Saturdays, Gill's Singalongs "a Gardening Club, highly recommended By Alan Titchmarsh on TV video. And of course, our highly successful Monthly Community Lunch Club, Forthcoming is a Gala Opera Concert evening from Baden Baden by 4 of the world's top singers with Italian anti pasta board and wine included in the ticket price.

Finally don't miss our VE day celebrations on Friday May, there will be a Free glass of Prosecco to accompany food we ask you to provide and some entertainment by your local Dad's Army, the Andrews sisters and Vera Lynn to name but a few! Put it in your diary now!

## APPENDIX 6

Report for Parish Council Meeting Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

2019 has been a year of strong progress for All Saints Church and we are grateful to those who are part of the All Saints community, whether by attending services, activities, or special events. During this Interregnum, we have been blessed to have Rev Penny Brown, Rev Mark Cresswell, Archdeacon Sally Gaze, Rev Paul Hambling, and Rev Judith Andrews lead our services and we are grateful to Rev Gary Jones who has now assumed this responsibility on a regular basis, along with serving as our temporary vicar under the leadership of Rev Robin Spittle from All Saints Kesgrave. We must also extend heartfelt thanks to Frances and Liz Mutimer, Helen and John Wittgreffe, Betty Slim, Jane Hartley, and Peter Kidd, all of whom have done yeoman's work for the church, in the churchyard, and on our beautiful flower displays. We participated in 5 wonderful Messy Church services within the Benefice and hope that this joyful and youthful gathering will continue for a long time to come in Little Bealings. Once again, we were pleased to be part of the annual Remembrance Service, which was held in Playford this year. Tony Fear, Churchwarden, read the names of all those from Little Bealings who made the ultimate sacrifice and we joined with all in commemorating their service.

This year, we were delighted to see our parishioner and long-time friend and sidesperson--Peter Kidd--receiving a British Empire Medal for his work over the past several decades for All Saints Church, in addition to many other notable organisations. His dedication to helping others and the example he sets for all continues to serve as an inspiration and we are delighted that he received his Medal this year from Clare, Countess of Euston, Suffolk's first female Lord Lieutenant since the role was created during the reign of Henry VIII nearly 500 years ago! We will celebrate

Peter's achievement at a service in All Saints Church this summer after he and his family join the Queen for a garden party at Buckingham Palace!

With the support of local, regional and national donors—and with a special acknowledgement to Councillor Colin Hedgley for his unwavering support--the Church was able to launch the Bealings Community Hub, which continues to build its profile as a centre of both religious and secular activities with opportunities for all to gather and enjoy good company and fellowship. As part of establishing the Hub, we worked hard to earn a Bronze Eco Church award that recognizes our desire to be good caretakers of God's creation. We have also applied for funding to create a small raised allotment area within the Churchyard.

In addition to regular church services and a delightful Songs of Praise afternoon service, the Parochial Church Council has been delighted to run several successful events in and from the Church, including Celia Bird's jazz concert, Bealings Farmers' Market, a wonderful performance by the Holleseley WI Choir, weekly Thursday walks led by Frances Mutimer, our wreath-making workshop, the December family-friendly Tavern evening, and a very popular Flower Festival (spearheaded by the talented Helen Wittgreffe!). Once again, the Plant Sale was an incredible community effort and we are grateful to Norman Porter and the committee members for continuing to support the Church and allowing us to assist with refreshments.

Thanks to permission from Archdeacon Jeanette Gosney, we were able to launch our volunteer-run and volunteer-staffed pop-up Tearoom and Shop with Refill Station, which is ably led by Corinne Fear, Churchwarden. The school children have become big fans of after school milkshakes and the



homemade pies, quiches, soups, great coffee, and traditional tea service have received rave reviews from those in the village and visitors from throughout the area. While the Tearoom has not been open long or often enough to be profitable at this point, we are hopeful that once the repairs and upgrades have been made to the fabric of the Church, we will be able to be open more often and proceeds from the Tearoom and the refill station can be used for the upkeep of the Church and bring financial stability.

We ended 2019 with two beautiful Christmas services in December: the Crib Service--where more than 15 children helped Rev Jones retell the story of the birth of Jesus--and the Carol Service, which was joyful as ever with a full church and made even better by the choir and special musicians which Michael Lacey led. We look forward to 2020 bringing even more services, activities, special events, and opportunities for us all to join together as one and to continue the Mission of the Church in service to the community. The Churchwardens of the 4 churches in our Benefice--along with their respective Parochial Church Councils--have agreed on a plan to move forward and while the bureaucratic wheels may not turn as quickly as one would like, we are hopeful that by the end of 2020, All Saints Church will be established--along with Playford Church--as part of a new Benefice with All Saints Kesgrave. Despite the changes that will come, however, we are still an interwoven community and will always be proud to work together with our neighbouring villages and wonderful friends and neighbours.

In conclusion, I would be remiss if I did not extend particular thanks on behalf of the PCC and the Diocese to Corinne and Tony Fear, who have been the able and enthusiastic leaders for our Church in this Interregnum.

Without their hard work and determination, the Church would be far worse off and we hope they continue their service for many years to come.

**Stop! The Ipswich Northern Bypass Update**  
**& Launch of Start! Moving Ipswich**  
**Little Bealings PC Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

Following months of waiting, on 27th January, Matthew Hicks released the Consultation results and Strategic Outline Business Case of the proposed Ipswich Northern Route. Huge congratulations and a massive thank you to all of you who were instrumental in making the public consultation such an overwhelming success. This revealed that two-thirds of the 4286 respondents to the consultation were totally opposed to any of the proposed routes and only 26% were in favour of the project at all.

Importantly Matthew Hicks had previously made the following statement "A project of this scale can only proceed by ensuring all partners are fully committed to each stage." Then four key partners withdrew their support for the scheme, the Public, East Suffolk, Mid-Suffolk and Babergh District Councils. Not only these objected but two of our local MP's Dr Dan Poulter and Dr Therese Coffey did also. The speed in which this has happened was significant.

The Conservative Leader from East Suffolk, Steve Gallant released an official statement which withdraws their support for the proposals.

This was shortly followed by Conservative Leader of Mid Suffolk, Suzie Morley, also withdrawing their support for the proposals. In her comment to the EADT she said "I do believe it was right to develop the proposals for public consultation.

"However, as representatives of Mid Suffolk, we must balance the importance of improving travel times in Suffolk with the needs and wishes of our residents, and the natural environment which we hold dearly.

It is quite clear that public opinion in Mid Suffolk is against the INR. On balance, I cannot see a future for the Ipswich Northern Route project, so we will not be supporting it beyond this point.

"This is a carefully considered position, but one which we believe is in the best interest of Mid Suffolk residents to whom we are ultimately accountable."

John Ward, Babergh District Council Leader, states "All things considered, I accept that the Ipswich Northern Route project should not go ahead, but feel very strongly that

there must be renewed focus on improvements to key existing roads and junctions, including the Copdock interchange and Orwell Bridge. I'd like to see these areas addressed as a matter of urgency so that important progress can be made"

As the day unfolded, Matthew Hicks, and then our own Nick Green, were interviewed on Radio Suffolk. To listen to their interviews, please visit our website or Facebook page.

Ipswich Borough Council and MP Tom Hunt, still supports the idea of a bypass by suggesting that there is a business case for it, however the business case for building the road is entirely based upon the reduction in travel times across the county yet every major road study completed shows that in a short period of time travel times actually increase due to the additional induced traffic. Therefore, the figures used in the report are extremely biased and entirely fictional. Another surprise from the survey was that a large number of journeys are North-South and few people travel entirely from the East to West or vice versa of Ipswich, so the road might actually slow most people's journeys. To be clear in spite of his comments no route has been specified as the preferred route this would be decided at the next stage.

The costings for the road are significantly cheaper than any comparative schemes, by way of example they have costed buying the land and compensation bill needed for the road at £15 million. This was commented on by East Suffolk Council who said 'the potential volume of new and additional traffic is worrying. In addition, the cost estimates are troubling...' a polite way of saying they are a nonsense!

We are continuing our work behind the scenes and our Research Team, headed up by Alan Walmsley, has now reviewed all of the 800 page Strategic Outline Business Case and have concluded that despite C'lr Hicks maintaining there is a strong economic business case, in fact it has shown that the case for the road on any objective basis looks increasingly weak.

SCC has now absorbed all of the reactions from the District councils and businesses across the region and at their cabinet meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> February (a webcast of this meeting can be found on our Stop! Website under 'Key Information') and concluded that it does not have sufficient support to be taken any further. We still have work to undertake to make sure that this is never brought forward again.

Nick Green also attended a full Council Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February and formally presented SCC with our petition and giving a fantastic account of what has happened from the

early stages of the Consultation to date. This was a crucial meeting for Stop! to attend as it now has the strength of opposition documented.

We are asking for all banners to be returned to us so that they can be recycled and do not end up at a landfill. These can be dropped off at Lowood, Hasketon or we can arrange collection. Please email [stopbypass@gmail.com](mailto:stopbypass@gmail.com)

March 12<sup>th</sup> will see the official launch of our Start! Moving Ipswich Campaign which we hope will also be a great success. Start! Moving Ipswich is an environmental and traffic think tank for Ipswich and the surrounding areas. Our aim is to work on ideas to help existing infrastructure reduce congestion, increase public transport and encourage modal shift from cars to more environmentally sustainable methods of transport. We are also aiming to pressure the DFT to address and improve the reliability of the Orwell Bridge and make necessary improvements to the A14 and A12 pinch points.

It was with interest that only hours after the Consultation Results were announced that Highways England reported that they are very much hoping to have new measures in place to reduce bridge closures during high winds.

As Start! we took part in a talk at The Woodbridge Climate Summit, which was well attended, very interesting and successful.

We have already set up a petition with Change.org for Highways England to take immediate action in reducing closures of the Orwell Bridge. We have already got just under five hundred signatures in three days. C'Ilr Hicks has also recently stated that he is enlisting a task force to also look at alternative options to ease traffic congestion - we very much hope that we, as Start! Ipswich Moving can work with SCC to ensure changes are put in place. It is time for a modal shift.

Thank you all for your continuing support and we hope you will be able to join us in our Stop! Drinks and the official launch of the Start! Moving Ipswich on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

*On behalf of The Stop! Team &*

*Start! Moving Ipswich Team*