

Bromeswell Annual Parish Meeting Minutes  
Monday 13 May 2024 at 6.30 p.m.at the Village Hall



Attendance: Chair Verity Brown (VB), Vice Chair Tim Johnson (TJ), Ian Abbott (IA), Tracy Rogers (TR), Sue Todd (ST), Rory Burrow (RB), Verity Danziger (VD), SCC Cllr Andrew Reid, ESC Cllr James Mallinder, Guest Speaker SWT Ben Calvesbert, Jenny Lloyd (Clerk), 9 members of public

1.	Welcome
2.	<p><b>To receive Annual Reports</b></p> <p>SCC Annual Report was distributed and <a href="#">is available to view on the website</a> Cllr Reid highlighted some of their activities over the past year.</p> <p>SCC continue to support communities through the library services and the mobile library service</p> <p>Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service has announced plans to create a new fire control centre in Suffolk at Landmark House on the A14 at Copdock.</p> <p>SCC has raised concerns about the number of nationally significant infrastructure projects and the interconnectors and transformers that are required to bring offshore windpower onto land, and continues to explore alternatives.</p> <p>Cabinet approved an extra £10 million to repair and resurface local roads across Suffolk - funding has been confirmed for a transformative package of improvements as part of SCC's A12 Major Road Network scheme. The improvements will be between 7 Hills roundabout and Melton roundabout. Suffolk Highways has welcomed the new pothole-repairing machine to help fix the growing number of potholes experienced nationally during the winter season, with a trial set to initially target defects in rural Suffolk.</p> <p>SCC has confirmed its £750m financial budget for 2024-25 with a focus on protecting the vulnerable. 77p in each £1 raised goes to Adult Care and Children and Young People SCC Cabinet confirmed that 60 new members of staff will be recruited to drive forward important reform to the way special educational needs and disability (SEND) services are delivered in Suffolk. This is a new responsibility for Cllr Reid following changes in the cabinet.</p> <p>Cllr Reid was available to answer questions, and BPC thanked him for his support.</p> <p>Cllr Mallinder presented his verbal report mentioning the change in administration at ESC and his disappointment that no new initiatives or projects are planned to encourage biodiversity.</p> <p>Cllr Mallinder is delighted to be back as District Councillor to liaise with PC's and assist where he can and highlighted the activities on the Peninsular over the last year, including parking issues at Bawdsey, Ramsholt camp site, various pavement and flooding issues, and continues to support all the Deben PC's in monitoring Planning and Enforcement concerns.</p> <p>BPC are very appreciative of James' ready availability and thanks were expressed for his support.</p>
3.	<p><b>Guest Speaker</b></p> <p>Ben Calvesbert is the Heaths and Meadows Warden at Suffolk Wildlife Trust and part of the Reserves Team based at Foxburrow Farm Melton. He also manages land for the Forestry Commission, as well as looking after Trust meadow reserves. Ben presented a summary of the annual management at Bromeswell Green. Full report <a href="#">is available on the website</a></p> <p>The pub meadow and the Common Lane meadow were grazed by 29 Hebridean sheep between June and October. The level of grazing was increased this year and part of the pub meadow cut and raked in an attempt to increase the floristic diversity. An area of reedbed in the pub meadow was cut with brush cutters and raked into piles on the edge of the site by volunteers. - traditionally known as a hay cut. Willow scrub was coppiced to prevent shading of other plants. The trail was mown twice in the summer. The patch of bracken at the top was cut in July with a tractor and swipe to stop bracken getting too dominant.</p> <p>Litter was collected from the road verges and car park on several occasions.</p>

	<p>Nightingales are an important species on the reserve, preferring dense scrub. The areas of blackthorn scrub by the car park have developed well following previous coppicing - the concern is the increase in deer numbers i.e. bird boxes that were donated by the BPC a few years ago were difficult to access - muntjac, roe deer have browsed on the vegetation which is a possible threat to the nightingale. The woodland requires no intervention and is stable. The pond appears to be reasonably open following de-silting in 2020. The repaired barn owl box has been put back up, but no barn owl sighted so far. Kingfishers have been seen both on the Deben and on the pond at Bromeswell Green. There are several signs of otters using the reserve - with otter spraint evidence by the pond and trail cam footage of otters crossing the road. Request was raised to contact the Deben Otter Group and pass on to Ben - Action Clerk.</p> <p>The Badger sett to the south of the pub meadow is very active. Plans to re-fence the southern edge of the pub meadow are complicated by their presence as they keep burying it. A network of Mink rafts have been on site for a few months - these have a remote activation alarm for close monitoring.</p> <p>Signs asking people not to launch watercraft from the reserve appear to have been effective. Fly tipping and litter in the car park is still an occasional problem.</p> <p>A Health and Safety issue was mentioned - further to the ditch on Common Lane being cleaned out and a post and rail fence being fitted to safeguard the drop - unfortunately somebody has driven into the fence.</p> <p>A query was raised about the management of the pond - it does seem to silt up quickly - slightly hampered by the power lines and the digger is unable to reach right across. It is due to be cleared.</p> <p>The car park has been churned up and needs attention - raising differing views about encouraging too many visitors or overnight camping - it will be levelled off at some time in the future.</p> <p>It was also mentioned that there used to be a significant amount of toads a few years back - unfortunately there is less wildlife despite best efforts</p> <p>BPC suggested they will consider any projects that could help in the future - if anybody is interested in becoming a SWT volunteer <a href="#">please contact Suffolk Wildlife Trust</a>.</p> <p>Thanks were expressed to Ben for an interesting talk and for looking after Bromeswell Green</p>
4.	<p><b>There was an opportunity for village organisations to inform residents of their activity and to answer any questions and for residents to share their views.</b></p> <p>- Parochial Church Council will be very keen for anyone to engage with the church, whether religious activities or non religious activities and thanked the PC for their financial contribution to the maintenance of the churchyard. BPC are pleased to support, and thanked the PCC for all that they do in the village.</p> <p>- The concern raised was that of pedestrians young and old, able and disabled, being able to safely cross the A1152 from School to the Bus Stop and shelter and back. If the overall speed on the A1152 can be reduced between The Wilford bridge Roundabout and the Orford Rd/ Eyke Junction, then the option for a crossing island may be considered by Highways.</p> <p>It was noted that some residents will support the PC's aim to reduce the speed limit with individual correspondence if needed. Thank you to residents that have written to SCC concerning this matter.</p> <p>Thanks expressed to IA for his time and energy in pursuing this issue</p>

5.	<p><b>Chair presented the BPC Annual Report</b> summarised as follows - <a href="#">full report is available on the website</a>. BPC has had another busy year, with our dedicated team and supportive partners getting a lot of work done. Throughout the year, we have held 6 meetings with at least 6 out of 7 councillors present at each. Our careful budgeting has kept us financially healthy, meeting all legal requirements and responsibly managing the public funds that we are given.</p> <p>Many thanks to Andrew Reid for support both financially and advisory in tackling the ongoing significant Highways issues locally, and for the work he does for the benefit of the wider Suffolk community.</p> <p>Thank you to James Mallinder, our District Councillor, for supporting numerous community initiatives, advising on enforcement issues, environmental issues, being accessible, and being so willing to help in whatever way possible.</p> <p>We are also grateful for the ongoing support from Suffolk Wildlife Trust in successfully managing Bromeswell Green, and for the Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB keeping us up-to-date with their activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We have responded to 12 planning applications, additionally, we've addressed 5 planning enforcement issues.</li> <li>- We have conducted surveys, participated in consultations, and engaged with the community on various projects where appropriate</li> <li>- We have collaborated on multiple initiatives, including traffic safety measures and community partnerships.</li> </ul> <p>Other projects include planting bulbs for Suffolk in Bloom, surveying residents for their opinions on setting up a Community Events Committee, and surveying for vital local information for updating our Community Emergency Plan. All aimed at enhancing the village</p> <p>Special thanks again to our partners at County and District Level and Suffolk Wildlife Trust. Thank you to villagers for engaging with, and supporting us. Thank you to The Warbler editors for their huge support in distributing essential information both inside and outside of the regular monthly publication. Thank you to our Clerk and Councillors for their dedication and support.</p> <p>In summary, it has been a year of hard work and co-operation, and we are proud of what has been achieved together.</p> <p>Thank you all for your continued support and involvement - let us keep making Bromeswell a really lovely village to be part of.</p> <p>Verity Brown was thanked by the BPC for her time and commitment over the last 12 months.</p>
6.	<p>The Annual Parish Meeting closed at 7.30 p.m. and was followed by the Annual Council meeting. The minutes remain a draft until the next Annual Parish meeting in May 2025.</p>

Signed ..... Chair      Date 12 May 2025 .....