

Little Bealings Parish Council: Chairman's Report 2017-2018

Since our last Annual Parish Meeting we have had a very busy year, with 14 Parish Council meetings, 8 of which were meetings specifically to consider planning proposals. There have been a variety of planning applications that the Parish Council has been consulted on, including extensions and alterations to private dwellings, and applications for two new houses outside the village envelope - one of which was refused and the other remains outstanding.

Permission was also given by the Local Planning Authority for the demolition of 2 adjoining houses in The Street to be replaced by the erection of 4 detached houses on the same site, subject to the approval of reserved matters.

The application for the Admirals Head public house to be converted to a private dwelling received significant objections from parishioners and was refused permission by SCDC. This decision supported the view of the Parish Council, and we have also successfully applied for the Admiral's Head listing as a Community Asset to be repeated for the next 5 years. This allows for a bid to purchase to be made by the community if it is placed for sale during this time.

Noise and activity at Sinks Pit remains to be resolved and we continue to press for a solution. We also keep a 'watching brief' on the installation of the Wind Farm cabling as it proceeds.

The Parish Council has had three significant successes during the year:

First, the 20mph speed limit in the village has now been implemented. Thanks to District Councillor Colin Hedgley and our County Councillor Robin Vickery for funding this.

Secondly, we are now a part of SCC's rota for 'Vehicular Activated Signs' in Martlesham and Playford Road, making motorists aware when they exceed the speed limit. We are currently pressing for a renewal of the white lines and hatched area along Martlesham Road, which were successful in decreasing speed when originally installed.

Lastly, our appeal to the Environmental Agency, following Anglian Water's decision to refuse a public sewer for part of The Street, was successful. Anglian Water has agreed to link 5 buildings to a new public sewer, with other properties likely to be able to link into this at their own expense. This project will be included in their 2020-2025 programme.

The Parish Council remains a member of the Suffolk Preservation Society, the Suffolk Association of Local Councils, Community Action Suffolk and SAVID (a Safer Village Driving Group), where we have been represented by Denise Head. Toni Cornish has attended local police 'anti-social behaviour' management meetings for the Council. I attended a policy planning meeting with SCDC, with Ian Ransome and the Clerk, a part of SCDC's Local Plan Review.

I would like to thank the Parish Clerk for her knowledge and support which has made my job as Chairman so much easier, and also the Parish Councillors. Special thanks should go to Jenny Shaw for her work as the Webmaster for the Little Bealings Parish website for her unstinting commitment and enthusiasm. Also, to Tony Fear for maintaining the footpaths.

Margaret Wilson
Chairman, Little Bealings Parish Council

5 March 2018