



## CLAYDON & WHITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs C Greenan, 129 Poplar Hill, Stowmarket, IP14 2AX

Phone/Fax: 07887 459989

E-mail: [claywhit@btinternet.com](mailto:claywhit@btinternet.com)

Website: [www.claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net](http://www.claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net)

---

### MINUTES

#### CLAYDON AND WHITTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022, 7.30pm held at Claydon and Barham Village Hall, 8 Norwich Road,  
Claydon, IP6 0DF

**PRESENT:** Cllrs G Cornish, C Cutler, S Price, M Reach, S Wells, J Whitehead

**CHAIRPERSON:** Cllr C Studd

**IN ATTENDANCE:** C Greenan (clerk), and County Cllr C Chambers

#### **22-05-01. Opening**

Cllr Studd opened the meeting.

#### **22-05-02. Election of Chairperson for the ensuing year**

Chris Studd was unanimously elected as Chair for the year.

#### **22-05-03. Appointment of Vice-Chairperson for the ensuing year**

Gail Cornish was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair for the year.

#### **22-05-04. Public Forum**

No members of the public were present.

#### **22-05-05. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Avis apologised due to being away. This reason for absence was accepted.

#### **22-05-06. Declaration of interest and local non-pecuniary interests.**

None.

#### **22-05-07. To receive and approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

---

So signed by the Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The minutes were approved and were signed as a correct record. They may be viewed here:  
<http://www.claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net/assets/Uploads/Claydon/2022/Minutes-2022/2022-03-14-Minutes.pdf>

**22-05-08. Report on actions from previous minutes**

- a. Clerk to send email to the Village Hall Management Committee to confirm that the Parish Council owns and maintains the clock and to ensure that the clock is added to the Parish Council asset list.

This action was completed.

- b. Clerk to continue trying to establish contact with the last chair of the Emergency Plan Committee, who it is believed may have keys to the Emergency Plan cupboard in the Village Hall.

The clerk has made contact with the last chair of the Emergency Plan Committee, who has agreed to deliver the box of Emergency Plan items that she possesses to Claydon next time she is in the area. The clerk agreed to either meet her in Claydon or ask her to drop the items at a councillor's house if she was not available.

- c. Cllr Chambers to establish progress towards a road sign for the Recreation Ground.

This action is in progress.

- d. Clerk to contact Barham and Great Blakenham Parish Councils regarding a joint Community Speedwatch group

Clerk received a response from Barham Parish Council stating that they were content with their own Speedwatch group at present.

- e. Clerk to chase a response from Ipswich Borough Council regarding their intentions with land they own in Whitton Rural.

The Clerk received a response from Ipswich Borough Council stating that they own the land in Whitton Rural, but currently do not have any plans for this land.

- f. Clerk to continue attempting to arrange a meeting with Suffolk County Council regarding school parking.

The Clerk will continue chasing this with assistance from Cllr Chambers.

- g. Clerk to contact tree warden regarding a suitable tree for the Village Green.

Clerk will further research purchasing a tree from the Woodland Trust.

- h. Clerk to organise moving to Parish Council emails for all councillors.

Clerk has organised Parish Council email addresses for all councillors.

- i. Clerk to send out a tender for a SIDS device.

Clerk will circulate SIDS information to councillors to consider.

- j. Clerk to contact nominated resident for the Festival of Suffolk Jubilee Torch Relay.

Clerk has contacted Anne Dunford, who has kindly agreed to represent Claydon in the Torch Relay.

- k. Clerk and Cllr Chambers to follow up on whether a parking permit system would be more appropriate for parking in Claydon.

Cllr Chambers has discussed this with the Highways Cabinet Member and they questioned whether it was definitely a permit scheme that would be required or an extension to one hour. Councillors confirmed that a permit scheme would be best, with permits that businesses can hand to customers as required as the parking spaces normally require a quick turnover.

#### **22-05-09. Correspondence**

- a. Mid Suffolk District Council Community Governance Review

Councillors noted the review and will not submit a comment from the Parish Council.

- b. Resident email regarding Bury Road Park and Ride.

Councillors noted the correspondence and agree that a Park and Ride would be beneficial in this area. They noted that the email was addressed to the County Council and will observe the response with interest.

#### **22-05-10. Questions on written reports**

- a. County Councillor Chris Chambers

Cllr Chambers' report was noted and is attached in the minute book.

- b. District Councillors John Whitehead and Tim Passmore

Cllrs Whitehead and Passmore's report was noted and is attached in the minute book.

- c. Village Hall Management Committee

The Village Hall report was noted and is attached in the minute book.

- d. Recreation Ground Management Committee

The Recreation Ground Management Committee report was noted and is attached in the minute book.

- o Jubilee Fun Day 5<sup>th</sup> June

Cllr Cornish requested volunteers to assist with the Jubilee Fun Day and asked the Clerk and Councillors to publicise this locally to recruit volunteers.

e. Community Centre

Councillors noted the issue of cars parked all the way up Church Lane towards the Community Centre frequently causing chaos on Church Lane. Cllr Cutler will talk to the Community Centre regarding solutions to this issue.

Grant funding for the CCTV was discussed and 60% of the net figure (£1,232.40) was agreed by councillors. The Clerk will arrange payment.

**22-05-11. Planning and amenities report**

a. Draft minutes from Planning Committee 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022

The minutes were noted and are attached in the minute book and are available on the website:

<http://www.claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net/assets/Uploads/Claydon/Draft/2022-03-21-Planning-Meeting.pdf>

b. Decision Report

The report was noted and is attached in the minute book.

c. Consider and resolve on delegated powers to the clerk or a sub-committee for planning permission involving trees and reserved matters outside of the parish

Councillors considered this proposal and resolved unanimously on delegating powers to the Clerk for planning permission involving trees and reserved matters outside of the parish unless the permission sought may prove contentious within the parish. The Clerk will check these with the Planning Committee Chair before submitting no comment to the Planning Portal. The Clerk will report on these at future Planning Committee meetings.

**22-05-12. Finance Report**

a. To appoint the Responsible Finance Officer for 2022/23

The Clerk was appointed unanimously to be the Responsible Finance Officer for 2022/23.

b. To note and approve the balance of accounts as at 25 April 2022:

- Community account:	£ 143,419.44
- Parish CIL Reserves:	£ 52,462.48
- RG Car Park Reserves Fund:	£ 25,001.17

The balance of accounts was noted and approved.

c. To note and approve:

- the accounts awaiting payment
  - the accounts paid since the last meeting
  - the receipts allocated since the last meeting
- (for detail see Paper 2)

The accounts awaiting payment, the accounts paid and the receipts allocated were noted and approved.

d. To note the draft minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022

The draft minutes were noted and are attached in the minute book and on the website: <http://www.claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net/assets/Uploads/Claydon/Draft/2022-04-11-Finance-Minutes.pdf>

e. Came and Company Insurance Renewal

The Insurance Renewal was approved and the Clerk was asked to organise payment.

f. Parish Councillors discussed the work required at the allotments to clear the land and hopefully prevent issues with drainage. The Clerk was asked if this would be considered a suitable infrastructure spend for CIL.

### **22-05-13. Standing Orders**

Councillors considered and approved the Standing Orders, available in the minute book and on the website here: <2021-11-29-Claydon-and-Whitton-Parish-Council-Standing-Orders.pdf> ([onesuffolk.net](http://www.claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net))

### **22-05-14. Adoption of Local Code of Conduct**

Cllr Cornish briefed the meeting on her recent training on the new Model Code of Conduct. District and County Councils in Suffolk have already adopted this Code of Conduct.

Councillors voted unanimously to adopt the new Code of Conduct.

### **22-05-15. Appointment of Committees**

a. Finance and General Purposes Committee

Cllrs Whitehead, Avis, Cornish, Price and Studd.

- o Cheque Signatories  
Cllrs Avis, Cornish and Whitehead

---

So signed by the Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

b. Planning and Amenities Committee

Cllrs Avis, Cornish, Cutler, Price, Reach, Wells

- Neighbourhood Planning Group  
Cllr Cornish
- Snoasis Parish Alliance (Valley Ridge)  
Cllrs Avis, Cutler and Wells
- Footpaths  
Cllr Price
- Allotments  
Cllr Studd
- Fly Tipping  
All councillors

c. Employment Committee

Cllrs Cornish, Studd and Whitehead

d. Conservation area

Fenella Blastland

e. Emergency plan

Cllrs Cornish and Wells

**22-05-16. Appointment of Representatives to Outside Committees**

- a. Local Historian  
Gill Chapman
- b. Village Hall MC  
Cllr Price
- c. SALC  
Cllrs Studd and Cornish
- d. Recreation Ground  
Cllrs Avis, Cornish and Price
- e. Community Centre MC

Cllr Cutler

f. Viridor  
Cllr Wells

g. SUEZ  
Cllr Studd

h. River Gipping Trust  
Cllr Studd

**22-05-17. Items for next meeting**

CIL as a separate item on the main agenda.

**22-05-18. Dates of next meetings:**

- Planning Committee: 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 7pm
- Parish Council: 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022, 7.30pm
- Finance Committee: 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022

The meeting closed at 21:05

---

So signed by the Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# **Cllr Chris Chambers 2022 Annual Report for Gipping Valley**

## **Children's Services & Adult Care at the heart of Suffolk County Council's new budget plans**

In December 2021, Suffolk County Council outlined how it plans to spend money on public services in 2022/23.

- More money to support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)
- Extra resources for adults in need of care
- Additional funds to prevent flooding and fix footpaths

Under the proposals, the council's budget for 2022-23 would rise by 4.5% (from £598.2 to £625.4m). This additional money is generated by a 2.99% increase in Council Tax, and an increase in grants received from the Government. We worked with colleagues to propose a budget which will not see any reductions in our services, and invests further where it is most needed. Our aim is always to provide the best possible services for everyone in Suffolk and provide value for money. This has been a difficult budget to consider, particularly as Covid continues to make life challenging on every level, including our finances. We also continue to face rising costs and hugely increasing demands on our services year on year, particularly our adult care and children's services. But this is a budget which helps us to respond to these demands, and meets our priorities for next year. For example increasing our family services budget by £1.1m from next year, to specifically to address the recommendations made by the recent independent SEND review – this is in addition to our previous commitment of £45m to develop SEND provision."

Some of the detail of the budget proposals, includes:

- £1.1m increase for the family services budget, specifically to address recommendations made by the recent independent SEND review
- £1m additional funding for Suffolk Highways over the next four years, for example to fund road signs and responsible verge cutting
- £10m to specifically deliver an increasing number of drainage schemes (over the next three years)
- £10m to improve footpath quality and access (over the next three years)
- £12.8m to decarbonise the buildings that we own (by 2030)
- Investments this year to set up future borrowing for bigger schemes, such as SEND and carbon reduction

Regarding Council Tax, the proposed 2.99% increase would be made up of a 1.99% increase in general Council Tax and a 1.00% increase dedicated to funding adult care.

Proposing an increase in council tax is not a decision we take lightly, particularly when our costs of living are going up too. However, I think there is increasing recognition of the pressure our services are under. In our public consultation, there were more people who agreed that council tax would need to go up next year, compared to those that didn't. This was especially true for funding adult care.

## **New Suffolk Recycling Centres online booking system improvements**

It was announced in September 2021 that SCC had developed a new, more user-friendly booking system which enables residents to book slots for recycling. For bookings from 27 September, people can view all available time slots in real time, to see which booking slots are free at any given moment. The system allows you to book up to seven days in advance. If circumstances change, you can easily cancel your slot up to one hour beforehand or equally, you can click to amend your booking if required. The system is also able to advise customers on which sites accept specific materials, such as plasterboard to ensure the

correct type of booking is made to save customers' time, and it can also be used to share real time messages with customers, for example if any site needs to close due to adverse weather or emergency situations. The new booking system is connected to automated numberplate recognition to allow for a trial of automatic entry gates.

Customer survey results show overwhelming support for the use of a booking system and the Council has gathered feedback from customers and site staff on how the booking system can be further improved, which have shaped the design of this new system. Through the use of bookings the council can avoid the frustration of long queues at peak times and increase the overall throughput and efficiency of the service for residents. During the pandemic, it was important that we managed access to Suffolk's Recycling Centres in a safe and organised fashion to ensure the safety of residents visiting to recycle their waste as well as that of our staff and contractors working on site. I am very pleased that sites are now back to full capacity and the new booking system will allow us to make adjustments to the system to make best use of all available slots at every site. The system has been developed with our customers in mind, with staff taking on board the views and comments received through regular customer feedback and interactions over the past year. Our site teams have done a great job in maintaining high levels of customer service during such difficult circumstances and as we begin to recover from Covid as a county. I am pleased to launch this new online service to help people access the services they need, when and how they want to." To make your booking, visit [www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk](http://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk).

### **Suffolk County Council's leaving care service receives high praise from Ofsted**

In March 2022, SCC's leaving care service received high praise from Ofsted. Ofsted inspectors assessed the local authority's arrangement for care leavers as part of a focused visit to the service. The visit follows on from the Outstanding rating received by SCC's Children's Services department in 2019. The services for children in care and care leavers was the only area at the time to be rated 'Good' and therefore was an area of priority for the council. At the recent visit inspectors concluded that care leavers are successfully helped to transition to independence and reach their full potential. The service was seen to have a culture that is "determined, ambitious and creative" with practitioners who build trusting relationships with care leavers. Practitioners were seen accessing a wide range of specialist expertise to provide services to care leavers that are individualised and responsive. Inspectors also said that "Many care leavers achieve well, exceeding their own expectations. All are valued and their achievements are celebrated. Persistent efforts are made to reach out to those who are difficult to engage." I am absolutely delighted to receive such high praise from Ofsted. This report really demonstrates the hard work that staff in the leaving care service deliver day in, day out. I would like to thank them for the great work that they do for our care leavers. We are committed to delivering the highest quality service for our care leavers in Suffolk. All young people have the right to the appropriate level of support they need to aspire and achieve. I am committed to ensuring that this is the reality for all of Suffolk's young people, including our most vulnerable.

The full report can be found here: <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50178373>

### **Halfway mark reached as over 20,000 Suffolk streetlights replaced**

In February 2022 SCC's programme to replace 43,400 streetlights with new energy-efficient LEDs reached the halfway mark and to date, the teams have replaced 21,215 new streetlights with the new lanterns. These LED lanterns use less energy and produce a more natural and focused light than the traditional orange glow of streetlights. They are extremely long-lasting products and have an expected lifetime of up to 100,000 hours. This is approximately two times longer than a typical conventional street lighting lamp. As a result, SCC is expecting to reduce its annual electricity costs on the streetlights by around 76%, saving more than £1.7 million a year. This is 16% more than what was originally anticipated. The programme is on schedule to be completed by the end of May 2022, with all heritage-style lanterns being upgraded towards the end of the programme. Prior to commencing in towns or parishes, Suffolk Highways is contacting those councils in case they wish to upgrade their parish-council owned street-lighting at the end of the project. This is one of the many pieces of work we're doing to become a carbon-neutral organisation by 2030. The project will see a reduction in carbon emissions by saving energy, reducing light pollution as well as providing clearer images on CCTV, traffic cameras and dashcam footage for the benefit

of public safety. A big thank you to all involved so far, and I wish the team continued success as the project progresses towards completion. Keep a look out for signs in your area to see where the teams are working next and follow [@Suff\\_highways](#) on Twitter for regular updates.

### **Independent review highlights failings in some of Suffolk's SEND services**

An independent report into parts of Suffolk's special educational needs (SEND) provision was published on September 20<sup>th</sup>. This report has been written by a team from Lincolnshire, including Lincolnshire County Council and parent carer network. The review looked at processes, communication protocols and family-facing elements of SEND provision and was commissioned by SCC in June. The report lists strengths and weaknesses of the service and includes nine recommendations for improvement. These recommendations are now being worked through and implemented by SCC and other partners who help deliver SEND services. The review has found that we must change what we are doing in a number of areas. I would like to say sorry to any child or young person, and their families, who we may have failed. Our priority now is to implement these recommendations with pace, efficiency and impact. We have begun to make these changes, but it will take time before the impact of the changes are felt. We are grateful to the team at Lincolnshire for their findings and recommendations, which we accept wholeheartedly, and for their support and advice. SCC commissioned this review after the May elections because of concerns that our SEND services were not performing well. As we anticipated, the report has shown that SEND services in Suffolk are not good enough, and I want to apologise to those children and young people we have let down. I want to be clear that this report does not cover all SEND services and many children or young people who have specialist educational needs in Suffolk are very well served, but significant changes must be made following this hard-hitting report. We must learn from this report and implement fundamental change as quickly as we can. The review was commissioned following a significant increase in correspondence from parents and carers earlier this year. An Action Plan based on the recommendations is now being implemented. One of the recommendations made in the review was to work with a third-party organisation to deliver improvements. The council has since secured Impower as a strategic partner, who will bring capacity and extensive experience of working on SEND systems across the country. Other recommendations include staff training, reviewing the process for allocating specialist placements and working with education leaders and parents and carers to understand the demand for specialist provision and use data and local intelligence to inform sufficient planning.

# DISTRICT COUNCILLORS'

## REPORT TO THE 2022 ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS IN THE CLAYDON & BARHAM WARD

---

The 2022 parish annual meetings give us the opportunity to look back on the District Council year 2021/22 and set out briefly our thoughts on some matters, both district-wide and more locally.

### **Planning matters**

This year has fortunately been a much quieter year for new large planning applications in our ward following the hearing and approval (in whole or part) of the three large applications in Barham, Claydon and Whitton during 2020/21. We understand that Taylor Wimpey have now bought the land north of Barham Church Lane which has outline approval for 269 houses and that they will shortly be submitting detailed plans following community consultation on layout and design. The Ely Road, Claydon site for 70 homes has been sold on to a housing association who will be submitting plans for social housing on that site. During 2021/22 building commenced on the large Bellway site at Whitton and we have supported a number of very proactive local residents with their ongoing dialogue with the building contractors as construction work on site commenced.

There have, of course, been many smaller planning applications in the ward during 2021/22. Through our regular attendance and observation at parish council meetings, we are able to understand the thoughts and concerns of the relevant parish council and affected local residents on these many applications. We are always happy to meet up with any residents to hear their specific concerns to enable us to articulate their objections and worries during our discussions with the relevant planning officers. Where appropriate, within the planning constitution guidelines, we can 'call in' applications for them to be heard by a planning committee rather than have them being decided under officer delegated powers.

The completion of the Five-Year Land Supply Position Statement for 2021 shows from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2021 to the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2026, the district is anticipated to have a supply of 5,139 units. The Local Housing Need figure for Mid Suffolk is calculated at 513 dwellings per year plus a 5% buffer, giving a requirement of 2,693 units. There is therefore now a deemed 'surplus' of 2,446 units and a calculated 9.54 year land supply figure. This means we are now very much ahead of where we need to be in delivering perceived district housing need and it now provides much more scope to fight large new unwanted, speculative applications.

### **Gateway 14 and Freeport East**

The new 2.45 million square ft Gateway 14 business park was approved during 2021/22 and following the sign off of the various planning conditions, a ground cutting celebration event was held on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022. We anticipate that there will be a stream of announcements of new tenants over the coming year given the site's 'Freeport' designation. As well as offices and warehouse logistic facilities, the site will include a Tech Hub 'Innovation Centre' making Mid Suffolk a destination for technology and innovation.

### **Finance**

The council continues to run a surplus even though more money is being spent on improving the lives of residents than ever before. The completed CIFCO investment fund which is a diverse portfolio of commercial buildings across the country, taken together with our other investments, now delivers an annual income equivalent to two-thirds of our total council tax precept. This is one of the reasons why

Mid Suffolk has managed to freeze council tax for the coming year while most other district and borough councils have raised theirs. Our reserves remain healthy and we consistently deliver in-year financial outcomes ahead of budget. In February 2022, the budget for the new year 2022/23 was approved by a unanimous vote at Full Council which in recent times is an unprecedented outcome.

### **Environment**

We have a strategic objective to minimise carbon emissions and make net-zero adaptations within the district. Our waste freighters now run on hydrotreated vegetable oil which reduces emissions and is far more sustainable in the supply chain. We are currently adapting our leisure centres. At Stowmarket, the leisure centre is being fitted with 500 solar panels generating 195kw and also an air source heat pump and all our centres are now on a green energy tariff.

### **Localities Grants**

Every Mid Suffolk councillor is allocated a Localities Grants pot of £7,350 each year, so for the Claydon & Barham Ward with its two councillors we had a total of £14,700. We pooled our grants and each application we have received has been supported on a 50/50 basis. In Ashbocking, we've funded a road speed indicator, in Claydon and Barham (which we tend to regard as a single conjoined village) we have part funded the new Kirby Rise play area and contributed towards the refurbishment of the play equipment on the Recreation Ground as well as some outdoor seating for the St Peters 60 Plus Club. In Coddensham we funded a new large fridge for the community shop as well as assisting the Coddensham Community Response Group with their ongoing expenses and website development. At Gosbeck, we've funded a bottle cooler at the village hall and at Hemingstone we've funded outdoor benches at 'The Hut'. Finally, we funded a new playhouse for the Henley Pre-School. During the year we allocated some of our funding to the new Picnic Site Charity in Barham but that funding is being carried forward into 2022/23 as we await the granting of a satisfactory long-term site lease to the charity. A similar level of locality grant funding (£14,700) has been budgeted for 2022/23 so please do approach us over the coming year if you are in need of some funding for local community projects. Its first come, first served.

### **YOUR MID SUFFOLK DISTRICT COUNCILLORS in the Claydon & Barham Ward are:-**

John Whitehead : 01473 833279 or [john.whitehead@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:john.whitehead@midsuffolk.gov.uk)

Tim Passmore : 07947942539 or [timothy.passmore@midsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:timothy.passmore@midsuffolk.gov.uk)

The Claydon & Barham Ward covers the parishes of Akenham, Ashbocking, Barham, Claydon, Coddensham, Gosbeck, Hemingstone, Henley, Whitton

## **VILLAGE HALL REPORT FOR CLAYDON AND WHITTON PARISH COUNCIL**

With its newly painted dial and backlight glass, the village hall clock presents a smart face to the High Street it has presided over for more than 100 years. Inside, the hall is also looking smart. The main hall floor has just been cleaned and oiled for a new generation of feet to enjoy.

The annual BMM pantomime - later than usual because of Covid - enjoyed the applause of nearly full houses over its six-night run. And other activities are beginning to fill the bookings calendar as people feel more comfortable about being with others inside the building. Dance classes are resuming on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and some Saturdays. Slimming World has held onto its Thursday slot when others have demurred. Bendy Beans enjoys good responses from mothers and their babies and there have been enquiries for children's parties, which is gratifying to see.

On the fabric of the building, we have just had a visit from Building Control at the County Council. Previously, concerns were voiced about the gaps between the rafters in the roof space. We have had metal stabilising bars fitted across these but Chris Hill from the council reported that the original wooden pegs are still holding well and that no remedial action is needed at this time.

We have joined a Community Action Suffolk scheme called 'Your Hall' whereby village halls have an individual website presence in the 'cybersphere'. It's a way of advertising ourself and our many attractions. We have yet to fill 'our online space' with text and pictures.

I have just sent an advert to appear in the next edition of the In Touch magazine. It highlights our search for a new book-keeper and bookings clerk to join our management team. Let's hope we get some encouraging replies.

I think that covers most things.

Geoff Rogers  
Chair, Village Hall Management Committee  
8 May 2022



Claydon and Barham Recreation Ground  
Committee  
CB.RecreationGround@outlook.com

## **Recreation Ground Report for the Annual Parish Meeting**

I think that it is fair to say that we have had a busy year up at the Recreation Ground.

When this year started, we had just finished a trial by the Coffee Station to see if setting up at the Recreation Ground was going to be viable. It was viable and is still going strong being a popular stop for parents doing the school run and dog and other walkers alike.

In April 2021 we started to acquire some tools to help with the maintenance of the grounds, the first of these being a petrol shredder that works very well!! A further investment was for a multi tool that gives the option of a chainsaw, brush cutter and strimmer. Most useful making a space for the container lorry during the collection and delivery phases. They also came in handy for clearing overhanging vegetation on a footpath which took over half a day for two volunteers even with the power tools. More recently a resident has complained about leaves from a deciduous tree falling into their garden. With the assistance of Wayne and his tree pruning knowledge this has now been rectified, until next Autumn.

As well as these “boy’s toys” work was started on the uplift of the changing rooms having reached that time in their existence. Initially all eleven showers were changed out followed by four new extractor fans. More to come, see future projects.

Our footballers have not been forgotten either. The main pitch has had several tonnes of topsoil and some grass seed added to it to smooth out the wear created in the goalmouths. New goalpost sockets have been added to allow the goal posts to be sited differently each season also helping to reduce wear in the one spot.

One of the spring toys in the play area was also showing signs of much use and age so this was replaced with a bright yellow elephant spring toy. This turned out to be popular, with favourable comments on our social media page. Further repairs to the play equipment were undertaken, slowly working our way through the recommendations of the RoSPA annual report.

Annual fire inspection and fire extinguisher checks conducted.

The broken concrete bollards in the Recreation Ground carpark were finally replaced and a new set of three rubbish bins were installed only for one of them to be severely vandalised within 24 hours of its installation.

It was obvious that there is insufficient seating at the Recreation Ground, so using some of our limited resources two sturdy benches were ordered. These have been so well admired by the committee that courtesy of donations from our local Post Office, the Bar-Clay Music Makers, and a generous resident a further 3 benches have been purchased. Our thanks to everyone.

Another much loved piece of kit, the zipwire, also needed attention. Having had a look at it locally it was decided that it was a job for the professionals. Thus, a new end stop and a re-tensioning exercise was undertaken and subsequently tested by committee volunteers to ensure that it was safe for the public to use.

Other improvements have included changing out the 20-foot container of a certain vintage with a 40-foot container of a much more recent vintage. This has not only given us storage space for the maintenance tools that we have slowly gathered but also means that the changing rooms don’t need to be used for crossbar storage during the football off season. Everything now fits in the container along with the junior goal nets and frames.

Once again, the Recreation Ground has been seen as a potential commercial site with an enterprise called Choose Refills asking to park there every third Wednesday afternoon.

For some time, we have had a suspicion that there is a water leak somewhere as there seemed to be water usage even during lock-down. This was finally resolved recently with a leak being found on

the spur to the container; now all sorted courtesy of a brilliant man who did the investigation for us.

Due to the state the changing rooms are left in on occasion and to save an annual deep clean a cleaner has been employed. He clears rubbish from the Recreation Ground weekly, something that was desperately needed, and has done a magnificent job keeping the changing rooms clean.

Whilst all of this has been going on some of the committee members have been ~~plotting~~ planning an uplift and expansion of the play area, some of which has already taken place on the existing pieces.

This refurbishment of the existing play equipment has been accomplished through the generous donation from Claydon and Whitton Parish Council of over £12,000. The rest has involved getting quotes from three companies [one was ok but didn't seem to get what we wanted, one couldn't be bothered to get their brochure out of their bag, and one that really got what we were trying to do, appreciated that we had a limited budget and had lots of helpful suggestions]. The upshot of this is that several organisations were approached and a round of seemingly endless form filling took place. We have now secured a sizeable portion of what is needed with further grant avenues being pursued. So it is hoped that from the 6<sup>th</sup> June the play area will be expanded to include new pieces of apparatus within a new fence line and outside of this more items as well as improvement of the existing goalmouth / basket ball hoop and the surface in front of them.

To date we have received pledges of over £76,000. This has included £40,000 [Suez], £17,038 [Viridor], £8,000 [Claydon and Whitton Parish Council], £6500 [Barham Parish Council], £2,000 [John Whitehead, Mid Suffolk District Councillor], £2,000 [Chris Chambers, Suffolk County Councillor] and £1,000 [Suffolk Foundation]

At this point a hearty thank you is due to the Claydon and Whitton Parish Council for their financial support, and their encouragement as well as kind words from the public.

Diverse options regarding ways of tackling Anti-Social Behaviour have been considered and the local police have visited the Recreation Ground to give advice. However, the suggestion of barriers is impractical, and CCTV is not only expensive and fraught with data protection issues but ideally would require the installation of wi-fi in the changing rooms, another unwanted expense. Overall, a lot of aggravation for occasional stupidity, so not really worth it currently.

Finally a slightly humorous item. Recently two smart wooden benches unexpectedly appeared in the children's play area at the Recreation Ground. Investigation by our team discovered that they had been intended for the small play area recently created in Kirby Rise by Barham Parish Council. They are being re-sited.

### **Future Projects.**

Expanding the existing children's play area, installation of new kit outside of this area and uplift of existing apparatus / play surfaces.

Changing the current fluorescent lighting in the changing rooms for more efficient LED's.

Instal the five benches

Ongoing tidying of the perimeter

Planting and creating a sensory area

## DECISION REPORT

### **DECISION MADE**

DC/21/04497

[Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an Existing Use or Operation or activity including those in breach of a planning condition. Town and Country Planning Act 1990: Section 191 as amended by section 10 of the Planning and Compensation Act 1991. Town and Country Planning \(General Management Procedure\) \(England\) Order 2015 - Continued use of land for the siting a residential caravan.](#)

Caravan At Stable Cottage Thurleston Lane Whitton Suffolk IP1 6<sup>TH</sup>

NOT LAWFUL

### **AWAITING DECISION BY MSDC**

DC/21/01457

[Submission of details under Reserved Matters following Outline Approval 0085/17 Town and Country Planning 1990 - Appearance, Scale, Layout and Landscaping for 20No dwellings\(including 7 affordable\).](#)

Land North Of Pesthouse Lane Barham Suffolk

DC/22/01274

[Application for Approval of Reserved Matters following grant of Planning Permission DC/18/00861. Town and Country Planning Order 2015. Submission of Details of Appearance, Scale, Layout and Landscaping for the erection of up to 67No dwellings, public open space and supporting site infrastructure including access.](#)

Land To The East Of Ely Road Claydon Suffolk

DC/22/01623

[Householder Application - Erection of front extension.](#)

Church Hill Barn Thurleston Lane Akenham Ipswich Suffolk IP1 6TQ

<b>Account For Payment</b>	<b>Cheque / SO / DD / BACS</b>	<b>VAT £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
C Greenan Expenses	BACS	-	80.70
<b>Accounts Paid 1 April 2022 – 3 May 2022</b>	<b>Cheque / SO / DD / BACS</b>	<b>VAT £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
01-04 A Worby	BACS	-	303.94
01-04 CAS (RG Insurance)	BACS	-	514.88
04-04 SCC (Street lighting)	BACS	314.03	1,884.24
08-04 M Worby	BACS	-	399.83
26-04 Vodafone	BACS	2.91	17.44
28-04 G Cornish (Mansion House)	BACS	-	48.27
28-04 P Avis (Mansion House)	BACS	-	72.00
28-04 C Greenan	BACS	-	97.43
28-04 SALC	BACS	31.20	187.20
28-04 SCC Pensions	BACS	-	312.46
28-04 SALC	BACS	-	786.60
29-04 A Worby	BACS	-	323.00
29-04 C Greenan	BACS	-	1,017.81

Further accounts may be paid that reach the clerk before the date of the meeting

<b>Receipts 1 April 2022 – 3 May 2022</b>	<b>Amount £</b>
06-04 Mansion House	780.00
11-04 MSDC CIL	56,086.56
11-04 MSDC Precept	21,200.51