



REDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

REDGRAVE COMMUNITY FORUM AND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 25TH APRIL 2023 ALL SAINTS CHURCH, REDGRAVE

REDGRAVE COMMUNITY FORUM

The Redgrave Community Forum (RCF) was held prior to the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) on 25th April 2024 from 6 pm. The event was very well attended by businesses, organisations, clubs, and residents. Thank you to all those who attended. It is hoped it was enjoyable and informative for all. Teas, coffees, were offered and lovely cakes were provided by two Redgrave resident bakeries; Brownie and the Bean and The Hazlebury Kitchen.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

20th April 2023

Present:

Parish Councillors:	Andy Warnes	Mike Denmark	Ann Preston
	Charlotte Giddings	Elaine Brown	Frank Gillett
	John Giddings		
Parish Clerk:	Alison Spouncer		
County Councillor:	Jessica Fleming		
District Councillor:	Gilly Morgan		
	25 members of the public		
Apologies:	Brian Andrews		

Following the RCF, at 7.30 pm the Chair, Andy Warnes opened the APM by welcoming Guest Speakers Simon Burgess of Burgess Homes Ltd and Charlotte Giddings of Brownie and the Bean Ltd; Redgrave grown businesses.

Simon Burgess started the evening by providing a snapshot of his and his family's time in Redgrave over three generations, he is proud of his roots in Redgrave and the business that he has built. Burgess Homes Ltd started 30 years ago with its first self-build – Highfield House in the village. The company then moved to Sandy Lane. Whilst the base remains at Sandy Lane, offices, infrastructure, and welfare facilities are always site-based. Burgess Homes Ltd is the second largest business in Redgrave, second to Gressingham Foods. Day to day running of the business is now in the hands of two of his three children. Mr Burgess provided details on his recent and upcoming developments:

- Back Hills, Botesdale, 40 homes – all sold.
- Thornhill Grange, Redgrave, 9 homes
- Hopton, 37 homes
- Thorndon, 20 homes
- Stradbroke, 28 homes (future project).

Mr Burgess highlighted the challenges faced with planning and the four main processes that need to be followed prior to starting a build:

- Archaeological survey (outsourced to a team of experts).



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- Ecology survey – a wildlife and habitat survey to offer protective measures and improvements (there needs to be a biodiversity net gain of 10%) such as hedgehog fencing for each property. Bird and bat boxes are positioned, wildflower meadows, and sometimes a pond.
- Surface water – work is required to ensure the water is not an issue with the effect of a 1 in a 100-year flood having to be considered. An example is the infiltration pit at Back Hills which has been measured to ensure it should only ever become half full even in an extreme situation.
- Appropriate design – Burgess prides itself on the style of house it builds. There is no modern architecture and a real desire to ensure the new builds are in keeping with their surroundings, including roof heights and style of windows, and ensuring no two houses are the same next door to one another.

There are contributions required from planning such as ensuring a proportion are affordable homes. Community Infrastructure Levy or CIL is also a result of building works due to the additional strain that is placed on a village and local amenities such as health centres, and schools. 25% of CIL monies are transferred to the affected parish once a Neighbourhood Plan is made; if no Neighbourhood Plan is made then the figure is 15%. Mr Burgess reported there is currently £2.8 billion nationwide of unspent CIL contributions. Cllr Fleming confirmed the parameters for spending the CIL contributions are very restrictive. Cllr Warnes reported a recent communication stating CIL can now be applied for by such organisations as the community pub, community shop and the Football Club. The Parish Council has informed the Community Shop, Redgrave Rangers, and the Pub. It was suggested the Parish Council would look further into options.

Charlotte Giddings, co-founder of Brownie and the Bean (BATB) provided a timeline of the development of the Company she founded with her husband. Life started for the couple in London with a later decision to move out of the capital, utilising the TV programme 'Escape to the Country' to find a home. The progress of BATB has been mixed with COVID requiring a diversification from delivering brownies during the lockdown to now providing traditional cakes such as Victoria Sponge and carrot cake as well as postal Brownies and event attendance. The Company proudly accepted the Barclaycard Business Boost Award last year which has enabled it to purchase event equipment. A free pitch at last year's Latitude festival was also part of the award. BATB will be returning to Latitude this year along with an event at Holkham Holl with Bear Grylls. The company continues to grow along with the couple's two children, and they couldn't be happier to be here in Redgrave.

Providing thanks to both Simon and Charlotte, Cllr Warnes invited those present to ask any questions to the Parish Council.

Large Pole on the Knoll.

A resident asked what the pole was for that had just been placed on the Knoll. Other residents stated they had spoken to the contractors who said they were from Anglia Water with the



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pole being placed to work alongside the smart water meters that are being installed. It was AGREED for the Clerk to query the action.

Village Hall

The status of a village hall was asked. Cllr Warnes confirmed the PC is still holding aspirations to provide a village hall, but the land would need to be acquired initially. Talks are ongoing with various landowners and updates will be provided when it is appropriate.

Playing Field

An update on the playing field was requested. Cllr Warnes confirmed that the Council had written to Llanover on the topic but could not provide any further information on the status of this correspondence.

Damaged Road on B1113

There is long-term flooding issue on the B1113 in the village. A resident asked if it is not the landowner's requirement to ensure that the ditch along the Street that appears to be blocked should be cleared. It was agreed that if the ditch was on the landowner's land, then they would be responsible to keep it clear, however, it would need to be investigated as to whether it is. Discussions were had regarding the pipes that are linked to the ditch in question with Simon Burgess suggesting the pipes are too small for the capacity they are now required to deal with. It may be a requirement for Suffolk Highways to clear the pipes which would in turn clear the ditch and prevent the road from being flooded and the resulting damage to the road condition. Cllr Fleming urged all to report any highway issues on the website to ensure action or attention is given to the issues.

It was AGREED for Cllr Warnes to contact Suffolk Highways to initiate a conversation.

With no further queries or comments, Cllr Warnes thanked all those for attending and closed the meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.22 pm

Annual reports provided from:

- Neighbourhood Watch
- Redgrave and District Ladies Club
- Suffolk Accident Rescue Service (SARS)
- Parish Of Redgrave cum Botesdale with the Rickinghalls (RBR PCC).

As always, if you have any further queries/comments for the Parish Council, all are welcome to contact the Clerk at clerk@redgrave-pc.gov.uk

Redgrave Parish Council website: <http://www.redgrave.onesuffolk.net> where all minutes, policy documents, finances, and contact details are available to view.



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A Bulletin email service is also available. If anyone would like to be added to the expanding group, please do contact the Clerk.

“Redgrave Parish Council” can also be found on Facebook.