

Rural Area Working Party



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Title:	Agenda						
Date:	Monday 26 January 2015						
Time:	5.00 pm						
Venue:	GFR14 West Suffolk House Western Way Bury St Edmunds						
Note: All Members for Rural Wards are invited to attend this meeting							
Full Members:	<p style="text-align: center;">Chairman Jim Thorndyke Jim Thorndyke</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Vice Chairman Sarah Broughton Sarah Broughton</p> <p><i>Conservative Members (8)</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Robert Clifton-Brown</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Angela Rushen</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Alaric Pugh</td> <td>Peter Stevens</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dave Ray</td> <td>Paula Wade</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Independent Group Member (1)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Derek Redhead</p>	Robert Clifton-Brown	Angela Rushen	Alaric Pugh	Peter Stevens	Dave Ray	Paula Wade
Robert Clifton-Brown	Angela Rushen						
Alaric Pugh	Peter Stevens						
Dave Ray	Paula Wade						
Substitutes:	<p><i>Conservative Members (3)</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">Ian Houlder</td> <td style="width: 33%;">Dorothy Whittaker</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Beccy Hopfensperger</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Independent Group Member (1)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">David Nettleton</p>	Ian Houlder	Dorothy Whittaker	Beccy Hopfensperger			
Ian Houlder	Dorothy Whittaker						
Beccy Hopfensperger							
Interests – Declaration and Restriction on Participation:	Members are reminded of their responsibility to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest not entered in the Authority's register or local non pecuniary interest which they have in any item of business on the agenda (subject to the exception for sensitive information) and to leave the meeting prior to discussion and voting on an item in which they have a disclosable pecuniary interest.						
Quorum:	Three Members						
Committee administrator:	David Long Committee Administrator and SEBC Scrutiny Support Tel: 01284 757120 Email: david.long@westsuffolk.gov.uk						

Agenda

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Procedural Matters

1. Apologies for Absence

2. Substitutes

3. Minutes

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To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 27 October 2014 (copy attached).

Part 1 - Public

4. Rural Youth Work Programme

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Report No: **RUR/SE/15/001**

5. Rural Public Transport

Councillor Peter Stevens, Portfolio Holder with the responsibility for rural areas, will give an oral update on the county-wide meeting to discuss rural transport in January, 2015.

6. Funding of Rural Local Authorities

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To support a discussion by the Working Party, the following documentation is attached to this agenda as Paper No: **RUR/SE/15/002:**

- (a) Press release from the Sparsity Partnership for Authorities Delivering Rural Services (SPARSE) dated 22 December 2014;
- (b) Letter from SPARSE to Eric Pickles MP, dated 22 November 2014;
- (c) "Research into drivers of service costs in rural areas: summary report" (DCLG and DEFRA, 2014) (*NB Full report can be downloaded at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/costs-of-service-delivery-in-rural-areas>*); and
- (d) West Suffolk response to Government consultation on provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (deadline 15 January 2015).

7. Parish Conference: Thursday 26 March 2015

To finalise the arrangements for the next Parish Conference.

8. Work Programme

The Working Party is invited to consider its work programme.

The external speaker for a presentation on environmental enhancement grants has confirmed her attendance for the next meeting in March 2015.

The officers will also schedule items at future meetings in relation to the Working Party's previous requests to consider

- (a) "Rural Deprivation Interventions" (national good practice);
- (b) Training Grants for Small Business: Rural Aspects; and
- (c) Wool Towns Initiative.

9. Dates of Future Meetings

The Working Party had already determined that its next meeting will be held on Monday 30 March 2015 at 5.00 pm.

Part 2 – Exempt

NONE