



STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: - Mrs Joy Hart, Sucrierie, Old Bury Road, Stanton, Suffolk IP31 2BX
Tel: - 01359 408759 Email stantonparishcouncil@gmail.com

Chair – Francis Hart

Vice Chair – Barbara Smithson

Minutes of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 11 March 2021 at 7pm by Zoom Conference.

AGENDA

1. Roll Call and Apologies for absence:

Present – Cllr Hart (Chair), Cllr Frizzell, Cllr Kemp, Cllr Shelton, Cllr Smithson (Vice Chair), Cllr Cleland-Smith, Cllr Smith, Cllr Scowcroft, Cllr Brown.

Apologies for absence accepted - Cllr Miller, Cllr Davies.

Also present – DCllr Thorndyke, CCllr Spicer.

2. The minutes of the previous meeting on 11 February 2021 were proposed for approval by Cllr Frizzell and seconded by Cllr Cleland-Smith.

3. Public Forum: The public were invited to join the meeting by notifying the Clerk by email at Stantonparishcouncil@gmail.com if they wished to take part in this meeting and to outline the question they would like to put to the Council in advance.

2 members of the public were present. 5 representatives of Bloor Homes were present.

MJ raised concerns in respect of works that had been carried out in St Johns Churchyard around the gravestones. She has submitted an email of questions (previously circulated to Councillors) to West Suffolk Cemeteries manager who had answered most of the questions and advised that the work should be completed by the end of March.

The work would cost around £8,000 and MJ considered it to have been unnecessary and done in a disrespectful way. Relatives should have been informed personally and people were quite upset. MJ asked that her concerns were minuted and that the situation be monitored.

CHE wished to observe the meeting.

RE of Bloor Homes gave a brief outline in respect of financial contributions which have been requested by Suffolk County Council, West Suffolk Council and which have been offered by Bloor Homes to Stanton Parish Council. (The details can be found at Appendix A).

4. Report from:

D Cllr J Thorndyke

- Clerk to check Declarations of interest of Councillors on West Suffolk web site are in accordance with their wishes – (data protection issues) – Clerk to deal.
- Electors to sign up for **postal votes** for the forthcoming May elections.

C Cllr J Spicer

- **A143** – Public consultation under way for A143. Not many letters of support received and concern from the Police in relation to enforcement. One resident asked for the limit to be extended to the Hepworth Rd junction.

- The bridge on the **public footpath on Bardwell Road** has now been replaced. Clerk advised of a complaint received that the bridge had been positioned so that animals on leads cannot use it – photo to be sent to Cllr Spicer for investigation.
- **Adoption of the Abbey development** is being held up by issues of easement affecting 4 properties but is being progressed.

Cllr Brown reported that the situation was of real concern to the residents and was affecting house sales. He and another resident had written to Matthew Hancock MP, Robert Jenrick, Minister for Housing and the Bury Free Press concerning the situation.

Abbey Homes are saying they have complied with the plans in full but West Suffolk are not accepting this and it seems to be a stalemate.

There has been a recent inspection of the play equipment which has indicated that the fencing around the play area site is inadequate and the tunnels have been condemned and fenced off.

It needs all parties to sit round the table and sort out the issues.

Cllr Spicer said that no physical meetings involving Council employees are happening at the moment due to COVID restrictions. It was hoped that things could be resolved and she would continue to lobby on behalf of the Parish Council for a resolution to the issues.

- **A meeting** has taken place between the Chairs of Ixworth, Bardwell and Stanton Parish Councils to discuss proposed changes to the A1088/A143 junctions in view of increased development in the area. SCC engineer Samantha Bye is the common denominator for the scheme and has agreed to liaise with Parishes as the plans progress.

In answer to a question from Cllr Cleland-Smith, Cllr Spicer said that there was no progress on the Shepherds Grove development. A planning application has not yet been submitted.

5. Clerk's Report: There were no queries with the Clerks report.

6. Declarations of Interest: Cllr Hart declared an interest in the accounts

7. Statutory Business/Governance – No issues

8. Planning Applications

- New Applications - None
- Determined Applications

Table 1 Determined applications

PCM date	Reference	Address	PC decision	West Suffolk decision	Decision date
14/01/21	DC-20-2156-FUL	Rose and Crown Court	Object	Refused	05/02/21
14/01/21	DC-20-2233-TPO	2 Old Rectory Gardens	Support	Withdrawn	N/A
11/02/21	DC-21-0058-TPO	Shepherds Grove Park	Support	Granted	03/03/21
11/02/21	DC-20-2222-TPO	Shepherds Grove Park	No comment made	Approved	10/02/21

c. Councillors were updated on a meeting which had taken place between the Bloor development working party and West Suffolk planning officers in respect of S106 proposals as outlined above. Representatives of Bloor were asked to consider that 42% of the Stanton population are registered with the Ixworth Surgery which should be considered in respect of the CCG contribution.

9. Matters for discussion:

- Cllr Brown raised the issue of the **adoption of Mill View development** with Cllr Spicer (above)
- Cllr Brown advised that the **Allotments** have had further problems with damage which has been reported to Police. Steve Pittaway has retired from the role of allotments supervisor. Cllr Brown is currently reviewing the allotments rules, agreements and rents and will report back. It is hoped that a meeting of the allotment holders and Councillors can be organised as soon as COVID restrictions are lifted. The Clerk was asked to write to Suffolk Police to ask for a police presence at the next Council meeting to discuss the damage issues. *Action – Clerk to email Suffolk Police*
- Cllr Brown asked for an update on the **Tripp Batt development**. The Clerk reported having circulated an email from the developer advising that demolition will start in the near future

- d. Cllr Scowcroft asked CCllr Spicer for any progress in respect of plans for the **improvement of medical facilities in the village** and the development at the **Old Primary School**. He is concerned that the capacity of Stanton Surgery would be insufficient for the new development at Bury Road.
CCllr Spicer responded that the long-term plan for a health hub hasn't changed but the vaccination programme has taken priority. She is working with SCC to get on with some talks to formalise the Village Green on the School site before the plot is sold.
- e. A quotation for numerous **repair works to the play surfaces** and equipment from Mortimer Contracts for the sum of £995 + VAT were approved. *Action – Clerk to advise contractor*
- f. Churchyard stone testing was discussed. The Chair advised Council that it was unfortunate but that the works were required to secure unsafe headstones. West Suffolk had posted notices and the Clerk had circulated the same on the web site, notice boards and social media
It was the first time since being given the closed churchyard that this work has been carried out for health and safety reasons and he considered it had been done as well as it could be. The cost will be met by West Suffolk in the short term where relatives have not come forward. Tracing relatives would have been extremely time-consuming causing further distress for residents.
The situation will be monitored to ensure all works are carried out promptly.
- g. The Chair reported that he had received a proposal for a Fun Day on 15 August 2021. There were no objections and the Clerk will advise the resident to submit the relevant application.
- h. The Chair advised that Ashmore Nursing Home in Barningham Road has agreed to take the defibrillator from the now closed Veterinary surgery. Cllr Kemp agreed to carry out the work.
- i. An Application to plant a tree at the Cemetery by the Royal British Legion was approved. Chair will meet with the RBL to agree location.
- j. SID posts requirement – A143 speed changes – Report from PP – deferred to April meeting.
- k. To discuss Street lighting in Bury Lane area (Cllr Davies) – deferred due to absence of Cllr Davies.
- l. The Clerk outlined a proposal from 'Everflow' to take over the water supply for an annual saving of £106. After discussion Councillors did not support the proposal due to poor reviews of the company.

10. Accounts

- a. The accounts as below were approved for payment. (General Power of Competence applies)
b. Bank Account total as at 28 February - £61577.51

Table 2 List of payments and receipts

PAYMENTS	£GROSS	£VAT	£NET	WHAT FOR
Mrs J Hart	14.70	2.45	12.25	Sundries
Mr F Hart	22.97	3.84	19.13	Replacement hose for drinks fountain
Streetscape	40.80	6.80	34.00	Replacement handles – gym equipment
M&TJ's	360.00	60.00	300.00	Hedge Cutting works
Mrs A Watkins	27.00		27.00	Toilet cleaning Mar 21
Staff Salaries	1183.60		1183.60	Street Cleaner, Litter picker and Clerk
RECEIPTS				
Lloyds Bank Interest	0.52			

11. Coronavirus Updates

- a. To receive any updates not previously circulated and to discuss any actions necessary in light of latest guidance from Government, County and District Councils relating to Covid 19.

12. Correspondence from SALC, NALC, Borough and County Councils and Police

- a. Play Area Reports – Feb 2021 – Noted – Mortimer Contracts resolved to undertake works required
- b. Planning Newsletter – Feb 2021 - Noted

13. Correspondence

- a. JM asked Council to consider remedial action on the Grass verge in The Street which has been skirted by the Street Cleaner resulting in a muddy mess. After discussion Councillors resolved to allow the verge to regenerate over the summer growing season and re visit the situation in the Autumn for consideration of reseeded.
- b. The Citizens advice bureau asked Council to consider a donation. Clerk to respond that Council has already donated £150 in November 2020 and next donations will be considered in November 2021.
- c. HT reported dog mess in the Village. Council considered this subject last month and as a result the Clerk has placed 18 posters on lamp posts and has circulated a West Suffolk Council media campaign on Social Media.
- d. DP reported Health and Safety issues in the MUGA and tennis court area. The area has been secured and locked by the Clerk. Cllr Smith agreed to carry out a Risk assessment in the area prior to it being reopened. The street cleaner has cleared the MUGA of leaves and the tennis court is due to be pressure washed w/c 12 April.
- e. MJ re Churchyard Headstone testing – St Johns – as above. Public Forum and Agenda item 9f.

Minutes signed as correct..... F J Hart