



STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council - Fiona Osman, 20 Micklesmere Drive, Ixworth, Suffolk IP31 2UJ
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Chair – Jim Thorndyke

Vice Chair – Charlie Harvey-Evers

Minutes of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 14 March 2024 at Stanton Village Hall.

146. Roll Call & Apologies

The following councillors were present:

Brian Brown

Dee Burdett

Vic Dorling

John Frizzell

Lorraine Frost

Charlie Harvey-Evers (Vice Chair)

Barry McDonald

Phil Smith

Jim Thorndyke (Chair)

Apologies for absence were received from the following councillors:

Martin Scowcroft

Martin Wright

147. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 8 February 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

148. Public Forum

The two members of the public present did not wish to address the Parish Council.

149. a. Report from West Suffolk District Councillor Jim Thorndyke:

- The Local Plan consultation had now ended with around 900 submissions received.
- West Suffolk Council had recently won Best Migrated Local Authority in the 2024 Land Data Awards for Excellence.
- West Suffolk Council had agreed to return to using Glyphosate (weed killer) in limited quantities.
- Shepherds Grove Park had submitted an application for a Lawful Development Certificate to site 8 mobile homes on the edge of the Park on land opposite Vicarage Farm, Upthorpe Road.

b. Report from Suffolk County Councillor Joanna Spicer:

- Suffolk County Council had received an offer which had been accepted for the previous Primary School site.
- SCCllr Spicer would arrange a meeting with Cllrs Burdett and Thorndyke to discuss road safety surrounding Shepherds Grove Park.

- SCCllr Spicer had visited the new Headteacher at the Primary School. She had agreed to arrange for a Road Safety Officer to attend the school to discuss traffic and parking concerns. One of the parent governors had expressed a wish to acquire land adjacent to the school to provide a car park for parents but there was currently no funding available for this.
- A complaint had been received about a quantity of straw which had fallen from a tractor & trailer and was strewn across the grass verge. This had been reported to Highways
- There was a planned closure of A1088 through Stowlangtoft due to bridge work. This would commence in early July and take 3 months to complete. Diversion signs would be put in place but local traffic could use alternative routes.
- There was a brief discussion with councillors on the recent planning application for Shepherds Grove Industrial Estate by Jaynic which had been considered by Development Control Committee at West Suffolk Council. Councillors at the meeting were 'minded to refuse' the application but this would return to a future meeting for a decision.

150. Clerk's Report

The Clerk's Report had been circulated with the agenda and the Clerk highlighted the following items:

- The Clerk would review the Cemetery Rules and Regulations to ensure that the correct procedures were being operated for the transfer of Exclusive Right of Burial.
- 3 x graves needed turfing and Councillors agreed that the grave digger should be approached to see if this can be resolved.
- The Playground Inspection training organised by SALC would take place on **Tuesday 16 July (9.30 – 4pm)**. The Clerk asked to be notified of any Councillor who was willing to attend this training so that the weekly inspections could be shared rather than being the responsibility of one Councillor.
- The Clerk would arrange a meeting of the HR Councillors to take place in early May.
- Cllr Smith was concerned that the entrance to the Recreation Ground car park was still in need of clearing. The Clerk would contact the successful company/organisation for the grass cutting contract to see if they were able to clear this. If it was outside of the contract, a quote would be obtained.

151. Declarations of Interest – Cllr Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 9e.

152. Statutory Business/Governance – NONE

153. Planning Applications

a. New Applications

DC/24/0259/HH Land at Mill House & Mill Cottage, Old Bury Road	Householder planning application – three bay cart lodge with access.	No objection
DC/24/0241/TPO Berkeley Leisure, Shepherds Grove Park	Tree preservation order - one Prunus (T1 on plan, A1 on order) fell; four Hazel (A1 on order), reduce in height to 2 metres above ground level; two Conifer (A1 on order) fell; one Oak (T2 on plan, A1 on order) crown lift to 4.5 metres above ground level; mixed hedge (A1 on order) fell; three Prunus (A1 on order) fell; one	Concerns raised about the number of trees being felled. To request a Tree Officer Report before this

	Field Maple (T3 on plan, A1 on order) crown lift to 3 metres above ground level; three Cherry (A1 on order) fell; one Field Maple (A1 on order) fell; eight mixed species (A1 on order) fell; one Forsythia hedge (A1 on order) fell: mixed hedge and conifer hedge (A1 on order) fell; three Cypress (T4, T5, G1 on plan, A1 on order) fell; one Silver Birch (T6 on plan, A1 on order) crown lift to 3.5 metres; one Willow (T7 on plan, A1 on order) crown lift to 2.75 metres above ground level; one Maple (T8 on plan, A1 on order) crown reduction to give 1.5 metres clearance to roof; one Ash (T9 on plan, A1 on order) fell	can be considered by the Parish Council.
DC/24/0236/TPO 29B Drovers Rise	TPO 130(1989) and 248(1997) tree preservation order - one Oak (T1 on plan, within A1 on both orders) reduce lowest limb nearest dwelling by up to two metres	No objection

b.	Determined Applications that were rejected.	Applications that were rejected, no determined applications were objected to.
	36 The Street	one Silver Birch (T2947 on plan) crown lift to 2.5 metres above ground level to clear streetlight by one metre

154. Matters for discussion

- a. **Firework Event 2024** - Cllr Harvey-Evers proposed that the date for the Firework Event should be Saturday 2 November 2024, this was seconded by Cllr Burdett, and all in favour.

It was resolved that the Firework Event will be held on Saturday 2 November 2024 and that updates would be provided at the June, August and October meetings.

- b. **Monthly Play Park Inspection Reports** – the reports were received and noted.

It was resolved that Cllr Smith would provide the Clerk with a list of parts to be purchased so that repairs could be made.

- c. **Application for additional wording to Memorial for Raymond “John” Stynes** – Cllr Brown proposed that the additional wording as presented should be approved, this was seconded by Cllr Frost.

It was resolved that the additional wording to Memorial for Raymond “John” Stynes was approved.

- d. **Portrait of His Majesty The King** – Cllr Thorndyke proposed that the Council request a free framed portrait of His Majesty The King for display in Stanton Community Village Hall.

It was resolved that the Clerk should request a free framed portrait of His Majesty The King.

- e. **Grass Cutting Contract** – Cllr Brown informed the Parish Council that two tenders had been received by the Clerk for the Grass Cutting Contract for 2024-26. The merits of both tenders were discussed and considered. Seven Councillors voted on

their preferred contract (two abstentions due to connections with West Suffolk Council) and with 5 votes to 2, the successful tender was West Suffolk Council.

It was resolved that the grass cutting contract be awarded to West Suffolk Council.

- f. **Application for EV Charging at Stanton Recreation Ground Car Park** – Cllr Harvey-Evers informed councillors that when he submitted the council's expression of interest, he was informed that there was space on the current contract round if an application could be submitted by the end of February. The Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee, Vic Dorling, had been consulted and agreed for a joint application to be submitted with Cllr Harvey-Evers being the lead contact. A feasibility survey would be carried out to see if the site was suitable. This would provide a further opportunity to proceed or withdraw.
- g. **Parish Council Meeting Dates** – the proposed date for the Annual Parish Meeting of 2 May 24 was in conflict with elections and it was agreed to move this to Thursday 16 May 24. All other dates were accepted.

It was resolved that the date for the Annual Parish Meeting would be Thursday 16 May 24 and all other dates were accepted.

- h. **Application for Memorial Bench on Recreation Ground**- Cllr Smith proposed that the Parish Council accept the application for a Memorial Bench on the Recreation Ground as submitted. It would need to be installed on a concrete plinth. The Clerk would seek quotes for the concrete plinth and installation costs so that a full cost could be provided to the applicant.

It was resolved that the Application for a Memorial Bench on the Recreation Ground be approved.

- i. **Community Recognition Awards** – Cllr Brown proposed that the format and timeline for the Community Recognition Awards be approved with nominations to be received by Thursday 4 April so that they can be considered by the Parish Council at their meeting on 11 April. The awards would then be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 9 May.

It was resolved that the Community Recognition Awards be publicised with the deadline for nominations being Thursday 4 April.

- j. **Annual Litter Pick** – The annual litter pick had previously taken place in late April. The Parish Council could provide litter pickers, hi-visibility jackets and bin bags with hoops. Cllr Burdett would contact a local resident to see if they would be willing to organise this, if not, a request for help would be publicised on social media and the Parish Council website.
- k. **Doctor's Surgery Parking** – Cllr Smith agreed to arrange a meeting with the Practice Managers of both the Health Centre and Surgery to discuss this issue.
- l. **Muga/Tennis Court Cleaning** – Cllr Smith reported that the Muga/Tennis Court needed to be professionally cleaned as it had been several years since it was last done. The Clerk would seek quotes and report back to the Parish Council.

- m. **Village Green Lease** – Cllr Harvey-Evers proposed that the attached Village Green Lease be approved by the Parish Council so that this could be signed. Pre-approval for the installation of benches, fences and signs had been agreed. This was seconded by Cllr Burdett.

It was resolved that the Village Green Lease was approved.

155. Accounts

a. Cleared transactions since last meeting

Cleared receipts £2,080.10
Cleared payments £1,984.89

b. Bank Reconciliation

This was received and signed by the Chair of Finance Committee.

Balance per Bank Statements £82,739.62
Unpresented payments £0
Unpresented receipts £0
Adjusted Bank Balance £82,739.62

c. Authorisation of Payments – The following payments were authorised:-

Salaries (all) £1,604.44
Grave Digger (Ashes Plot) £100
Scribe Subscription (April) £673.92

d. Budget v Actual Spend

	Annual Budget	Spend (10/12 months)
Income	£71,010	£87,386
Expenditure	£79,010	£73,967

The Finance Report was approved by the Parish Council and the Chairman signed the Schedule of Payments as listed in c. above.

156. Correspondence received

- a. Parish & Town Forum – 18 March 24 in Mildenhall.- noted.
b. Suffolk Wildlife Trust.- noted.

157. Questions to the Chairman

None

158. The next Parish Council meeting is on 11 April 2024 at 7pm

159. Meeting concluded at 9.05 pm

Signed by:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____