



STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council - Fiona Osman, 20 Micklesmere Drive, Ixworth, Suffolk IP31 2UJ
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Chair – Charlie Harvey-Evers

Vice Chair – Dee Burdett

Minutes of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 13 June 2024 at Stanton Village Hall.

17. Roll Call & Apologies

The following councillors were present:

Brian Brown

Lorraine Frost

Dee Burdett (Vice Chair)

Charlie Harvey-Evers (Chair)

John Frizzell

Martin Wright

Apologies for absence were received from the following councillors:

	Reason	Approved/ not approved
Barry McDonald		Approved
Phil Smith	Work meeting	Approved

The following councillors did not attend the meeting:

Martin Scowcroft

18. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 May 2024 were confirmed as a correct record, proposed by Cllr Wright and seconded by Cllr Burdett, and with all councillors in favour, were signed by the Chair.

19. Public Forum

No members of the public wished to address the parish council.

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

- Jaynic had confirmed that they would not appeal the decision to refuse their recent planning application for Shepherds Grove Park.
- George Hill nurseries had a 'reserved matters' application which was on tonight's agenda.
- West Suffolk Council had struggled to do some grass cutting as per contract due to the extremely wet weather and staffing issues.

Cllr Wright reported that a hedge was so overgrown it was blocking a pavement, causing school children to walk in the road. DCllr Thorndyke asked for an email with details so this could be followed up.

b. Report from Suffolk County Councillor Joanna Spicer:

- Highways had been grass cutting grass verges in Stanton

- Honeymeade Close hedges were overgrown (need to check if this is Havebury or West Suffolk)
- There was still no confirmation that the sale of the old Primary School site had been completed. There had been recent reports of break-ins.
- SC Cllr Spicer had met recently with the SCC engineer regarding the proposal to extend the 30mph speed limit around Shepherds Grove Park. The current 30mph limit starts on Uphorpe Road, near Sid's Piece and ends where Uphorpe Road joins Grove Lane. The proposal is to continue the 30mph limit along Grove Lane past the entrances to Shepherds Grove Park. All councillors were in favour of this proposal going forward.
- Also confirmed that Jaynic would not be appealing the refused planning application but would be coming back with a masterplan for the site.
- A Highways officer had attended Wash Lane

Cllr Harvey-Evers raised his concern about the recent serious accident at the junction of the A143 and Wyken Road. There had been an increasing number of accidents at these 'bends' and suggested extending the 40 mph limit to include this junction. SC Cllr suggested the Clerk requested police reports for any accidents at this junction.

21. Clerk's Report

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

- An email had recently been sent to the Community Police Officer regarding the recent complaints of speeding vehicles.
- A request had been sent to West Suffolk grass cutting team to clarify the schedule of grass cutting that is issued weekly.
- The Clerk would meet with the Cemetery Working Party to identify location for any new cremation plots.

22. Declarations of Interest - NONE

23. Statutory Business/Governance

a. Councillor Areas of Responsibility

This was approved by all councillors

b. Action Plan – Jun 24 – Apr 25

- Events - Lead councillors were identified for all events.
- Projects for 2024-25 – no changes
- Aspirational Projects –
 - Clerk to advertise on website, social media, Stanton Steamer and posters for interest in becoming a Stanton Village Volunteer
 - Recreation ground improvements – Cllr Smith (tbc)
 - Neighbourhood Plan – All Councillors
 - Youth Facility – Cllrs Smith and Wright (tbc) and to liaise with Rev Cathy Bladen
 - CCTV Repair or Renewal – Cllr Harvey-Evers and Wright

The Action Plan would be updated accordingly, circulated to all councillors and published on the website.

- Calendar of Actions & Events 2024-25** – this was received and noted by councillors and would be updated as required.

d. **Accounts:**

Cleared transactions since last meeting

Cleared receipts £354.68
Cleared payments £5,884.09

Bank Reconciliation

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

Balance per Bank Statements £132,735.23
Unpresented payments £21.98
Unpresented receipts £84.90
Adjusted Bank Balance £132,798.15

Authorisation of Payments – The following payments were authorised:-

Salaries (all) £1,603.58
Direct Debits
Octopus Energy (Clock Tower) – deposit £115.20
Octopus Energy (Floodlights) - deposit £110.37
EDF Energy £21.98
Wave Water (Cemetery) £19.13
Wave Water (Village Hall) £336.81
Debit Card payments
Amazon – Certificate Frames £28.88
Timpson – Cemetery Signs x 3 £90.00
Microsoft 365 subscription £59.99
BACS payments
GKW Groundworks (install barrier) £283.20
Paul Sparkes (Cremation grave) £100.00
Barriers Direct (extra keys) £102.11

24. Planning Applications

a. **New Applications**

DC/24/0629/RM – George Hill Nurseries, Barningham Road	Reserved matters application - a. submission of details under DC/20/2065/OUT - the means of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for up to nine dwellings (Granted by the Secretary of State under APP/F3545/W/21/3278163); b. application to discharge condition 18 (surface water drainage)	No objection.
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b. **Determined Applications that were rejected – no determined applications were rejected**

25. Matters for discussion

a. Grant Application

Councillors reconsidered the grant application received from Stanton Primary School PTA and asked questions from the Chair and Treasurer of the PTA who were present at the meeting. It was confirmed that the PTA had recently become members of ParentKind, an organisation that provides expert advice and guidance to PTAs and they were now having regular meetings which were minuted, their finances were now separate to the Primary School and accounts would be audited.

It was proposed by Cllr Brown, seconded by Cllr Frizzell and all in favour to provide a grant of £500.

b. Memorial Bench Applications

Following on from a request from an applicant to source their own contractor to provide the concrete plinth, the Chairman proposed that the Parish Council's role should be:

- to consider any applications
- agree a precise location (which would be marked out)
- receive confirmation of the contractor
- provide details of the preferred supplier for the bench

Once approved, the applicant would make all arrangements and pay for the bench and any contractor costs directly, rather than going through the Parish Council as a third party.

This was seconded by Cllr Brown and all in favour.

- i. Abbie Sheppard – the Recreation Ground WP would mark out the location for the bench
- ii. Jane Blampied – the Cemetery WP would mark out the location for the bench

c. Memorial for Cremation Plot – in principle consideration

The design was considered by the council and all agreed that they would have no objections.

d. Vacant Parish Council seats

The vacant seats would be advertised on website, social media and on posters request applications to be submitted by 4 July. Applicants would be invited to attend the meeting on 11 July and to make a short statement before their application was considered.

e. Monthly Play Park Inspection Reports – May 2024

These were received and noted

f. Garden Competition

Cllr Brown confirmed that all arrangements were in place and Cllrs Frizzell, Burdett and Frost would assist with the judging. The certificates would be awarded at the Stanton Show.

g. Firework Display

Cllr Harvey-Evers confirmed that he would be contacting Dave Smithson to request that he be the lead for Firework Firing for the event. There would be a further update in August/September when the Event Safety Plan would be reviewed and approved.

h. Village Green

Cllr Burdett proposed that the community be asked to suggest names for the new 'Village Green' and that the Primary School children should also be asked to contribute their ideas.

Cllr Burdett would produce an advert and circulate this.

i. High Interest Savings Accounts

Cllr Burdett had carried out some investigation on high interest savings accounts to see if the Parish Council could maximise its money. She had looked in detail at two banks; our current provider, Lloyds Bank, and Redwood Bank.

The Clerk raised concerns that Redwood Bank had limitations on the number of withdrawals per year as 4 which could be difficult to manage.

It was agreed the Cllr Harvey-Evers and Burdett would contact Lloyds Bank direct (to discuss whether there was a better solution for our Business account). This would be reconsidered at the July meeting.

j. CPR and Defib Awareness

Cllr Burdett had been approached by Gryphon First Aid to run a free CPR and Defib Awareness session open to all in the Village Hall. There would be no cost, but a donation would be welcomed.

It was proposed by Cllr Brown and seconded by Cllr Burdett that the Parish Council provide a donation of £100 and cover the cost of the hire of the Village Hall.

26. Correspondence received

- a. Safety of Lithium ion batteries – councillors asked the Clerk to reply and confirm their support for the Bill.
- b. Thriving Communities Fund – Cllr Burdett asked if this fund could be used to provide funding to the school to help with transport costs for swimming lessons, but councils are unable to support other public funded organisations
- c. Report of smell from Dewdrop Cattery area – this has been an ongoing problem for many years and had been reported to Environmental Health four times with no action.
- d. Email to SC Cllr Spicer re state of Bury Lane – noted.
- e. Letter from Communities Together East Anglia – noted.

27. Questions to the Chairman

Cllr Frizzell advised the Chairman that he may be unable to attend the next meeting due to imminent surgery. He reported that the situation of parking on The Chase is just getting worse. The Clerk was asked to follow up on the letter sent to both surgeries at the end of 2023 and invite representatives from both to attend a future Parish Council meeting so this could be discussed.

Cllr Harvey-Evers reported that the Parish Council had received an email from Jaynic informing us that they would not be appealing the recent planning application refusal but they would like to come and speak to the Parish Council about their plans for a new masterplan. They are not in a position to give us any further information at this stage.

Cllr Wright reported that there had been anti-social behaviour at the Recreation Ground Car Park on several evenings with cars and motorbikes speeding around. Cllr Harvey-Evers confirmed he would be looking at the CCTV in the coming weeks and would try and face the camera towards the car park.

28. The next Parish Council meeting is on 11 July 2024 at 7pm

29. Meeting concluded at 8.58 pm

Signed by:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____