



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 14 November 2024 at Stanton Village Hall.

82. Roll Call & Apologies

The following councillors were present:

Dee Burdett (Vice Chair)	Barry McDonald
John Frizzell	Greg Meadwell (arrived late)
Charlie Harvey-Evers (Chair)	Martin Wright
Keith Marlow	

Apologies for absence were received from the following councillors:

	Reason	Approved/ not approved
Brian Brown		
Brian Brown	Family event	Approved
Lorraine Frost	None given	Not approved
Martin Scowcroft	Work	Approved

Suffolk County Councillor Joanna Spicer was unable to attend the meeting.

83. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2024 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Chair.

84. Public Forum - One member of the public attended and had the following comments:

- Thanks to the parish council for organising the road closure for the Remembrance Sunday event. And a request in future for a further road closure on Armistice Day (11 November) due to the increase in numbers attending.
- Asked the Parish Council if they were going to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day (8 May 25) and VJ Day (15 August 25). This hadn't yet been considered by the Parish Council but would be included on a future agenda.
- Concern over continued speeding on A143 in 30 mph limit. Cllr Harvey-Evers would look to install the mobile SID at a suitable location by the houses on Bury Road.

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

- Confirmed that West Suffolk Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be holding a meeting at Stanton Village Hall on Monday 16 December 2024 at 5pm. This is a public meeting and although not on the agenda, the work programme would be looking at the rural bus situation.
- The planning application for houses to be built in Great Barton between the A143 and B1106 was ongoing.

- West Suffolk Councillors had received an update on the Local Plan.

Report from Suffolk County Councillor Joanna Spicer - A written report had been received:

- Both bids for BSIP were ready to be submitted – they stressed the importance of the 73 route to residents and Shepherds Grove Park
- New posts for the village sign along Hepworth Road would be funded by locality budget. Discussions are under way with Highways for the new village sign including 'Please drive carefully' to be included.
- The request to extend the 30mph speed limit from where Upthorpe Road joins Grove Lane until the entrance to Shepherds Grove Park had been submitted.
- Councillors had already been notified about the delay to the A1088 bridge repair.
- Correspondence had been received regarding safety walking along Wyken Road from Honeymeade Close and asked if the Parish Council had any thoughts (discussed at Agenda item 11e)

- 86. Clerk's Report** - The Clerk's Report had been circulated with the agenda. The Clerk informed the council that correspondence had been received regarding the use of the upper football pitch by residents. The Clerk had responded that the land had been leased to Stanton Football Club by the Parish Council and as such, they could determine who was able to use the pitch.

There had been an incident involving a drain cover at the side of the path behind the Village Hall, which had been removed. Although this had now been put back, it needed to be fixed so that it couldn't be easily removed. The lighting along this path would be reviewed and if possible, the drain would be cordoned off to prevent any further accidents.

- 87. Declarations of Interest - NONE**

- 88. Statutory Business/Governance**

- a. i. Finance Report** – the report was received and accepted

Cleared transactions since last meeting

Cleared receipts	£529.34
Cleared payments	£13,324.53

Bank Reconciliation

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

Balance per Bank Statements	£109,720.04
Unpresented payments	£17,385.71
Unpresented receipts	£0.00
Adjusted Bank Balance	£92,334.33

- ii. Schedule of Payments** – councillors approved the following payments, proposed by Cllr Wright, seconded by Cllr Meadwell and all in favour:

Salaries (all) (estimated due to Pay Award)	£1,678.68
Salaries – (estimated back pay to April)	£553.61
Clerk Reimbursement for Phone/Internet (BACs)	£10.00
Sutcliffe Play – Play Area spare parts	£118.00
Cllr Brown reimbursement – Tree Lighting	£63.00
Saxon Fire – hire of fire extinguishers	£84.00
Culford Waste – skip hire	£220.00

C Avis – repainting of Teen Shelter	£325.00
C Avis – repainting of bench	£325.00
Amazon – Firework Sundries (Debit Card)	£103.34

The Chairman signed the Schedule of Payments as listed in **ii** above.

**89. Planning Applications
New Applications**

i.	DC/23/1443/OUT Former Stanton Primary School, Bury Lane	New documents had been added. These were noted by councillors	
ii.	DC/24/0629/RM George Hill Nurseries, Barningham Road	Re-consultation on revised layout and design of scheme	No further comments but reiterated concern about exit onto B1111

b. Determined Applications that were rejected – no determined applications were rejected

90. Matters for discussion

a. Play Area Inspection Reports for October 2024 – the reports were received and noted. There were no major areas of concern.

Cllr Wright reported that some new parts had been received and would be fitted as soon as possible. The Teen Shelter and bench had both been repainted but in future both items may need to be sand blasted to remove old layers of paint. The Clerk is in the process of arranging for a contractor to visit and provide quotations for the repair or replacement of the surface in the Village Hall Park.

Cllr Wright informed the parish council that he needed additional help to carry out the weekly inspections. Cllr Marlow agreed to help and would be interested in the Play Inspection course when next available. Cllrs Harvey-Evers and Marlow agreed to help fit the new parts.

b. Village Issues List – list to be updated as follows:

1 – Highways

- 1.1 The Clerk had submitted a work request to Highways for the provision of 'Unsuitable for HGVs' signs at either end of Duke Street North. The estimate cost would be £2,600 and the Parish Council would fund 49% of this cost.
- 1.2 The Clerk had submitted a work request to Highways for the provision of a 'No left turn for HGVs' sign at the junction of Upthorpe Road with Old Bury Road.
- 1.4 The sign on the A143 at the junction with Hepworth Road has now fallen over. This has been reported to Highways.
- 1.8 The Clerk had spoken to Highways who were in the process of providing new posts and a new village sign. They would investigate the best way of adding a 'Please drive carefully' sign.
- 1.9 Further email received from resident (see agenda item 11e)

2 – Grounds – actions as per September minutes as not yet completed.

c. Employer's National Insurance Contributions and NJC Salary Pay Award 2024-2025 agreement

- i. Councillors noted that there would be an increase in the employer's National Insurance contributions.

It was proposed by Cllr Frizzell, seconded by Cllr Wright and all in favour, to pay the backdated pay award to 1 April 2024 to the Parish Clerk and Street Cleaner.

- d. **Firework Display Event** – Cllr Harvey-Evers provided a verbal update. He thanked all the volunteers for their excellent work, to Hillside Nurseries and the Post Office for selling advance tickets and Gryphon First Aid for stepping in at short notice to provide first aid cover. In addition to the firework display, there was a fun fair provided by Jamie Bloomfield, Coffee van by ENA, barbecue by Stanton Football Club and Stanton School PTA had a stall selling glow wands. The total ticket sales were £7,750 and the cardnet machine was successful for taking card payments on the night.

To note for next year: more volunteers were needed to provide points of contact for those attending, the implications of Martyn's law need to be considered and to look at using an online ticket portal.

- e. **Rural bus services** – Cllr Burdett confirmed that a letter had been sent by the Chairman along with details of engagement within Stanton parish, in support of the BID for extending the current timetable for buses into 2025. In addition, Cllr Burdett had investigated census population data from 2020 for the different age groups as evidence. The proposal is to keep the Monday to Friday service as it is currently and to add in services either every Saturday or alternate Saturdays.
- f. **Metal Racking for Container** – It was proposed by Cllr Wright to purchase metal shelving to enable the Parish Council to store items in the Container. It was suggested that plastic crates with lids also be purchased so that items can be noted and clearly labelled for storage. All councillors were in agreement and the cost would be within the £300 limit allowed for purchases by the Clerk or Chairman.

Cllr Harvey-Evers would seek a quote from a local electrician to add an additional light in the container.

- g. **EV Chargers** – Cllr Harvey-Evers reported that he had recently received information from the company regarding the provision of EV charges in the Recreation Ground car park. The chargers would run directly off a lamppost and would therefore not need to be run from the Village Hall. There would be 4 bays, 2 at a higher charge rate, and 2 lower. Although they would connect to only one supplier, it was tap and go and should be easy to use. The land would be leased to the company for a period of 15 years. The gate would need to be left unlocked to allow access 24 hours a day. Two options for locations were suggested:
Option 1 - Along the hedge row towards the outdoor toilet block (avoiding speed humps)
Option 2 - On the right through the gate along the hedge row (would need to remove the kissing gate).

It was proposed by Cllr Marwell, seconded by Cllr Burdett and all in favour to proceed with Option 2.

- h. **CCTV Installation** – Cllr Harvey-Evers confirmed that the CCTV installation was now complete. Access to the data would be restricted to the Chairman, Parish Clerk and the Village Hall Chairman. The CCTV policy would be reviewed at the December meeting and signs would be updated as necessary.
- i. **Code Changes for gate padlocks** – Councillors noted that the codes for the padlocks for gates at the Recreation Ground and the Container would be changed by the end of December. The new code would be notified to all councillors, the Football Club and the Village Hall Chairman.
- j. **Community Engagement** – Cllr Meadwell suggested that with the success of the Firework Display, the Parish Council could consider other events involving the community such as a summer fete, teen cinema among others. The Clerk explained

that budgets should not be set aside for events that were not confirmed, nor the costs known. These events could still occur, and any funds required could be taken from the General Fund. If they then became an annual event, then the budget would be known and could be agreed each year at the budget meeting.

91. Correspondence received

- a. Communities Capital Fund – noted
- b. Local Transport Plan – councillors encouraged to respond to the consultation
- c. Air Quality Annual Status Report – noted – the parish council had arranged for the loan of a thermal imaging camera in January with 3 councillors volunteering to help.
- d. Keep the Heat Event – this had been advertised on the PC website
- e. Email from resident re. Wyken Road – there is no easy solution to this issue due to the narrow road with no room for any pavement. No other complaints had been received and there is an alternative route into The Street via Sturgeon Way and Bury Lane. The Clerk would reply to the resident.
- f. Email from resident re. state of verges – The grass verges in Stanton could be owned by a number of different landowners: e.g. Suffolk County Council, West Suffolk Council, Havebury Housing. The Clerk would reply to the resident.

92. Questions to the Chairman

The Clerk had received an email request from Stanton Pre-School requesting permission for them to hold a small ‘ceremony’ around a tree situated along Potters Lane with pre-school children and some parents. As the lane is a restricted byway (not for use by motor vehicles), it is not the responsibility of the Parish Council. The Clerk would respond and suggest that as the location is near some residents in Windmill Green, the pre-school should consider sending letters to those houses that backed onto the lane.

Cllr Burdett informed the Chairman that a notice had been issued to residents in the vicinity of The Chase informing them that the ‘patient car park’ would be closed for a short period whilst a robotic dispensing machine was installed at the surgery. Cllr Harvey-Evers replied that he had been contacted and confirmed that staff could always use the Recreation Ground car park and is in the process of arranging a meeting with them to discuss parking concerns.

93. The next Parish Council meetings are on Thursday 21 November 2024 at 7pm (Budget Meeting), and on Thursday 12 December 2024 at 7pm.

94. Meeting concluded at 8.50 pm

Signed by:

Chairman: _____

Date: _____