

MINUTES of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 14 April 2016 at Stanton Community Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: A Shelton (Chairman), I Engall (Vice-Chairman), B Smithson, J Mann, N Chapman, K McDonald.

Also Present: County Councillor Joanna Spicer and Borough Councillor Jim Thorndyke.

- 1. Apologies for absence accepted:** F J Hart, M Scowcroft, J Miller, R Genn.
- 2. To read, consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting:** 10 March 2016. Proposed by J Mann and seconded by I Engall.
- 3. Public Forum:** Time limited to 15 minutes with 5 minutes allowed for each question/answer.

A resident attended the meeting to report parking issues at Shetlands when other residents are parking inconsiderately and blocking access to the cul de sac. There were concerns that emergency vehicles and utility vehicles are unable to access the area and concerns that damage may be caused unintentionally to parked vehicles. After a discussion about possible solutions it was agreed that yellow lines would not be a deterrent as they were difficult to enforce and would be unlikely to be policed even if granted. The Chairman agreed to ask the advice of County Councillor Spicer.

The co-ordinator of the local speed watch scheme attended the meeting to ask for consideration of the purchase of a new vehicle activated sign that could be used in 8 suggested locations within the village. In the last 12 months 31 events had been recorded with 517 vehicles exceeding the speed limit. However, police resources meant that there were virtually no prosecutions and the VAS would act as an educator rather than an enforcement tool. Total cost is expected to be around £4,000.

Item 8f on the agenda was brought forward for discussion and the co-coordinator remained available for questions. It was agreed by all that speed enforcement was an important area of work that was essential to the safety of the residents. Before a decision could be made about purchasing new equipment it was necessary for further research to be done in relation to the proposed sites. There was no need to go to tender as the equipment was a regulatory machine. The Clerk was instructed to submit an application to the County Council for a survey of the proposed sites to ensure that they were permissible before a decision is made to apply for funding. Some funding may be available from the County Council. The Chairman commented that the village was very fortunate to have the coordinator willing to do voluntary work on behalf of the village and thanked him for his efforts.

The Chairman thanked the residents for coming to the meeting.

- 4. Report from:**
 - a. B Cllr J Thorndyke** reported that there had been a poor take up for the brown bin collection. **The Parish Conference** took place on Monday 11 April and was well attended. Cllr Thorndyke reported that local clubs had recently benefited from locality money with grants to the football club towards a grass mower, SPUF for equipment, Village Hall for the new boiler and Cinema Club a new scaffolding tower.
 - b. S C Cllr J Spicer** reported updates on the Highways meeting. A site visit with the police and Guy Smith from the County Council together with a number of councillors took place on the 23 March. Issues agreed –

- A speed data survey has taken place on George Hill and shows a reasonably high rate of offences. The data will be shared with Highways and will be taken forward to the next monthly speed enforcement meeting for consideration as a site for camera enforcement. The verge will be cut back and the Parish Council will be asked to try and consider the use of volunteers to maintain it once done. The County Council will draw up a proposal for additional roundels and gates to improve visual awareness and the possible move of current 30mph limit at the bottom of George Hill. There may be a possibility of a short pathway at the entrance to Hilltop Way to improve pedestrian access to Hillcrest.
 - Tunnels under the B111 will be jetted to remove excess silt to improve the water flow.
 - A further site meeting will be arranged with Cllr Engall to discuss the solutions for Duke Street flooding. County are not responsible for verge damage and will not make good but asked that details including times and photos are forwarded for enforcement action against land owners causing the damage.
 - A lamppost for the A143 j/w Old Bury Road has been ordered.
 - Overgrown hedgerows in Old Bury Road (near j/w A143 and Village Hall entrance) will be cut back but once again the nesting season will delay this until September.
 - A request for additional bollards in the street on top of the storm drain was rejected but suggestion that low level fencing could be erected if the problem continues. The school will be moving in the summer and may alleviate the issue.
 - Wyken Road ditches need to be cleared by the landowner who is Troston Farms. Clerk to make contact with land owner.
 - The Grundle continues to be monitored.
 - A list of street lights faults has been forwarded to the relevant dept.
 - A finger post sign will be erected on the A143 at the entrance to Goldsmiths Grove.
- b. Cllr Spicer also reported that she was pursuing Abbey Homes for the improvements and traffic calming in Upthorpe Road in good time for the new school term in September. In relation to the street lights being turned on in the Chase after recent crime, this was a decision for the police made in consultation with the County Council and not one for the Parish Council. The Chairman raised the issue re parking in Shetlands and after discussion it was agreed that yellow lines would not be suitable and the Clerk would write to all residents in the area asking them to be respectful and park thoughtfully in the future. Any wilful obstruction could be reported to police.
- c. **Suffolk Constabulary** – The police report available from the new police team had no relevance to the Stanton area and therefore was not presented to the meeting. Cllr Engall was disappointed that no update has been received from the police in respect of recent burglaries and wished it noted that the recent spike in crime was unsettling and there would appear to be relatively little inactivity from the police.

5. Clerk's Report: (Items not referred to elsewhere)

Matters arising from minutes of meeting 10 March (Not on this month's agenda)

- Item 3 – **Copy of Balance sheet 15/16** forwarded to member of public requesting same.
- Item 9a – **Stanton FC – request for funding for floodlights.** Advised that Parish Council were unable to make a grant as it had not been budgeted for.
- Item 9c – **Request for overnight parking.** Advised of permission granted.
- Item 9d – **Grass Cutting Contract.** Confirmation of grant of tender sent to Vertas.
- Item 14b – **Rev Messer fund raising** – advised no donation could be made. Circulated details on Facebook

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6. Statutory Business/Governance

- a. The proposed Standing orders were approved with some amendments and adopted.
- b. The proposed financial regulations were approved and adopted.

7. Declarations of Interest: - none

8. Matters for discussion:

- a. **Purchase of flood lights for Grundle/Fireworks event (Cllr Chapman)** – deferred for further research
- b. **Emergency Planning working party (Chairman).** It was agreed that Cllr Genn, Chapman and Hart will form a working party to take this forward.
- c. **Highways meeting issues (From 23/3)** See SCllr Spicer report **above**.
- d. **Manhole Cover behind village Hall (Chairman)** Agreed that a new one be purchased to replace as it is corroded. Clerk to deal
- e. **Old Bury Road Hedge (Cllr Miller)** - deferred
- f. **New VAS equipment proposal (Chairman)** – see above
- g. **Village Hall Car Park gate (Cllr Miller)** – asked that it be noted that the gate had been closed early on some occasions and cars had been trapped on the recreation ground causing inconvenience. There were also some concerns about lone females being asked to lock the gates at night after an event. The comments were noted.

9. Recreation Ground & Car Park:

- a. **Multi Sports Area maintenance proposal update (Clerk)** A quotation received from Anglia surface care to clean both the tennis court and MUGA was accepted. Clerk to advise and to notify two unsuccessful companies.
- b. **Play Area (Clerk)** Opportunities for further grants continue to be pursued but have so far been unsuccessful. After discussion Cllr McDonald commented that the provision of a play area was essential and the current situation had been allowed to lapse causing a lot of upset to residents and was unacceptable. He therefore proposed that due to having funds available in reserves, from the recycling centre and a VAT refund obtained by the Clerk recently, that the contractors for the play area be instructed to get the work underway as soon as possible with the Clerk continuing to try and get additional grants in the meantime. This was seconded by Cllr Smithson. All in favour.
- c. **Refurbishment of Outside toilets (Chairman)** After discussion this item was deferred for further information in relation to electrical works required.

10. Accounts

- a. **The accounts were approved** by Cllr Mann and seconded by Cllr Chapman.
- b. **The appointment of Mr Tony Mansfield as auditor** for a sum of £150 per year was approved.

PAYMENTS	£NET	£VAT	£GROSS	WHAT FOR	EXP.POWER
Anglian Water	5.00		5.00	Water charges pumping station	LGA 1972 S111
Anglian Water	162.19		162.19	Water chrges recreation ground	LGA 1972 S111
Clarkes of Walsham	7.52	1.25	6.27	Bus shelter repairs	LGA 1972 S111
N H Rayson	300.00	50.00	250.00	Hedge cutting	LGA 1972 S111
J Hart	43.20		43.20	Clerk travel expenses	LGA 1972 S111
Cook Services	342.98		342.98	Repairs to fencing	LGA 1972 S111
Vertas Group	7631.09	1271.85	6359.24	Grass cutting 15/16	LGA 1972 S111
Staff salaries	873.50		873.50	Staff salaries	LGA 1972 S112
Village Hall	81.00		81.00	Meeting Room hire 6 mths	LGA 1972 S111

Items for noting - None

11. Correspondence from Borough and County Councils

- a. **Play Area Inspection Reports** – Noted
- b. Temporary Closure Order C645
- c. Temporary Closure Order U6542

12. Planning Applications:

a. **New Applications received**

DC/16/0328/FUL | Planning Application - 1 no. detached dwelling (demolition of existing dwelling) | Mentor House Chare Road Stanton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 2DX. (Applicant Mr Paul Whyand)

RESPONSE - This proposal sits on the edge of the village and has been considered to have been in a neglected state for a significant period of time. The proposed dwelling will really enhance and add value to this area and provide a large and attractive home which will improve this area significantly and the Parish council welcomes the addition of another large detached dwelling in the village.

DCON(A)/15/0490 | Application to discharge condition 15 (discharge of surface water) of planning permission DC/15/0490/FUL | Land Adj Sucrierie Old Bury Road Stanton Suffolk. (Applicant Mr Colm McAteer)

NO COMMENT REQUIRED

DC/16/0497/FUL | Planning Application - 1 no. detached dwelling (Resubmission of DC/14/2421/FUL) | Burnham Lodge The Street Stanton Suffolk. (Applicant Mr John McDonnell)

RESPONSE - The area includes a medieval bank with mature trees, which are in close proximity to the proposed dwelling and would appear to significantly affect the South aspect of the dwelling. It is considered that there could be applications to remove or reduce these mature trees once the impact of insufficient light, and the risk of damage to the property from falling branches and leaves is experienced. Internally there would appear to be no door to bedroom 1. This is in a conservation area and would be a loss of a very attractive house with large garden and there are concerns about allowing a dwelling which would appear to be quite small and may wish to extend further. Questions about access rights still exist and the fact that the egress onto The Street is quite narrow and visibility will be affected by mature trees and bushes.

NMA(B)/13/0620 | Non-material amendment for DC/13/0620/FUL - (i) Addition of PV panels to the roof of the meditation hall (ii) Replacement of rendered blockwork with exposed brickwork to free standing wall in North Courtyard (iii) Addition of 10no. windows to East elevation of meditation hall (iv) Minor alterations to louvre sizes and locations with timber cladding (v) Revised configuration of emergency vehicle access road | Potash Farm Upthorpe Road Stanton Suffolk IP31 3AR (Applicant - Pure Land Limited - Ms Maitrivajri)

NO COMMENT REQUIRED

b. **Previous applications decided**

REFUSED DC/16/0032/FUL | Planning Application - Proposed residential development | Rose and Crown Bury Road Stanton Suffolk IP31 2BZ (Mr David Harris)

APPROVED DC/16/0084/TPO | TPO248(1997)76 -Tree Preservation Order Application - | Berkeley Leisure Shepherds Grove Park Stanton Suffolk IP31 2AY

APPROVED DC/16/0088/TPO | TPO248(1997)75 -Tree Preservation Order Application - 1 Shepherds Grove Park Stanton Suffolk IP31 2AY (S P Landscapes)

APPROVED DC/16/0082/TPO | TPO248(1997)74 Tree Preservation Order Application - | 21 Shepherds Grove Park Stanton Suffolk IP31 2AY (Berkeley Leisure Group)

APPROVED DC/15/1865/FUL | Planning Application - Change of use of vacant land to provide education and training facilities for horticulture | Land South Of Upthorpe Road Stanton Suffolk

APPROVED DC/15/2477/FUL | Planning Application - Industrial building (Class B2) | Compound 34 Shepherds Grove Industrial Estate Stanton Suffolk IP31 2AR

c. Other planning matters – None

13. Community Recognition Awards

- a. **Nominations and decisions –** all persons nominated were approved for awards which will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting on Weds 25 May

14. Correspondence

- a. **Letter from Chief Constable Suffolk re changes** - Noted
- b. **New VAS Equipment Proposal –** See 8f above
- c. **Invitation to the Rural Coffee Caravan AGM 5/5/16** - Noted
- d. **Request for donation to West Suffolk Voluntary Association for the Blind –** declined.
Clerk to notify re application dates
- e. **Post Office changes** - Noted

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Minutes signed as correct..... (A Shelton – Chairman)

Next meeting AGM Thursday 12 May 2016