

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

Present: A Shelton (Chairman), I Engall (Vice-Chairman), K McDonald, B Smithson, J Mann, R Genn, N Chapman, R Unsworth, F J Hart, M Scowcroft

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

1. **Apologies for absence:** J Miller
2. **To read, consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting:** 10 December 2015. Proposed by J Mann and seconded by R Unsworth.
3. **Public Forum:** Time limited to 15 minutes with 5 minutes allowed for each question/answer.

A resident of Fordhams Close attended the meeting with remnants of the fireworks that had landed in her horse field and asked that the Parish Council consider the siting of the fireworks next year to avoid a repeat. Cllr McDonald confirmed that the display would be moved closer to the A143 this year but said that windy conditions on the day had caused the remnants which were clay plugs to be carried on the wind.

Three members of the public attended to answer questions in respect of the planning application for DC/15/2477/FUL and to present census results for any extra traffic expected. It was agreed that the planning application would be brought forward to be heard after item 6.

4. **Report from:**
 - a. **B Cllr J Thorndyke** reported that the consultation for the West Suffolk Operational hub was seeking feedback and encouraged all present to complete feedback forms. When responding to planning applications, Cllr Thorndyke asked for more feedback information and not just 'no objections'. Approval has been granted for the Abbey Homes flagpoles and small signs to remain until 2017 with the large sign having permission to remain until 2019.
 - b. **S C Cllr J Spicer** reported that there were several issues still needing to be attended to by the County Council and these included the rubbish by the Churchyard and the hedge at Old Bury Road. She would follow these up. The Clerk also reported another issue reported to County of vehicles parked over the storm drain in The Street which had had no response. Cllr McDonald commented that a number of vehicles in the village parked on verges and it was difficult to deal with them as it was no longer a priority for the Police. Cllr Spicer asked if there had been any parking issues at the Chase after the closure of Hopton Surgery. Cllr McDonald reported that there were issues and Cllr Spicer agreed to take the matter back to the action group. There has been a meeting with the NHS and doctors in respect of a new surgery. Cllr Unsworth felt that the doctors had been treated disgracefully by the Hopton Practise where it is understood Mrs Hassan has opened an additional dentist service. Cllr Spicer reported that her locality budget would be reduced for the next year and she wanted to set aside some money for the Queens 90th birthday celebrations so to let her know if there were going to be any events.
5. **Suffolk Constabulary** - no report received prior to the meeting.
5. **Clerk's Report: (Items not referred to elsewhere)**
Matters arising from minutes of meeting on 10 December

Item 7a – Mr Brown contacted to carry out tree cutting – Recreation Ground

Item 7b – Mr Rayson contacted re hedge cutting – Cemetery and recreation ground. Weather is against him – too wet for tractor at the moment and he has work banked up but will do it as soon as weather allows.

Item 7c – Further emails sent to Guy Smith re parking over storm drain, rubbish in church compound and overgrown hedgerow Old Bury Road. Awaiting response. CC'd Joanna Spicer and Jim Thorndyke.

Item 7f – Colin Chapman contacted re removal of graffiti from Bus shelter, Old Bury Road.

Item 7g - Allotment security. Letters written to Mrs Burroughs and Mr Askew to thank them for attending the meeting. Letter sent to Mr Pittaway offering solution to security.

No queries raised with report.

6. Declarations of Interest: To declare any interests in items on the Agenda
Cllr Genn declared an interest in planning application DC/15/2496/HH

Item 13a brought forward -

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

It was reported by the applicants that they expected only one movement of roof trusses in and out of the new factory building on a daily basis with a 7.5 tonne lorry. There was a wish to improve the area and it was expected that the new building would provide much better working conditions for employees and tidy up the appearance of the yard. Cllr Unsworth said that he was concerned generally about the amount of traffic on the Industrial Estate. Cllr Spicer said that the issue of traffic to the Ind Estate from the West is a bigger issue especially with the primary school moving to Upthorpe Road but that we could not oppose the application on the grounds of traffic movement. The applicants confirmed that they would expect just one articulated lorry per month with raw materials. Their intention was to increase employment opportunities in the village area and also use local amenities.

Response -The Parish Council welcomed the opportunity to discuss the proposal with the owners of the business who answered questions put to them in respect of anticipated increase in vehicle movements. The response being that the owners expected little increase in heavy goods vehicle going to and from the premises. The parish council therefore welcomes the opportunity for increased employment within the village although one councillor expressed the wish that the traffic now using the industrial estate is increasing and a longer term solution needs to be considered for access and egress of heavy goods vehicles.

7. Matters for discussion:

- a. **Recognition of exceptional service to the village.** Discussion on how to make this a more social event at the Annual Parish Meeting in May but we need to know if there are going to be any nominations. Clerk to prepare a draft certificate and an entry for the steamer for the next meeting
- b. **Grass cutting contract** – Clerk to meet with Cllr Mann to review the specification and put out to tender.
- c. **Grundle Grid.** Cllr Chapman reported that he has met with the family in the village most affected by the floodwater in the past and has been building a group of volunteers to regularly clean the drain. A resident near the Grundle has been identified to assist with storage of tools. The new grill is working well but needs regular clearing. Lot of debris comes down the river from the fields and cannot be cleared as it is an SSI site. (which could be challenged if causing a danger). Site also needs a safer standing area at the bottom grid. Cllr Chapman will liaise with Tripp Batt to produce a metal platform. Authorised if under £300. Brown bins have been provided for the debris by the County but these are already full and will only be emptied on a

fortnightly basis. A maintenance agreement has been promised by the County but not yet received.

- d. **Duke Street flooding** Cllr Engall reported that Duke Street had been severely affected by mud and debris on the road when the sugar beet was lifted from the field. He produced photographs for Councillors to see the extent of the disruption. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the farmer to ask him to make good the damage caused to grass verges and to remove the mud on the road. C Cllr Spicer asked that this also be added to the County Council list for more regular maintenance on the drains.
- e. **Damage to verges adjacent to Duke Street North** – as above
- f. **Rubbish in the Church compound** C Cllr Spicer to pursue with County Council

8. Recreation Ground & Car Park:

- a. **Lock down bins and dog waste signs** The Chairman produced some signs which had been provided by the Borough Council and would be sited in a suitable place. It was agreed that lock down bins would be purchased at a cost of £279.99 each to replace two dog waste bins currently in situ.
- b. **Outside toilets refurbishment** - deferred
- c. **Blocked drains – Village Hall** Cllr McDonald asked that the village Hall clarify that all paper towels had been removed. On behalf of VHMC B Cllr Thorndyke said that all toilets now have hand dryers. Only one hand dryer has been installed in the Gents toilet as there was not room for a second without moving a sink. Paper towels have therefore been left in the gent's toilet for busy periods. No further paper towels have been ordered and usage now in minimal. Cllr McDonald said that this needs to be addressed as public money was being wasted every time the drains got blocked. Cllr Shelton said that it was not possible to say what had caused the blockage this time and suggested that the situation be monitored and an investigation be launched if it happened again.
- d. **Broken fencing – top field.** Cllr Shelton has been approached by a member of the public who has reported the link fencing on the recreation ground extension needed attention. Parish Council has responsibility to maintain. Clerk to deal with quotes and include item g below.
- e. **Repairs to deep ruts on field** – deferred. Cllr Chapman to contact local tradesman who has expressed an interest in the same.
- f. **Play Area progress** – applications for funding in progress at the current time.
- g. **Rotted low rise fencing** Cllr Hart reported low level fencing on the perimeter of the village hall car park needs attention as it has rotted and failed. See d. above.

9. Accounts

- a. **Appointment of auditors for annual assurance review.** It was agreed that the Parish Council will stay with the recommended SLB for future external audits.
- b. **To approve and authorise the accounts.** The accounts were authorised with an amendment to the account for Browns services which had been incorrectly recorded.
- c. **To approve and complete the 'Application for Grant and Precept 2015/2016' form. (Budget 2015/2016).** The completed form was signed by the Chairman.

PAYMENTS	£NET	£VAT	£GROSS	WHAT FOR	EXP.POWER
Talk Talk (Dec)	33.50	6.70	40.20	Telephone and internet charges	LGA 1972 S111
EON (Dec)	13.30	0.70	14.00	Monthly electricity floodlights	LGA 1972 S111
EON (Dec)	14.25	0.75	15.00	Monthly electricity pumphouse	LGA 1972 S111
Anglian Water	7.00		7.00	Monthly water charge pumphouse	LGA 1972 S111
Tripp Batt & Co	41.36	8.27	49.63	Padlock and keys	LGA 1972 S111
SALC	100.00	20.00	120.00	Clerks training	LGA 1972 S111
ARO	21.34		21.34	Uncontested election charges	LGA 1972 S111
Browns Services	490.00		490.00	Overgrown trees and hedgerows	LGA 1972 S111

Mr L Alen	49.20		49.20	Weekend litter picker	LGA 1972 S112
Mr K Brown	525.00		525.00	Street cleaner	LGA 1972 S112
Mrs J Hart	289.00		289.00	Clerks salary	LGA 1972 S112
121 Computers	20.80	4.15	24.95	Printer Inks	LGA 1972 S111
RECEIPTS					
Village Hall MC	62.31			Water charges - Village Hall	
EASTBC	30.00			Recreation Ground Hire - dog show	
Lloyds Bank	15.90			Bank interest - Nov	
Cash	40.00			Recreation Ground floodlights	

10. Items for noting

- a. **Clerks and Councils Direct publication** – noted

11. Personnel matters

- a. **Annual review of job description for street/Recreation ground cleaner** – to be dealt with by the Personnel working party

12. Correspondence from Borough and County Councils

- a. **Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service – Risk Management Plan 2015-18.** B Cllr Thorndyke reported that there would be no change to the cover at Ixworth but there will be cuts at Lowestoft, Bury St Edmunds and Ipswich. Noted.
- b. **PCSO match funded letter to Parish Councils** (and response from Clare PC). Noted. Clerk to respond.
- c. **Clean for the Queen** – Cllr Smithson to organise a village litter pick for the weekend of 4,5 and 6th March. Further details to follow
- d. **Free Emergency Planning courses** - noted
- e. **Play Area Inspection Reports.** Clerk to prepare an article for the Steamer and Facebook to see if there are any residents who would like to volunteer for small jobs such as repainting play equipment damaged by fire. Play area refurb is now urgent.

13. Planning Applications:

- a. **New Applications received**

DC/15/1865/FUL | Planning Application - Change of use of wasteland to provide education and training facilities for horticulture and associated uses including fundraising events such as Halloween and Christmas open days, events with provisions, private hire, related courses with overnight stays, team building days and woodland management/conservation volunteering with schools, youth groups and community groups | Land South Of Upthorpe Road Stanton Suffolk

Response -The Parish Council are impressed with what the site has achieved so far and are in favour of the continued development of the site. It is considered to be good use of wasteland and there are no concerns.

DC/15/2458/FUL | Planning Application – Wilson Wraight – Sir Kenneth Carlisle. Installation of floating solar PV system | Wyken Hall Wyken Road Stanton Suffolk IP31 2DW

Response - The Parish Council actively encourages the use of renewable energy and we welcome such innovation which will have little impact on the overall appearance of the area.

DC/15/2496/HH | Householder Planning Application - A single storey outbuilding providing ancillary residential accommodation (demolition of existing single storey outbuilding) | Hilary Holden, The Old Mill Barningham Road Stanton Suffolk IP31 2AD

Response - We feel that this will enhance what is currently a building which has reached the end of its life. The proposal will be an improvement to the area and environment and we are pleased to see the redevelopment. No objections

DC/15/2501/HH Householder Planning Application – (i) Conversion of existing barns into kitchen and utility rooms. (ii) Glazed link extension (iii) Internal alterations. Mr Philip Hargreaves, The Hammonds, Glassfield Road, Stanton Suffolk IP31 2DS

Response -The Parish Council feel that this proposal will serve to enhance the quality and value of the property in a very positive way and have no objections. We welcome the improvement to the environment

b. Previous applications

APPROVED DC/15/1656/ADV | Application for Advertisement Consent - Retention of (i) 6no non-illuminated wall mounted signs (ii) 2no swing boards (iii) 2no non-illuminated house mounted signs (iv) 2no directional signs | Land At Hepworth Road/Upthorpe Road Stanton Suffolk IP31 2AE

c. Other planning matters

PL/0311/15

Blackbourne Middle School. Erection of canopies, fences, laying of paths and new planting, (Works to facilitate relocation of Stanton Primary School)

Response - The Parish Council welcomes the improvements to the layout of the school and has no objections to the proposed works. We look forward to the project being completed in a timely fashion to enable the Primary School to relocate as soon as possible.

14. Correspondence:

- a. Acknowledgement of donation – Suffolk West Citizens Advice Bureau
- b. Acknowledgement of donation - SARS
- c. Acknowledgement of donation – Stanton and Ixworth First Responders. Cllr Hart reported that a pulse oximeter for paediatrics had been purchased with the donation.
- d. Acknowledgement of donation - East Anglian Air Ambulance
- e. SALC – Buckingham Palace Garden Party- noted. No nominations
- f. Stanton Football Club – Grass Cutting and dog fouling. New signs to be put up in consultation with the Football Club. Cost of grass cutting to be notified.

The meeting closed at 9.22pm

Minutes signed as correct.....

Next meeting Thursday 11 February 2016