

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

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

Also Present: Borough Cllr Jim Thorndyke, Inspector Matt Dee, Pc Paul Fox, Hannah Harvey (Flagship)

- 1. Apologies for absence:** County Councillor Joanna Spicer, Cllr F J Hart,
- 2. To read, consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting:** 9 June 2016. Approved by Cllr Miller. Seconded by Cllr Frizzell.

- 3. Public Forum:** A resident attended to complain about dirty street signs and litter bins in the village and the fact that many of the signs were now obstructed by overhanging vegetation. Also reported the Shepherds Grove Park sign broken. Cllr Engall said that he would take responsibility for cleaning the bins. Clerk to report all signage and undergrowth issues to Suffolk County Council Highways.

A Director of Shelbourne Reynolds attended to report that he had major concerns about traffic in the village and especially in Hepworth Road opposite the Mill View development and Upthorpe Road traffic calming scheme recently put in by the County Council. Lorries going to and from the Industrial Area were now finding it very difficult to pass parked vehicles and the traffic calming scheme had been ill thought out as lorries try to pass parked cars. Either a rethink of the scheme or yellow lines are needed to allow HGV's to access the Industrial Estate in a timely fashion. A link road to the estate is badly needed.

A resident of Upthorpe Road attended the meeting to complain about the new traffic calming scheme on Upthorpe Road stating that the measures were 'not working'. HGV's are being held up coming up the hill which is an 'appalling situation' and can only get worse when the new school opens in September.

The Chairman responded that he had noted the strength of feeling in the room against the current perceived problems in Upthorpe Road and Hepworth Road. The scheme had been planned and put in by Suffolk County Council highways. However, there was a need to access the Industrial estate easily and quickly but more importantly the safety of children walking to school was paramount. BCllr Thorndyke suggested that the Clerk write to Suffolk Highways to request a site meeting that the public can attend and to bring the matter to the attention of CCllr Spicer. Emails had already been sent to CCllr Spicer by the residents concerned.

The Speedwatch co-ordinator attended to ask for the support of the Parish Council- in principle – to a £4000 upgrade of the speedwatch equipment for the purchase of a SID machine to be placed on 5 strategic sites in the village. This was deferred to the August meeting as an Agenda item. The Chairman commented that the speedwatch team were doing a fantastic job and thanked them.

The Chairman thanked the public for attending and the public forum ended.

4. Report from:

- a. B Cllr J Thorndyke.** In relation to last month's discussion about CCTV monitoring in the village, it could be done but would be a significant cost of around £1000 per annum at least per camera.

Devolution proposals are high on the agenda at present. An email outlining the proposals will shortly be circulated.

Cllr McDonald felt that this would just mean an extra tier of local Govt with all the associated costs.

Cllr Miller asked if BCllr Thorndyke had had an opportunity to discuss the loss of amenities at the bus station i.e. the information desk and wondered how many BCllr's actually used

the buses before making such decisions. BCllr Thorndyke will make enquiries and report back.

b. S C Cllr J Spicer

Upthorpe Road –

The development of the 100 plus homes by Abbey Homes goes back many years and was subject to some very unsatisfactory processes. Many of the problems today (particularly in Hepworth Road) were anticipated and raised by councillors frequently. The planning application was refused by the borough council but upheld on appeal. All very upsetting – but we are where we are.

However, there are some definite issues about how the development is progressing which require action by the SEBC enforcement team. As I understand it the roads within the development have not yet been adopted and more work is required there

When I refer to temporary problems I mean the extra HGV movements in Hepworth Road relating to the building. More worrying is the parking on Upthorpe Road by residents of the Abbey Homes estate. This has been causing visibility and even obstruction problems. Since the traffic calming chicane was installed parked cars have effectively blocked visibility. I discussed this with police on Monday and I think we may well have to introduce double yellow lines in some limited places. Not my preference – but safety of children is absolutely paramount. This will be a fairly urgent matter and SCC officers and I wish to keep a close watch on what is happening especially when the children start at the school in a few weeks' time.

There have been several e mails relating to HGV traffic related to the SG west industrial estate. I suppose it is possible as suggested that numbers of HGV movements have exceeded planning limitations. I think it will be up to Jim Thorndyke to decide if there should be a thorough investigation in to numbers etc. BUT we need to be a little cautious as many of the businesses employ local people.

Police matters – I am sorry about vandalism at the village hall but at least the police are responding. Well done to Stanton CCTV cameras but it strengthens the case to look at a new CCTV system linked to control in BSE.

George Hill – various matters – I am waiting dates for the various agreed projects

Pavement alongside A143 from Goldsmith Grove – I have inspected with SCC officer and it will be cut back

Devolution - I will send link to consultation with my views and hope Clerk will circulate

GP surgery – the Suffolk health Scrutiny will consider a report on what has gone wrong at a meeting next week

c. Suffolk Constabulary Recorded Crimes in June:

4th June – Burglary Dwelling

1st-5th - Criminal Damage Dwelling

6th June – Threats to Destroy / Damage Property *

17th June – Assault *

21st June – Harassment (fear of violence) pursuing a course of Conduct x 2*

25th June – Criminal Damage – motor vehicle

1 male has been arrested and charged to court, for the Burglary at Stanton Manor on 4th June

2 males have been arrested and are currently on police bail for the above offences* of Assault, Threats to Commit Criminal Damage, 2 accounts of Harassment (Fear of Violence) pursuing a Course of Conduct, and also 2 offences of Criminal Damage from May 2016.

Police have held two drop in surgeries in Stanton Village Hall but these were not very well attended. In addition to regular police patrols around the village, we have also taken part in joint patrols with Flagship Housing association. A Crime prevention surgery was well attended.

The Chairman reported that there had recently been vandalism to the Village Hall and CCTV system. This had been captured on the CCTV system and it is believed that the Police have identified those responsible from the very clear footage. Damage to the rubber matting by fire is valued at £110 plus VAT and the CCTV camera £142 plus VAT. Cllr Scowcroft asked whether the Council would look for payment for the damage or appropriate further action. Cllr McDonald felt that there should be an agreement by a full Council meeting on a suitable punishment, however the police will make that decision in consultation with the Council and in line with their own policies.

d. Hannah Harvey from **Flagship Housing** was present and was invited to give an update on the issues raised at the Public Meeting on 25 June.

Of the 4 problematic addresses on the Abbey Homes estate, 2 have had their tenancies ended. One of them has already moved out of the area and the second has been given notice to leave by the 3rd August when the matter will be taken to Court for Possession proceedings. In coming to this point several statements have been taken from residents and a Civil Court injunction has been obtained in relation to Luke Roberts for 1 Year from the 10 July, not to enter or remain in Stanton. This has yet to be served on him after which he has 14 days to contest it. He could be arrested if he enters the village. The family will not be rehoused by Flagship or any other Social Housing provider so will have to go to privately rented accommodation.

Hannah encouraged any resident to contact Flagship with any concerns they may have about their tenants.

5. Clerk's Report:

Local Planning - Responses sent to SEBC relating to the planning applications considered at the June Council meeting. Response as outlined on the June minutes.

Matters arising from minutes of meeting 9 June

Item 3 – **Public Forum**. Responses sent to residents in respect of the street lighting on The Chase and Speeding cars in Bury Road in accordance with the minutes.

Item 8a – **Resignation Councillor Genn**. Returning officer of SEBC advised and notice issued on 10 June. Displayed on Parish Notice Board and Facebook.

Item 8e – **Best kept Garden competition** – Letters sent to last year's recipients for return of trophies.

Item 8f – **Flower Tubs** – The Street. Street cleaner will ensure they are kept watered.

Item 9g – **Road markings Sturgeon Way and Grove Lane** reported on line to Suffolk Highways reference 00140927 and 00140928

Item 9b – **Litter bin in new play area** – ordered and will be delivered after 10 July

Item 9d – **Damage to toilet door** – Cooks services contacted to repair

No queries with report enclosed with agenda.

6. No statutory Business/Governance for discussion

7. Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

8. Matters for discussion:

a. Proposed action after public meeting. The Chairman asked the Council whether Tim Passmore should attend a further meeting in the village. After discussion it was felt that Social Media and correspondence to the Clerk should be used to monitor the groundswell of opinion and responded to as necessary but that things should be allowed to quieten down.

Cllr Miller and Cllr Smithson asked that they be kept in the loop of any meetings called by CCllr Spicer in future. Cllr McDonald questioned the need for the Clerk to attend meetings called by the County Council as it affects the hours of work for the Parish. Cllr

Scowcroft asked that the Council keep in touch with Hannah Hervey from Flagship as her response had been 'superb' and adhoc updates from Flagship would be useful.

- b. **SWAG – footpaths guide** Cllr Engall reported that the group were currently working on a new footpaths guide for the village. Clerk to write and thank them.
- c. **Letter Mr. J Tripp regarding Stanton`s War Heroes 1939 - 1945"** Cllr Miller reported receiving a letter from a previous resident about researching the names on the war memorial and also a history of residents who has served in the wars. It was felt that this was not a role for the Parish Council and could be referred to the British Legion for consideration. (Cllr Miller was advised that the author had recently passed away – no further action necessary)
- d. **Overgrown vegetation – Sturgeon Way/Bury Lane** Cllr Mann reported the hedgerow at the rear of the school needs attention. Clerk to write to the County Council
- e. **Overgrown areas** – Cllr Miller reported a number of overgrown areas -
 - i. Long grass around Jack Bacon`s seat. - Area 5 on grass cutting contract
 - ii. George Hill Footpath. - Highways issue already reported
 - iii. Hedge leading from The Street to Meadow Court/Field Court. - Havebury (has recently been cut)
 - iv. Long grass on first roundabout between Stanton and Ixworth – HighwaysClerk to deal with all the above
- f. **Resignation of weekend litter picker** Cllr Engall asked whether the Council considered there was a need for a weekend litter picker as the street cleaner was doing a very good job already. After discussion it was felt that the situation should be monitored and reviewed at the next meeting in August – no objections.

9. Recreation Ground & Car Park:

- a. **Public toilets refurbishment** The Chairman produced an estimated schedule of works for the toilets which currently stood at £12274.00. Cllr Miller asked if there had been 3 estimates obtained in accordance with financial regulations. She also commented that although she did not want to see amenities lost in the village, she felt because of the extra spent on the Play Area, (due to less Grants than hoped for), and the fact that no provision had been made in this year`s budget for the play area, Council should wait for the Budget Meeting before proceeding any further with the project. Council would then have more idea what Reserves were. The £16,000 now estimated for the refurbishment was far above what was originally estimated.

Both the Clerk and Chairman had tried and been unsuccessful in getting tradesmen to quote for the job. Cllr Chapman said that there would be extra ongoing costs for cleaning and there was still the issue of whether additional electrical cables would be needed which would be extra cost. Also the monitoring of use of electricity may require its own meter etc.

The Chairman felt very strongly that the project had been allowed to go on too long. It had been agreed over a year ago that the refurbishment was necessary and a budget of £10,000 agreed last year. The money was available. The Chairman had spent a lot of time and effort in sourcing a tradesman to do the works.

Cllr McDonald felt very strongly that this was a huge amount of money to spend on toilets which were regularly vandalised and were a luxury that many villages didn't have due to the maintenance and upkeep costs. The project would appear to run significantly over the agreed budget. Cllr McDonald proposed that the toilets be closed with immediate effect due to their current state as they were an embarrassment to the village and that responses to the closure be monitored. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Smithson and a majority voted in favour of the motion which was carried.

Clerk to put a notice on Facebook and monitor the responses. A notice will also be put in the Steamer and on the toilet doors.

- b. **Play Area progress and opening ceremony** Cllr Engall reported that the play area was on course to open on Saturday 16 July subject to a ROSPA inspection on Friday 15th.

although it had been touch and go and the contractors had been hampered by poor weather.

The toddler's area would open but the area for older children needed time for the grass to grow through the rubber matting and some of the equipment was damaged and required inspection. The agreed budget had been underspent. Thanks to Cllr and Mrs McDonald and Cllr Hart for helping lay turf with Cllr Engall on Weds (In appalling weather) and Thursday and also thanks to Kenny the street cleaner for his additional work in watering the turf. A press release has been prepared and the opening ceremony will be at 1.30pm with 3 lucky children being chosen to pull the ribbon.

- c. **Playground Plaque** The Chairman proposed a plaque be prepared for the play area to acknowledge the donations from other organisations. It was suggested that Shelbourne Reynolds may be able to provide one similar to theirs. 5 Councillors voted for the motion, 2 against, 2 abstained. The motion was carried. Clerk to make enqs with an approved budget of up to £300.
- d. **Skate Park and teen shelter cleaning** A quotation from Anglia Surface care of £280 to remove graffiti and clean the surfaces was accepted.

10. Financial

- a. The payments and receipts as below were approved by Cllr Mann and seconded by Cllr Miller

PAYMENTS	GROSS	VAT	NET	WHAT FOR	EXP.POWER
Talk talk (June)	42.92	7.15	35.77	Monthly Internet/phone charges	LGA 1972 S111
Anglian Water	5.00		5.00	Water charges pumping station	LGA 1972 S111
EON	9.00	1.50	7.50	Monthly electricity floodlights	LGA 1972 S111
EON	14.00	0.70	13.30	Monthly electricity pumphouse	LGA 1972 S111
Tripp Batt	43.16	7.20	35.96	Gloves and litter pickers	Litter Act 1983, ss 5,6
SALC	86.80	2.20	84.60	Arnold Baker 10th edition	LGA 1972 S111
Staff salaries	832.80		832.80	Staff salaries	LGA 1972 S112
Cook Services	268.88		268.88	Fence, toilets and manhole cover	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976, s19
Vertas Group	2249.10	374.85	1874.25	Grass Cutting quarter 1	LG (Misc Prov) Act 1976, s19
Fantastic Fireworks	2311.83	385.30	1926.53	Fireworks for November display	LG Act 1972, s145
RECEIPTS					
06/06/16	5000.00			Donation for play area - Shelbourne Reynolds	
09/06/16	22.29			Bank interest	
09/06/16	985.47			Recycling credits	
20/06/16	2500.00			Donation for play area - Havebury Housing	

11. Items for noting

- a. Play Area Inspection reports - noted

12. Correspondence from Borough and County Councils

- a. Notification of temporary Traffic Order U6456 – 22/7 to 29/7 (Walsham Road) - noted

13. Planning Applications:

- a. **New Applications received**

DC/16/1216/TCA | Trees in a Conservation Area Notification - 4no. Elm (T1, T2, T3 and T4 on plan) fell | Beech Cottage The Street Stanton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 2DQ (Applicant Mr John Lucas)

RESPONSE - The Parish Council accept that the work is necessary and have no objections

DC/16/0983/LB | Application for Listed Building Consent - Internal alterations to ground floor including removal of internal walls | Willow House Duke Street Stanton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 2AA (Applicant Mr Chris Kreslin)

RESPONSE - The proposed alterations will have no effect on the appearance of the property from the outside and the Council have no objections.

DC/16/1316/HH | Householder Planning Application - Two storey rear extension and first floor side extension | Grove View Upthorpe Road Stanton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 2AP (Applicant Mr Jeffrey Priestman)

RESPONSE - This is a tastefully planned extension which will enhance the property considerably and will look very nice when completed. The plot is of sufficient size to accommodate the changes. There are no objections

b. Previous applications decided

DC/16/0926/HH Householder Planning Application - side and rear single storey extensions The Bungalow Chare Road Stanton IP31 2DX (Mr and Mrs Frost) **APPROVED**

c. Other planning matters - None

14. Correspondence:

- a. **Traffic Calming in Upthorpe** – As per public forum and response by CCllr Spicer above
- b. **Bury Ramblers** - permission to use toilets and car park. Clerk to respond

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

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