

## **MINUTES of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 12 January 2017 at Stanton Community Village Hall at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** B Smithson, J Frizzell, K McDonald, J Miller, FJ Hart, B Brown, S Willcox.

**Also Present:** County Cllr Joanna Spicer

**1. Apologies for absence accepted:** Borough Cllr Jim Thorndyke, Cllr J Mann, Cllr M Scowcroft. **Apologies for absence not received or accepted:** Cllr N Chapman

**2. To read, consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the meeting held on 08 December 2016 were approved

**3. Public Forum:** A resident attended the meeting to express her concerns about the fact that after an evening's booking at the Village Hall, hirers are expected to close the large gate to the car park and secure it with a padlock. This can sometimes be quite late and after winter bookings very dark as there is very little lighting in that area. The person carrying out this task will often be alone as they are obviously the last one to leave and therefore in a vulnerable position. The resident questioned whether it was absolutely necessary to lock the car park gate at night.

Cllr Spicer contributed that the gate had been installed after consultation with the police to deter anti-social behaviour and cars gathering late at night playing loud music and disturbing residents in the area. It had been agreed by a group of residents known as the 'way forward group' which no longer existed but had been a great success in tackling ASB. After further discussion Cllr Smithson proposed that the gate could be left open by the WI if they felt vulnerable and the situation could be monitored for any increase in anti-social behaviour. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Miller and carried.

A resident attended in relation to Cemetery issues to update on the current situation from the stonemason. It was agreed that the Clerk would provide copies of all correspondence to the resident

The speedwatch co-ordinator attended to update Councillors on the proposed purchase of a SID machine for use in the village – agenda item

#### **4. Report from:**

**a.** S C Cllr J Spicer updated the meeting on Highways issues. The Keep Clear markings opposite Jasmine Cottage have been ordered and will be completed in the next few weeks. The street light on the A143 junction is scheduled to be replaced next week. The work outside the village store to remove the trip hazard and the reprofiling of the pavement will be completed in February.

The work to improve George Hill from moving the 30mph signs to improving the pavements and the footpath issues at the top of George Hill is being looked at by the local Highways budget team. It is likely to be an expensive project in its entirety so will need to be budgeted for. The jetting of the tunnels under the B1111 is being looked at by Richard Mortlock. The path on Old Bury Road behind the hedgerow has been reported to the footpath clearance team.

Cllr Spicer will consult with BCllr Thorndyke in respect of alterations to and the lack of a maintenance agreement for The Grundle.

Cllr Spicer met at the Abbey Homes Estate this morning with a number of key players including the developers. There are obvious issues to be resolved for both the Borough Council planning office, the County Council and the developer. She acknowledged the concern of Councillors and asked that the Clerk contact the Planning Office to report the issues. Cllr Brown said that he had been approached by Crabtree who were doing the estate management to act on behalf of residents and he was concerned that children were playing on a play area which would

appear to be quite dangerous and there was no proof of a completion or safety certificate. Children were also playing on discarded Heras fencing.

CCllr Spicer suggested that a meeting at Council Offices with representation from the Parish Council would be a way forward and asked for an action plan of the outstanding issues. Cllr Brown agreed to prepare the list of issues. Cllr Willcox suggested that Flagship may wish to attend as they owned a number of properties on the site.

CCllr Spicer reported that she had been notified that the surgery at Hopton will close at the end of January 2017 and all patients will transfer to Stanton. Provision has been made for the car park opposite to be made available. There has been a planning application for a change of use for a nearby bungalow to be used as office space. Chairman McDonald declared an interest as he is the owner of that property but reported that this was a short-term solution for admin staff to relocate to a nearby property so that room can be freed up for an additional consulting room prior to a new surgery being built.

b. B Cllr J Thorndyke – Unable to attend. Apologies given

**5. Clerk's Report:** Issues in respect of the Cemetery Memorial stone are ongoing. The closure of St Johns and All Saints Churchyards for burials has been accepted and submitted to St Edmundsbury Borough Council. Negotiations ongoing in respect of grass cutting after the current contract expires in 2018. The Pre-school has been contacted in respect of funding for equipment and awaiting their response. A new lockdown litter bin has been ordered for installation at the bus shelter. There have been no applicants for the position of Weekend Litter Picker which has been advertised in the Steamer and on Facebook page.

**6. Declarations of Interest:** Chairman McDonald declared an interest in planning matter 13c

#### **7. Statutory Business/Governance**

a. Councillor Vacancy – A casual vacancy has occurred due to the resignation of Councillor Shelton and has been publicly notified by a notice on both the Parish Council and the Village Hall notice boards. No poll has been claimed within the 14-day notification period and therefore co-option is allowed under the Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (England and Wales) Rules 2006, SI 2006/3305, r 5(5).

Two persons applied for the position. One was disqualified by reason of not being resident in the Parish. The other was present at the meeting to observe. The CV of Mr Larry Morris was circulated and approved by all Councillors and Mr Morris advised that his application was successful.

#### **8. Matters for discussion:**

a. **Stanton Mini SID quotations.** The quotation for a new SID to be purchased at a cost of £3,300 (ex VAT) was approved by Council. CCllr Spicer will contribute £2,000 towards the equipment from locality funding. Council thanked CCllr Spicer for her generous contribution.

b. **Heavy Goods Vehicles in Old Bury Road** Cllr Willcox reported that Heavy Goods Vehicles seemed to be using the narrow part of Old Bury Road more frequently. Damage had recently been caused to the roof of the Village store. The lines at the junction have faded and need attention. CCllr Spicer reported that she considered there was sufficient signage at the entrances from the A143 to direct vehicles to use the Hepworth Road entrance and there was little else the County could do as it would be difficult to ban HGV's from the road. CCllr Spicer agreed to arrange a meeting with Highways to discuss getting the road markings redone and especially the markings outside the village shop so that all vehicles coming from the direction of The Street used the other side of the memorial to turn right towards Hepworth Road.

c. **Village Hall maintenance** Cllr Hart reported concerns about the maintenance of the Village Hall which was showing water damage from the guttering in a number of places. He understood that a local tradesman had recently quoted for work to upgrade the guttering but had not received a response. Cllr Hart was concerned that the water ingress into the brickwork could cause significant damage if left much longer. Cllr Smithson replied on behalf of the

Village Hall Committee that they were aware of the guttering problems. They had recently had emergency repairs to the roof and that had been more urgent. They did have a list of repairs and maintenance which would be done when time and weather allowed. Chairman McDonald asked whether the VHMC had produced an annual account in 2016/17 as this had not been available at the Annual Parish Meeting and the Parish Council still had a significant interest as an improvement loan is still being paid off. Cllr Smithson said that Councillors were welcome at the AGM but she would take the issues raised to the next VHMC meeting on 31 January and report back to the next PC meeting.

- d. **Response from Simonds re bus timetables.** The response was noted. Cllr Miller said that she had spent considerable time with passengers trying to gauge what they wanted and would like a response sent to Simonds that they would like the 12.20 Bury to Stanton be replaced by the service they used to have, leaving Bury at approximately 1.20pm therefore allowing an extra hour in Bury. Clerk to respond.
- e. **Buckingham Palace garden party invitation** Cllr Hart will deal with suggested nomination.

**9. Recreation Ground & Car Park:**

- a. **Recreation Ground CCTV monitoring** Cllr Hart was concerned that the Clerk did not have access to the CCTV equipment as it is inside the Village Hall and with the resignation of Cllr Shelton, no Councillor could access the system which is being maintained by Council. Mr Shelton has agreed to continue to assist when CCTV images are requested. There is a need for a CCTV policy to ensure that Council are complying with the rules relating to the viewing of images and for clarification in respect of whether the viewing can be designated to a non-councillor. Clerk will make enqs and report back.

**10. Accounts**

- a. The accounts were approved by Cllr Miller and seconded by Cllr Frizzell
- b. The 10-month budget forecast was circulated and discussed. There is anticipated to be a small underspend at the end of the financial year.

<b>PAYMENTS</b>	<b>£GROSS</b>	<b>£VAT</b>	<b>£NET</b>	<b>WHAT FOR</b>	<b>EXP.POWER</b>
Talk talk (Dec)	50.45	8.41	42.04	Monthly Internet and 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	22.00	3.67	18.33	Monthly electricity pumphouse	LGA 1972 S111
Gillian Miller	90.00		90.00	Toilet cleaning	Public health Act 1936, s87
Tripp Batt	39.43	6.57	32.86	PPE equipment - street cleaner	LGA 1972 S111
Staff salaries	760.00		292.00	Clerk and street cleaner	LGA 1972 S112
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Havebury Housing	2500.00			Donation to Play Area	
Stanton FC	100.00			Floodlights	

**11. Items for noting**

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

**12. Correspondence from Borough and County Councils**

- a. Play Area Inspection Reports - noted
- b. St Edmundsbury Parish and Town Forum – 31 January 2017 – noted

**13. Planning Applications:**

**a. New Applications received**

DC/16/2701/HH | Householder Planning Application - i) Single storey side extension ii) provision of access ramp | 8 The Knowle Stanton IP31 2AF (Callum Earley)

**RESPONSE** - Whilst in support of this extension, Council would like the proposed development to consider an improvement to the gates to the driveway which currently open outwards on to the pavement thereby blocking access for pedestrians. As there is no pavement on the opposite side the concern is that children walking to school may be required to step into the road to avoid the open gates which is of concern.

DC/16/2653/TPO | TPO 542 (2013) - Tree Preservation Order - Group of Ash, Oak, Hazel and Holly trees (W1 and W2 on plan and within area W1 and W2 on order) crown lift to 5.4 metres over the road and 3.5 metres over a footpath, reduce any lower limbs encroaching road by up to 1.5 metres and give clearance from kerb and clear street lights by up to 1 metre | Woodland Area Goldsmith Way Stanton Suffolk (Temples Property Management)

**RESPONSE**- Council are pleased that these trees are to be crown lifted rather than felled and are being managed in a more sustainable way.

**b. Previous applications**

No planning decisions relevant

**c. Other planning matters correspondence**

i. Rob Freeman re Stanton Surgery planning application

**RESPONSE** – Council will have no objections to the change of use of a nearby residential bungalow to temporary office accommodation

ii. Guy Morgan Harris re Burnham Lodge amendment to planning application previously submitted

**RESPONSE** - The proposal to add a storey to the property appears to be in keeping with the current dwelling and the Parish Council will have no objections to the amended plans.

**14. Correspondence:**

**a. Claire Black - Request for hire of Recreation Ground** No objections to use of recreation ground for a fund-raising event but Clerk to advise applicant that it will be necessary to see a copy of public liability insurance and risk assessments in relation to animals for petting and riding.

**b. Terence Brooks - Request for donation** After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk write to the residents association asking them to apply again before the November budget meeting with the costing of any specific item they were wishing to purchase and it would be considered.

**c. Anthony Bray - Stanton FC response re dog mess** was noted

**d. Mrs Johnson re Recreation Ground gate closure** Mrs Johnson was present at the public forum and the response outlined as above.

**e. Ack letter S137 donation – MAGPAS/Citizens Advice Bureau/West Suffolk VAB** - noted

The Meeting closed at 8.52pm

Minutes signed as correct..... K McDonald