

MINUTES of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 14 June 2018 at Stanton Community Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: N Chapman (Chairman), L Morris, J Mann, J Frizzell, J Miller, S Willcox

Also Present: Borough Cllr Jim Thorndyke.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** County Cllr Joanna Spicer, B Brown, F Hart, B Smithson, M Scowcroft – reasons for absence accepted.
- 2. The minutes of the meeting on 10 May 2018** were approved by Cllr Frizzell and seconded by Cllr Willcox.
- 3. Public Forum:** A resident attended to ask about progress on a request for a dropped kerb at the end of the Shetlands footpath in Old Bury Road which he understood had been submitted to Suffolk County Council last year. The user of a mobility scooter is unable to cross at that point and has to travel down as far as The Chase to cross the road. The Clerk confirmed that this request had been emailed to SCC and she will chase it up with CCllr Spicer.
- 4. Report from:**
B Cllr J Thorndyke reported that he has been voted as Chair of the St Edmundsbury Borough Council planning committee for a further 12 months with B Cllr Andrew Smith from Bardwell holding the position of Vice Chair.

There have now been two shadow Council meetings between St Edmundsbury and Forest Heath looking at the constitution of the future Council.

The payment of the precept to Parish Councils in one lump sum in advance may be changing to phased payments. Currently all precepts are paid at the beginning of the financial year which takes a large sum of money out of the Borough Councils accounts.

Looking at civic leadership will be one of the first priorities in setting up the new West Suffolk Council. The leaders of both Forest Heath District and St Edmundsbury Borough Councils have asked that the new Shadow Authority at its first meeting look at setting up a working group to consider this important topic. This group will look at the issue of the role of civic leadership for the new council and its members, including whether to apply for borough status and have a chair or mayor.

The proposed development in the area of the post office in Bury St Edmunds town centre is moving forward. Designs will now go on show at a public exhibition in the building on Wednesday, June 27, and Saturday, July 7, from 8am to 4pm on both days.

S C Cllr J Spicer reported by email that she had not yet arranged the A143 site meeting due to management changes with the relevant people in Highways. Once the changes have settled down she will convene a meeting with the most appropriate person to attend. There is also a new Leader of the County Council (Matthew Hicks) and a new cabinet member for highways (Mary Evans).

Proposed changes to school transport will be discussed by SCC cabinet and are not quite as feared as several changes are being made following the consultation including phasing changes over 7 years. This will possibly affect Stanton children and she will have more information to share in July after the cabinet have met.

5. **Clerk's Report:** There were no queries with the report of actions taken by the Clerk since the previous meeting.

6. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Chapman and Cllr Morris declared an interest in the accounts.

7. **Report from Village Hall Management Committee (VHMC)**

a. **CCTV policy and future operating procedures/ownership of the system** - There has been no meeting of the VHMC this month. The Chairman is considering that the VHMC should take responsibility for the maintenance of the CCTV system. This is currently stored in a secure area in the Village Hall and the Clerk has no access so it makes sense for the system to be maintained by the VHMC. Proposed by Cllr Frizzell and seconded by Cllr Willcox that the PC make a formal proposal to the VHMC to transfer the Asset of the CCTV system and its maintenance to the VHMC

b. **The effect of overhanging trees on the roof of the Village Hall.** The Chairman reported that he has been advised by the VHMC that low branches from trees located in the garden of a property in Old Rectory Gardens are now causing damage to the roof of the Community Village Hall. These trees are subject of a TPO and have previously been cut back some years ago but now need doing again. Clerk to write to home owner to ask for remedial action to prevent further damage.

Cllr Miller put a question to the Chairman of the VHMC, Jim Thorndyke in relation to the AGM of the VHMC which had not been advertised appropriately. Mr Thorndyke said that he will look into this and react accordingly.

8. **Matters for discussion:**

a. **Request for a donation for the Rickinghall Community Transport service.** Agenda item raised as a result of the organiser attending the PC meeting last month. The group serves the Stanton Area providing transport options to residents who cannot get alternative public transport due to isolation or infirmity.

Passengers are charged at 50p per mile and a minimum of £3 which pays maintenance and running costs. The service is advertised locally in the Doctors surgeries.

He is asking for Councils in 15 different Parishes which are covered by the service to effectively 'ring fence' money over the next 3 years as part of a larger plan to replace the mini bus. This money would not be transferred to the group until needed.

Council agreed to discuss the matter further at the Annual budget meeting in November 2018. Clerk to write to organiser to advise

b. **WW1BOL working group** Cllr Smithson circulated a report of the working party by email prior to the meeting. The next meeting will be in August for the event on Sunday 11 November 2018.

c. **Defibrillator Project** Cllr Willcox reported the project is now complete with the second defibrillator on the Clock tower going live. Further training has been arranged for Saturday 30 June but so far there has been limited take up. The Clerk will push the opportunity for training via social media and the web site.

d. **Young Persons Project** Cllr Willcox reported that the Toddler Group was going very well and was nearly in a position to stand alone with attendees taking more responsibility for the various roles needed. She would continue to be involved as she is keen to see it continue and thanked Jim Thorndyke for his help as a member of the VHMC in helping to set up. Cllr Willcox will meet with Helen Lindfield from SEBC in July.

On another note the football Club are having a real success with their Wednesday training sessions for youngsters so it is vital to keep the momentum going.

- e. **Application for a memorial** – Approved subject to installation on or after 15 August 2018. Clerk to notify Saxon memorial masons.
- f. **Action in relation to the request to Suffolk County Council to reduce the speed limit on the A143 from 40 to 30.** The Clerk has submitted a report from Cllr Frizzell outlining concerns about the A143 safety to SCC and a site meeting is still awaited. Clerk to forward to CCllr Spicer to expedite.
- g. **Access to the Recreation Ground from the A143 and a proposal to widen the current access points** Cllr Morris reported a suggestion from Cllr Hart that the access to the recreation ground where there is an 'unofficial' gap in the hedgerow opposite the Shell garage be widened and made safer and that the gap at the end of the houses in Bury Road be widened to allow pedestrian traffic from the Rose and Crown development better access to the village. Cllr Mann and Cllr Miller reported that when the land was purchased for recreational use it was on the proviso that no access would be made onto the A143 so the proposal would be in breach of planning conditions and could not be taken forward.
- h. **Fireworks Event – November 2018.** A budget for the order/purchase of Fireworks and sundries for the event of up to £4,000 was requested by Cllr Smithson and approved.
- i. **Debris left behind in the Grundle after SCC works completed** The Chairman reported a section of Heras fencing and a large amount of degradable waste has been left on the Grundle path way. The Clerk has contacted SCC to remove the fencing which has been thrown onto the river bed and will instruct the village cleaner to fill the brown bins on a regular basis to get the degradable waste removed.
- j. **Clearance of the clocktower storage room and container** The Chairman reported that a large skip to cost in the region of £175.00 is required for the purposes of clearing the clock tower and container of unwanted items which have built up over a number of years. Approved. Clerk to deal.
- k. **Quotations received for the cleaning of the War memorial** Four separate quotations have been received for work to restore the war memorial. These were discussed in detail. The quotation by the War Memorial Restoration company for a professional clean of the memorial, surrounding pillars and floor area, the raking out and repointing of loose and defective mortar, the removal and re enamel of existing lettering and the restoration of the bronze laurel leaves at a cost of £3696.50 ex VAT was approved. Clerk to deal and notify other suppliers of quotations. Work to be carried out before the 11 November.
- l. **Tree works on the Recreation Ground** the Clerk reported being notified of large branches of a pine tree and a horse chestnut tree down on the Recreation Ground. The quotation from David Brown tree surgeons of £500 ex VAT was approved.

9. Statutory Business/Governance

- a. **The Risk Assessment 2018** was approved and signed by the Chairman.
- b. **Vacancy for Parish Councillor.** The position has been advertised in accordance with Section 87 (2) of the Local Government Act 1972. One application has been received from Mr Alan Kemp. Council agreed that the applicant met the criteria for the office of Parish Councillor and voted to co-opt Mr Kemp to the Council. Clerk to notify Mr Kemp.

Cllr Miller then left the meeting.

10. Accounts

- a. The accounts as below were approved by Cllr Mann and seconded by Cllr Frizzell

b. The Annual Payment of £150 to the internal Auditor Mr Tony Mansfield was approved.

PAYMENTS	£GROSS	£VAT	£NET	WHAT FOR	EXP. POWER
Replacement keys	8.95	1.49	7.46	Replacement key - filing cabinet	LGA 1972 S111
BHIB	1814.64		1814.64	Annual Council Insurance	LGA 1972 S111
ICO	35.00		35.00	Annual Data Protection Registration	LGA 1972 S111
Stanton Framing	44.00	7.33	36.67	Community Recognition certificates	LGA 1972 S111
Talk talk (May)	37.13	6.19	30.94	Monthly telephone and broadband	LGA 1972 S111
Anglian Water	4.00		4.00	Water charges pumping station	LGA 1972 S111
Extra Energy	10.67	0.53	10.14	Electricity charges - Floodlights	LGA 1972 S111
Mr L Morris	29.26	4.88	24.38	Hammerite paint for repairs	Open spaces Act 1906, ss 9 and 10
Mr N Chapman	24.56	4.09	20.47	Electrical supplies for defibrillator	LGA 1972 S111
Mrs J Hart	8.64		8.64	Postage costs and stamps	LGA 1972 S111
Mr T Mansfield	150.00		150.00	Internal Auditor Annual remuneration	LGA 1972 S111
HMRC	306.80		306.80	PAYE Quarter 1	LGA 1972 S112
Staff Salaries	920.99		920.99	Clerk and Street Cleaner	LGA 1972 S112
RECEIPTS					
UK Power networks			81.59	Village Hall water refund	
Lloyds			3.08	Bank Interest	
St Edmundsbury BC			1018.22	Recycling credits	
Funeral Directors			360.00	Burials x2	
Stanton WI			600	Donation towards Defibrillator	

11. Correspondence from Borough and County Councils

- Play Area Inspection Reports** – Noted. GKW will attend to fencing when footpaths are repaired.
- Silver Sunday – October 2018.** Request from Matthew Hancock. Noted and Clerk will pass to relevant organisations for consideration as it is close to WW1BOL and Fireworks events.
- Suffolk County Council re School Travel** – CCllr Spicer to update the meeting in July

12. Planning Applications (New/Decided): - None

13. Correspondence

- Mrs P Wooderson re the replacement of the bench in George Hill.** Clerk to make contact to ascertain what is proposed.
- Mr S Pittaway re damage to Allotment fences** – Chairman will visit the allotment site with a view to getting a contractor to attend to broken fencing.
- Mrs J Lester re Hedge Cutting Upthorpe Road** – the hedgerow opposite the School is owned and maintained by Crabtree Management and the one further towards the Shepherds Grove Park is owned by Whitton and Frost. The Clerk has made contact with both parties but hedges cannot be cut until September due to nesting birds. Hedgerow problems should be reported to Suffolk County Council via their on line reporting - <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roads-pavements-and-verges/trees-grass-and-weeds/trees-and-hedges/>
- Mrs Cannon -Scott re parking Upthorpe Road at school times** The Clerk has responded and asked the correspondent to notify the School and the Police to enforce parking or obstruction offences.
- Mrs C Earl re speeding and safety concern on A143** – discussed as at item 8f above. All letters of complaint are being collated for a site meeting.

There being no further correspondence to consider, the meeting closed at 9.10pm

Minutes signed as correct..... N Chapman