

MINUTES of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 10 October 2019 at Stanton Community Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: F J Hart (Chair), B Smithson (Vice-chair), J Frizzell, A Shelton, P Smith, S Willcox, B Gordon, A Kemp, B Brown

Also Present: DCllr J Thorndyke, CCllr J Spicer.

Prior to the meeting Cllr Gordon advised Council and the Public that he would be recording the meeting.

1. Apologies for absence accepted: J Miller, M Scowcroft

2. The minutes of the previous meeting on 12 September 2019 were discussed.

Cllr Gordon felt that the minutes were not accurate and should reflect what was said. He also felt that the Clerk should have not stepped in and should have left the table tennis project to him as it was his project.

The Clerk advised that under Financial Regulations it was the duty of the RFO to obtain quotations to avoid any accusations of impropriety, and it had been brought to her attention by another Cllr that this was not being complied with, hence the reason Cllr Gordon had been asked to leave the Clerk to get quotations for the resurfacing.

Cllr Smithson said that she felt that it was a fair reflection of decisions made.

(The minutes are a record of decisions made and actions done and not meant to be a transcript of the proceedings)

Councillors were asked to vote on accepting the minutes as published with 7 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention. The minutes were approved.

3. Public Forum:

Members of the public were present to discuss the Street lighting being turned off in The Chase overnight.

CCllr Spicer was present and agreed to address this issue in her report.

Several members of the public wanted to address the planning application for the old Tripp Batt site in Hepworth Road. A representative of the developer was present at the meeting. Issues raised -

- Introduction of double yellow lines in Hepworth Road to reduce parking problems which would lead to poor visibility when exiting Horseshoe Rise. (Parish Council are opposed to yellow lines as there is little chance of them being enforced) CCllr Spicer reported that Highways will take this into account when full planning permission is submitted but it is not County Council policy to install double yellow lines.
- Plot 1 overlooking garden and bedrooms of property at Horseshoe Rise. Loss of privacy and boundary too close.
- Parking concerns in respect of the 15 allocated spaces for the store – residents from The Knowle are known to use this area at the moment as general parking – what will be done to negate this problem.
- Lots of children will use the crossing to get to school – insufficient footpath on opposite side.
- Speeding vehicles on Hepworth Road present a danger to the public using the store.

A representative of Stanton FC was present to discuss floodlighting issues. The club are seeking to install floodlights at the tree line on the Recreation Ground at a cost of £6110.78 plus VAT.

The Football Club are seeking a contribution to the cost. The Club has so far raised nearly £3,000 in donations and is looking to cover the shortfall.

In the first instance it has been suggested that the lights on the MUGA be turned around to face onto the field to see if this will be adequate as the new lights proposed will need planning permission.

Councillors agreed that the lights be turned around for a trial period with Stanton FC preparing a full proposal for the November meeting.

It was then proposed that the Agenda item 7a -Planning application DC/19/1714/FUL be brought forward as the developers' representatives were present.
There were no objections.

DC/19/1714/FUL | Planning Application - (i) 6no. dwellings with off-street parking (ii) 1no. convenience store with service yard, car park and associated works (following demolition of existing buildings) | Marlows Home And Garden Hepworth Road Stanton Suffolk IP31 2BT (Representatives of Plansurv Ltd will be present to answer any questions in relation to this application)

Mike Tuck from Plansurv introduced his plans to the meeting.

The Co-op are keen to make sure deliveries are safe and arranged at a certain time to cause minimum inconvenience. They are experienced in working in smaller towns. He has listened to concerns about yellow lines. There will be a crossing in front of the store
15 Parking spaces should be sufficient.

Crossing will have zig zag lines (endorseable offence so more effective than yellow lines)

Highways requirements will be adhered to.

Will look at redesign of the plot and especially Plot 1.

Horseshoe rise is higher than this plot and acknowledged that this site can be seen in its entirety.

All objections received on line will be examined line by line.

Planting will be done to soften the frontage.

Not taking the right of way from adjoining properties.

Parking enforcement may be done by cameras.

Cllr Gordon asked the developers to look at reducing the plots to 2 or 3 of a decent standard with shop parking to the rear. Developer responded that site was not suitable for rear parking as Public unlikely to use it and as it was in a conservation area, requirement was muted colours and materials to blend in with current adjacent properties. Bringing it forward was not an option.

Look at parking for proposed plots – isn't enough.

Roads on development are not wide enough.

Cllr Smithson asked the developer to consider providing a different style of property to maybe suit older persons looking for 'homes for life' with adaptations such as wide doorways and wet rooms.

The developers agreed to prepare a public consultation if Council felt that one was required.

4. Report from:

D Cllr J Thorndyke reported

- Shepherds Grove Planning- meeting last week with Highways. One concern was footpaths to Stanton Village. These plans will be improved. Master plan has now been adopted by WSDC.
- Breach of condition notice has been served on developer of Rose and Crown Court in respect of the access road.
- Bin days are changing. All residents will receive a letter shortly.
- Rural taskforce met on 18 September. From that there are 565 pieces of information to be considered from various groups.
- Grant scheme has now closed. Applications have been received for £908,000. But only £357,000 is available
- Planning Application for Lakelin House on Barningham Road has been refused as it is outside of the settlement area and considered to be in the countryside. Previous planning application was refused and nothing has changed.

2.

S C Cllr J Spicer reported

- In respect of the Street lights in The Chase. In 2014, Suffolk County Council consulted widely on turning off street lights as a cost cutting measure. There was a discussion with the Parish Council and there were no objections.

In 2016, as a result of a spate of burglaries in the area, and at the request of the Police, the lights were turned back on.

On March 9th 2017, there was a discussion as to whether they should be turned off as the spate of crime had stalled and it was agreed. However, for some reason had never been done.

Two weeks ago, CCllr Spicer received an email to advise that the lights were now being switched off. The Parish Council were not copied in to this decision and CCllr Spicer offered her apologies that there was no prewarning.

The initiative to turn off Street lights is a County wide one. It is a cost saving measure and there is a case around light pollution and energy saving and with no evidence of increased crime then it would be difficult to justify asking for them to be turned back on.

CCllr Spicer wanted the public to feel safe.

They could be turned back on if the Police ask for this to be done or if there is to be an event where the lights should be left on. This can be requested by the Parish Council as necessary.

CCllr will find out what the County Council plan is as it is complicated by the District Council having ownership of some of the lights in the Village which is why the CC owned lights on The Chase development appear to be the only ones affected.

Cllr Gordon reported that there have been 40 reports of theft from vehicles across Suffolk recently and there was a case for every other light to be left on or for the use of motion sensors. Police have reported that street lighting decreases crime and a report from Ipswich suggests lights are left on to deter crime in the Nacton area.

- **Rose and Crown development** – the dropped kerb request does not form part of the enforcement action and so this is still in hand by Suffolk CC
- **A143 speed limit request** – A report is imminent in respect of this
- **Stanton GP Surgery relocation** – It is hoped that a meeting will be held shortly to move this forward.
- **Old Bury Road dropped kerb** – CCllr Spicer to chase up.
- **Mill View development** - Has now gone to legal for adoption. Parking issues can be sorted once this is completed.
- **Village Name signs** – Low priority but is in hand.

5. **Clerk's Report:** There were no queries with report enclosed with agenda.

6. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Gordon and Cllr Brown declared an interest in items on the Accounts

7. **Planning Applications:**

a. **New Applications received**

DC/19/1714/FUL | Planning Application - (i) 6no. dwellings with off-street parking (ii) 1no. convenience store with service yard, car park and associated works (following demolition of existing buildings) | Marlows Home And Garden Hepworth Road Stanton Suffolk IP31 2BT
(Representatives of Plansurv Ltd will be present to answer any questions in relation to this application)

RESPONSE - Whilst supporting the application for a retail unit, the following observations are made - Attention needs to be paid to Highways - possible extension of any zig zag lines from the crossing point to deter users of the unit parking on Hepworth Road. This will reduce any danger and improve visibility for residents exiting Horseshoe Rise. Whilst yellow lines have been suggested it is unlikely that these will be enforced and Council would prefer to see alternatives such as a solid white line.

Enforcement of parking within the allocated spaces on the forecourt to avoid use of these by nearby residents not using the retail unit.

Enhanced footway on Upthorpe Road side to allow safe access for pushchairs, motorised scooters and wheelchairs. This also a busy crossing point for the local school.

Absolute unhindered access to Foundry House and Foundry cottage to be maintained 24/7. Deliveries to be made at a reasonable hour and avoiding rush hour as this is a route to the Industrial Estate

Plot 1 to be redesigned to reduce overlooking of Horseshoe Rise properties.

Plot 3/4 has 3 cars in a line - this is unlikely to be successful. Consider redesign to avoid neighbour disputes. At the present time there does not appear to be any available parking for visitors to the properties.

Consider including high quality properties suitable for single person occupancy with disabled access/wet rooms, and suitable for mature residents looking to downsizing (with increased floorspace)

Consider reduction in number of properties behind the retail unit to allow parking areas as roads do not appear wide enough.

Consider positioning of entrance to store to ensure safety of users crossing car park.

Provide sufficient rubbish bins to reduce increase in litter around the area.

Council will be submitting a S106 application for improvements and additions to recreational facilities under separate cover.

DC/19/1726/HH | Householder Planning Application - Single storey side extension | Pantiles Dale Road Stanton IP31 2DY

RESPONSE – There are no objections to this application

DC/19/1875/VAR | Planning Application - Variation of DC/17/2196/FUL to enable removal of condition 6 for the (i) 1no. dwelling (following demolition of existing dwelling); (ii) temporary accommodation for the land owner and (iii) widening of existing access | Sky View Chare Road Stanton Suffolk IP31 2DX

RESPONSE – There are no objections to this application

DC/19/1962/TCA | Trees in a Conservation Area Notification - 1no. Sycamore (x on plan) crown reduction by 3 metres and removal of lower branches overhanging neighbouring garden | All Saints Church The Street Stanton Suffolk

RESPONSE – There are no objections to this application

b. Previous applications decided

Reference	Address	Stanton PC response	West Suffolk DC decision	Decision date
DC-19-1530-TPO	Shepherds Grove Park	Meeting not quorate	Approved	13/09/19

c. **Other Planning Issues** - The notes of the meeting with Boyer on 14 August 2019 were noted. There will be a public consultation on 7 November 2019. Details to follow.

8. Statutory Business/Governance

a. The Risk Assessment for the Annual Fireworks Display on 2 November 2019 was approved.

9. Matters for discussion:

a. Cllr Brown had raised the **outstanding issues** in respect of the Mill View development, Rose and Crown development and missing and damaged Village name signs which has been addressed in CCllr Spicers report

b. Cllr Frizzell asked that the purchase of a **litter bin in The Chase** be postponed for further investigation.

c. The Clerk reported having received only one quotation for an **extension to the basketball area** which was in the sum of £4,572 + VAT. After discussion Cllr Shelton commented that the project was becoming very expensive with no guarantee that it was going to be used. It was noted that no official quotation has been received in respect of the preferred table tennis tables which has already been agreed by Council as has the resurfacing of the basketball court. However in light

of the report from the play area inspector outlining corrosion in the basketball structure, Council now need to consider whether it is worth repairing.

It was agreed that further work needs to be done on this project.

Action – Clerk to make enquiries with local companies in respect of the repair or otherwise of the basketball structure and to endeavour to get further quotes for the extended area to bring back to the November meeting.

- d. Cllr Gordon reported that he has set up a **Neighbourhood Watch Group for the Village**. He outlined his proposals for the scheme which he had circulated to all Councillors by email. There will be a Facebook page and a link to Police Connect. The scheme has signed up to the Suffolk and National Neighbourhood Watch Association schemes.
A mobile phone number will be available to contact the co-ordinator direct.
He now needs to apply for planning permission to erect signs except where those signs already exist and will be renewed.
CCllr Spicer advised that she may be able to offer some locality funding for the project.
After further discussion it was proposed by Cllr Willcox and seconded by Cllr Brown that a schedule of signage and costs be drawn up for approval at the November meeting by Cllr Gordon.
- e. **DBS Checks** Cllr Gordon gave a presentation on why Stanton Parish Council should consider Disclosure and Barring Service checks for all Parish Councillors. After the presentation Cllr Smith presented a paper on his reasons against the proposal which he distributed to all Councillors present.
After discussion, Cllr Gordon proposed that a DBS check be carried out for all Councillors. The motion was not seconded and in accordance with Standing Order 1b was not progressed.
Chair – Cllr Hart then proposed a motion that any Councillor who wished to put themselves forward for a DBS check should be able to do so with the cost met by the Parish Council. This was seconded by Cllr Willcox and the motion carried by a majority vote.
- f. **John Mann MBE** The chair proposed a donation to the Scout Association in the sum of £150 in memory of Cllr John Mann MBE. This was seconded by Cllr Smithson. All in favour. Councillors to consider a more permanent memorial at the November meeting. *Action – Clerk to raise cheque for the Scout Association*
- g. Cllr Brown proposed a budget of up to £250 for associated costs of the **Christmas Tree Event**. This was seconded by Cllr Frizzell with all in favour.

10. Accounts

Clltr Gordon asked to view the bank account statements which the Clerk provided.

- a. The the accounts as below were authorised for payment. Total held in bank account as at 30/9/19 - £76506.55
- b. The date for the 2020/2021 Budget Meeting was set for Thursday 28 November at 7pm

PAYMENTS	£GROSS	£VAT	£NET	WHAT FOR	EXP. POWER
Anglian Water	5.00		5.00	Monthly water charges - Pumping Station	LGA 1972, s111
Anglian Water	12.07		12.07	Water charges - Cemetery - Q2	LGA 1972, s214
V Safety	216.72	36.12	180.60	Reflective Jackets for fireworks event	LGA 1972, s145
Village Hall	118.00		118.00	Room hire	LGA 1972 S111
SLCC	63.00	10.50	52.50	Regional Training - Clerk	LGA 1972 S111
Mr B Brown	23.97	3.99	19.98	Wildflower seeds	Commons Act 1899
West Suffolk Council	21.34		21.34	Election expenses	LGA 1972 S111
Cook Services	306.00		306.00	Graffiti removal and bin installation	LGA 1953, s4
NBB Recycled furn	564.00	94.00	470.00	Replacement bench - Jacobs Close	Parish Councils Act 1957, s1
SALC	144.00	24.00	120.00	Councillor Training	LGA 1972 S111
Wyken Farm	5.00		5.00	Allotments Rent 2019	Small Holdings Act 1908, s23
Mrs J Hart	24.00	4.00	20.00	Toilet Rolls - Public toilets	Public Health Act 1936, s87
Mr B Gordon	86.40		86.40	Mileage for training course	LGA 1972 S111
PWLB	10064.91		10064.91	Public Works Loan	LGA 2003, Sch1, para 2
Staff Salaries	1081.05		1081.05	Street Cleaner, Litter picker and Clerk	LGA 1972 S111
RECEIPTS					
Lloyds Bank Interest			3.73		
Burial fees			230.00		

11. Correspondence from Borough and County Councils

- a. The Annual Independent Play Area Inspection Reports were noted. Recreation ground working party to consider any remedial action necessary.
- b. Highways – Road Repairs postponement noted. Cllr Spicer was unable to give any reason for the postponement.
- c. Cllr Mildmay-White – Affordable Housing Guide. Circulated and noted.

12. Correspondence

- a. No other correspondence received

There being no further business the meeting finished at 9.25pm

Minutes signed as correct..... F J Hart