

## MINUTES of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 11 April 2019 at Stanton Community Village Hall at 7.00pm.

**Present:** F J Hart (Chair), J Miller, J Frizzell, S Willcox, B Brown, C Jay, A Shelton, M Scowcroft, A Kemp.  
**Also Present:** Cllr Joanna Spicer, BClr Jim Thorndyke.

1. **Apologies for absence accepted:** B Smithson, J Mann.

2. **The minutes of the previous meeting on 14 March 2019** were approved.

### 3. **Public Forum:**

3 Residents attended the meeting to voice their concerns at the behaviour of a Flagship tenant in Hervey Walk and a subsequent fire in that area which had caused damage. One of the residents described a number of incidents involving threats and anti-social behaviour which have been reported to Police.

The fire in a dwelling at that location had caused damage to adjacent fencing and a car port and left the site in a dangerous condition. The tenant has reported a number of issues to Police and Flagship Housing and felt that the issues were not being taken seriously and were being 'pushed under the carpet' by the Authorities concerned.

After discussion, Councillors agreed that there were significant concerns in respect of this tenant and it was proposed that after the residents have forwarded evidence and logs to the Clerk, she will write to the PCC, the local Police Commander and Flagship Housing seeking a solution to the problems outlined and report back

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

a. **S C Cllr J Spicer** reported that the Caretakers Bungalow at the Upthorpe school site had been sold for £149,000, not £200,000 as reported.

The zig zag lines that have been painted in Bury Lane were an error although they will remain in place due to the presence of the Bluebell Children's centre. It is expected that Bury Lane will be resurfaced in the coming months and this will be covered up once again.

The plans for the old School are still being prepared. Unfortunately, security costs for the site have now risen to over £100,000. There will be a discussion in due course in respect of the green space which was the school playing field and it is hoped that the Parish Council may be able to adopt it from the County Council.

Cllr Spicer has been made aware of a review of the Children's Centres in East Anglia. It is not known at this stage how it will affect Stanton. She will report back with any news once she has an update.

She is going to undertake a 'drive around' with the head of Planning on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April and will be raising issues in respect of traffic in Hepworth for the proposed Shepherd Grove development but will also include a discussion on Heavy Goods Vehicles using the roads in Stanton and the need for a link road between the two areas of the Industrial Estate.

Cllr Spicer has been liaising with Highways Engineers re outstanding issues for the Abbey development and is confident that they now seem to be coming to an end and the estate will be adopted shortly. There is little that can be done in respect of parking as yellow lines are not desirable nor enforceable and Crabtree will be looking at ways of improving this but it does mean that residents need to take responsibility for their own parking and not cause a problem. Any obstruction can be reported to the Police.

### b. **B Cllr J Thorndyke**

The Chairman congratulated BClr Thorndyke on his unopposed election for the next 4 years. BClr Thorndyke reported that the two Councils have now merged from 1 April into West Suffolk Council. Little change has been apparent because both Councils have been working together for some time.

In relation to the Rose and Crown development, Planning enforcement officers are not taking any further action at the present time as they are awaiting permission from Highways for the developer to complete the entrance and path ways.

BCllr Thorndyke brought to Council's attention a piece of land in Grove Lane which has been put up for Auction.

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

**6. Statutory Business/Governance**

a. The notice of Uncontested Election of Parish Councillors for Stanton on Thursday 2 May 2019 was presented to the Council

The Chairman congratulated all Councillors who are standing on being returned to office uncontested.

He also thanked Cllr Jay for her input since joining and was sorry to see her stand down but understood her personal reasons for doing so.

**7. Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest in items on the Agenda.

**8. Matters for discussion:**

a. The proposal to install **Electric Vehicle Charging points** was deferred as further information is awaited.

b. Quotations received for the **Car Park Extension** were circulated and discussed. After discussion, it was proposed that the '**installation only**' be offered to GKW Construction. This was approved. Council instructed the Clerk to obtain a sample of materials from all 3 companies who had quoted for the supply of pavers for a decision as to which product would be more suitable (after consultation with the installer). Once the product has been seen then Council requires a written quotation from GKW to approve at the next meeting. Clerk to deal

c. **Fire at Hervey Walk.** Cllr Willcox referred to the public forum concerning this issue.

d. Cllr Willcox has no updates to report on **Young Persons Activities**. She has heard nothing further yet from the Home Start team in relation to the workshops for Military families although she has chased them up.

e. **The purchase of a planter for George Hill** was deferred by Cllr Miller who reported that the area is looking very untidy after the work on the trees. It was agreed that the George Hill Working Party will reconvene at the site to discuss what can be improved.

f. **The Summer of the Village tubs was approved.** Clerk to contact Hillcrest with specification and request costings.

g. Cllr Miller reported that the **bus shelter in The Street** needed a Spring clean and painting. Council approved the Clerk to appoint a local handyman to carry out the work.

h. A report on the **Annual Litter Pick 2019** was presented to Council on behalf of Cllr Smithson. The Chairman wished to record a note of thanks to Cllr Smithson for organising a very well-run event once again.

i. An application for the **hire of the Recreation Ground** has been received from a Mr Lee Maddox for a fund-raising event to take place on Sunday 18 August 2019 consisting of a fete followed by an outdoor cinema event for children and an adult film in the evening. Public liability Insurance has been obtained by the organiser. The event would be free of charge. After discussion, Council approved the hire free of charge and agreed to Section 137 Expenditure in relation to First Aid Cover for the event which will be £120 plus VAT. Section 137 is used when there is no specific other power available and confers powers to make grants to fund raising events. Council considered that the benefit to the Village was commensurate with the expenditure incurred and will bring cohesion and Community spirit into the Village.

j. The four quotations received for the **restoration of the tennis court and MUGA** were presented by the Clerk. After discussion, Councillors agreed that as the Court and MUGA had been previously renovated and annually cleaned by Anglia Surface Care, the work was proven to be of a very high standard and the Contract was awarded to them at a cost of £6,000 plus VAT . Clerk to deal.

k. The quotation received from a qualified Tree Surgeon – Ligna Consultanctto carry out an **assessment of the trees** currently under the responsibility of Stanton Parish Council for the purpose of Insurance was approved at a cost of £310 +VAT for an Initial survey and mapping followed by walk around Inspections in subsequent years at a cost of £100 +VAT per year. Clerk to advise tree Surgeon

## 9. Community Recognition Awards 2019

a. The nominations for the Community Recognition Awards 2019 were discussed and approved. Clerk to advise the recipients and arrange for the presentation at the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 25 April 2019

## 10. Correspondence from County and Borough Councils

a. The Play Area Inspection Reports – March 2019 were presented to the Council. The Clerk is currently making enquiries with Sutcliffe who installed the play area in 2015 as to whether the equipment is still in Warranty and Fenland leisure in relation to the gate springs

## 11. Shepherds Grove Master Plan

a. There are no further updates on the master plan at present. The results of the survey are awaited.

## 12. Financial

a. The payments and receipts as below were approved

PAYMENTS	£GROSS	£VAT	£NET	WHAT FOR	EXP. POWER
Cook Services	45.00		45.00	Repairs to wall in The Street	Highways Act 1980 s43,50
Scottish Power	20.90		20.90	Electricity charges - Pumphouse (Est)	LGA 1972 S111
G Miller	93.96		93.96	Quarterly toilets cleaning	Public Health Act 1875, s164
Now TV	25.66		25.66	Monthly telephone and broadband (Mar)	LGA 1972 S111
Anglian Water	4.00		4.00	Water charges pumping station	LGA 1972 S111
Suffolkbiz	100.00		100.00	Annual Website hosting	LGA 1972 S111
Mrs J Hart	12.72	2.12	10.60	Sundries	LGA 1972 S111
PWLB	10064.91		10064.91	Public Works Loan repayment	LGA 2003, sch 1, para 2
Now TV	26.00		26.00	Monthly telephone and broadband (Apr)	LGA 1972 S111
Staff Salaries	1022.40		1022.40	Clerk, Street Cleaner and Litter Picker	LGA 1972 S112
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Lloyds Bank Interest				3.18	
Talk Talk - end of contract refund				30.80	
Saxon Memorials - Headstone				90.00	
Village Hall water refund				181.07	

## 13. Planning Applications:

### a. New Applications received

DC/19/0438/HH | Householder Planning Application - (i) Detached garage (ii) Removal of existing hedge to be replaced with 2.14-metre-high fence | 7 North Close Stanton IP31 2BL

**RESPONSE** – There are no objections to this work being carried out.

DC/19/0451/TPO | TPO206(1994) Tree Preservation Order - (i) 1no Lime (T00184 on plan) - Crown Lift up to 3.5 metres from ground level, (ii) 1no Lime (T00190 on plan) - Crown Lift upto 4 metres from ground level, over residents fence line only, (iii) 1no Poplar (T00191 on plan) - Pollard, (iv) 1no Maple (T00193 on plan) - Crown Reduction to reduce from road edge by 2 metres, (v) 1no Maple (T00194 on plan) Reduction & Reshaping -cavity on one stem. coppice stem to just above cavity, (vi) 1no Maple (T00199 on plan) Reduce over extended lateral back from road by 2 metres, (vii) 1no Lime (T00200 on plan) -Crown Lift up to 4 metres raise over rear garden only, (viii) 1no Poplar (T00202 on plan) - Fell Tree, and (viiii) 1no Hornbeam (T00281 on plan) - Coppice (All within Area A1 of Order) | Woodland Parkside Stanton IP31 2XL

**RESPONSE** - There are no objections to this work being carried out. Council were surprised that this application has been submitted at this time of year and would like to be reassured that consideration is given to any nesting birds in the area protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

DC/19/0452/TPO | TPO 078 (1966) Tree Preservation Order - 1no. Yew (T00148 on plan in Area A1 on Order) Raise and reduce crown to give upto 6 metres clearance from ground level, 1no. Hornbeam Fastigiats (T00150 on plan in Area A1 on Order) Crown Lifting/Raising upto 4 metres from ground level over residents driveway only, 1no. English Oak (T00151 on plan in Area A1 on Order) Crown

Lifting/Raising by up to 2 metres from ground level for road visibility, 1no. Ash (T00152 on plan in Area A1 on Order) Crown Reduction and Reshaping - reduce garden side by up to 1.5 metres using drop crotch pruning, 1no. Dawn Redwood (T00155 on plan in Area A1 on Order) Crown Lifting/Raising - by up to 3 metres from ground level over road, 1no. Lime (T00157 on plan in Area A1 on Order) Crown Reduction and Reshaping - reduce over extended laterals (lower third of tree) by up to 1.5 metres to reduce likelihood of failure, 1no. Hornbeam Fastigiats (T00158 on plan in Area A1 on Order) - Crown Lifting/Raising - raise over driveway by up to 3.5 metres and thin out crown by removing crossing branches up to 40 millimetres, 1no. Hornbeam (T00161 on plan in Area A1 on Order) Clear Highway - Crown raise by up to 5.4 metres from ground level, 1no. Horse Chestnut (T00162 on plan in Area A1 on Order) Clear Highway - remove underside branches of lateral and reduce lateral branch over road to give 4.5 metres from ground level clearance, 1no. Beech Crown (T00221 on plan in Area A1 on Order) Reduction to reduce eastern lower canopy by 1.5 metres to clear road | Street Record Church Close Stanton IP31 2BY

**RESPONSE** -There are no objections to this work being carried out. Council were surprised that this application has been submitted at this time of year and would like to be reassured that consideration is given to any nesting birds in the area protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

DC/19/0486/TPO | TPO 248(1997) - Tree Preservation Order - T1 - Field Maple - Rear of number 19 - Remove epicormic growth to 5m above ground level and prune branches back to suitable points to allow a minimum 1m clearance from building and tv aerial | 19 Shepherds Grove Park Stanton IP31 2AY

**RESPONSE** – There are no objections to this work being carried out

**b. Previous applications decided**

Reference	Address	PC decision	St Eds decision	Decision date
DC18-2417-FUL	15 Shepherds Grove Park	Support	Approved	21/03/19
DC19-0240-VAR	Bobbys Way	Support	Approved	05/04/19

**14. Correspondence and items for noting:**

a. Mr G W wanted to ask the Council why there was a charge for the erection of a Memorial in the Cemetery when the Council did not actually do any work for it.

After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would write to the correspondent to advise that Council were sympathetic to his question and firstly sent their condolences to him and his family on the passing of a much-loved lady in the Village.

The fees are necessary to offset the cost of Administration, Legal requirements and Maintenance of the Cemetery. The Council are responsible for Grass Cutting, Hedge maintenance and cutting, weed repression on the gravel drive, water supply, bulb planting and the maintenance of the (Metal) Cemetery Gates which are about to be resprayed to enhance the area.

It is hoped that the fees will help to ensure that the Cemetery can be maintained for the future as a place of peace and tranquillity and somewhere for people to sit and remember their loved ones.

The charges are in line with all other Cemeteries in the area and are actually much lower than the Town cemeteries.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 9.10pm

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