

STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on April 11 2019 in the URC Church Hall

Councillor's Present: Phil Deal, Laura Johnson, Paula Murton, Dave Pring, Sally Reeves, Ray Studd, Jerry Voden(Chair) and Keith Welham

In Attendance: Claire Pizzey (Clerk), District Councillor Keith Welham and 10 members of the public

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30 pm and thanked all for attending. A statement was read out indicating that, in accordance with the changes in legislation, the public and councillors were permitted to film, record, photograph or use social media to report on the proceedings of the meeting. A full transcript is available from the Clerk.

1. **To receive reports from the District, County Councillors and the Police:** No reports were made available. District Council unable to provide a report due to upcoming election.
2. **To receive and consider apologies for absence (in accordance with Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972:** Cllr Roger Carter and County Councillor Gary Green. The members noted the apologies.
3. **To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct for the items on the agenda:** Cllr Reeves declared an interest in item 24 as the originator of the Parish PIIP application. Cllr Murton in Item 29.7 as a resident of the track at Hunters Moon.
4. **To consider any written requests for dispensations relating to disclosable interests:** None received.
5. **To consider and approve the minutes of the Parish Council meetings of March 14 & 28 2019 as a true record:** All Councillor's confirmed receipt of the minutes. Cllr Welham proposed to accept the minutes of 14 March 2019 as a true record of the meetings and decisions made. Seconded by Cllr Johnson with all in favour the Chairman signed and dated all pages. Cllr Welham proposed to accept the minutes of 28 March 2019 as a true record of the meetings and decisions made. Seconded by Cllr Reeves with all in favour the Chairman signed and dated all pages
6. **Matters of report:** The members confirmed receipt of all matters of report from the previous meeting:
Drainage Investigations: No response to date has been made by the County Councillor.
Playpark Quote for works to remove shrubbery in basketball area: This is still ongoing.
Fencing at basketball court in Play Park: No further update had been received.

Drains along A1120: Cyclical maintenance has yet to be completed. A resident contact County Cllr Gary Green and a Community Warden inspected the site and has agreed to arrange for the work to be done within 20 days.

Steeple View Hedges: Not actioned to date.

Register land at Cemetery: See agenda item.

Actions from meeting with Rights of Way Officer Charlotte Ditchburn:

Quote for Hogging: The contractor will provide a quote for the plainings over the tree roots whilst he is on site installing the ant slip strips and I will pass this back to you as soon as I have this.

Footpath 39(Trinity Walk): is an anomaly on the definitive map, due to there being a suitable route for the public to use it is not a priority at present for Suffolk County Council to resolve the anomaly with a legal order. Currently no further action will be taken regarding this route. As this is not the definitive line of the right of way highways have not been able to provide a quote for tarmacking the track. This will be classed as a private matter away from the public right of way between the parish council and the residents who use the track for access.

The antislip strips: are on our works list, these will be installed as soon as practicable.

Pedestrian safety along Church Road: Not actioned to date.

Ditch along Columbyne Close: Cllr Welham reported that the contractor had tried to trim the ditch but came across some materials in the ditch that will need to be removed before the job is completed.

Welcome folders: Awaiting art work for front cover to be completed.

Structural Engineers Report: Report received from Freeman Primary School. Agenda item to agree footbridge repair.

Work to fill ruts on Thorney Green: Still to be actioned.

Signs at Hunters Moon: Still to be actioned.

7. **Public Forum:** A resident spoke on behalf of all residents from the track at Hunters Moon. A resident stated that the report in Telstar regarding the ruts in The Green was incorrect, highlighted the parking on The Green from the Stowupland Service Station build and the poo bin at Maple Road needed to be reinstated.

It was agreed to bring item 29.7 forward:

To note correspondence from a resident on behalf of the residents of Hunters Moon Track: The members, other than Cllr Murton, discussed the correspondence and it was agreed that the members of the council will meet at 6.30pm on the 9 May to look at all tracks around The Green and an agenda item to discuss the actions is to be included on the May agenda.

8. **That the Council agrees to seek, as an urgent priority, advice from an independent financial advisor and report back to Council to make the necessary decisions on a pension scheme for eligible employees for the future and take all necessary action:** Cllr Reeves proposed that the Council agrees to seek advice from an Independent Financial advisor. Cllr Johnson seconded and all were in favour. It was agreed to forward names to the clerk of any financial advisor in order to seek the necessary decisions to bring back to council.
9. **That the council agrees that a 2.5 metre footpath is implemented across The Green for the proposed Safer Route to School scheme:** The members discussed the footpath implementation across The Green. Cllr Reeves proposed that the council agrees that a 2.5 metre footpath is implemented across The Green. Cllr Welham seconded. 6 members voted in favour, 1 member abstained and 1 member voted against the motion.
10. **To agree that a Parish PIIP application is prepared to the value of £2,500 for the replacement of the footbridge behind Holy Trinity Church:** Cllr Murton proposed that a Parish PIIP application is prepared to the value of £2,500 for the replacement of the footbridge. Cllr Reeves seconded and all were in favour.
11. **To agree that the Parish Council pursues the ownership of Thrandstones Meadow:** Cllr Reeves proposed that should planning permission be approved then the Parish Council should pursue the ownership of Thrandstones Meadow at no cost to the Parish Council. Cllr Deal seconded and all were in favour.
12. **To agree that the Parish Council seeks a quote for registering the cemetery land:** Cllr Pring reported that the Parish Council needs to employ a conveyancer to register the cemetery land. Cllr Welham proposed that a quote is sought to employ a conveyancer to register the cemetery land. Cllr Reeves seconded and all were in favour.
13. **To agree that the MSDC CIL 123 regulation monies received for the Parish Notice Board at Trinity Meadows is used to purchase a notice board to match those agreed by the Environment committee and to agree that a parish PIIP application is prepared for the remainder of the money:** It was agreed to contact MSDC to enquire if the monies allocated under MSDC CIL 123 Regulation for the Parish Notice Board at Trinity Meadows could be used for the replacement notice boards. Cllr Reeves asked if a Parish PIIP application could be made for the remainder of the money needed for the Trinity Meadows notice board and the replacement noticeboards already approved. Cllr Pring advised that the replacement noticeboards would be replaced using the monies from the Depreciation and Replacement of Assets Reserve.

- 14. Allotment Sub-committee:** All members confirmed receipt of the minutes from the meetings of 13 and 20 March 2019. The members discussed the proposal for approaching the current owners of the allotments to safeguard the future of the allotments. No proposal was made.
- 15. Cemetery and Churchyard Sub-committee:** Nothing to report.
- 16. Community Events Sub-committee:** Cllr Welham reported that 3 new members had joined the committee. The Easter Hop had been cancelled, tickets are still available for the Barn Dance on 27 April, lighting of the beacon and picnic on 21 June; children's entertainer has been booked, trip to Felixstowe has been cancelled until 2020, New Year's Eve Village party has been cancelled; due to lack of help to organise the event and a civic service; celebration of village life on May 26 at Holy Trinity Church at 9.30am.
- 17. Environment Committee:** Nothing to report.
- 18. Finance and Policy Committee:** Members confirmed receipt of the minutes from the meeting of 28 March 2019:
1. Cllr Welham proposed that the 2019-20 Financial Risk Assessment is adopted. Cllr Studd seconded and all were in favour.
 2. Cllr Welham proposed that a £100 voucher is purchased for the internal auditor for 2018-19 accounts. Cllr Reeves seconded with all were in favour.
- 19. Fitness Trail Working Group:** Cllr Reeves proposed that the Parish Council adds the Fitness Trail Working Group to their terms of reference of committees, Sub-committees and Working Groups. Cllr Welham seconded and all were in favour.
- 20. Footpath Advisory Sub-committee:** Cllr Murton reported that the committee had met. A tree has come down on the footpath that leads through the High School. The clerk advised that she had notified the school of this and will report again. Several footpath posts need to be reinstated around the village and it was agreed that Cllr Murton contacts the Suffolk Highways Footpath Officer.
- 21. Neighbourhood Planning Advisory Sub-committee:** Nothing to report.
- 22. Parish Infrastructure Improvement Plan (PIIP) Sub-committee:** Nothing to report.
- 23. Planning Committee:** Members confirmed receipt of the minutes from meeting of 28 March:
- DC/19/01133** Proposal: Notification for Prior Approval for a proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to Erection of 3no.dwellings with garages (Existing grain store to be demolished) Location: Grain Store, Rendall Lane, Stowupland, Suffolk: Cllr Deal proposed that the Parish Council OBJECTS to this application for the following reasons:
- This is a contrived application to build 3 executive houses in the countryside by pulling down a previously permitted development change of use grain store. This application appears to cover a much larger site than that shown for the grain store application (2498/15). It is also

thought that the grain store floor area is greater than the 450sqm allowed for permitted development.

- This permitted development application should now be time expired as a condition of Schedule 2 Part 3 Class Q(a) is that the development is completed within 3 years of the prior approval date which was 17/09/2015. Therefore we do not believe there is current fall-back position of developing the grain store as stated in the Planning Statement. That being the case, the choice is between the development proposed and no development, not between the development proposed and a conversion of the existing building.
- This application to build 3 houses in the countryside outside the village settlement boundary is contrary to Stowupland Neighbourhood Development Plan SNP6 (Rural Exception Sites), Mid Suffolk Core Strategy CS2 (Development in the Countryside) and H7 (Restricting housing development unrelated to the needs of the countryside).
- It is not an allocated site in Mid Suffolk's 5 year housing plan (published March 2019) and is also not an allocated site for development in the Stowupland Neighbourhood Development Plan which is about to go to Referendum.
- MSDC have recently demonstrated a 5 year supply of land available for housing; planning policies are therefore deemed to be applicable. This proposed development is clearly not sustainable and should therefore be refused.
- We also note that the Planning Statement paragraph 20 states that a new access will be constructed but this is not shown on the plans. The inclusion of outline and detailed plans with different site dimensions gives rise for confusion.
- Conflict between traffic movements associated with Plain English and the new dwellings.
- Concerns about the industrial noise from Plain English.

Cllr Reeves seconded with all in favour.

24. Play Park Working Group:

1. Cllr Welham proposed that £110 is used from the Playpark Regeneration Reserve and £476.37 from the Playpark reserve to allow the completion of the project for a second multisport unit and replacement fencing between basketball area and car park. Cllr Johnson seconded and all were in favour. Cllr Reeves abstained from voting.

25. Transport, Traffic and Safety Advisory Sub-committee: Members confirmed receipt of the report.

26. SALC: Nothing to report.

27. Councillors Reports: Cllr Murton reported that following last month's meeting she had come up with an idea of arranging a tea dance for the residents of the village who live on their own of a certain age. Discussions were had around how the event could be kept to residents of the village that just live on

their own. It was agreed to advertise a free to join membership for residents over 70 who can be invited to the event. It was agreed that the Community Events reserve could fund the event. Cllr Welham reported that the Parish Council needs to take some advice on the maintenance of half a mow. It was agreed to contact Peter Garrett at MSDC for advice. Cllr Welham requested that the Parish Council looks into the payment of invoices for contracted works and if they can be paid between meetings. The clerk to contact SALC. Cllr Welham was concerned that the council will be short of members come May and asked members to consider what committees they would like to continue to sit on before the May meeting. It was agreed to email the clerk prior to the May meeting. Cllr Welham asked that the Parish Council looks at the rights of exercising horses on The Green following an incident with a horse rider earlier that week. He also advised that the grass contractor had been confronted by a visitor to the cemetery whilst cutting the grass and the contractor also reported the increase in dog fouling beside the school hedge that runs along The Green to the Retreat pond. It was agreed to put an article in Telstar about the dangers of dog fouling.

Cllr Reeves asked about the report that was written on the meeting with the cabinet member and the outcome of the actions from the meeting. It was agreed that the clerk and Cllr Reeves writes a letter.

Cllr Pring asked about the sandbag work that had been completed. It was agreed that the clerk contacts Cllr Gary Green and Paul Gant to arrange a site meeting to look at the problem.

28. Chairman's Report: Members confirmed receipt of the chairman's report.

29. Clerks report: Members confirmed receipt of the clerks report. The clerk thanked Cllrs Deal, Reeves and Welham for putting up the bird boxes in the churchyard.

30. To note a summary of correspondence and consider any action:

1. To note correspondence from Stowupland Falcons FC 5-A-Side football tournament: No action.
2. To note residents report that the sign at Columbyne Close has been knocked over: It was agreed to replace the sign to match that at Grays Close.
3. To note correspondence from MSDC Joint Area Parking Plan consultation: Cllr Reeves agreed to complete the consultation on behalf of the Parish Council.
4. To note purchase order received from SCC footpath cutting schedule: It was agreed that the Clerk seeks quotes.
5. To note request from URC Church for parking on The Green on the afternoon and evening of 28 April 2019: Permission was agreed weather permitted

6. To note correspondence from a resident regarding footpath 32: It was agreed to reply to the resident to advise that the Safer Route to School scheme is progressing and once this is in place pupils will be directed to use it. The Parish Council will look into clearer signage along footpath 32 and will refer the matter to the PCSO's that are available to the District. With regard to the A1120 crossing at the Service Station. Representation was made by the Parish Council at the time of the planning application over the concerns for residents crossing the road. Suffolk County Highways felt that this is acceptable and no provisions will be made.
7. Taken earlier in the meeting.
8. To note letter of thanks from The Royal British Legion: No action.

31. It was resolved to make the following payments:

Expenditure	Cheque / BACS / SO		Net	VAT	Total	Notes
SALARIES	BACS	M Hawkins	247.04		247.04	
SALARIES	BACS	C Pizzey	899.27		899.27	
EXPENSES	BACS	C Pizzey	247.86		247.86	
Allotments	BACS	Environment Agency	22.43		22.43	
Hall Hire	BACS	Stowupland Village Hall	116.00		116.00	
Subscription	BACS	SALC	737.82		737.82	
Tree Surgery	BACS	Eastern Tree Care	260.00	52.00	312.00	
Dog Gloves	BACS	JRB Enterprise	52.95	10.59	63.54	
Tree Surgery	BACS	REWTS	640.00	128.00	768.00	
Tree Surgery	BACS	REWTS	65.00	13.00	78.00	
Various	BACS	LE Fencing	970.00		970.00	
Community Events	BACS	MSDC	20.00		20.00	
Expenses	BACS	Jerry Voden	25.99		25.99	
Deposit	BACS	NJS Joinery Ltd	1,246.54		1,246.54	
Community Everts	CHQ	SS&SC	150.00		150.00	
			5,700.90	203.59	5,904.49	

Cllr Reeves proposed that the payments and Cllr Johnson seconded and all were in favour.

- 32. Date of next meetings** Members are asked to note that the next Parish Council meeting is the AGM scheduled for 9 May 2019, Finance and Policy for 30 May 2019, Environment TBC, Allotments for 12 June 2019, Churchyard & Cemetery 1 June 2019, Community Events 21 May 2019, Footpaths for 16 July 2019

Meeting closed 21.40