

# STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on December 12 2019 in the URC Church Hall

Councillors Present: Phil Deal, Laura Johnson, Paula Murton, Sally Reeves (Chair), Ray Studd, Jerry Voden, Keith Welham

In Attendance: District Councillor Eburne, Claire Pizzey (Clerk) and 2 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 and County Councillors:** The District Council report was distributed to members at the beginning of the meeting. District Councillor Eburne highlighted:

- Officers are continuing to work through the submissions made to the Joint Local Plan consultation.
- Council meetings are cancelled in the run up to the Election. All meetings have been rescheduled to January.
- Advised that Grants for home adaptation are available if the members know of anyone who needs adaptations in their homes due to disability or long-term health conditions.

District Councillor Welham highlighted:

- An objection letter has been received for the Thorney Green Road development from MSDC Heritage Officer. The detailed plans are different to the indicative plans agreed by the Inspector.
- Christine Thurlow has agreed to organise a meeting to discuss the disorganised way in which the planning process for the High School has been dealt with and the need to understand better what the longer term strategy is for the school and community use. She has agreed to invite relevant parties to a meeting to discuss these matters. Academy, schools, Parish Council, District Councillors, MSDC officers, Inc. Tony Bass and County Councillor Gary Green.
- The Gladman application is now expected to go to a Planning Referrals meeting at a date not yet set but sometime in late January. Vincent Pearce advised that he thinks the Parish Council are in favour of the development and he is minded to recommend approval. Vincent Pearce was informed that this was not the case as it's contrary to the NP.

- Phil Isbell, has a new additional role as head of Planning Enforcement, and he has agreed to find out what action has been proposed following the referral made to Sam Harvey at SCC regarding the new footpath that runs along Gipping Road resulting in china, glass etc. coming to the surface.

No report had been received from County Councillor Green.

- 2. To receive and consider apologies for absence (in accordance with Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act (1972):** None.
- 3. To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct for the items on the agenda:** Cllr Studd declared an interest in item 16 as a resident of Thorney Green Road. Cllr Voden declared an interest in item 15.7 as a member of the Telstar Committee. Cllr Welham declared an interest in item 15.6 due to his close relationship formed with the current Grass Contractor and item 15.7 as a member of the Telstar Committee.
- 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 meeting of November 14 2019 as a true record:** All Councillor's confirmed receipt of the minutes. Cllr Welham proposed to accept the minutes of 14 November as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. Seconded by Cllr Voden 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:
  - **Ditch along Columbyne Close:** Ditch has been strimmed contractor still to remove the rubbish.
  - **Sandbags:** Awaiting update from Councillor Gary Green.
  - **Track at Hunters Moon:** Contractor to advise when the work will be completed.
  - **Track at Mill Cottages:** Still ongoing.
  - **Meeting with Suffolk Highways regarding traffic safety on A1120 at the Co-op Service Station:** Still waiting for confirmation from County Councillor Gary Green regarding contribution towards feasibility Survey.
  - **Traffic Count B1115/A1120 junction:** No further update.
  - **Digital compliant:** No further update
  - **Interpretation board:** Clerk has collected the board and awaiting a quote for the frame to be made.
  - **Cemetery Fencing:** The work has been completed.
  - **Lime Trees at Cemetery:** Work to be completed by the end of December
  - **Development at Stonebridge Lane:** Email sent to the MSDC Enforcement Department.
  - **Lorries at Co-op Store:** Email has been sent to the MSDC Enforcement Department.

- **Thorney Green Road Junction:** This was reported on the SCC portal. They have advised that *"We have inspected the site and it is not causing an issue at present we will continue to monitor as part of our routine inspections."*
- **Tenders for tree work on The Green:** Agenda item.
- **Creation Agreement:** Agenda item
- **Bench at Allotment:** Still awaiting quotes for the work.
- **Replacement noticeboard at Allotments:** Still awaiting quotes for the work.
- **Social Media Report:** No report to date.
- **MSDC Planning Committee Gladman Application:** Planning meeting has been deferred until January 2020.
- **Joint Notice Board:** Still waiting confirmation that a different backing board can be used.
- **Quotes for cutting rear hedge and clearing ditch:** Still awaiting quotes.
- **The Green by Butchers:** Awaiting a Green inspection.
- **Damage to Sandbags:** This was reported on the SCC Portal. They advised that *"We have inspected the site and it is not causing an issue at present we will continue to monitor as part of our routine inspections."*

7. **Public Forum:** A resident asked for a copy of The Green Policy.
8. **To consider and agree the quotes received for the tree work on The Green:** The members discussed the quotes. Cllr Welham proposed that the quote from Rewts of £2,850 +vat is accepted. A meeting with the Contractor before, during and at end of the works to be arranged. Cllr Studd seconded and all were in favour.
9. **To consider a response to the Review of Suffolk County Council boundaries:** The members discussed the consultation. Cllr Welham proposed that the Parish Council asks that Stowupland Parish is moved into the Upper Gipping Division to enable the whole of the District Council Division to be in the same ward boundary. This move would reflect community interests and identities and promote an effective and convenient Local Government. Cllr Studd Seconded with all in favour.
10. **To agree to sign the amended Creation Agreement between Stowupland Parish Council, John Milton Academy Trust and Suffolk County Council for the Safer Route to School:** The Council discussed the amended Creation Agreement. Cllr Welham proposed that the Creation Agreement between Stowupland Parish Council, John Milton Trust and Suffolk County Council is signed. Cllr Deal seconded and all were in favour. Cllr Studd abstained.
11. **To consider the request for an extended dropped kerb on the A1120 at the track that leads to The Paddocks:** The members discussed the request. Concerns were had around pedestrian safety of the extended dropped kerb and the work would have to be carried out by SCC and this would be detrimental

to the Village Green. Cllr Welham proposed that no further action is taken. Cllr Studd seconded and all were in favour.

**12. To receive a report from the Allotment Officer and agree the recommendations made:** The members confirmed receipt of the report. Cllr Voden reported that no response had been made from the tenant of plot 11 following a letter that had been issued, he proposed that the tenancy of this plot is terminated. Cllr Johnson seconded with all in favour.

**13. To receive a report on the Trim Trail:** The members confirmed receipt of the report.

**14. To receive the minutes from the Community Events meeting of Wednesday 20 November and agree recommendations made:** The members confirmed receipt of the minutes.

1. Cllr Welham proposed that the Council approves the purchase of flowers for three bingo volunteers at a total cost of up to £20 to say thank you for their help throughout the year. Cllr Johnson seconded with all in favour
2. Cllr Welham proposed that the Council approves a cost of up to £250 to take the residents of Jubilee Court for Christmas Afternoon Tea at Nutshells. Cllr Deal seconded with all in favour.

**15. To receive the minutes from the Finance and Policy meeting of Thursday 28 November and agree the recommendations made:** The members confirmed receipt of the minutes.

1. Cllr Reeves proposed that the following is added to the table of burial and other fees:

Monuments, Gravestones, Tablets and Monumental Inscriptions

For the right to erect and place

	Resident	Non Resident
A Headstone for a still-born child or person under 18yrs old at time of death not exceeding 3ft (90cm) in height, or other fixed monument at head of grave, not exceeding 2 ft (60cm)	Nil	£50

Cllr Deal seconded with all in favour.

2. Cllr Studd proposed that the following changes are made to 11.1.a.ii; *for specialist services such as are provided by legal professionals acting in disputes* to the Financial Regulations. Cllr Welham seconded with all in favour.
3. Cllr Welham proposed that the Accessibility Statement is adopted and uploaded to the website when the Clerk and Chairman have completed the work required. Cllr Voden seconded with all in favour.
4. Cllr Welham proposed that the revised Banking Policy is adopted. Cllr Voden seconded with all in favour.

5. Cllr Studd proposed that following a review of quarter 2 budget the following amendments are made to the accounts:

- That the £110.08 from the Play Park Regeneration reserve is transferred into the General reserve
- That the budget for 2019-20 Environment reserve is changed to £550
- That the £1,000 contribution to the feasibility survey is taken from the Strategic Reserves

Cllr Voden seconded with all in favour.

6. Cllr Welham raised his concerns over this quote but fully supported the recommendation. Cllr Welham left the meeting. Cllr Studd proposed that the Parish Council accepts the Grass Cutting Tender 2020-2024 from TOP Garden Services, for £5,040. Cllr Deal seconded with all in favour. It was agreed to write to Tim Gaddis to thank him for his service and ask him to provide any outstanding invoices by the end of the financial year. It was agreed that Cllr Welham would continue to be the liaison with the new Contractor. The Clerk and Cllr Welham to arrange a meeting in February with the new Contractor.

7. Cllr Studd proposed that a grant of £3,000 is given to Telstar for 20-21 and should additional money be required following changes to the running of the publication, they should approach the Parish Council. Cllr Johnson seconded with all in favour. Cllrs Voden and Welham abstained.

Cllr Welham returned to the meeting.

8. Members noted the draft budget and precept workings for discussion at the January meeting.

**16. To consider and agree Council comments on applications made to the Local Planning Authority (MSDC) (please note: in planning matters the Council acts as the consultee of the Principal Authority. The Principal Authority being the deciding body):**

1. **DC/19/05316: Proposal:** Submission of details under Outline Planning Permission 0195/16 (Allowed under Appeal Ref: APP/W3520//W/17/3184909) - Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale for residential development of up to 58 dwellings and a new vehicular access off the B1115 **Location:** Land to the West Of, Thorney Green Road, Stowupland, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 4BY
2. **DC/19/05317: Proposal:** Submission of details under Outline Planning Permission 5024/16 (Allowed under Appeal Ref: APP/W3520//W/17/3184908) - Access, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale for the erection of up to 85 dwellings with associated parking, landscaping, open space and surface water attenuation. **Location:** Land to the West Of,

Thorney Green Road, Stowupland, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 4BY – no parking on this application

Cllr Welham proposed that the Parish Council Objects to both planning applications

- Style of the dwellings does not meet the local vernacular as per the Neighbourhood Plan (SNP14). The design code is very generic. The designs of the houses are not sympathetic to other properties in the village. Rendered cottages, farmhouses, converted barns and straightforward twentieth century houses and bungalows are dominant and lend character to the village.

And specify the following concerns:

- Layout is more urban than rural.
- Would like to see some bungalows and some fully rendered dwellings.
- Not enough visitor parking spaces on the first application (DC/19/05316 only).
- Street scene C-CC plots 24 and 58 are not set back in line with the other dwellings.
- Concerns over vehicles parking on Thorney Green Road during and after construction.
- Residents have expressed concern about the drainage on Thorney Green Road. The need to deal with the existing drainage problem along Thorney Green Road. The continuous flooding after heavy rainfall. The development will only add to this issue.
- The cycle/pedestrian path should follow more closely the route on the indicative layout presented to the planning appeal and should be separate from the street in the Linden Homes proposed scheme.
- Request that a condition is made that the Nature Reserve is implemented before first occupation.
- Consultation with the Parish Council on location on Site -Office, Batching Plant and storage areas, hours of working etc.
- Construction lorries should not be permitted to use Thorney Green Road due to the width of the road and road safety concerns. Access to be from the B1115 only.
- No lorries to enter or leave the development site between 8-9 and 3.30-4.15 B1115 pedestrian and cycle route will be heavily used by students from Stowupland High School.

Cllr Deal and all were in favour. Cllr Studd abstained.

**17. To agree and sign off the CIL return for the 2018-19 financial year:** Members confirmed receipt of the document. Cllr Reeves proposed that the CIL return for 2018-19 was signed. Cllr Welham seconded and all were in favour.

**18. To receive the dates for 2020 for the following meetings:**

1. Full Council Meetings for 2020

## 2. Finance and Policy Meetings for 2020

The Council noted the dates. The Clerk to add to the website.

**19. Councillors Reports:** Cllr Studd reported children riding bikes with no lights. It was agreed to contact the Academy about this and Cllr Welham agreed to refer this to the PCSO. Cllr Deal reported that the land opposite the URC is back up for sale. Cllr Welham asked that the flooding along Thorney Green Road is reported to SCC again. The Clerk to put on the portal. He had received reports of a black BMW car racing round the village. Members to look out for the vehicle and notify the Police of the number plate. He also enquired when the next traffic count would be carried out. Cllr Voden agreed to arrange a February traffic count and reported on the state of The Green from the bus stop at near Maple Road, Thorney Green through to the A1120. Cllr Reeves reported that she and the Clerk had met with Officers at Suffolk County Council Bus and Transport Department. A full report will be sent out in January.

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

1. To note correspondence from Suffolk County Council regarding Christmas Part Night Lighting: The clerk reported that due to the timescale of this she had requested the same as in previous year. To leave the part lit lights on all night Christmas Eve into Christmas morning and New Year's Eve into New Year's morning.
2. To note correspondence from Suffolk Highways Rights of Way Officer regarding footpath 35: Cllr Welham agreed to cut back the tree and the work would be carried out by the end of next week.
3. To note correspondence from Bloor Homes regarding the donation of a defibrillator: It was agreed that the members will consider a suitable site and contact Bloor homes accordingly.
4. To note the December/January edition of Constables County: Information only

### 21. It was resolved to make the following payments:

Expenditure	Cheque / BACS / SO		Net £	VAT £	Total £
CIL Grant	BACS	SS&SC	1,440.00		1,440.00
Salaries	BACS	M Hawkins	246.84		246.84
Salaries	BACS	C Pizzey	999.72		999.72
Expenses	BACS	C Pizzey	208.02		208.02
Salaries	BACS	HMRC	489.04		489.04
Hall Hire	BACS	Stowupland VH	213.00		213.00
Community Events	BACS	Stowupland VH	50.00		50.00
Misc.	BACS	Sally Reeves	46.20		46.20
Community Events (SOAP)	BACS	L Johnson	60.85		60.85
Community Events	BACS	K Welham	303.07	37.42	340.49
Cemetery	BACS	Joe Herne	103.99		103.99

Subscription	BACS	SLCC	108.00		108.00
Hall Hire	BACS	URC	55.00		55.00
Cemetery	BACS	L E Fencing	1,906.00		1,906.00
Misc.	BACS	J R B Enterprise	52.95	10.59	63.54
Community Events	BACS	Phil Deal	14.00		14.00
			6,396.60	48.01	6,444.69

Cllr Murton proposed that the payments be made and Cllr Studd seconded and all were in favour.

**22. Date of next meetings:** Members are asked to note that the next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for 9 January 2020, Finance and Policy for Thursday 9 January 2020 and Community Events 4 February 2020.

Meeting closed 21.00