

STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL  
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Present: Cllrs Philip Deal, John Hayward, Paula Murton, Debra Melhuish, Sally Reeves  
(Chairman), Ray Studd and Jerry Voden,  
In attendance: Claire Pizzey (Clerk) District Councillor Rachel Eburne and Keith Welham and 3  
members of the public

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 7.30pm 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. Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs Laura Beeson and Laura Johnson. The members noted the apologies.

**2. Declarations of Interest**

There were no Councillors' Declarations of Local Non-Pecuniary Interests in subsequent agenda items.

**3. Dispensations**

No requests for dispensations were received.

**4. Minutes**

All Councillor's confirmed receipt of the minutes. Cllr Studd proposed to accept the minutes of June 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021 as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. Seconded by Cllr Deal with all in favour the Chairman signed and dated all pages. Cllr Hayward proposed to accept the minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. Seconded by Cllr Voden with all in favour the Chairman signed and dated all the pages.

**5. Matters of report**

- **Sandbags:** Agenda item.
- **Track at Mill Cottages:** This will be looked at after the Safer Route to School completion.
- **Cycle Prohibited Signs:** Cycle signs ordered.
- **Footpath beside Gipping Road:** The Chairman and Clerk have sent an email to Sam Harvey at Suffolk County Council. No response to date. This was also reported on the planning portal on 7 May 2021.
- **Compulsory Purchase Order:** Planned for August agenda.

- **Quotations for the construction of a 1.5 meter footpath from The Green opposite Willow Wood to Willowcroft Thorney Green Road:** Quotes to be sought and will presented to the PC before they are included in any grant applications for the Trim Trial Project.
  - **Meeting with Community Caretaker:** Agenda item.
  - **Safer Route to School:** Agenda item.
  - **Enforcement Application (4697/16) dwelling on Gipping Road:** District Councillor to advise following agreement to chase with the Planning Enforcement Officer.
  - **New slabs Cemetery Internment:** Contractor has advised a date of mid-July
  - **Work to trees in Cemetery:** Contractor has advised a date of mid-June.
  - **New equipment in Play Park:** Work has started on the installation of the new play park equipment.
  - **Confirmation of additional hours at Churchyard:** Cemetery Contractor to confirm additional hours.
  - **No Parking on The Green signs:** Signs have been ordered.
  - **Quotes for post:** Quotes being sourced.
  - **Faded 30mph Signs:** The signs do not meet the Highway Maintenance Operational Plan but have been added to a list of works to be done when funding becomes available.
  - **Allotment clearance:** A quote was received from S P Trees for £125 which was accepted. Awaiting a date for the work to be completed.
  - **Plot 38:** See correspondence from tenant regarding the plot.
  - **Quotes for ditch and hedge work at allotments:** Quotes being sought.
  - **Speedgun quotes:** Quotes being sought.
  - **Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebration June 2022:** Advert being put in the August edition of Telstar.
  - **Barbed wire at Retreat Pond:** The barbed wire has been removed.
  - **Audit:** Audit has been sent to PKF Little John.
  - **Clearance of plot 1 & 2 allotments:** Contractor is unwell and unsure of a date for the work to be completed.
  - **Bowls Club use of facilities:** It was agreed that a donation of £15 each time the Parish Council uses the Bowls Club.
- 6. Public Forum:** A resident raised concerns over not being able to take trailers in the recycle centre. A resident reported that although they had agreed not to use the site entrance on Gipping Road vehicles were still seen accessing the development. A resident wanted to thank the District Councillors for getting the site access closed on Gipping Road.
- 7. To receive reports from the County & District Councillors**
- Members confirmed receipt of the District Council and County Council Reports.
- The County Councillor highlighted:

- Had met with Thomas Jarret, Facilities Manager, of Stowupland Academy, who had agreed to investigate the drainage issue at the ditch by The Paddocks, to look at a safer means of access into the school site, further works within the site to put hard surfacing onto muddy areas, community use of the building and the public rights of way around the site. He confirmed that he is happy to meet with the Parish Council and would like dates to be provided.

The District Councillors highlighted:

- MSDC Cabinet are considering an updated Leisure Strategy.
- Agreed to chase Tom Barker regarding the meeting with the Parish Council to discuss planning concerns in the village.

## 8. Planning

- a) Councillors reviewed and approved responses to the current planning consultations:

**DC/21/03394** - Full Planning Application - Change of use of the first floor of the public house to a beauty salon (retrospective application) **Location:** The Crown Inn, Church Road, Stowupland, Suffolk IP14 4BQ: Cllr Studd proposed that the Parish Council SUPPORTS the application. Cllr Melhuish seconded and all were in favour.

**DC/21/00407** - Hybrid Application for the phased employment-led redevelopment of Land at Mill Lane, Stowmarket (Gateway 14) including: Full Planning for site enabling works phase comprising, ground remodelling, utility diversions, installation of framework landscaping, creation of new footpath links, installation of primary substation, highways works including stopping up of Mill Lane, new all modes link from the A1120 Cedars Link to Mill Lane, new footway cycleway over the existing A1120 overbridge, installation of toucan crossing on the A1120 Cedars Link, footpath connection to the Gipping Valley Way, foul and surface water drainage infrastructure, outfalls and associated works: Outline Planning Permission (all matters reserved, except for access) for the erection of buildings comprising employment and commercial use, open space and landscaping, car and cycle parking, highway works, and other associated works (additional plans, documents and EIA information received 08/04/2021). **Location:** Gateway 14, Land between the A1120 and A14, Stowmarket, Suffolk. **Reason(s) for re-consultation:** ES Addendum G14 received 17th June 2021: Cllr Studd proposed that the no additional response is required.

**DC/21/02768** - Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/20/01435 – Condition 19 (Construction Management Plan) and Condition 20 (Construction Environmental Management Plan). **Location:** Land to the South of Gipping Road, Stowupland, IP14 4AX: Cllr Studd proposed that the Parish Council makes the following response to the application:

Stowupland Parish Council have not automatically been asked to comment on this amendment but would like to reiterate their previous comments and note their surprise that the use of a long single track road, with no pavements, is considered satisfactory for the use by so many lorries on both directions by Suffolk County Council Highways.

Stowupland Parish Council **OBJECTS** to the plan for Bloor Homes haul route for construction traffic. There is supposed to be no vehicular access or egress from Trinity Meadows onto Gipping Rd. Gipping Rd is a very narrow lane (with no pavements towards the Rendall Lane junction) and is widely used by residents of Stowupland for walking, cycling and equestrian to access footpaths, bridleways and services throughout the village. In parts of the road it is difficult to get 2 cars to pass let alone a heavy construction vehicles and car/farm vehicle. Already there are construction delivery Lorries using the Gipping Rd entrance to the site for delivery of building materials causing great concern with the residents. I have already received several complaints from residents about the volume of Lorries, the mess on the road and missing road signs. This level of construction traffic will only increase as the build gets underway. It is because of the nature of Gipping Rd that no access or egress from phase 1 & 2 of Trinity Meadows is allowed. If cars cannot be considered suitable for access/egress on to Gipping Rd from phase 1&2 then surely the same principle should apply to heavy construction traffic for phase 3. Rendall Lane is also a very narrow lane much used already by agricultural vehicles as well as walkers, cyclist and horse & rider with only a few informal mud patches for passing places and no pavement. A build of this size should not be considering narrow lanes as part of a delivery route given the number of lorry movements expected. I ask that our objection be considered for the safety of the residents of Stowupland. An alternative solution needs to be found.

Lorries will queue on Gipping Road to access the site as they have timed arrivals. We have seen this happen especially in the mornings when they are waiting for sites in the village to open.

The Chairman seconded with all in favour.

- b) Councillors noted the decisions issued by Mid Suffolk District Council:

**DC/21/02368** - Full Planning Application - Erection of 1No. detached dwelling (amended scheme and resubmission of DC/20/00771) Land Adjacent Oak View, Saxham Street, Stowupland, Suffolk. Planning permission has been GRANTED

**DC/21/02544** - Application under Section 73 of the Town and Country Planning Act - Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) of planning permission DC/19/01133 dated 13/05/19 - Erection of 3no. dwellings with garages (Existing grain store to be demolished). To allow amendments to dwellings and site layout. Grain Store, Rendall Lane, Stowupland, Suffolk. Planning permission has been GRANTED

**DC/21/02028** - Listed Building Consent Application - Erection of single storey side and rear, and front porch extensions. Removal of existing cement render to main farmhouse, carry out timber frame repairs where required, re-render using a lime render system. Replace rear window to lounge. Owls Farm, Debenham Lane, Stowupland, Suffolk IP14 5DE. Listed building consent has been GRANTED.

**DC/21/02027** - Householder application - Erection of single storey side and rear, and front porch extensions. Owls Farm, Debenham Lane, Stowupland, Suffolk IP14 5DE. Planning permission has been GRANTED.

**9. Cllrs noted the report of the meeting with Suffolk Highways with reference to the sandbags and bus stop markings**

Sandbags: The Clerk reported that Charlie Mitson, Suffolk County Council representative had contacted her to advise that there was no money in their budget to remove the sandbags. He suggested that the County Councillor uses their highway budget to fund the removal of the sandbags. County Councillor Welham agreed to take the matter further, obtain a quote for the removal and make a decision once more information is available. The members agreed that their preferred option would be to have them removed.

Bus Stop Markings: The Chairman reported on the new design that had been proposed by Suffolk Highways. Cllr Studd proposed that the Parish Council accepts the proposal for the bus stop markings and requests that the new path construction matches that of the Parish Councils existing gravel footpaths. Cllr Hayward seconded and all were in favour.

**10. Councillors were verbally updated on the A1120 Co-op Crossing**

It was agreed that the Parish Council contacts the Mid Suffolk District Councils Monitoring Officer to request a copy of the Road Safety Audit and Approved Layout Plan for the crossing on the A1120 at the Co-op.

**11. Councillors noted the Safer Route to School update**

The members discussed the update that had been provided by Paul Horne. He had advised that it had not been possible to identify a suitable compromise solution to allow the construction of the path on the school land and to meet the safeguarding requirements of the school. It was agreed to contact Paul Horne to advise that the Parish Council are not prepared to abandon phase 1 of the Safer Route to School and ask for a contact at the Academy to enable contact to be made by the Parish Council. The Chairman to contact the Village Hall Trustees to ask if the Parish Council can attend a meeting that is being held with the Academy to discuss the Safer Route to School. The Chairman and Clerk to meet outside of the PC meeting with County Councillor Welham to discuss their findings and report back at the August meeting.

**12. Councillors noted the report from the Environment and Green Sub-Committee and no comments were made.**

The Clerk reported that Charlie Mitson had requested the name of the Officer who issued the licence for the posts along Thoney Green. Correspondence had been found relating to this and the Clerk will forward this on. A licence will need to be obtained for the continuation of the posts around The Green. Cllr Deal reported that he had received another quote for the posts and the no Parking Signs are ready for collection. He also thanked those who turned out for the community litter pick.

**13. Councillors noted the report from the Allotment Officer and no comments were made.**

- a) Cllr Voden proposed that a meeting is set up with the tenant of plot 38 to discuss the issue of the drop around the border of the allotment. Cllr Studd seconded with all in favour.
- b) Cllr Voden proposed that a letter is written to the tenant of plot 33/34. Cllr Deal seconded with all in favour.

**14. Councillors noted the report from the Footpaths Working Group and no comments were made.**

- a) The Chairman reported that the Contractor had not completed the first cut of the Rights of Way Annual Surface Clearance Programme 2021. The original quote accepted by the Parish Council was for flailing only and he is unable to do this on all the footpaths. Cllr Studd proposed that a quote is obtained by the Grass Contractor for strimming the outstanding footpaths and the contract is handed back to Suffolk County Council in time for the second cut of 2021. Cllr Deal seconded and all were in favour.
- b) The Chairman proposed that she and the Clerk write to Suffolk County Council to complain about the lack of cuts to footpath that are not on the Parish cutting schedule. Cllr Deal seconded with all in favour.

**15. Councillors noted the Clerks report and no comments were made.**

The Clerk added that following contact with MSDC Address Management Team regarding the road name for the development at Church Road. Their Custodian was concerned that there may be some confusion between Cornflower Close and Cornfields. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council offers Crown Farm Meadow or Blackthorne Close as alternate names. Cllr Studd seconded with all in favour.

- 16. Councillor's reports:** Cllr Voden reported that the SID sign has been returned to Old Newton Parish Council. Cllr Deal reported that Lorries are not reversing fully into the loading bay and blocking the forecourt causing problems to vehicles and pedestrians trying to enter and exit the store/forecourt. It was agreed to register this again with MSDC Planning Enforcement Department.
- Cllr Murton reported that a number of residents have complained about the state of The Green and cyclists on FP32.

## 17. Statutory Business

Cllr Studd proposed that the Parish Council adopts V1.4 of The Terms of Reference for Committees, Sub-Committees, Working Groups and Offices. Cllr Hayward seconded with all in favour.

## 18. Finance

- a) Councillors noted the receipts received since the last meeting

Expenditure	Cheque / BACS / SO		Value £
Cemetery	BACS	A Bingham	125.00
Cemetery	BACS	A Bingham	125.00
			250.00

- b) Cllr Deal proposed to authorise the July payments. Cllr Hayward seconded with all in favour.

Expenditure	Cheque / BACS / SO		Net	VAT	Total
Salaries	BACS	M HAWKINS	£ 269.27		£ 269.27
Salaries	BACS	C PIZZEY	£1,030.78		£1,030.78
Expenses	BACS	C PIZZEY	£ 39.49	£ 2.40	£ 41.89
Expenses	BACS	Sally Reeves	£ 12.97		£ 12.97
Misc.	BACS	JRB	£ 53.30	£ 10.66	£ 63.96
Grass Cutting	BACS	Top Garden	£ 630.00	£126.00	£ 756.00
Cemetery	BACS	J Wright Stonemason	£ 60.00		£ 60.00
Hall Hire	BACS	Stowupland Bowls Club	£ 30.00		£ 30.00
Cemetery	BACS	MSDC	£ 88.20		£ 88.20
Misc.	BACS	Stock Signs	£ 238.75	£ 47.75	£ 286.50
			£2,452.76	£186.81	£2,639.57

## 19. Correspondence

Councillors to note correspondence already circulated and consider any action.

- a) Sports England – Stowupland Green: The Chairman and Clerk to complete the questionnaire.
- b) BMSDC – Postponement of the Stage 1 Hearing Sessions JLP: No action.
- c) Resident – Complaint about state of the verges: Cllr Deal agreed to respond to the resident to advise that the Parish Council are dealing with this.
- d) Allotment Tennant – Plot 38: Dealt with in item 13.a.
- e) Resident – Footpath 32: The Clerk reported that she has responded to the resident. It was agreed to write to the High School to advise them of the problem.
- f) Resident – Half a Mow: It was agreed to delay the cut until the end of July.

- g) Resident – Play Park: The Chairman reported that she has spoken to the Contractor's on site at the Play Park and they agreed that to use their equipment whilst on site to remove the piece of equipment.
- h) Suffolk County Council – Discovering Suffolk – Fingerpost Plaques: Information only.

**20. Dates of next meeting**

- a) Finance and Policy is scheduled for Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at Bowls Club
- b) Full Parish Council is scheduled for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 7.30pm at the Bowls Club

**21. Councillors resolved that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed Staffing Matters.**

Meeting closed 21.34pm