

MINUTES of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 11 February 2016 at Stanton Community Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: A Shelton (Chairman), I Engall (Vice-Chairman), B Smithson, R Unsworth, F J Hart, M Scowcroft

Also Present: County Councillor Joanna Spicer and Borough Councillor Jim Thorndyke.

- 1. Apologies for absence:** J Miller, K McDonald, J Mann, R Genn, N Chapman.
- 2. To read, consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting:** 14 January 2016. Proposed by R Unsworth and seconded by B Smithson.
- 3. Public Forum:** Time limited to 15 minutes with 5 minutes allowed for each question/answer.

A resident of George Hill attended the meeting in relation to planning application DC/15/2422/OUT to be discussed in this meeting. The resident handed in a letter which was a copy of one she had sent to the Planning committee outlining her objections. Most importantly the resident was concerned that the site was reported to be brown field when it was full of wildlife and had been previously used for horticulture. Also that the road was dangerous and traffic did not comply with the speed limits. The access to the proposed site was on a blind bend. The sewerage system blocks regularly and raw sewage seeps into the residents garden when it blocks. The surface drainage cannot cope with the rainfall and flooding is an issue further down the road at the junction of Duke Street. The resident asked the Parish Council to object to the proposal.

The Chairman thanked the resident for coming to the meeting and took a copy of her objections.

4. Report from:

- a. B Cllr J Thorndyke** reported that the RIGS application for £10,000 towards the play area had been granted as had a grant of £3,500 for a replacement boiler for the village hall. The Council tax increase is likely to be around 1.95% or £3.42 for a Band D property. A charge will be levied from April for the use of the brown bin. Letters regarding this issue will be sent to every resident shortly. The letter will outline the conditions of the future brown bin collection.

The next Parish Conference will take place on Monday 11 April at Stanton Community Village Hall.

- b. S C Cllr J Spicer** reported that there were some funds available from her locality budget for use towards any planned Queen's birthday celebrations. There is also money available from an alternative source for the purchase of a beacon. Parish Council to discuss and advise her if they were planning to erect a beacon. There will be no charge for road closures for street parties.

The County Council budget had been set today and although there are cuts to services they will not directly impact Stanton residents. More capital has been budgeted for roads maintenance. Council tax has not been raised but there will be a special levy of up to 2% for adult social care. The requirement to pay a living wage in the next financial year will impact on Local Authority as 3-4,000 staff employed under contract will receive pay increases.

In respect of highways issues she was glad to see that the hedgerow has been cut back on Old Bury Road although it was pointed out that it still has not been cut back sufficiently to reclaim the kerb edge. Cllr Spicer will ask Highways to return and inspect the work. A dangerous tree on the footpath between the A143 and Jacobs Close has now been cut down after intervention. The bags of rubbish near the churchyard remain and she will raise this again with highways.

The situation in respect of the Doctors surgery at Hopton is making slow progress between the NHS and the Doctors. There is a Community Action Group – next meeting Mon 7 March at 5pm at Hopton Methodist Chapel. A representative from Stanton would be welcome. The relocation of the Primary School to Upthorpe Road remains on track for September 2016. Planning application for paths, planting and adjustments to windows and doors have been approved.

c. **Suffolk Constabulary** - no report received.

5. Clerk's Report: (Items not referred to elsewhere)
Matters arising from minutes of meeting 14 January

Item 7b – **Grass Cutting contract.** New tender document and specification for grass cutting contract completed with Cllr Mann and invitation sent to 5 local companies for consideration. So far 3 companies have asked for specifications. Tender due on 29 Feb.

Item 8a – **Dog Waste signs** – Liaison with Stanton FC who will deal.

Item 8d – **Fencing repairs.** 4 local companies invited to offer quotes for repairs to fencing. Only 1 company offered a quotation which was approved. (Cooks Services - £317.98)

Item 12b - **PCSO funding.** Response sent to Suffolk Constabulary.

Item 12e – **Volunteers for odd jobs.** Requested via Facebook. No response to date

No queries raised with report.

6. Declarations of Interest: None

7. Matters for discussion:

- a. **Date for Annual Parish Meeting and Consideration of awards.** The date for the meeting was proposed as the second week after the May Parish Council Meeting. It was agreed that the Parish Council will launch 'Community Recognition Awards' at the Annual Meeting. It is intended that the awards will be given annually to people or organisations to recognise their work in the community of Stanton, or who make environmental achievements or in some other way contribute to the life of the Parish. Anyone can nominate their friends, co-workers or suppliers of good service to receive an award and Councillors will then consider and decide the award winners for the year. The award is in the form of a framed certificate will be presented at the Annual Parish Meeting. Clerk to prepare entry for Steamer and circulate nomination forms where requested. Nominations by end of March to be considered in April.
- b. **Public Bench – Meadow Court.** This is now the responsibility of Havebury Housing Partnership. Clerk has made contact with them to address the issue. They are likely to remove but not repair or replace.
- c. **Councillor responsibilities** – deferred
- d. **Cars parked on verges.** Cllr Shelton raised the problem of cars parked on verges in the Village. This was discussed at length and it was agreed that the Clerk will make up a notice to be placed on the windscreen of offending vehicles asking them to be more considerate although this was not an enforceable resolution.
- e. **Cars advertised for Sale on verges.** Councillors rejected the erection of signs or by-laws relating to this issue. It was agreed that offending vehicles would be reported to police where the vehicle was causing an unnecessary obstruction.
- f. **Excessive long term business advertisement signs.** Discussions around the signs on the A143. Action can be taken by highways where the signs cause a distraction for motorists and the County Council has already taken action elsewhere. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to one of the advertisers whose signs are considered excessive and a trip hazard and ask them to remove their signs.

- g. **Replacement bench – war memorial.** There are currently two benches. One is a poor state of repair. It was agreed that the Clerk will make arrangements to get this one removed which will leave one and the bus shelter bench for use.
- h. **Disposal of Asset – Printer.** The Council agreed that the old printer held by the Clerk can be disposed of as it is no longer fit for purpose.

8. Recreation Ground & Car Park:

- a. **Stanton FC – permission for floodlights to be erected.** – deferred.
- b. **Multi Sports maintenance proposal.** Considered proposal from Anglia Surface Care for additional works to moss removal from Multi Sports Court to the sum of £530 + VAT. Clerk to source additional quotes before next meeting as quotation exceeds £300 (Standing Orders).
- c. **Progress on Play Area refurbishment.** Applications submitted for Awards for All (£10,000), RIGS (£10,000), Suffolk Foundation (£5,000), Havebury (£5,000). Other sources being researched. Possibly additional funding available from Suffolk Foundation and Stan Co-Co RIGS application has been successful.

9. Accounts

- a. **To approve and authorise the accounts.**

PAYMENTS	£NET	£VAT	£GROSS	WHAT FOR	EXP.POWER
Talk Talk (Jan)	33.50	6.70	40.20	Telephone and internet charges	LGA 1972 S111
EON (Jan)	13.30	0.70	14.00	Monthly electricity floodlights	LGA 1972 S111
EON (Jan)	14.25	0.75	15.00	Monthly electricity pump house	LGA 1972 S111
Anglian Water	7.00		7.00	Monthly water chge pumphouse	LGA 1972 S111
Tripp Batt & Co Ltd	24.67	4.93	29.60	PPE equipment	LGA 1972 S111
Clarkes of Walsham	126.90	25.38	152.28	Grit Bin	LGA 1972 S111
Mr L Alen	40.80		40.80	Weekend litter picker	LGA 1972 S112
Mr K Brown	420.00		420.00	Street cleaner	LGA 1972 S112
Mrs J Hart	289.00		289.00	Clerks salary	LGA 1972 S112
RECEIPTS					
Lloyds Bank	14.68			Bank interest - Dec	
Lloyds Bank	16.12			Bank interest - Jan	
Cash	20.00			Recreation Ground floodlights	

10. Items for noting

- a. **Glasdon UK Catalogue** – Circulated
- b. **SALC Information and Financial Update** – Circulated and noted

11. Correspondence from Borough and County Councils

- a. **Play Area Inspection Reports.** Progress is being made. Clerk to speak to Contractor to discuss lead in times for progress on demolishing current equipment.
- b. **C Cllr Spicer** – Funding for Queens 90th birthday beacons. It was discussed and agreed that the Parish Council would not be applying for Beacon funding. Clerk to respond.

12. Planning Applications:

- a. **New Applications received**

DC/16/0084/TPO | TPO248(1997)76 -Tree Preservation Order Application - Oak (T1 on plan) - Lift crown to clear property by 2metres, Oak (T2 on plan) - Lift crown to 3m from ground level and lift over property to clear by 2metres, Oak (T3 on plan)- Lift crown to clear properties

by 2metres, Oak (T4 on plan) Lift crown to 2.5metres from ground level.Oak (T5 on plan) - Lift crown to 3metres from ground level. 4no Oaks (T6, T7, T8 and T9 on plan)- Lift crown to clear property by 2metres. Oak (T10 on plan)- Lift crown to 2.5metres from ground level. (All within Area A1 of Order). | Berkeley Leisure Shepherds Grove Park Stanton Suffolk IP31 2AY

Response - The Parish Council accepts the need for crown lifting of these trees for the health of the tree and comfort of residents and has no objections.

DC/16/0163/FUL | Planning Application - 2no dwellings with car ports and parking. | Land East of Bobbys Way Stanton Suffolk IP31 2FE (M and D developments)

Response -The replacement housing proposed is on the site of dwellings that were demolished some years ago. We consider the plans to be very much in keeping with the current properties in the area and acceptable as replacements for those lost. We would however like it noted that we would not wish to see further plans to extend additional dwellings onto the greenfield site.

DC/16/0025/TPO | TPO248(1997)73 - Tree Preservation Order - 1no Hawthorn Tree - overall trim | 110 Shepherds Grove Park Stanton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 2BN (Richard Coleman) **Withdrawn**

DC/16/0032/FUL | Planning Application - Proposed residential development of 9 no. new dwellings and associated access and parking | Rose and Crown Bury Road Stanton Suffolk IP31 2BZ (Mr David Harris)

Response -The original submission for this site was for 3 detached dwellings to which the Parish Council had no objections as this would be good quality large detached housing to enhance the village and improve a rundown site. The Parish Council object strongly to the new proposal for nine dwellings on this site. The site sits on a very busy main road - the A143. When a public house was operating the level of Road Traffic Accidents at the site and just South of the site was very high with a number of serious injuries over the years. This site sits just inside the 30 mph limit and traffic using the road are still slowing down from the derestricted area when they reach this site. Whilst a public House there were continuous problems with the drainage and sewerage system which constantly overflowed and was blocked and this is a main issue in objecting in that the services are insufficient to cope with additional use of this volume. Of greater concern would be the safety of residents exiting this area on foot to cross to the village. In providing affordable housing it is anticipated that these are likely to be families without access to vehicles. There are no pedestrianised facilities or traffic islands on this stretch of road to allow safe crossing to village amenities. The proposal is likely to attract young families with children who would have to run the gauntlet of extremely heavy traffic at peak times to cross to school with prams. This would be an extremely dangerous practice. The Parish Council consider this to be overdevelopment of this site but if granted would ask for a substantial Section 106 contribution to the village to assist in providing improved amenities for additional children.

DC/15/2422/OUT | Outline Planning Application (Means of Access to be considered) - Residential development of 12 dwellings (including 3 affordable) with new vehicular access | George Hill Nurseries Barningham Road Stanton Suffolk IP31 2AD. (Mr. and Mrs. J Smith)

Response -The Parish Council strongly object to the proposal. In considering the means of access we have concerns about the speed and volume of vehicles using the B1111, and especially heavy goods vehicles. This is the site of a previous fatality of a young schoolboy and since that time the road has become much busier with its ease of access to the newly dualled A11 (Short cut via Garboldisham and East Harling). The current speed limit of 30 mph is not adhered to and the road has a significant downhill from the North End leading to increased speeds at this point. The neighbouring bungalow has submitted a detailed letter outlining the dangers of access and egress to her property which the Parish Council

supports. Visibility to the North is impeded by a bend in the road. The area currently sits adjacent to a high risk flood area and in inclement weather the road floods considerably and pools to the South. This causes an overflow of sewerage as the current system is unable to cope with the volume and runs into the property adjacent to the proposed development. The introductory statement is full of errors relating to a brownfield site, bus stops and the provision of local schools. The site is a considerable walking distance from the Primary School soon to move further out to the site of the old Middle school and that will only lead to additional traffic on the B1111 at peak times. Pedestrians using the footpaths in the area and crossing the current main A143 are already experiencing near misses. Finally, the proposal is outside of the specified settlement boundaries for the village and the loss of such a greenfield site with abundant protected wildlife species is not supported. The Parish Council would like to see the site returned to agricultural or horticultural use.

DC/16/0082/TPO | TPO248(1997)74 Tree Preservation Order Application - 1no Field Maple - Reduce height to leave at 6metres from ground level and reduce laterals by up to 1.5metre to reshape crown (Within Area A1 of Order). | 21 Shepherds Grove Park Stanton Suffolk IP31 2AY (Berkeley Leisure Group)

Response -The Parish Council accepts the need to reduce the height and laterals of this tree and has no objections

DC/16/0088/TPO | TPO248(1997)75 -Tree Preservation Order Application - Fell 1no Oak (T1 on plan, within Area A1 of Order) | 1 Shepherds Grove Park Stanton Suffolk IP31 2AY (S P Landscapes)

Response -The Parish Council does not wish to see the loss of a mature Oak tree. However, the tree would appear to have some problems with fungi although it is not clear whether this tree is diseased. If felled, then we would like to see it replaced with a mature Oak tree of at least 5 years old.

14. Correspondence:

- a. **Dangerous pathway and lack of Pathway – George Hill.** It was agreed that a site meeting would be beneficial especially in view of the pending planning application. Clerk to contact County Council to request urgent meeting.
- b. **Ixworth Surgery Voluntary patient transport funding.** Response to be sent by Clerk to advise that the request would be considered at the next budget meeting in November.
- c. **Letter of thanks for contribution to boiler– Stanton Community Village Hall** – noted.
- d. **Dog Poo littering – Primary School hedge.** Street cleaner has dealt and will continue to monitor. Notice has been put on Facebook. Agreed that a litter bin will be purchased and sited in the area to encourage disposal. Clerk to deal.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Minutes signed as correct.....

Next meeting Thursday 10 March 2016