

MINUTES of the Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 14 September 2017 at Stanton Community Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Present: K McDonald (Chairman), B Brown, L Morris, J Mann, N Chapman, J Frizzell, J Miller, B Smithson, S Willcox, F J Hart, M Scowcroft.

Also Present: County Cllr Joanna Spicer, Borough Cllr Jim Thorndyke, Pc Paul Fox.

1. **Apologies for absence:** - None. All Councillors present.
2. **To read, consider and approve the minutes of the previous meeting:** The minutes of the meeting on 10 August 2017 were approved by Cllr Chapman and seconded by Cllr Frizzell.
3. **Public Forum:** A resident attended in respect of the proposal by Suffolk County Council plans to consult residents on a 'fairer' school transport policy which would see 3,700 pupils losing their right to free transport. This would remove the parents' choice of places and mean that her daughter would be forced to attend her nearest school. In addition, the distance to the Ixworth School for some residents would be under the 3-mile limit and so would they expect older children to walk to the Ixworth School, a route which has no public footpaths? The resident felt discriminated against as she would want her child to attend Thurston Community College and would not be able to afford daily transport costs.
CCllr Spicer responded by stating that the Council has overspent on school transport for the last ten years and there is a need for it to be reviewed. It is a very complex area when you take into account taxis and transport for pupils with special needs and the lack of public transport in very rural areas so they do need to look at options for savings. However, the proposal will badly affect this area which is unique in the County. It will have a serious effect on Thurston Community College and its staff.
The County Council cabinet had agreed this week at a meeting to go ahead with the 3-month consultation but since then the decision has been 'called in' for a month whilst the scrutiny committee look at it. That said the consultation period is not likely to start until October at the earliest so Councils need to decide on a response for the issues that will arise from the proposals. CCllr Spicer has already met with the heads of both Ixworth Free School and Thurston Community College and will be keeping them updated of any developments. CCllr Spicer suggested that the next move would be to wait for the consultation to be announced and consider a public meeting if necessary.
Chairman McDonald thanked the resident for attending and proposed that the item be on the agenda for October as it was a very serious issue for residents in this area.
4. **Report from:**
 - a. **B Cllr J Thorndyke** reported that consultation is moving on in respect of the new Business Plan for 'One Council'. There are some boundary reviews in progress.
The planning application for the West Suffolk Operational Hub is to be heard next week.
BCllr Thorndyke reminded Councillors that in the event of the death of a Senior Royal there is a protocol to be followed and suggested that they make sure they have everything in place. He will forward the protocol to the Clerk for action.
 - b. **S C Cllr J Spicer** reported that the issues of public access to Park Farm Drive is ongoing with Claire Dixon from the Council making contact with the land owners. A meeting will be held later this month to confirm whether the Council wish to take any formal action in relation to the right of way.
School transport is an issue as reported above.
The traffic calming measures in Upthorpe Road are due for a review. A meeting will be arranged for early November with the County Council engineers, school safety, representatives from the businesses at Shepherds Grove Park, local residents and the school to air the issues arising.

The issue of George Lane and improvement proposals for George Hill is still ongoing. There has been a reorganisation of Suffolk County Council Highways but it is hoped that a Western Area Team Manager will soon be appointed and there will be a single point of contact which should make things easier.

There has been no update re the work on the Grundle Grid – Clerk to chase.

c. Police Report – Pc Paul Fox attended the meeting to update Councillors on the progress of the enquiry after the arrest of a local man for burglary and advised that enquiries are still ongoing into other offences. A large quantity of property has been seized and officers are trying to identify whether it can be connected to burglaries in the area.

Officers have recently leafleted the village with crime prevention advice.

Recent crime – June to Aug 2017 includes 2 burglaries, 3 assaults, a damage and a theft of a motor vehicle.

5. **Clerk's Report:** Matters arising from minutes of meeting 10 August 2017
 - 6c Overgrown hedgerow at George Hill** and
 - 6d Overgrown hedgerows A143 between Hepworth Rd and Goldsmiths Way** Email sent to Highways Western Area on 24 August. No response to date.
 - 6f Road signs at Hepworth Road** Liaison with Cheryl Froud at St Eds BC who will deal with ordering a replacement.
 - 6g Spring bulbs for planting in the Cemetery** - have been ordered
6. **Statutory Business/Governance**
 - a. Chairman to discuss compliance with Standing Orders** – a reminder in respect of Councillors responsibilities to declare any interests. All Councillors submitted new register of interests forms – Clerk to submit to SEBC for publication and publish on web site.
 - b. Grant Awarding Policy** – draft policy discussed. Clerk to devise application form for October meeting.
 - c. Health and Safety Policy** was discussed and approved by Cllr Smithson and seconded by Cllr Chapman
 - d. The Cemetery Risk Assessment** was approved by Cllr Frizzell and seconded by Cllr Brown
7. **Declarations of Interest:** None
8. **Matters for discussion:**
 - a. Issues affecting the Mill View/Abbey Homes play area** Cllr Brown reported that the parents of the injured child are pursuing a claim against Abbey and have written to the Chairman of Abbey Homes. Play area issues have not yet been resolved and the fencing is still in situ. There are issues for people who want to sell properties as the estate has not yet been adopted or signed off as complete.
 - b. Work on Young people's activities** Cllr Willcox reported that there will be a meeting of the new toddler group on 19 Sept. The group has received support from the RAF, Bluebell Children's Centre and the established toddler Group. The proposal is to book the room once a month until Christmas to see what the demand is. Cllr Willcox has also had a call from a Scout leader in Barningham who is interested in getting a group started in Stanton but this will take some time to establish.
 - c. Fireworks display** - The Chairman asked for assistance with the event. Clerk to post on Facebook for volunteers. Clerk to check that Stanton FC can do BBQ and assist with marshalling.
 - d. Application for a memorial for the late David Woodrow** - was approved.
 - e. Renewal of the Electricity supplier contract** – the quotation from Extra Energy for a 3 year fixed term contract was approved. Clerk to deal.
 - f. Autumn planting of the village tubs** was approved up to a value of £100. Cllr Miller will liaise with the suppliers.
 - g. Tree preservation orders – Hepworth Road** Cllr Miller was concerned about the future of the mature trees outside the front of Tripp Batt when the business closes at the end of the

year. As it is likely to be developed then it would be prudent to explore the possibility of a tree preservation order (TPO) on those trees. Clerk to make enqs with the tree preservation officer at St Eds BC.

9. Financial

- a. The figures for the half year budget were presented and discussed
- b. The payments and receipts as below were approved.

PAYMENTS	£GROSS	£VAT	£NET	WHAT FOR	EXP. POWER
Anglian Water	4.00		4.00	Water charges pumping station	LGA 1972 S111
EON	17.00	0.85	16.15	Monthly electricity floodlights	LGA 1972 S111
EON	16.00	0.80	15.20	Monthly electricity pumphouse	LGA 1972 S111
Talk talk (Aug)	35.39	5.90	29.49	Monthly internet and phone charges	LGA 1972 S111
The Site supply co	69.30	11.58	57.72	Hi Viz jackets - Speedwatch	Local Govt and rating Act 97, s30
Hillcrest	420.07	70.01	350.06	Summer planting - Village tubs	Public Health Act 1875, s164
P de Jager	95.46	15.91	79.55	Bulbs for Cemetery	Open spaces Act 1906, ss9 and 10
SALC	12.45	0.45	12.00	Good Councillor Guide 2017	LGA 1972 S112
Command Pest Control	45.00	7.50	37.50	Wasp nest removal	LGA 1972 S112
Vertas Group	2249.39	374.90	1874.49	Grass Cutting Quarter 2	Public Health Act 1875, s164
Wyken Farm	5.00		5.00	Allotments rent 2017	Small Holding and Allotments Act 1908, s23
Staff Salaries	852.30		852.30	Street Cleaner and Clerk	LGA 1972 S112
RECEIPTS					
Lloyds Bank			3.46	Bank interest	
VHMC			215.32	Refund for water - Village Hall	

10. Items for noting

- a. Clerks and Councils Direct - noted
- b. The Local Councillor - noted

11. Correspondence from Borough and County Councils

- a. **Play Area Inspection reports** – Clerk has made enqs with graffiti removal firms and has instructed Anglia Surface care to remove the offending graffiti. Also, liaison with Sutcliffe's to try and resolve outstanding issues in respect of the surface.
As there has been no response, the Clerk has now contacted the Association of Play Industries to try mediation with Sutcliffe's due to their reluctance to co-operate. They have recently emailed with a response from the outside contractors who undertook the groundworks to say that they do not consider the subsidence to be an issue. Clerk will continue to pursue.

12. Planning Applications:

- b. **New Applications received**

DC/17/1533/FUL | Planning Application - Change of use of bungalow from educational use (Class D1) to residential use (Class C3) | School Bungalow Stanton Community Primary Uptorpe Road Stanton IP31 2AW

RESPONSE - Council are pleased that the building is to be used for residential purposes and is keen to see a disused property brought back into use.

The plans indicate a red line around the site which does not include the two existing Bungalow parking spaces and therefore does not show how residents will access the dwelling as no provision has been made for this.

The concern therefore is for access and egress both on foot and by car should the school decide that the residents have no right of way through school property.

DC/17/1749/VAR | Planning Application - Variation of condition 2 of DC/16/0032/FUL Appeal Ref - APP/E3525/W/16/3147831 - to allow use of revised plans 17/082-23 and 17/082-24 for variation of

design of Plot 5 for Proposed residential development | Rose and Crown Bury Road Stanton IP31 2BZ

RESPONSE - This property is at the rear of the development and the proposed alterations will have little visual effect. There are no objections.

DC/17/1652/FUL | Planning Application - (i) 2.1-metre-high close boarded timber fence and concrete post; (ii) car parking area; (iii) 2no. dog kennels and (iv) 1no. stable block (Part Retrospective) | Land Adjacent To Doctors Hall Bury Lane Stanton Suffolk

RESPONSE Council have some concerns about this application. There is insufficient information to decide whether this structure is for personal use or otherwise.

The applicant has applied for '2 no' kennels but this is in fact 2 blocks of 3 kennels and the application makes further reference to puppies (question 16) and hours of opening (question 20) which would indicate a commercial enterprise is planned which would cause noise issues from barking dogs.

The dwelling is situated at the top end of a narrow lane where an application to build properties on the old school site lower down has received objections from local residents due to increased traffic. This application would increase the traffic further.

There is a restricted bridleway in very close proximity to the site which goes directly out to the A143 and there are concerns that this will be used by visitors to the site to avoid the narrow lane.

The application states no new access from the highway but the plans indicate a proposed access to the car parking area.

Although stables are indicated on the plans there is no provision for horses to access the adjacent paddock other than by traversing the highway which may cause potential hazard to pedestrians using the lane.

There is insufficient information on the application for Council to make a considered decision.

c. Previous applications decided

Reference	Address	PCC decision	St Eds decision	Decision date
DC17-0716-OUT	Land opp Pond Farm Upthorpe Rd	Object	Refused	08/08/17
DC17-1079-HH	41 Honeymeade Close	Support	Granted	11/08/17
DC17-1323-FUL	32 Charity William Way	Support	Refused	25/08/17

13. Correspondence:

- a. **PCC All Saints. Closure Order** – St Johns and All Saints Churchyards. Request to assume responsibility for maintenance. Clerk to deal and contact Privy Council to confirm closure order is in place then refer to St Edmundsbury Borough Council.
- b. **Lorraine Richer** re condition of George Lane – has been referred directly to Highways – see response from CCllr Spicer above
- c. **Road to Shepherd Grove Industrial Estate** – Claire Bloomfield – Shelbourne Reynolds. Reporting further problems with parking and chicane traffic calming scheme. CCllr Spicer to arrange review and meeting in November with all interested parties to discuss the issues.

The meeting concluded at 9.20pm

Minutes agreed as correctK McDonald (Chairman)