

## **MINUTES of the Annual Meeting of Stanton Parish Council held on 9 May 2019 at Stanton Community Village Hall at 7.00pm.**

**Present:** F J Hart (Chair), B Smithson (Vice-chair), J Miller, J Frizzell, S Willcox, B Brown, A Shelton, A Kemp.

**Also Present:** BCllr Jim Thorndyke.

### **1. Election of Chair:**

The Chair asked for nominations for the position of Chair for 2019-20.

Cllr Frizzell nominated Cllr Hart. The nomination was seconded by Cllr Brown. There being no other nominations Cllr Hart accepted the position and was duly elected Chair for 2019-20. Cllr Hart signed and dated the 'Acceptance of Office'. This was counter signed by the Responsible Officer.

### **2. Election of Officers**

**a. Vice Chair.** The Chair asked for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Cllr Miller nominated Cllr Smithson. The nomination was seconded by Cllr Kemp.

There being no other nominations, Cllr Smithson accepted the position and was duly elected Vice Chair for 2019-20.

**b. Responsible Financial Officer/Clerk** Mrs Joy Hart accepted the position for 2019-20

**c. Internal Auditor.** Mr Tony Mansfield is willing to continue and was elected to act as Internal Auditor for the year 2019-20.

**3. Apologies for absence accepted:** Cllr Scowcroft. County Councillor Spicer.

**4. The minutes of the previous meeting on 11 April 2019 were approved.**

### **5. Public Forum:**

A resident attended the meeting to report concerns of motor cycles and mini motor cycles being ridden on the Recreation Ground and in Bury Lane which was considered to be a danger to Pedestrians and users of the Recreation Ground.

The Clerk has already initiated a post on Social media and the web site asking users to refrain from doing so.

Councillors advised that any incident of riding a motorcycle on the Recreation Ground should be reported to the Police with registration numbers of the vehicles if it was safe to do so as riding on Common Land can be prosecuted under Section 34 of the Road Traffic Act.

Bury Lane is in fact still classified as a 'Green Lane' and is open to all traffic and not restricted so pedestrians need to take care when using this area.

Another member of the public present reported that he had been in touch with the local officer Pc Fox in respect of Quad bikes being ridden illegally in the Village so any further reports could be passed to Pc Fox for action.

The Chair thanked the resident for taking time to report the matter.

A resident, Philip Smith attended the meeting to put himself forward for the Ordinary vacancy for a Councillor after the election which had left two vacancies. Mr Smith presented to the Council who were then asked to vote for a co-option. There were no objections to the co-option and Mr Smith was invited to join the Council for the rest of the meeting.

Two Residents attended the meeting to voice further concerns at the behaviour of a Flagship tenant in Hervey Walk as it was believed that the person concerned was soliciting for prostitution and repairs still had not been done to the property after a fire.

Flagship Housing Officers were in attendance at the meeting and after initial discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Hart and seconded by Cllr Frizzell that in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it was advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded and they were instructed to withdraw to allow the Housing Manager to update the Council on the current state of investigation. This was approved and after a short discussion it was agreed that Flagship Anti-Social

behaviour officers also present at the meeting would address the complainants privately outside of the meeting. Councillors agreed that BCllr Thorndyke should remain at the meeting. All other members of the public left the meeting.

Public Forum continued –

Cllr Miller raised issues reported to her by residents – the dug outs in the Recreation Ground have been left lying on their side for a considerable number of months. Can the Clerk enquire with the football Club as to when they were likely to be re-sited.

The grass at the Brook Close area (Havebury Housing) and at All Saints Church (West Suffolk Council) has not been cut and is looking very neglected. Clerk was instructed to contact both Havebury and the West Suffolk Cemeteries Manager to report the concerns.

## 6. Report from:

a. **S C Cllr J Spicer** reported by email that given the continuing lack of action at the Rose and Crown development she is going to try and convene another meeting with Highways and West Suffolk Council planning enforcement.

She has had a good drive round Hepworth and Stanton with the Suffolk County Council planning officers who will be liaising with Jaynic (The developers) over the Shepherds Grove development. She has asked them to make further enquiries about the capacity of Grove Lane for a separate cycle and pedestrian route. The developers will need to purchase additional land for this.

The footpath claim at Park Farm Drive was approved by Suffolk County Council last week but the “landowner” still has a right of appeal.

### b. B Cllr J Thorndyke

In relation to the Rose and Crown development, Planning enforcement officers are still monitoring the situation and the matter is currently in the hands of the legal team who are working with the developer to agree action going forward. This could still take several months to organise.

The Election results for those who did go to the poll were a bit of a shock for the Council as prominent members of the Council who were doing some very good work heading up particular projects were wiped out by the results. The Council is starting with 22 new Councillors, most of which are independent, 1 Green party and 5 Labour.

Forest Heath has virtually lost most of its Councillors although St Edmundsbury hasn't changed dramatically with 8 Conservative, 8 Labour and 1 Independent now on the Town Council.

All the changes and new faces will take a while to bed in so projects will be slowed down whilst all the new Councillors get acquainted with the business

Due to the Elections there is nothing more of interest to report at this time.

7. **Clerk's Report:** There were no queries with the report enclosed with agenda.

## 8. Statutory Business/Governance

a. All Elected Councillors and Co-opted Councillor Phil Smith signed Declaration of Interests and Acceptance of Office

9. **Declarations of Interest:** There were no declarations of interest in items on the Agenda

## 10. Matters for discussion:

a. The **best kept garden competition** working party was agreed.

b. The purchase of a **Cardiac Science G5 defibrillator** for the North of the Village at a cost of £1881 + VAT was proposed by the Chair. The model is slightly different to the ones already in place which are the IPA model. The G5 has proved to be more reliable over time. The supplier is the same. This was previously approved at the budget meeting on 22 November 2018 up to a value of £2,000. The purchase was seconded and approved. Clerk to deal with the order.

- c. The quotation from Hillcrest for the **provision of flowers for village tubs** at a cost of £356.46 + VAT was proposed and approved. Clerk to advise Hillcrest for planting mid-June.
- d. The **George Hill Working Party** reported in relation to the area of Common land that the land needs to be further cleared of debris and branches before decisions can be made in respect of any further planting. The proposal to appoint a landscaper to carry out the clearance work was approved. Clerk to identify landscaper to undertake the work.
- e. The **budget for the purchase of Fireworks** for the Annual display was proposed and approved at up to £4,000 for the purchase of Fireworks and additional equipment needed such as torches and hi viz jackets. Cllr Smithson to liaise with the supplier once the catalogue has been released.
- f. Cllr Frizzell advised the Council of action he had taken over a report of **noxious fumes in the Dale Road Area** on 26 April 2019. Residents had reported watering eyes, coughing and pain in the lungs. This had happened before in warmer weather. Cllr Frizzell had contacted Paul Speakman from Environmental Health at West Suffolk Council who had attended the area but been unable to locate the source of the problem. Mr Speakman is collating incidents of this nature and any resident who has concerns should contact him directly at West Suffolk Council on Mob:- 07775801204, Office:- 01638719247 or Email:- [paul.speakman@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:paul.speakman@westsuffolk.gov.uk)
- g. The Quotation from Fenland Leisure Products for £315.76 for **repairs to a spring on the gate** of the Play Area was considered to be excessive in relation to the product which was needed. It was agreed that the Spring would be purchased at a cost of £53.40 and Cllr Shelton will undertake the work required to replace the item. Clerk to order.
- h. Sutcliffes Play equipment who installed the play area have declined to repair the **loose pole and rusting area on the Mission Unit** as they considered it not to be covered under the warranty. After discussion it was agreed that the Clerk will obtain a small pot of touch up paint from Sutcliffes and will identify a local installer to carry out works to secure the pole.
- i. The application for the installation of a **Memorial for Christine Wallace** was approved. Clerk to notify Memorial mason.
- j. The **Tree Inspection Report of trees on the Recreation Ground** was received by Councillors. No immediate work is required. After discussion it was approved that remedial works required in the next 21 months be deferred to the November budget meeting to be carried out in the next Financial Year.
- k. The Chair introduced 3 samples of a product which is to be installed on the Recreation Ground as an **extension to the car park**. The appointed Contractor GKW had preferred the product from Green Tech. After discussion it was proposed and approved that the product be purchased from Green tech at a cost of £9,950 + VAT. Clerk to make enqs as to whether the cost can be held until the works are carried out in September or make a relevant deposit to hold the price and if possible keep the product at the manufacturer until needed. Clerk to deal.
- l. A quotation for **weed killing and renovation of the MUGA container** Area from Anglia Surface Care of £600 + VAT was approved. Clerk to advise contractor.

#### 11. **Statutory Business/Governance** (Clerk)

- a. Standing Orders 2019-20 was approved and adopted.
- b. Financial Regulations 2019-20 was approved and adopted.
- c. The Asset Register 2019-20 was reviewed and adopted.
- d. The Statement of Internal Control 2019-20 was approved.
- e. The Councillor Areas of Responsibility for 2019-20 was deferred to the June Meeting.

#### 12. **Accounts**

- a. The end of year accounts, bank reconciliation and balance sheets were approved.
- b. The Annual Governance Statement 2019-20 was completed and approved.
- c. The Statement of Accounts 2018-19 was completed and approved.
- d. The Local Council Insurance Renewal due on 1 June was approved and authority granted to pay premium of £1882.63 by BACS.
- e. The accounts as below were approved for payment

PAYMENTS	£GROSS	£VAT	£NET	WHAT FOR	EXP. POWER
Anglian Water	5.00		5.00	Monthly water charges - Pumping Station	LGA 1972 S111
SALC	843.79		843.79	Annual Subs SALC	LGA 1972 S111
Mrs J Hart	7.92	1.32	6.60	Toilet Rolls - Public toilets	Public Health Act 1936, s87
Mrs J Hart	10.05	1.67	8.38	Photo Copier paper	LGA 1972 S111
Stanton Framing	30.00		30.00	Certificates for Community Recognition	LGA 1972 S111
Ligna Consultancy	372.00	62.00	310.00	Tree Inspection Report and plan	Public Health Act 1875, s164
Staff Salaries	947.90		947.90	Litter Picker, Street Cleaner and Clerk	LGA 1972 S111
BHIB	1,882.63		1882.63	Local Councils Insurance 19-20	LGA 1972 S111
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Loyds Bank Interest			2.51	Interest	
HMRC			2443.94	VAT repayment Q4	
West Suffolk Council			67000.00	Precept 19-20	

### 13. Correspondence from Borough and County Councils

- a. Claimed Public Footpath (Park Farm Drive) Hearing – as reported by CCllr Spicer above
- b. Suffolk County Council (Borough of St Edmundsbury) Stopping waiting and loading prohibitions Order 2019. Noted – no areas in Stanton affected.
- c. Play Area Inspection Reports (April). Noted. Remedial repairs in hand as reported at Agenda items 10g and 10h.

### 14. Planning Applications:

#### a. New Applications received

DC/19/0487/TPO | TPO248(1997) - Tree Preservation Order - (i) 1no. Cherry (T2 on plan and within area A1 on order) - Remove 2no. low scaffold lateral limbs growing towards no. 12 (ii) 1no. Walnut (T3 on plan and within area A1 on order) - remove larger stem over fence back to fork growing along boundary line (iii) 1no. Oak (T5 on plan and within area A1 on order) - Crown lift lower branches along boundary of no. 76 to 6 metres above ground level (iv) 1no. Oak (T6 on plan and within area A1 on order) - Crown lift to 5 metres above ground level (v) 1no. Willow (T7 on plan and within area A1 on order) - Re-pollard back to pollard knuckles (vi) 2no. Ash (T9 and T10 on plan and within area A1 on order) - Crown lift over road by up to 4 metres above ground level, Clear lamp column by up to 1 metre | Berkeley Leisure Shepherds Grove Park Stanton IP31 2AY

**RESPONSE** - There are no objections to this work being carried out.

DC/19/0672/HH | Householder Planning Application - 1no. pitched roof dormer on front elevation (following demolition of existing dormer and chimney) |43 Honeymeade Close Stanton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 2EF

**RESPONSE** - There are no objections to this improvement which is well-planned and is in keeping with nearby properties and will enhance the dwelling.

DC/19/0645/FUL | Planning Application - Continued use of caravan as a Barbers shop (A1) | Proposed New Caravan George Hill Stanton Suffolk

**RESPONSE** - There are no objections to this application. This is a popular village amenity and is well run.

DC/19/0763/HH | Householder Planning Application - Single Storey rear extension with flat-roof | 27 Fordhams Close Stanton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 2EE

**RESPONSE** - There are no objections to this application. This is a well-planned single storey which will have minimal impact on neighbouring properties.

**b. Previous applications decided**

Reference	Address	PC decision	St Eds decision	Decision date
DC18-2271-FUL	And Sow to Grow	Support	Approved	25/04/19
DC19-0370-HH	1 The Walks	Support	Approved	24/04/19
DC19-0451-TPO	Woodland off Parkside	Support	Approved	02/05/19

**15. Correspondence**

- a. DW re Driving on footpath – Bucklesfield.** The resident, (RAF service personnel) had objected to a generic letter the Clerk had delivered to the tenant asking them to refrain from parking on the grass and driving across the footpath at Bucklesfield. Councillors were happy with the response provided to the resident who has since moved away. The matter had also been reported to the Station Commander by a resident and has been dealt with.
- b. LM re School place problem in Stanton.** Council were empathetic about the situation in respect of School places at Stanton and hoped that this would be resolved for the family concerned. Council are considering the lack of school places is a key issue for any future village developments and can reassure residents that this will be raised at every opportunity. CClr Spicer has been informed and will be monitoring the situation in the future.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 9.05pm

Minutes signed as correct..... F J Hart