



# **STUTTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2007**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30 pm and wished all present a very Happy New Year.

### **ACTION**

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

Mrs Simpson mentioned that there was an increasing problem with cars parked on pavements, which prevented her passing safely while pushing a wheelchair. The Chairman said that he would mention it in his next article in Roundabout. Mrs Rosemarie Green of 9 Cattsfield asked for it to be mentioned that a security light from Oak House shines directly into her windows at night. Clerk to investigate.

**Chairman**

**Clerk**

Mrs Penny Clarke, Chairman of Baker's Almshouses Trust reported that they have been receiving a number enquiries about the availability of the almshouses, and concludes that there must therefore be a demand for affordable housing in the village. She believes that a bid needs to be entered within the next six months to receive funding to build more affordable housing, in order not to have to wait a further two years until the next bids are accepted. Prior to this she believes that a Housing Needs Survey needs to be taken (this can be done professionally by Suffolk ACRE for approximately £150) to establish the level of need in the village. The Chairman mentioned that 4 years ago a survey was taken which only had a 10% return, but agreed that it should be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**Clerk**

#### **POLICE REPORT:**

PC Garrod was unable to attend the meeting as he is on leave.

#### **DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:**

District Councillor Wood reported that District Council is working on a Pathfinder bid for a pilot scheme, and that preparation of this bid would require consultation with Parish Councils.

During the pre-Christmas investigation of the 'Suffolk Murders' (in fact 7 individual murder investigations were underway) 550 extra police officers were drafted in from other counties, and at no time was policing around the county affected. In fact crime over the period was down by up to 25%. There are adequate financial reserves to cover the extra costs, as Suffolk Police were only liable for accommodation and subsistence costs (not wages). The Police Minister has already visited and promised to contribute from Home Office resources.

Budgets are currently being set, and D/Cllr Wood reported that Babergh are only proposing an inflation level budget.

Regarding the 5-year lease offered for the Play Area, he has offered to discuss this at a forthcoming property meeting in the next week.

D/Cllr Wood offered his apologies for the next meeting as he shall be on holiday.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Cllrs Leach, Bales, Fishwick, Kennell, Knight, Watts and Wilson.

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Rik Bond – Clerk, David Wood - District Councillor

### **01/PC/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:**

Cllrs Baxter and Lusher offered their apologies.

### **02/PC/07 REGISTER OF INTERESTS:**

Cllr Watts – Planning application **B/06/02053/FHA/RC** – Honeysuckle Cottage, 21 Church Road – Erection of detached garage/store with storage loft over.

### **03/PC/07 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

### **04/PC/07 MATTERS ARISING:**

The Clerk reported that there was only one outstanding item from the last minutes – a letter to Mr John Suckling of Holbrook collapsing footpath. The Chairman officered to help provide contact details.

**Clerk**

### **05/PC/07 CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Email – Louse Lock requesting that the Parish council consider renewing their annual funding of £300 for Roundabout. (last year gave £150, and Dave Wood made up the difference from his locality budget, though with the proviso it was a one-off donation) Proposed by Cllr Watts and seconded by Cllr Wilson, this expenditure was approved by the council
2. Email – Suffolk ACRE - Accessibility advice – making ICT easier to use. (Posted on Notice Board)
3. Email – Babergh Communities Together – Funding Surgeries 2007. (Posted on Notice Board)
4. Email – Alan Masters, Holbrook Parish Clerk - Peninsular Meeting 22 Jan - agenda items by 10th January please.
5. Email - SALC – School Review – Clerk to send response.
6. Email & Post – Personal safety Posters (Distributed)
7. New bus timetables (Posted on Notice Board – Distributed)
8. Babergh – Timetable of 2007/8 Council Committee meetings (Filed)
9. Babergh – Christmas Tree Recycling – Thanks given to Cllr Wilson for setting up.
10. Babergh – Parish Council Election Information (Circulated)
11. SCC – Play Area Letter (Discuss Later item 10)
12. SCC – Minerals Core Strategy (Circulated)
13. SCC- Highways Partnership Newsletter (Circulated)
14. SCC – Forthcoming Bus Service Changes (Circulated)
15. SCC - Haven Gateway A14 Corridor Study – Briefing – Representative for meeting 10<sup>th</sup> Jan.
16. Atkins Highways – Haven Gateway A14 Corridor Study (Circulated)
17. EEDA - Suffolk Materials Exchange (Circulated)
18. RoSPA – Play Area Inspections (Circulated)
19. SALC – 2007 Subscriptions
20. SALC – Training Courses 2007 (Circulated)
21. Suffolk Hedgerow Survey Newsletter – Tree Warden
22. Suffolk Preservation Society – Suffolk View Newsletter (Circulated)
23. Suffolk Preservation Society – Ganges Development (Circulated)
24. Optua (formerly Rethink Disability) – Donation request & News & Views (Circulated)

**4. Cllrs  
Leach &  
Bales to  
attend  
5. Clerk**

25. Local Crime: Community Sentence (LCCS) Project (Circulated)

**06/PC/07 FOOTPATHS:**

Cllr Kennell reported that the footpath behind his house was becoming overgrown. He will knock on the door of the house responsible and ask for it to be cut back.

**Cllr  
Kennell**

**07/PC/07 LIGHTING:**

None

**08/PC/07 HIGHWAYS:**

It was noted that an accident occurred before Christmas on Bentley Lane which blocked the road for an hour of two. It was agreed to monitor this situation. It was suggested that the Council should write to Mr John Suckling of Holbrook to thank him for cutting back the trees overhanging Holbrook Road.

**Clerk**

**09/PC/07 PLANNING:**

**B/06/01808/FHA/MF** – Mevagissey, Holbrook Road – Permission granted by Babergh.

**B/06/01760/FUL/RC** – Gardener's Arms – Permission granted by Babergh.

**B/06/01948/LBC/RC** – Quarhams, Stutton Green - Application for Listed Building Consent. Demolition and rebuild of southern gable to barn. At the site meeting held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2006, it was agreed to recommend APPROVAL of permission.

**B/06/02053/FHA/RC** – Honeysuckle Cottage, 21 Church Road – Erection of detached garage/store with storage loft over. APPROVAL of permission recommended.

**Clerk**

**10/PC/07 PLAY AREA:**

Cllr Lusher has suggested writing a letter of appreciation to Ann Clark for all her support over the last years.

**Clerk**

Letter received from SCC offering only 5-year lease. Reply sent from Cllr Lusher requesting at least 10-year lease. D/Cllr Wood to assist by raising issue at Babergh planning meeting.

**11/PC/07 OAK HOUSE:**

Babergh are waiting for a public enquiry on Footpath 37, as this was a pre-planning requirement that has not been complied with. The Council felt that they should not give up on this and suggested writing a letter to the Chief Planner. (Chairman to assist Clerk)

**Chairman  
& Clerk**

**12/PC/07 VILLAGE PLAN:**

A Village Plan Committee has now been formed, and four members are due to attend a training course to assist with raising funds.

**13/PC/07 VILLAGE SHOP:**

The Steering Group has now been disbanded and a committee of 5 individual formed (1 position still vacant), in addition to 3 advisors. It has been proposed that a Community Interest Company is formed which will protect members of the committee. The first committee meeting will be held in early February and fund raising can now proceed.

**14/PC/07 CLERK'S REPORT:**

**Meeting Dates 2007:** 5<sup>th</sup> Feb, 5<sup>th</sup> Mar, 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr, Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 4<sup>th</sup> Jun, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jul, 6<sup>th</sup> Aug, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep, 1<sup>st</sup> Oct, 5<sup>th</sup> Nov, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec.

Annual Parish Meeting has been booked for Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Apr. It was agreed that Chairman will ask for a 30-minute talk by Babergh on Recycling.

**Chairman**

It was decided to contribute £50 p.a. (approximately 1/3 of cost) for Clerk's Broadband connection. Proposed by Cllr Bales and seconded by Cllr Wilson.

**15/PC/07 ACCOUNTS:**

Cllr Bales has paperwork which bank will require for Clerk to be able to access online banking and statements for Clerk to fill in and return.

**Clerk**

Clerk's PC – At the previous meeting, the issue arose about the PC being listed as a Parish Council asset and the legality of whether it could be sold or given away. Further clarification on this matter was sought from SALC, who agreed that the computer was of limited value, and suggested that there was no problem with giving it away (particularly taking into account the age of the PC and the previous Clerk's years of service). It was proposed by Cllr Bales and seconded by Cllr Kennell that we should give the PC to Mrs Peggy Mitchell in recognition of her 8 years service. The council all agreed.

Cllr Knight has taken a collection for Mrs Mitchell and suggested purchasing a reclining garden chair to be presented to her at the next meeting.

**Cllr Knight**

The sad death of Mick Keeble, our auditor was noted and a donation of £25 to Stutton Primary School in his memory was approved, proposed by Cllr Bales and seconded by Cllr Knight. Various councillors would seek suggestions for a suitable auditor, and this would be discussed at the next meeting.

**Clerk**

Barclays Business Premium A/C – as at 7/12 £3404.89 (Income of £8.89)

**Expenditure:**

R Bond Salary	£272.00
Stationery	£ 25.85
Inkjet Cartridges	£ 9.88
Postage	£ 4.60
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TOTAL	£312.33

**16/PC/07 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA**

- Affordable housing
- Appointment of Auditor

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2007, 7:30 pm in the Community Hall.

Chairman: .....

Date: .....