



# **STUTTON PARISH COUNCIL**

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2007**

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30 pm.

### **ACTION**

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION:**

Alton Water dog bins are overflowing on a regular basis. Cllr Lusher telephoned about them but continually connected to an answer phone. Clerk to write to Anglian Water, and to suggest that bigger bins are needed, or that they should be emptied more frequently.

**Clerk**

It was also suggested that an extra dog bin could be placed at the northern end of the Community Playing Field, provided that access from Woodfield Lane was possible for emptying. It may be that Stutton Grows and Stutton Community Council would be willing to contribute to the cost of both the initial purchase and emptying (approx £8 per quarter).

#### **POLICE REPORT:**

PC Chris Garrod apologised for not having made a meeting since November, and presented his report based on activity from Nov 2006 to Jan 2007.

The 5 Suffolk Murders put intense strain on resources in December, though things are now settling back down.

In April, the Babergh region will be split into 4 areas to be staffed by Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT), whose shifts will be aligned with each other. The role of the Community Beat Officer will pass onto Special Constables and Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's).

PC Garrod has not undertaken any recent speed checks, but his colleagues have been making sporadic checks.

Tony Simpson has been appointed as Neighbourhood Watch Officer, and is available for anyone wishing to become a coordinator and set up a scheme in their area.

There were 3 crimes in Stutton over the last 3 months, all relating to theft of visible items from motor vehicles. Residents were reminded to remove all items from the vehicle (or at least from view).

Inconsiderate parking had been noted and he would keep a check on it.

Cllr Kennell raised the subject of excessive mud on roads, and it was concluded that it was the farmer's responsibility to sweep it from the roads, though the Council noted the difficulty of identifying which farmer was responsible and thence who to contact.

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

D/Cllr Wood was unable to attend as he was on holiday.

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

#### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Rik Bond – Clerk, PC Chris Garrod.

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

None.

**18/PC/07 REGISTER OF INTERESTS:**

None.

**19/PC/07 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:**

The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

**20/PC/07 MATTERS ARISING:**

None.

**21/PC/07 CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Email – SALC – 3'x5' whiteboard available to a good home.  
*Clerk to request for Village Plan use.* **Clerk**
2. Email – SALC - Influencing Town Planning: Collaborative Working between Principal, Parish and Town Councils – Seminar - Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 2007 (Circulated)
3. Babergh – Tree & Shrub Planting – Stutton Close – Replant Shrub Bed
4. Babergh – DC meetings with Parish Councils – Hintlesham Hall Golf Club – Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Nov 2007 (Circulated)
5. SALC – Draft Pathfinder Bid (Circulated)
6. SALC – AGM Motions (Circulated)
7. SALC – Building & Strengthening your Community event – Fri 30<sup>th</sup> March – Stratford St Mary Village Hall (Circulated)
8. SALC – Calor Gas Small Village of the Year 2007
9. SALC – Website Members Area - Password for Clerks & Councillors (Circulated)
10. SALC – Training Courses (Circulated)
11. SLCC – Branch Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> February 2007 (Circulated)
12. Suffolk Family Carers – Request for Funding  
*Clerk to present all funding requests at March meeting* **Clerk**
13. GO-East – Proposed changes to East of England Plan (Circulated)
14. Essex CC – Essex Minerals & Waste Development Framework (Circulated)
15. Charity Commission – Newsletter (Circulated)
16. Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership – Natural Connections Publication (Circulated)
17. Glasdon – Products for Local Authorities (Circulated)
18. NALC – LCR Local Council Review Jan 2007 (Circulated)
19. Clerks & Councils Direct Jan 2007 (Circulated)
20. Mr R W Cobb, Holbrook - Obstruction opposite Community Hall  
*PC Garrod noted this and he would keep a check on inconsiderate parking. Clerk to reply* **Clerk**
21. Timberline Play Equipment Brochure (Circulated)
22. Suffolk Accident Rescue service - Request for Funding  
*Clerk to present all funding requests at March meeting* **Clerk**
23. Shaping Health - Patient & Public Involvement Forums (Circulated)
24. SCC - Bus Services
25. SALC - Resilience Forum - Any parish emergencies? (Circulated)
26. Babergh - World Champion Power Lifters
27. Babergh - Hadleigh Pool Funding
28. Babergh - Rural Hubs Initiative (Circulated)
29. SCC - Schools Organisation Review - Key Messages & Policy Development Panel report: summary leaflets (Circulated)
30. Alan Masters - Next Peninsular Parish Alliance Meeting - Fri 30<sup>th</sup>

March (Chelmondiston Village Hall) & Minutes of last meeting.  
(Circulated)

31. Suffolk PCT - Care about Healthcare - Discussion Document
32. SALC - Consultation: The Commons Act 2006: Protection of Common Land in England (Circulated)
33. SCC - Bird Flu outbreak in Holton, Halesworth (Circulated)
34. National Probation Service - Offering unpaid work teams of 6.  
*Could be used for clearing The Drift - overhanging trees and pond.*

#### **22/PC/07 FOOTPATHS:**

Cllr Baxter had a supply of Dog Fouling stickers for which he received approval to purchase exterior grade ply to mount on footpath signs.

It was reported that the safety railings (preventing bicycles to pass through) were restricting the passage of pushchairs and wheelchairs. Clerk to write to Babergh to request their removal or widening.

**Clerk**

#### **23/PC/07 LIGHTING:**

None.

#### **24/PC/07 HIGHWAYS:**

Mud on roads as noted in PC Garrod's report.

The Drift - overhanging foliage encroaching on road. Clerk to request Highways to cut back. Pond also in need of clearance, and this is maybe a project we could use the National Probation Service for. Clerk to write and suggest ideas.

**Clerk**

#### **25/PC/07 PLANNING:**

**B/06/02059/FHA/MB** - Mochras, Church Road - Erection of single-storey side extension; erection of extension to roof (in connection with loft conversion).  
APPROVAL RECOMMENDED.

**Clerk**

**B/06/02053/FHA/RC** – Honeysuckle Cottage, 21 Church Road – Erection of detached garage/store with storage loft over. Permission refused by Babergh.

#### **26/PC/07 PLAY AREA:**

A meeting was held on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb with the Acting Head of Stutton Primary School and other interested parties, to look at plans the school have been considering. It was still felt that the 5 year lease was insufficient, Suffolk ACRE rep and David Wood would pursue this for us at District Council. A deadline of Easter 2008 was set for replacement of existing equipment, and SMP was agreed as the supplier because their products come with a 21 year guarantee.

#### **27/PC/07 OAK HOUSE:**

The public enquiry on Footpath 37 will take place on Tues 17<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

#### **28/PC/07 AFFORDABLE HOUSING:**

Babergh - Affordable Housing Newsletter - Spring 07 was received and will be circulated.

Two letters had been received from individuals/families who would like to live in Stutton but could not afford to. Katrina Miller, Hadleigh and Mrs Mary Whiting, Stutton Close. *Clerk to send a sympathetic reply to correspondents informing them that we will undertake a survey to address the need and funding required.* The Chairman spoke to SALC regarding the written survey they could undertake to establish Housing Needs in the village. The survey would take several

**Clerk**

months and would not be completed in time to be eligible for the latest round of funding. It was suggested that this should be built into the Village Plan Survey, thereby saving on printing and collation costs. An 80 -90% return of the Village Plan Survey is anticipated.

The Vice Chairman had spoken to Babergh concerning affordable housing demand, and they reported a very small demand of maximum 5 individuals who have listed Stutton as their first choice of location.

The Almshouses are to be refurbished, but they will never qualify as 'affordable' because of the terms and conditions binding the Trust.

### **29/PC/07 VILLAGE PLAN:**

Approval to proceed was granted by the Parish Council. *Clerk to confirm this in writing.* **Clerk**

Funding would be sought to cover the printing cost of over £2000. The Chairman proposed that the Council contribute £300 towards this cost. This was seconded by Cllr Lusher and approved unanimously.

### **30/PC/07 VILLAGE SHOP:**

The newly formed committee was meeting on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February, and seeking approval to become a CIC (Community Interest Company).

### **31/PC/07 CLERK'S REPORT:**

A Parish Peninsular Alliance meeting was attended by the Chairman and Vice Chairman - Minutes circulated.

### **32/PC/07 ACCOUNTS:**

Barclays Community A/C – as at 12/1/07 - £17,376.35 (Income of £80.92, Expenditure of £547.57)

Invoice - Babergh - Litter & Dog Bins - £53.16  
Peggy Mitchell – Salary £556.07  
Stutton School £25 in memory of Mick Keeble  
Rik Bond - Salary & Phone £284.50  
Roundabout £300

The Vice Chairman will set up in the next couple of weeks, a new interest bearing account, to which the Clerk will have online access to make instantaneous transfers between accounts. This will enable Council to earn 2-3% interest on the total balance of approx £20,000 (£400 - £600 p.a.)

The Vice Chairman reported that a potential replacement auditor had been found within the village, Mr G. Richard Lawson, Pucks Piece, Manningtree Road, Tel. 327802. The Vice Chairman will visit and then liaise with the Clerk.

**Vice  
Chairman**

### **33/PC/07 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:**

Cllr Kennell to invite a representative from the Scout movement to report on the plans in place for the Splash 2007 event at Alton Water as part of the International Jamboree.

**Cllr  
Kennell**

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2007

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm, and was followed by a presentation of bouquet and gifts to former Clerk, Peggy Mitchell in recognition of her service to the Council.