



STUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 4th JUNE 2007

In the Chairman's absence, the Vice Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30 pm.

ACTION

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Concern is still being voiced about the parking of the breakdown truck parked opposite the community hall. PC Garrod's response at the last meeting was reiterated - *'The vehicle is taxed and MOT'd, legally parked on a road where no parking restrictions are in place - as a result, no action can be taken.'* It was suggested that it may be safer for the vehicle to be parked on the community hall side of the road to avoid the necessity of blind overtaking. Cllr Wilson is going to ask the owner if he would do this.

**Cllr
Wilson**

The new rector of the benefice, Revd. Geoffrey Clement is to be inducted by the Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich at Woolverstone Church on 3rd July at 7.30 pm., to which everyone was invited.

POLICE REPORT:

PC Chris Garrod was on annual leave and sent his apologies.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

The Vice Chairman congratulated D/Cllr Wood on his successful re-election. D/Cllr Wood reported that he and his colleague Trot Ward were successfully elected, with Cllr Ward serving on the Development Committee and D/Cllr Wood on the Community Committee. D/Cllr Wood is also the member champion for equalities and diversity. A seminar would take place in the following week to discuss the council's agenda for the next four years.

At a District level, an objection to Ipswich's Unitary Bid had been lodged with government.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cllrs Baxter, Fishwick, Kennell, Knight, Lusher, Masters, Watts and Wilson.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Rik Bond – Clerk, D/Cllr Dave Wood

92/PC/07 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Chairman Leach.

93/PC/07 REGISTER OF INTERESTS:

None.

94/PC/07 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Three corrections were made to the minutes:

- Cllr Bales was removed from the list of members present
- No 1 Pond Cottages was changed to Barley Cottage
- 78/PC/07 Footpaths - Holbrook Road was amended to Lower Street

The minutes were then signed by the Vice Chairman as a true record.

95/PC/07 MATTERS ARISING:

None.

96/PC/07 CORRESPONDENCE:

1. SCC Environment & Transport - Recent Development in Countryside Access (Circulated)
2. SCC Chief Executive Directorate - Unitary Council for Ipswich (Circulated)
3. Babergh - Community Achievement Awards 2008
4. Essex CC - Online Consultation for Mineral & Waste Development Framework (Circulated) - Ask for extension **Clerk**
5. Whitehouse Enterprises - Recycled Plastic Outdoor Furniture (Circulated)
6. Childline, Midlands & East Anglia - Thanks for £25 donation (Circulated)
7. Stour & Orwell Estuary Management Group - 2007 Annual Forum 15 Jun (Circulated)
8. Stutton Community Shop - Registration as Community Interest Company
9. Hanover AtHome - New Handy Van Service (Post to Noticeboard & Roundabout) **Clerk**
10. Charity Commission - Charity Commission News Spring 2007 (Circulated)
11. Suffolk ACRE - Probert Community Initiative Awards (Circulated)

97/PC/07 CO-OPTION:

Alan Masters was the only candidate for co-option, and was asked a few questions about his background and why he wanted to be a Parish Councillor. Mr Masters retired 18 months ago, after spending 12 years in Local Government, 15 years in the Water industry and 12 years building up a private company. He has been a resident of Stutton for 10 years, but had not previously been able to involve himself in village life due to his daily commute. He is Clerk to Holbrook Parish Council, and there will be no conflict of meetings, as Holbrook meet on the third Monday of the month. Co-option to the Parish Council was proposed by Vice Chairman Watts and seconded by Cllr Knight, and was approved unanimously. Mr Masters would be formally welcomed as a Parish Councillor at the next meeting.

98/PC/07 CODE OF CONDUCT:

It was decided to reschedule the discussion on this until the next meeting

99/PC/07 FOOTPATHS:

A new 3 way footpath sign is required on Woodfield Lane/Holly Lane junction **Clerk**

100/PC/07 LIGHTING:

The Clerk noted that an invoice has been received for April - September for £685.22

101/PC/07 HIGHWAYS:

The general feeling was that the recent resurfacing to Bentley Lane had been completed to a high standard, though any improvement in the flooding of the lane would not be evident until there is prolonged heavy rain.

102/PC/07 PLANNING:

B/07/00509/RES/LJB - Orchard House, Holbrook Road - Submission of details under O.P.P. B/04/01560/OUT - the siting, design and the external appearance of and the landscaping of the site for the erection of 5 no. dwellings (existing detached dwelling/outbuildings to be demolished.) alterations to existing vehicular access.

The result of site meeting follows: Application rejected:

Plots 1 & 2 - Wheelwright's Workshop is worth saving and would prefer character of it to be retained with a sympathetic conversion of the building to a dwelling, which would be more in keeping with the village street scene.

Plots 3 & 5 - Suitable designs and layout which council has no objection to.

Plot 4 - Architecturally too big and too close to southern boundary, leading to a feeling that the site is overdeveloped. Mock Georgian style is not in keeping with any other houses in the village, and jars visually.

Council also queried provision of street lighting to road. Hedge on eastern edge should be no more than 3 metres high along length.

Retention of hedge to southern boundary along with secure fencing.

B/07/00871/CDP/MB - Stutton Primary School, Holbrook Road - Application under Regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning Regulations 1992 - Provide outside play area within canopy for early years students. Alternative site entrance to be provided.

Recommend approval

103/PC/07 PLAY AREA:

Cllr Lusher reported that Simon Harvey from Suffolk County Council has verbally offered a 10 year lease on the play area (Clerk has now received this in writing), but is aware that potential funders will require at least 15 years. D/Cllr Wood will be asked to continue to apply pressure.

The bark in the play area may well need to be replaced as it has rotted down. Approximately 10m³ of bark will be required at a cost of around £500, which will be shared with the school. Replacement would need to be before the next inspection, which is due in September. To be added to next meeting's Agenda for a decision.

Clerk

104/PC/07 VILLAGE PLAN:

An initial questionnaire has now been produced and distributed with Stutton Roundabout which seeks opinion on the sort of issues that are important in the village. These responses will help to develop the main questions in the survey.

105/PC/07 VILLAGE SHOP:

Further to the letter listed in correspondence above, a Community Interest Company has now been set up, with funding offered by the Community Council. The next meeting will take place in the evening on Tuesday 5th June, where applications for funding will be progressed.

106/PC/07 CLERK'S REPORT:

Contract of employment - due to other the more pressing issues of the audit, the Clerk will revisit this in the next month or so.

The Clerk reported that he had been in discussion with our insurers Allianz Cornhill about our premium of £885.92. A counter-quote of £822.83 was received from Suffolk ACRE. A reduction to £800.24 was offered by Allianz Cornhill, with further 5% if we agree to 3 years = £760.20. It was agreed that the

council should accept the 3 year deal.

107/PC/07 CO-OPTION TO COUNCIL:

Covered in 97/PC/07 above

108/PC/07 AUDITOR:

Richard Lawson our auditor will receive our books this week so that he can commence the year-end audit. Once audited locally, they then need to be submitted to Lubbock Fine for the national audit.

Clerk

109/PC/07 ACCOUNTS:

Income - Bottle Bank £100.89
 Expenditure - Village Plan - £109.93 & 29.38 = 139.31
 R Bond - Salary 272, Post 0.96, 3 months Broadband 12.50
 = £285.46
 Insurance - £760.20
 Babergh - Dog Bins £53.16

A brief discussion took place on Section 137 of the Precept. It was established by the Clerk that S137 was to be spent if it had been claimed, and as long as the money was used locally and to the indirect potential benefit of just one parishioner, this was legitimate. It was also felt that parishioners would likely have no objection to us raising the money if we can demonstrate how it has been spent. Our current Statement of Account shows we have the following funds in reserve:

Village Hall	500.00
Roundabout	850.00
Play Area	4,669.30
Election Fund	444.16
Village Plan	2,300.00
Village Plan (From SPC)	300.00
Balance c/f	9,063.46

S137

Precept	13,585.00
Expenditure	3,690.53
Balance c/f	9,894.47

Worthy recipients may prove to be the Village Hall Roof, a new Lawn Mower, and the Community Shop etc. It was agreed (subject to SALC approval) that the best approach may well be to invite organisations to submit a bid for funding direct to the council before deciding what the S137 precept should be. Further discussion to be held with regard to spending our S137 surplus.

Bank Signatories form was signed by Chairman, Vice Chairman and Cllr Knight.

110/PC/07 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

Ipswich Unitary Council / Funding for Community Shop / Bark for Play Area / S137 allocation / Beachwatch 15/16th September

111/PC/07 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 2nd July 2007

Chairman:

Date: