



STUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 1st DECEMBER 2008

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

OPEN DISCUSSION:

A cheque for £300 towards Roundabout was requested. This was precepted for the year, but not yet paid. To be added to next month's agenda.

The new notice board cannot be opened as back panel has swollen with the damp. Chairman to skim it with a plane the following day.

Parking on grass verge near Larksfield. Vehicle is blocking footpath. Chairman to talk to owner.

ACTION

Clerk

**Chairman
Chairman**

POLICE REPORT:

PCSO Gary Austin reported that there had been no problems in the area over Halloween and 5th November. Extra uniformed patrols were in area.

Christmas Drink Drive campaign is now under way.

Crime figures in Western Area of Suffolk Constabulary had 10% fewer crimes (172 fewer). YTD 6.5% lower (771 fewer), 39.9% detection rate (600+ crimes detected). In Babergh there has been a 2.4% reduction across the board.

However, domestic burglaries are up across the area. At this time of year, don't leave presents on display in your house, or valuables in your car.

There were three reported crimes in Stutton in November – 1 x theft of handbag from a vehicle (value £830), 1 x Burglary – entry via flat roof and open window (value £3470), 1 x vehicle crime which has been detected, leading to clear-up of another 20 crimes!

Fuel theft has been happening in Shotley by local youths which has been detected.

The Village Plan has shown a desire for Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in the Village, which the Police would like to help support and implement.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

D/Cllr Wood reported on the following:

First opportunity for Public Questions to Suffolk County Council will be on 11th December.

Suffolk County Council and Evening Star are launching 'Star of Suffolk Awards' Holbrook Pharmacy – Government consultation taking place, but there is no danger of it closing.

Local Boundary Review – The financial cases for both the One Suffolk and North Haven proposals have both passed the scrutiny of an Independent Financial Adviser. Result to be released by 21st December

D/Cllr Wood will be on holiday from 19th December until late January.

Tattingstone thatched cottages which have been auctioned – one sale has gone through, but one purchaser (developer) has dropped out so the property will be re-auctioned. Substantial damages are retrievable if property fails to sell or reach previous price.

A question was raised about 6 council owned properties in Lower Street which have failing drainage. D/Cllr Wood will get in touch with Babergh DC

Requests for grants from locality budget to be received by Thursday 11th December – by email including all details (costs, payee etc)

**D/Cllr
Wood**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Rik Bond – Clerk, PCSO Gary Austin, D/Cllr Dave Wood

231/PC/08 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

D/Cllr Trot Ward, PCSO Trish Gibson

232/PC/08 REGISTER OF INTERESTS:

None.

233/PC/08 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Corrections to minutes:

212/PC/08 – to read **Crepping** Hall Drive

217/PC/08 – to read all **agreed** to recommend

218/PC/08 – meeting **9th** not 11th December

234/PC/08 MATTERS ARISING:

Telephone Box – Reported again to BT

235/PC/08 CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Babergh DC- Emergency Planning Officer
2. Babergh DC – Precept 2009/10
3. Babergh DC – Christmas Recycling Initiatives
4. Babergh DC – Affordable Housing News – Nov 2008
5. Clerks & Councils Direct – Nov 2008
6. SALC - Subscription Direct Debit
7. Information Commissioner's Office – Freedom of Information
8. Stutton Community Hall – Request for Funding

236/PC/08 FOOTPATHS:

Footpath 37 is to be cleared by the Probation Service

237/PC/08 LIGHTING:

None.

238/PC/08 HIGHWAYS:

The Drift and Church Field Road still not swept – reported again by Clerk

239/PC/08 PLANNING:

Babergh DC – Planning Breach – Crowe Hall – Lighting to ménage.

B/08/01665/FHA – The Retreat, Holbrook Road – Erection of part two-storey and part single-storey rear extension (alternative scheme to that approved under PPB B/08/00935/FHA) – **Recommend Approval**

B/08/01536/FHA, Markwells House, Church Field Road, Stutton - Erection of single storey extension to existing store outbuilding – **Approved by Babergh Orchard House Development** - Confirmation of road name – Wheelwrights Close.

240/PC/08 PLAY AREA:

Essential repairs will take place during Christmas holidays.

Meeting on 9th December with both school representatives to discuss application for funding on their behalf by Stutton Community Council and from Dave Wood's Locality Budget.

241/PC/08 OAK HOUSE:

Christina Williams has been in correspondence with Age Concern and they are keen to assist the residents in any way they can.

242/PC/08 VILLAGE PLAN:

Almost ready for print. To be distributed in January, with a presentation of the findings in the village Hall. 30 high quality copies are to be printed (with some available to borrow from Councillors) and to be published on the website www.stutton.org.uk

243/PC/08 COMMUNITY SHOP:

Telephone line has just been installed, with Electricity and Water being connected in the next few days. Volunteer orientation will take place on the afternoon of Wednesday 3rd December and the evening of Thursday 4th.

Opening scheduled for Thursday 11th December.

The Chairman wished to publicly thank Cllr Ray Fishwick who was originally intended to liaise with the Shop Committee as the Council's representative. However, he has put in a huge amount of work and effort over the last few months.

244/PC/08 COMMUNITY HALL:

A small leak on the new flat roof has now been repaired.

245/PC/08 S106 – BABERGH FUNDING FOR DRAINAGE:

A request for further information has been sent to Babergh DC, following information received from D/Cllr Trot Ward. A response is still awaited.

246/PC/08 PARISH TREE WARDEN REPORT:

Babergh scheme has been re-launched.

Hedgerow Survey – 190 hedges now surveyed, but due to shooting season, land owner has restricted access to February and March. During this time, however, it is much harder to identify species when they are not in leaf. A blitz will be organised in May to finish up remaining surveys. A big thank you to all who have worked so hard thus far.

247/PC/08 CREPPING HALL DRIVE DOG BIN:

Stutton Hall Farms have complained about the position of the new Dog Bin in Crepping Hall Drive, suggesting it is moved to the Business Units. However, it is believed that the objection is due to the unsightliness of the bin (especially when it was initially missed of the collection round and un-emptied for a long time)

Chairman will ring to discuss various options such as moving it out of plain view, or possibly painting it green to blend with the surroundings.

Chairman

248/PC/08 CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING:

This will be available again this year. Trees can be left at the Community Hall in the roped off area to the right, from Sunday 4th January 2009. Collection will take place on Tuesday 6th January.

249/PC/08 CLERK APPOINTMENT:

The Chairman, Vice Chairman and Cllr Masters interviewed 4 candidates for the

position. All were excellent, but the panel approached the appointment with an open mind, and scored each individual applicant on their relevant skills. From this process, it was proposed by Cllr Leach and seconded by Cllr Masters to appoint John Wesley. All Parish Councillors agreed, and John accepted the position.

Handover from Rik to John will take place over the next month, with both being employed for the month of December.

Chairman to write to inform three unsuccessful candidates the following day.

Chairman

John has been booked on 2 SALC Training Courses:

- New Clerk's Day £45 + VAT Monday 12/01/09 9.30am - 3.00pm
- Clerk's Follow on Day £45 + VAT Wednesday 25th February 9.30am - 3.00pm

250/PC/08 ACCOUNTS:

The Account Balances & Reserves were presented to the Council by the Clerk, and then the Precept for 2009/10 was presented. It was agreed to make no change to the proposed figures for the Precept in a bid to keep residents' council tax bills as low as possible. Any future requests for funding will be met from reserves.

Request for funding St Peter's, Stutton Grows, and the Community Hall will all be looked at in February / March

Clerk

- Income – Bottle Bank - £96.16
- Community Hall Precept (2008) Payment £500
- St Peters Church Precept (2008) Payment £500
- Salary £285.45, Stationery £22.09, Post £1.30 = £308.84
- Genesis Bench Payment - £365.00

251/PC/08 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

£300 cheque for Roundabout

252/PC/08 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 5th January 2009

Chairman:

Date: