



STUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 2nd MARCH 2009

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30 pm.
A minutes silence was held in memory of former Parish Councillors, Dr Peter Fryer and Fred Brinkley.

ACTION

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Mention was made of how well the hedges around the village have been cut.
A 38 name petition was presented to the Parish Council, in opposition to the planning application for ménage lighting at Crowe Hall.
Mrs Clark spoke in defence of the application, quoting details and technical information about the proposed lighting system and explaining its scope of use.

POLICE REPORT:

PCSO Trish Gibson reported that there had been no further incidents at Stutton Close since the last meeting.
There has been 1 reported crime of theft of heating oil in the area, possibly over a 3 month period.
Police speed enforcement teams will be active in the village during March.
There has been a road traffic accident outside the Gardeners Arms Public House.
PCSO Gibson will spend time outside the school, enforcing parking restrictions at peak times.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

District Councillors not present but copy of David Wood's parish report included in correspondence circulation.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

John Wesley – Clerk, PCSO Trish Gibson, Sgt Trevor Smith.

43/PC/09 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

D/Cllr Trot Ward, D/Cllr David Wood, Cllr Carl Baxter

44/PC/09 REGISTER OF INTERESTS:

Cllrs Wilson and Lusher – Community Hall

45/PC/09 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Signed by the Chairman as a true record.

46/PC/09 MATTERS ARISING:

The installation of the new village seat has been completed.
The street light in Stutton Close reported as possibly faulty, has been checked and appears to be working correctly.

47/PC/09 CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Parish Report March 2009 – David Wood (Circ)
2. Asher Prior Bates solicitors – voluntary registration of Parish Council land (Circ)
3. NHS – application for outline consent to dispense (Circ)
4. Babergh DC – Spring clean Suffolk event, April 2009 (Circ)
5. Babergh DC Media release – South & Heart Walking Festival 9-25th May 2009 (Circ)
6. The Local Councillor Issue 1 2009 (Circ)
7. Local Council Review (Circ)
8. Suffolk CC Transport Newsletter (Circ)
9. BDO Stoy Hayward – Local Council Briefing 2009
10. Suffolk CC – reply to Mr Neave ref. parking at end of Larksfield – see 50/PC/09

48/PC/09 TELEPHONE BOX

Request made to BT to reinstate telephone box. No sign as yet that it has been reconnected. Clerk to write to BT Ombudsman.

Clerk

49/PC/09 FOOTPATHS:

None.

50/PC/09 LIGHTING:

Councillors held a meeting with the Police, Babergh DC and residents at Stutton Close.

The bollard lights are old and the tops are in need of replacing. Babergh DC are looking into spares but are unsure of the manufacturer. Clerk to contact Suffolk CC to see if they can help, or provide costings for complete replacement units.

The height of the hedging will be reduced as part of a maintenance programme.

Clerk

51/PC/09 HIGHWAYS:

Cllr Lusher requested that a letter of thanks should be sent to Suffolk CC for their prompt response in clearing the drains at The Drift pond.

Clerk

Repairs/maintenance:

A pot hole has appeared in the road outside the Community Hall bus shelter.

2 x tree stumps overhanging road in Bentley Lane near commercial units.

Clerk

Letter received from Suffolk CC responding to a complaint from Mr Neave (agent for developers of Wheelwright's Close). This is regarding parking problems at the end of Larksfield Rd during school pick-up and drop-off times.

52/PC/09 PLANNING:

B/09/00095/FUL – Crowe Hall, Lower Street, Stutton

Installation of floodlighting to ménage.

See open discussion. Site visit arranged for Saturday 7th March at 9.30am.

B/09/00175/FHA – Grapes Cottage, 5 Manningtree Rd, Stutton

Erection of two storey and single storey rear extensions and construction of new pitched roofs to existing dormer windows.

Recommend approval.

53/PC/09 PLAY AREA:

Playbuild award: Meeting with PTA still to be arranged. Write to new Head Teacher after Easter.

54/PC/09 OAK HOUSE:

Footpath meeting held with invited agencies at Oak House on 16th February. Suffolk CC not in attendance. The Chairman read notes summarising the outcome of the meeting.

55/PC/09 VILLAGE PLAN:

Steering Group meeting on 5th March to discuss proof reading and agree final report for printing.

56/PC/09 COMMUNITY HALL:

Cllr Wilson explained that the cost of drainage improvements has been revised down to £600. There is still a need for new doors at £2500. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would pay £600 towards drainage costs (April).

57/PC/09 S106 – BABERGH FUNDING

No further action until Wheelwrights Close properties are sold – delete from agenda.

58/PC/09 CLERK CONTRACT, JOB DESCRIPTION & PAY

Chairman has studied the Clerk's terms & conditions and recommended approval. Agreed.

59/PC/09 STANDING ORDERS & FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

These are a legal requirement and an outstanding action point. Clerk to circulate with correspondence for review and comment by Councillors and formal adoption at next meeting.

Clerk

60/PC/09 ACCOUNTS:

Income: VAT refund £733.64 (2006/7 & 2007/8)

A cheque for £1450.32 has been received from Allianz Insurance in settlement of the bus shelter claim. The amount does not include vat (which can be reclaimed), or £125 policy excess. Allianz will work to recover the excess from the insurers of the person responsible for the damage to the bus shelter.

St Peters PCC: An overpayment error occurred in January 2009. This means that £500 of the £750 granted for 2009 has been paid early.

It was agreed that the payment should stand and the £250 balance paid towards the end of the year as usual. Clerk to write to Churchwarden to confirm.

Clerk

Expenditure:

Charity donations: Suffolk Accident Rescue Service £50.00 (chq 838)
East Anglian Air Ambulance £50.00 (chq 839)
OPTUA £50.00 (chq 840)
Age Concern £50.00 (chq 841)
Stutton Grows £139.00 (chq 842)
SALC (Clerk Training) £51.75 (chq 843)
Community Hall Hire £60.00 (chq 844)
J Wesley: Salary £285.58, Post £1.35, Stationary £10.65 = £297.58 (chq 845)
M&M Building Services (Bus Shelter) £1851.00 (chq 846)
Suffolk CC (Street Lighting) £728.63 (chq 847)

61/PC/09 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

Any further items arising from next meeting between Clerk and Cllr Masters.

62/PC/09 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 6th April 2009

Chairman:

Date: