



STUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 6th DECEMBER 2010

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

ACTION

OPEN DISCUSSION:

The Hedgerow survey has been completed. This has been compiled over 4 years, mainly by David Coleman and Paul Lusher. 309 Hedges have been surveyed. The results will be made available for viewing.

POLICE REPORT:

No crimes reported in the village during November.

Crime levels in the general area remain low but Police advise residents to remain vigilant, especially regarding heating oil and metal theft.

PC Austin offered to do a Community Speed Watch presentation. Clerk to liaise with Bentley/Belstead/Tattingstone Parish Councils and advise PC Austin of a suitable date in February.

Clerk

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

The new strategic direction has been debated at Suffolk CC. Some services will not be outsourced and there will be more public consultation. David Wood intends to arrange a Shotley Peninsular meeting in the new year.

Bus subsidies may possibly be removed for evening and weekend services and bus passes will not be eligible during rush hour times.

Babergh/Mid Suffolk merger proposals – each household will shortly be receiving information.

There will be no community grants in the next financial year.

We should hear soon regarding the request for Locality Grant funds towards the play area bin/sign/bark chips.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Cllrs. Leach, Watts, Wilson, Kennell, Lusher, Rayner and Fishwick.

IN ATTENDANCE:

John Wesley – Clerk; PC Gary Austin; District Cllr. David Wood
1 member of the public.

344/PC/10 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllrs. Sandra Pereira, Carl Baxter; District Cllr. Trot Ward

345/PC/10 REGISTER OF INTERESTS:

None

346/PC/10 TO APPROVE MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

Agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

347/PC/10 MATTERS ARISING:

None

348/PC/10 CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Mr Rivers – 2 x emails regarding speeding at Brantham end of village (circ)
2. Brian Lomax, SCC – B1080 meeting report and speed survey (circ)
3. Trading Standards Consumer Champion network (circ)
4. Mr Pollok – email regarding Stutton Lodge hedge and junction visibility (circ)
5. SALC – proposed precept referendums 2012/13 (circ)
6. Victim support – request for charitable donation (discuss Feb meeting)
7. Suffolk Accident Rescue Service – request for charitable donation (discuss at Feb meeting)
8. SCC Lighting – Estimate of street light replacement cost
9. Babergh DC – Media releases (circ)
10. Babergh DC – Locality roadshow dates (circ)
11. Stutton Grows – request for donation towards pl insurance
12. Stutton Community Hall – request for donation towards new flooring
13. SALC – Suffolk CC new strategic direction – how council services will be delivered in the future (circ)

349PC/10 FOOTPATHS:

The sign at Crepping Hall Drive has still not been repaired. Clerk to progress with Suffolk CC.

Clerk

350/PC/10 LIGHTING:

The lights from Stanton House to Gardeners Arms are out. This was reported last month but no action as yet. Clerk to progress.

Clerk

The lamp lying on the ground near Stanton House was the result of a traffic accident. This will cost £288 to replace but we can claim via insurance. PC Austin advised the process to find the accident record number.

351/PC/10 HIGHWAYS:

A report was received from Brian Lomax ref. B1080 site meeting with Cllr Baxter and PCSO Joanne Adams on 25th October. This also included a speed survey, conducted opposite the Gardeners Arms during November. The mean speed logged was 30.5mph.

It is unlikely that the 30mph speed limit can be extended to the west of Hill House because of little roadside development. Other measures are restricted due to cost and effectiveness. Police have limited resources to maintain a regular visual presence.

Volunteers operating a community speed gun may be an option. PC Austin will present how this can be set-up at an open meeting in February.

The grit bins have been topped-up. No Major problems reported during the recent snow and cold weather.

352/PC/10 PLANNING:

Considerations:

None

Decisions from Babergh District Council:

B/10/01076/FUL/JD Land East of Ambermere. Permission refused.

353/PC/10 PLAY AREA:

Awaiting news from Babergh re. Locality Budget funding for new sign, litter bin and bark.

354/PC/10 VILLAGE PLAN:

Emergency Plan – a further offer has been made of chainsaw, tractor and generator.

Affordable Housing - a presentation will be made at the next meeting.

Neighbourhood Watch – no additional residents have come forward as volunteer co-ordinators.

355/PC/10 CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING:

This will again take place at the Community Hall, with trees to be left on 8th/9th January for collection on 10th January.

Advertising posters will be provided.

356/PC/10 COMMUNITY HALL:

The new floor will be laid starting 21st December. The stage will be boxed-in and new door stoppers fitted. The flooring will have a 10 year guarantee.

A formal request for a £2k donation from the Parish Council was read to the meeting.

It was agreed unanimously that this should be granted, with payment coming from reserve funds.

357/PC/10 2011/12 Precept:

The Clerk presented figures showing estimated expenditure against budget for 2010/11.

Due to an underspend on play equipment and Bentley Lane footpath, there are sufficient reserves to allow a reduction in precept for 2011/12.

The meeting noted that from 2012/13, the Government are likely to enforce a referendum on Parish Councils who wish to raise their precept above an (as yet to be determined) threshold.

Given the current economic climate and freeze of local council budgets, it was decided unanimously to reduce the 2011/12 precept to £10k.

A request from Stutton Grows for £139 towards their annual Public Liability insurance was granted and will be listed as a budget item on 2011/12 accounts.

358/PC/10 ACCOUNTS:

Payments:

Clerk: Salary £296.23, post £0.96, 6 mth Broadband £25.00 Total £322.19 (chq 931)

Stutton Community Hall hire: £60.00 (chq 932)

Stutton Primary School (50% contribution to bark chips): £206.50 (chq 933)

Holbrook High School award sponsorship: £30.00 (chq 934)

359/PC/10 ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA:

Allocation of reserves

Affordable Housing – Ian Tippett

360/PC/10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Monday 10th January 2011, 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.45pm