

## STOWLANGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016 AT 7.30 PM  
THE MEETING ROOM, ST GEORGE'S ROAD

Present : Cllrs D D'Lima, J Orlopp, N Kaines, J Catchpole, J Godfrey, H Godfrey and District Councillor R Barker. Mrs M Gardiner (clerk) was also in attendance.

1 **Apologies for absence:** none .

2 **Declarations of interest:** none.

3 **Minutes of the last meeting:** Minutes of the meeting dated 21<sup>st</sup> March were agreed and signed as a true record.

4 **Matters arising from the last meeting:**

**Drains in Kiln Lane:** the road was closed and dug up. However this was due to a watermain blowing up, when the water tower emptied in two hours, not to the flooding problem previously discussed. The water flooding the road and gardens is tested regularly to see if it contains chlorine – thus giving a clue to its origin. The residents showed Anglian Water the problem in the garden and the field. It is appreciated that due to the weather the land is already saturated. The problem still seems to be with the concrete pipe beneath the cottage gardens. Suffolk Highways are due to inspect the road area. Their report is awaited.

**Reading Room hedge:** This was inspected by Highways but is not considered excessive. However, the owner will be asked to keep under control and not overhanging the road.

**A1088:** Highways have ordered a new post for the sign.

**Footpath signs:** Councillor J Godfrey reported that the signs were expected to last ten years and ours are all twelve years old. Some have already been replaced and the others should be done in about six weeks.

**Street-cleaning:** Councillor J Godfrey spoke to Mr Pearson. He works for half an hour a week and does not wish to increase this. He cleans the bus shelter and The Street between Kiln Lane and the Rectory, Church View and St George's Road.

**Speeding:** The clerk has contacted County Councillor Storey to ask for a grant from her Locality Budget but has received no reply.

Councillor H Godfrey has investigated flashing signs for the village and told the meeting that the cost would be between £2,500 and £3,500. Maintenance costs for these would also be quite high. The village cannot afford these costs without help.

5 **County Councillors Report:**

County Councillor J Storey's report was read to the meeting and is attached to these minutes.

6 **District Councillor's report:**

It has been an enjoyable year throughout the ward. I have been impressed by the community spirit in Stowlangtoft which resulted in the very successful bonfire event. Villagers also took part in the Clean for the Queen initiative and had an excellent litter-pick.

I would like to congratulate Stowlangtoft Hall on winning the BALE Award which is the region's premier farming diversification business competition.

Our local Police have now been taken over by Stowmarket, which is closer than Debenham.

I have checked on the parking in St George's Road and there does not seem to be a big problem. No extra spaces are likely to be made.

Planning – there have been several applications this year from the village.

MSDC's Chief Executive is moving on. I have become the MSDC council member with special responsibility for waste.

**7 Police Report:**

The new website gives no information for our area. However we have heard that our PCSO Vince Clarkson has retired. We are grateful for the work he has put in on our behalf.

Shortly after our last meeting, the Chairman's garage was broken into and approximately £2,000 of goods were stolen. Another house was also broken into locally on the same night. Although reported to the police, no police alert was received regarding the thefts.

**8 Clerk's report:**

An advertisement for a replacement parish clerk will be placed on the noticeboard and in the church and village magazine.

Councillor H Godfrey will attend the MSDC Parish Liaison Meeting at Needham Market on 9<sup>th</sup> June at 10am, when the Community Infrastructure Levy will be on the agenda.

**9 Finance Report:**

**Annual Governance Statement and Audit**

The Chairman and Councillors considered this statement and agreed that the Chairman should sign it as being correct.

**Adoption of accounts for 2015-2016**

The accounts have been returned by the internal auditor with positive comments. Councillor Orlopp proposed the adoption of the accounts; seconded by Councillor Catchpole and the adoption was carried unanimously.

**Risk Assessment** – Councillors reviewed the risks for which the parish council is responsible and agreed that the measures taken to minimise these risks were adequate..

**Insurance** – the insurance quotes received were discussed and it was agreed unanimously to continue with Aon.

**10 Planning matters:**

1813/16 – Beacon Lodge, Ixworth Road, Stowlangtoft

Erection of detached oak-framed cartlodge and log store. Construction of brick wall to Bull Road boundary. Installation of a 5 bar gate.

Councillors agreed unanimously that they had no objection to this application.

Withdrawn: 1143/16 – Stowlangtoft Hall Nursing Home

Erection of Biomass plant room and fuel store building

Granted: 0554/16 – Keepers Cottage, Kiln Lane

0546/16 – Kiln Farm Barn, Kiln Lane

1701/16 - 2 The Bungalows, The Street: an application for a dropped kerb has been made but the details have not yet been received by the parish council. As this site is directly opposite the Kiln Lane junction, Highways should be involved in the decision.

- 11 **Highway matters:** No new issues to report.
- 12 **Correspondence:**  
Clerk & Councils Direct - May
- 13 **Forums** - Councillors: no further items to discuss.  
Public – no further items to report.
- 14 **Date of next meeting** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2016 at 7.15pm in the Meeting Room, St George's Road.