

## STOWLANGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**MONDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2016 AT 7.15 PM  
THE MEETING ROOM, ST GEORGE'S ROAD**

Present : Cllrs J Catchpole, H Godfrey, J Godfrey and J Orlopp. Mrs A Bryant (clerk) was also in attendance. Members of the public also attended.

- 1 **Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs D D'Lima, N Kaines, District Councillor R Barker and County Councillor J Storey.
- 2 **Declaration of interest:** No declarations of interest were declared.
- 3 **Minutes of the last meeting:** The Chairman summarised the minutes for the benefit of members of the public who had not read them. Cllr H Godfrey proposed that the minutes of the meeting dated 19 September 2016 were approved. Cllr Orlopp seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.
- 4 **Matters arising from the last meeting:**  
**Litter and parking in triangle by The Spinney:** Cllr H Godfrey queried if Cllr J Catchpole as landowner would put obstructions in place to prevent parking and littering. **Cllr Catchpole agreed to place obstructions.**  
**Church Bank:** The Parish Council noted that the bank had been cut. The Clerk advised that Anthony Rayson had been contacted as requested. The Parish Council thanked Anthony for undertaking a thorough job.
- 5 **County Councillors Report:** County Cllr J Storey submitted the following report in her absence:-

A Cabinet meeting had been held on 15 November and discussed:-

- the implementation of the Apprenticeship Reform Programme for Suffolk County Council – in April 2017 a new tax of 0.5% of the paybill would be introduced for all organisations with a payroll bill in excess of £3m. The government would top up an additional 10% and the levy could only be used for approved apprenticeship training. From 2018 employers may be allowed to transfer up to 10% of the levy to other employers on the digital system;
- 2016/17 Forecast Revenue and Capital Spending;
- consider the latest financial position by the Director of Resource Management.
- Suffolk Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2015-16;
- consider a report by the Director of Adult and Community Services which would give statistics and case studies on aspects of the work of the ACS teams;
- Devolution Deal which is still ongoing for Suffolk despite some Norfolk councils turning against the plans. Suffolk County Council will debate this at Full Council on 23 November;
- Be Safe and Seen in Suffolk - Suffolk County Council have worked in partnership with BBC Radio Suffolk to launch a new road safety campaign called 'Be Safe and Seen in Suffolk.' The campaign will see over 12,000 badge reflectors given to primary school aged children, which can be worn on their coats or backpacks to reflect the beam of vehicles in darker conditions to ensure that children are

seen as they walk with friends and parents. A major part of the campaign was to promote exercise, walking and physical activity amongst young people. Suffolk County Council's Road Safety Team and Public Health Team have invested £9,550 into the campaign; and

- Suffolk Record Office have made the final shortlist of International Digital Preservation Awards. Suffolk County Council are delighted to announce that Suffolk Record Office project – 'Preserving Suffolk's Digital Assets' is a finalist for The National Archives Award for Safeguarding the Digital Legacy in the prestigious Digital Preservation Awards 2016. The awards are a world-wide celebration of those who have made significant and innovative contributions to ensuring our generation's digital legacy will be available tomorrow. There is a new interactive website: [www.suffolkarchives.co.uk](http://www.suffolkarchives.co.uk) which provides easy access to 900 years of Suffolk's history.

6 **District Councillor's Report:** No report had been received from District Councillor Barker.

7 **Police Report:**

The report available on the website covers 22 wards in the Stowmarket area and is dated November 2016.

"There were 762 incidents received and 318 investigations recorded.

*You said:*

1. Raise awareness of vehicle security.
2. Manage repeat offenders of domestic violence and reduce re-offending.
3. Work with rural businesses to reduce vulnerability.

*We did:*

1. Continue the work started in October 2016 by conducting targeted patrols, commissioned catalyst work and raised awareness through publicity by holding engagement events with vehicle owners.
2. Following the imprisonment/charging of local offenders, the SNT have taken a proactive stance putting in place preventative measures and early intervention to prevent re-offending.
3. Targeted patrols continue alongside campaign of awareness and crime reduction visits.

<i>Figures for October:</i> Burglary Dwelling	3	Robbery	0
Violence with Injury	17	Serious Sexual Offences	6
Drug Trafficking	2	Anti-Social Behaviour	54

*Future events:*

Catalytic Converter Marking – Truck East (Scania), Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket – Saturday 3 December 2016 at 9.00 am – 11.30 am.

Special Constable Recruitment Event – The Grange Hotel, Broom – Wednesday 30 November 2016 at 7.30 pm.

Catalytic Converter Marking – Evergreen Garage, Gosbeck Road, Crowfield – Saturday 21 January 2017 at 9.00 am – 11.30 am.

*Crime Statistics:*

The statistics included crime statistics for September 2016 which reflected the Policy & Crime Commissioners priority crime categories.

*Point of contact for your Safer Neighbourhood Team:* Sergeant 1692 Martin

Tel: 101

Email: [Stowmarket.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Stowmarket.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk)

- 8 **Clerk's report:** The Clerk advised that the Suffolk County Council were transferring the Onesuffolk platform, used for the Parish Councils website, as part of the Transparency Act to Community Action Suffolk (CAS). Due to the timescales involved, the Clerk had informed CAS that the Parish Council would discuss and make a decision regarding the future of the website at the November meeting.

Following a discussion, the Parish Council felt that, subject to costs, the Parish Council were happy for the website to be transferred to CAS with all the current content and pay a yearly fee.

**The Clerk agreed to contact CAS to ascertain the costs involved.**

9 **Speed Cameras**

Cllr J Orlopp advised that Cllr N Kaines had sent comments in an email prior to the meeting which stated that he felt the A1088 should be included in the area covered by the speed cameras. He had also stated that the cameras should be in a permanent location.

Cllr H Godfrey informed the Parish Council that County Councillor J Storey had advised that money may be used from her Highways budget. He added that the SCC would install the camera posts at fixed locations, however the Parish Council would need to buy one or more cameras and be responsible for moving them around and ensuring they are maintained.

During discussion, it was felt that a decision to purchase the cameras should be made and that may assist in obtaining money from SCC. It was felt that more than one camera would be needed but perhaps one should be purchased initially. Those present felt that increasing the precept to purchase a camera would be a good use of public monies.

**Cllr H Godfrey formally proposed that Stowlangtoft Parish Council purchase a speed camera and then options for raising funds being investigated further. Cllr J Orlopp seconded the proposal. All those present were in favour.**

Cllr H Godfrey concluded that the finer details of locations could be discussed at a later date, however having a formal decision would support the Parish Council's application to the SCC.

- 10 **Finance Report:** Councillors agreed the report and the cheques were signed.

Cllr J Godfrey queried which streets were covered by the street cleaner and stated that she felt the hours allocated were insufficient.

- 11 **Planning matters:**  
*Approved:* 2984/16 – 2 Flint Cottages, Kiln Lane, Stowlangtoft.

Prior to the meeting Cllr H Godfrey had emailed the Clerk to query why the Parish Council had not been consulted regarding planning notice 4383/16 Beacon Lodge, Stowlangtoft. The Clerk advised that the application type was a Notification for Prior Approval for a Proposed Larger Home Extension and as such only immediate neighbours need consulting.

- 12 **Highway matters:** Cllr J Catchpole advised that he had received a complaint regarding the parking in St George's Road. He felt the grassed area could be utilised to alleviate the problem.

- 13 **Correspondence:** none.

- 14 **Councillors' Forum:**

*Common Room/Managers Office* – Cllr J Orlopp advised that the Common Room was a community asset and at present, MSDC were reviewing the sheltered accommodation in Stowlangtoft. To protect the village amenity, the Parish Council noted that a nomination form needed completing and returning to MSDC. Officers (Stephanie Osborne) at MSDC would then have 8 weeks to consider the application and decide whether it was indeed a community asset and used by the village. Cllr J Orlopp stated that any application would need the support of at least 21 signatories on the electoral role for Stowlangtoft and a supporting statement would need to be included. Cllr H Godfrey agreed to assist in preparing the statement.

During discussion, it was noted that the Common Room were used for Parish Council meetings, as a Polling Station, a meeting place for the Recreation Committee and for the Annual Parish Meeting and would be used as an emergency room in the event of floods.

**Cllr J Orlopp proposed that an application be submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council requesting that the Common Room be considered a village asset. Cllr H Godfrey seconded the proposal and all those present voted in favour.**

*Precept* – The Parish Council noted the deadline for the 2017/2018 Precept was 31 January 2017. Those present felt that the precept should be increased to allow projects, which benefitted the village, to be undertaken. Cllr H Godfrey informed that Stowlangtoft Parish Council cost 40p per week per band D taxpayer. It was noted that the meeting on 16 January 2017 would discuss the Precept and that early notification of this meeting would be placed on the noticeboard to allow as many Parishioners as possible to attend.

*BT Box* – Cllr D D'Lima had raised a query via email prior to the meeting, regarding the ownership of the BT Telephone Box. Cllr J Orlopp stated that the Parish Council had been given the opportunity of adopting the telephone box however this had not occurred. It was therefore assumed that BT still owned the box.

- 15 **Public Forum:** Concern was raised by Parishioners that some of the 30mph signs were covered with foliage. Concern was also raised following the changes made to the bus timetable.

16 **Date of next meeting:** Monday 16 January 2017 at 7.15 pm in the Meeting Room St George's Road.

The meeting concluded at 8.40 pm.

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Chairman

Date: