

STOWLANGTOFT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**MONDAY 18 MARCH 2019 AT 7.15 PM
THE MEETING ROOM, ST GEORGE'S ROAD**

Present: Cllrs D D'Lima (Chairman), I Cassidy (Vice Chair), J Catchpole, H Godfrey, Mrs J Godfrey, N Kaines and J Orlopp. Mrs A Bryant (clerk) was also in attendance. Members of the public also attended.

The Clerk advised that, due to the upcoming MSDC and Parish Council elections the Parish Council needed to abide by the Purdah rules of the election process.

96 **Apologies for absence:** Apologies for absence were received from County Cllr Mrs J Storey and District Cllr R Barker.

97 **Declaration of interest:** No declarations of interest were declared.

98 **Minutes of the last meeting:** The Chair summarised the minutes for the benefit of members of the public. Cllr H Godfrey proposed that the minutes of the meeting dated 21 January 2019 be approved. Cllr Mrs Godfrey seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

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

Minute 82: White Lines: Cllr D'Lima stated that he was waiting to hear back from County Cllr Mrs Storey who was going to chase.

Minute 83: County Cllrs Report: Kiln Lane Speed Limit: Cllr D'Lima stated that he was waiting to hear back from County Cllr Mrs Storey regarding a possible extension to the 30mph limit in Kiln Lane.

Minute 84: District Cllrs Report: St George's Road parking: Cllr D'Lima updated that the District Cllr had proposed some possible solutions to the parking issue, the District Cllr was waiting for a response from a Highways colleague, who was on long term sick leave, before progressing. **It was agreed that Cllr D'Lima would contact the resident involved with an update.**

Minute 87: Speed Reactive Sign Procurement: Cllr Godfrey advised that he had contacted the company regarding the pro-forma invoice and they had been happy to cancel it.

Minute 88: Clerk's report: Cllr D'Lima advised that he had requested that District Cllr Barker double check the location of the future polling station following the MSDC review. He had not heard anything back.

100 **County Councillors Report:** As County Cllr Mrs Storey was not present, Cllr D'Lima presented her report. Namely :-

On 27 February 2019 the Suffolk County Council announced the timescale to progress the Ipswich Northern Route project. The next steps would be to produce the Strategic Outline Business Case, which would examine and clarify the feasibility of an Ipswich northern route. The announcement confirms the County Council's commitment to explore previous discussions formally with a public consultation to inform the Strategic Outline Business Case.

The timescale for the project is:

- The stage one study and report into possible highways options was completed in 2017
- The options assessment and development commissioned in May 2018 is currently being evaluated and prepared for shortlisting, prior to consultation.
- Public consultation on the route details, alignment options and junction options with the A14 and A12 - to begin in the Summer 2019
- Completion of the Strategic Outline Business Case to be shared with government, local MPs and the public - Autumn 2019.

On 14 February 2019 the County Council concluded its budget setting process for the financial year 2019 - 2020. From 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020, the County Council will spend almost £10 million a week across all its services following approval of this budget of £519.3 million. Over the period 2011 - 2012 to 2018 - 2019 the Council made over £260 million of savings in response to reductions in funding from Central Government. General council tax will rise by 2.99% in 2019 – 2020 with the Council applying the final 1% of the six per cent Social Care precept allowed over the years 2017 - 2018 to 2019 - 2020.

The County Council are implementing changes to its School Travel Policy from September 2019. For transport in September 2019 and all future years, families whose child/ren are eligible for SCC funded school travel will need to opt-in to receive their transport which is a change from previous years. The opt-in process has a **deadline of 31 May 2019**.

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service are seeking public views on how it manages the risks it faces across the county, as well as five different areas of its work, from how it responds to automatic fire alarms, to firefighters' shift patterns. The eight-week consultation is part of a statutory process, with information feeding into the fire service's Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) for the next three years (2019 to 2022); essentially a plan for how it provides its services. The consultation runs from 11 February to 7 April 2019.

101 **District Councillor's Report:** District Cllr Barker had not submitted a report and was not present at the meeting.

102 **Police Report:** The report available on the website covers 22 wards in the Stowmarket area was dated March 2019.

You said:

Anti social behaviour around the Thurston area were a concern.
Parking around Mid Suffolk were a concern.

We did:

Put in place a S35 order during half term to disperse youths causing ASB. Increased patrols and a confiscation of a quantity of alcohol were also undertaken.

Responding to issues in your community:

Following issues of ASB in Rickingham, Police presence has increased with identifies of those committing ASB progressing. A second PCSO, Lizzy, has been appointed.

Point of contact for your Safer Neighbourhood Team:

Telephone: 101 / 01473 613888 ext 3398
Email: stowmarket.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk
Twitter: @PoliceSTOW

Sergeant 1550 Lisa Vaughan

- 103 **Speed Reactive Sign Procurement:** Cllr Godfrey had circulated a link to the website which outlined the rota for the shared VAS signs. Once the additional set of poles has been installed the Police will visit the site and put their machines onto the poles to monitor traffic speeds. If it is felt necessary, the speed van will be deployed.

Cllr Godfrey reiterated that the shared VAS were provided free of charge as the scheme was funded through the Speed Awareness Courses.

- 104 **Clerk's report:** The Clerk reported that she had attended an election briefing at SALC which had been useful and clarified various procedural points regarding the upcoming election.

The Clerk advised that all of the nomination forms had been delivered to the MSDC representatives without any issues.

- 105 **St George's Church:** No updates were provided.

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

Annual Statement: After the meeting, the Clerk emailed round to Cllrs to explain that the Annual Statement for 2018-2019 should have been presented to the meeting for approval. The Clerk advised that the figures contained in the Annual Statement had been received by Cllrs but in the budget document. Via email, **Cllr Mrs Godfrey proposed, seconded by Cllr Kaines, that the content of the Annual Statement be accepted. The vote was unanimously carried.**

2019 – 2020 Budget: Cllr D'Lima advised that the proposed figures for 2019-2020 had been discussed at the last meeting.

Cllr Mrs Godfrey stated that the cleansing grant figure should be £640.00 due to the increase in the minimum wage. **The Clerk agreed to amend the 2019 – 2020 budget document.**

Cllr Godfrey questioned whether District Cllr Barker had confirmed the situation regarding the £600 locality award. Cllr D'Lima replied that it was hoped the award could be used towards Kiln Lane gates.

- 107 **Planning matters:** The following planning applications had been received and decisions made by MSDC since the last meeting. The Chair confirmed that all Cllrs had looked at the applications on the MSDC website and the Clerk had submitted the Parish Council's views.

DC/19/000282 and DC/19/000283 (Listed Building Consent) – Erection of a single storey rear and first floor extension (following partial demolition of existing) at 3 Almshouses, The Street, Stowlangtoft, IP31 3JN – The Parish Council had not objected to the application. MSDC approved the application subject to conditions.

DC/19/000004 – Re-consultation - Erection of a single storey rear extension (retention of) at 3 Ixworth Road, Stowlangtoft, IP31 3JS – The Parish Council had not objected to the application. MSDC had not issued a decision notice to date.

DC/18/05604 – Street Farm, The Street, Stowlangtoft, IP31 3JX – MSDC had approved the application subject to conditions.

DC/19/00208 – Elkanah, Ixworth Road, Stowlangtoft, IP31 3JS – MSDC had approved the application subject to conditions.

108 **Highway matters:** Cllr D'Lima advised that previous highway issues had been reported but not acted on yet, as outlined earlier in the minutes. Cllr Godfrey stated that there were pot holes on the Spinney, to which Cllr D'Lima suggested he report them using the online service.

109 **Correspondence:** The Clerk reported that St George's PCC had written to the Parish Council thanking them for their contribution for 2018-2019 and thanked them for the increased contribution for 2019-2020.

The Chair advised that Mr Stiff had written to him regarding parking in St George's Road and that he would contact him to provide an update, and would chase District Cllr Barker.

The Clerk stated that the STWN (Suffolk Tree Warden Network) had written inviting the Tree Warden to attend the 2019 Forum and AGM. Cllr Mrs Godfrey highlighted that she would be happy to attend if Cllr Catchpole, the Parish Council's Tree Warden for Stowlangtoft, was busy. **It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Godfrey would attend the STWN Forum and AGM on 28 April 2019.**

110 **Councillors' Forum:** Litter Pick: Cllr Kaines updated that the litter pick would take place on 7 April 2019 at 9.30 am. He had produced some flyers for distribution around the village which he would circulate at the end of the meeting.

Cleansing Grant: Cllr Kaines apologised that he had not met with Mr Pearson but would do so and report back to Cllr Mrs Godfrey to agree a way forward.

Cllr Mrs Godfrey reported that there was the possibility of Mr Pearson continuing to cover the inner area of the village, with an additional person covering outer areas. She added that someone could do 4 hours per month which could be covered as a morning or afternoon session. Cllr Kaines queried whether the Parish Council would end up employing someone which would require Pension contributions etc to be covered. She replied that someone on a self employed basis could be employed.

It was agreed that Cllr Kaines would contact Mr Pearson and liaise with Cllr Mrs Godfrey once this had been done.

111 **Public Forum:** Bull Road Pill Box: The local landowner informed the Parish Council that MSDC had been in contact regarding the Bull Road Pill Box and its condition. He advised that the building had been made safe but would be knocked down in due course. The Parish Council stated that this was a shame as they should be preserved, however it was noted that the Spinney Pill Box was maintained by a group of enthusiasts.

Clay Shoot: The Parish Council were informed that the charity clay shoot would take place on 26 to 27 May 2019.

112 **Date of next meeting:** The next meeting was scheduled for Monday 13 May 2019 at the later time of 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room, St George's Road.

The Parish Council noted that the Annual Parish Meeting was scheduled for 7.00 pm on Monday 13 May 2019.

The meeting concluded at 8.11 pm.

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Chairman

