

**STOWLANGTOFT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**MONDAY 15 MAY 2023 AT 7.15 PM  
ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, THE STREET**

Present: Cllrs D'Lima (Chair), Cassidy (Vice Chair), Catchpole, Cuff, Suggett and White. A Osman (clerk) was also in attendance along with District Cllrs Bradbury and Davis, and 2 members of the public.

- 1 **Apologies for absence.** None
- 2 **Minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2022.** The Chair summarised the minutes. Cllr Cuff proposed that the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 16 May 2022 be approved. Cllr Catchpole seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.
- 3 **County Councillor report.** No report.
- 4 **District Councillors report.** A report from District Cllr Davies was pre-circulated and is attached to the minutes.
- 5 **Police report.** No Police report was received. Previous newsletters are available at <https://www.suffolk.police.uk/your-area/snt-newsletters>.
- 6 **Annual Reports from Village Groups:**
  - Churches Conservation Trust. A report from the Churches Conservation Trust was pre-circulated and is attached to the minutes.
  - Community Fund. Cllr White reported the fund had increased to approx. £14k and he is becoming an authorised signatory.
  - SpeedWatch. Cllr Cuff reported that the group was working well and had noticed a general reduction in speeds through the village.
  - Friends of Stowlangtoft. Cllr Cuff confirmed that a new group had been formed to progress events and fundraising within the village.
- 7. **Chairs Report.** Cllr D'Lima, as Chair, thanked his fellow Councillors for their continued hard work over the past year and expressed appreciation for the village events held, in particular the successful Coronation event. He also thanked the clerk for his work and advice over the year.
- 8. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 20 May 2024 in St George's Church.

The meeting concluded at 7.33pm.

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Chair

# District Cllr Report Thurston Ward

Beyton, Norton, Thurston, Tostock, Stowlangtoft

**April 2023**

**Election campaigning took up the majority of time during April. Minimal contact between Officers and Councillors.**

## **MSDC Meeting – First of this administration will be on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May.**

Mid Suffolk District Council welcomed the newly elected Councillors.

**Gateway 14** – Building of the 'Range' warehouse is progressing on schedule with the metal framework starting to be erected. MSDC is considering submitted plans for a second warehouse.

## **Planning**

DC/19/02090 Gladman have taken this case to a public appeal. Submitted a written argument to the planning inspector. The hearing is set for July. Advice was sought in relation to Suffolk House, Norton.

Enforcement officers took the MSDC case on 'The Field of Dreams' to court and reached agreement on both the fines and corrective actions.

## **Persimmon development (Ixworth Road, Thurston)**

Held a site meeting with Site Manager to discuss their solutions to an overflowing sewerage manhole, Ixworth Road kerb line and their landscaping/bird box plans.

**Austin Davies**

**Mid Suffolk District Councillor**

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St. George's Church, Stowlangtoft  
Update Report to Stowlangtoft Parish Council May  
2023

The two-year consultancy agreement with the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich concluded on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.

A final meeting of this period was held in the church on 6<sup>th</sup> March. Attendees were the DAC Secretary Edmund Harris, Simon Wiles, Jane Hatton and Jake Millar from the Churches Conservation Trust, Anne Harrison from the Benefice, and seven local people - Ros Keeper, Angela Alais, Christopher Spicer, Rob Cuff, Stuart White, Michelle Marsh and Anna Suggett.

The main proposal from the meeting was that the local community members should bring together a group with a view to developing the church into the community hub. General feeling was that funds should be raised for the village activities rather than specifically the church building. All agreed that funds would need to be raised to support the running costs of the church.

DAC advised that the group should make a proposal to the incumbent and diocese with plans to make the church a flexible space. Alterations and changes may require a faculty to do this. This may include moving some pews and this would require further justification.

CCT have done some pre-work with Anglian Water to connect water for a compostable toilet and a water supply. All agreed this was achievable.

Rob Cuff agreed to produce a newsletter for residents to determine who else might be interested, and whether the group should be called 'Friends of Stowlangtoft' with the possibility of being a sub-group of the Parish Council, or the 'Friends of St. George's' as a sub-committee of the Parochial Church Council. Following this feedback would determine how future meetings would be arranged.

#### CCT — Next Steps

It was verbally agreed that there would continue to be support from the CCT on a reduced scale, whereby Jane Hatton would act as a facilitator for the group, assisting them by email and phone, in making plans and directing the way forward for activities and events. It would be the responsibility of the new committee to deliver the activities. Jane's support would last for a further six months until the end of September.

It is worth noting that this report is being written towards the middle of May, and no action has yet taken place. The CCT has not been asked to support the survey (see above).

#### Events

There have been several events in the church over the past 6-9 months - Charlie Haylock (Suffolk Dialect), Ted and Cecil (Suffolk comedy) and Roy Tricker have all made appearances recently. In addition, a Theatre group performed at Pakenham church, with income for the benefit of St. George's in Stowlangtoft. These have been arranged by Jane at the CCT.

Simon Wiles  
Head of Region, South East, Churches Conservation Trust.