

**MINUTES OF THE SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM, TITHE BARN, LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 12TH OCTOBER 2011, AT 7.30PM**

Councillors present:

Cllr S.Curl (Chairman), Cllr B.Askew, Cllr A.Cronin, Cllr V.Durrant, Cllr J.Kitson, Cllr D.Lavington, Cllr G.Moore, Cllr S.Wood

Mrs S. Frankis, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer  
County Cllr, Kathy Pollard  
District Cllr, Peter Jones  
PCSO Ford

64 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

District Cllr, Nicholas Ridley

65 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

66 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7TH SEPTEMBER 2011

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th September 2011 having been circulated to all members were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

67 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7TH SEPTEMBER 2011

Re. minute no: 11/12 54 The Clerk confirmed the advice she had given had been confirmed by SALC. The Council does not have the power to incur expenditure for individuals. However, a related prize could be awarded to the school utilising LGA S137, class 3.

7.32pm The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from County Cllr, Kathy Pollard, District Cllr, Peter Jones and PCSO Ford.

PCSO Ford advised there had been two reported crimes of the theft of motor vehicles in Sproughton for September 2011; one theft was from Farthing Road and the other location was unknown.

**Action:** The Clerk is to ask PC Gary Austin to confirm the location of the second theft.

Cllr V.Durrant asked if PC Gary Austin had any updates to report regarding the issue raised by the Church Lane resident of parking outside the primary school. PCSO Ford advised she had no updates to report and would raise the matter with PC Gary Austin. Cllr S.Wood advised that parents had received email notifications from the primary school advising motorists not to park illegally outside the school.

Cllr D.Lavington asked if there was an indication of where the evicted travellers from the Dale Farm Traveller site will be going to. PCSO had no information regarding the matter.

7.40pm PCSO Ford left the meeting. A member of the public arrived at the meeting.

Reports had been received from County Cllr, Kathy Pollard and District Cllr, Nicholas Ridley and circulated to the Council.

County Cllr, Kathy Pollard agreed to raise the Parish Council's concerns with Suffolk County Council regarding the lack of notification of the forthcoming closure of Hadleigh Road.

Cllr V.Durrant advised that Suffolk County Council has indicated there is a need to carry out strengthening works on the bridge over the River Gipping, Lower Street, Sproughton. Cllr Pollard agreed to contact Stuart Heale, of Suffolk County Council regarding the matter.

District Cllr, Peter Jones advised that Babergh District Council is awaiting feedback from the recent public consultation on budget cuts. He advised there is to be a seminar held at Suffolk One on 8th November 2011, in connection with the LDF - Core Strategy.

Cllr V.Durrant referred to the budget cuts to be met by Babergh District Council and asked if the Council had looked to re-engineer their processes. Cllr Jones advised part of the process of the integration of Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils is to look at streamlining.

8.00pm County Cllr, Kathy Pollard and District Cllr, Peter Jones left the meeting. The meeting was reconvened.

68 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

Cllr S.Curl advised that Cllr J.Pateman-Gee had tendered his resignation. It is understood that his resignation revolves around the recent Sproughton Parish Council Planning Committee meeting attended by Babergh District Council planning officer Ms Deborah Board, and subsequent actions by officers at Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils. Cllr J.Pateman-Gee has been advised by Mid Suffolk District Council that he should not undertake the position of a parish councillor and so has subsequently stepped down from Sproughton Parish Council. The Parish Council noted its disappointment and frustration surrounding the matter.

There are currently four parish councillor vacancies.

**Action:** The Clerk is to notify Babergh District Council of Cllr J.Pateman-Gee's resignation.

The Parish Council gave a vote of thanks to Cllr J.Pateman-Gee.

69 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

A list of planning applications and recommendations made by the Planning Committee since the last meeting had been circulated to all Councillors and noted.

70 TO CONSIDER A RESPONSE TO THE COALITION GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION DRAFT OF NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK (NPPF)

A draft response had been circulated to all Councillors. The Council unanimously agreed to forward the completed questionnaire.

**Action:** The Clerk is to forward the Parish Council response to the Dept. for Communities and Local Government.

71 FINANCE

(i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position

The statement of payments for September 2011 was approved.

(ii) To Consider Grant Requests

A request for a grant had been received from the Sproughton Senior Citizens Club. The Council unanimously agreed to award a grant of £200.00 to the Sproughton Senior Citizens Club.

**Action:** The Clerk is to forward a cheque for £200.00 to the Sproughton Senior Citizens Club.

8.17pm Cllr S.Curl stepped down as chairman of the meeting. Cllr S.Curl and Cllr D.Lavington declared an interest and duly signed the register. Cllr S.Curl and Cllr D.Lavington left the room.

The meeting was chaired by Cllr J.Kitson.

A request for a grant had been received from the Sproughton Community Shop C.I.C. for the purchase of an external storage unit. The Council unanimously agreed to award a grant of £200 to the Sproughton Community Shop C.I.C.

**Action:** The Clerk is to forward a cheque for £200.00 to the Sproughton Community Shop C.I.C.

8.30pm Cllr J.Kitson stepped down as chairman of the meeting and Cllr S.Curl re-took the chair.

(iii) To Consider the Draft 2012/2013 Budget and Precept

The first draft of the 2012/2013 budget and precept had been prepared and circulated to the Council for consideration.

(iv) To Agree to Vire £59.63 from the Precept Heading 'Administration' to 'Equipment - Mower Consumables'

The Council unanimously agreed to vire £59.63 from the precept heading 'administration' to the precept heading 'equipment - mower consumables'.

(v) To Consider Talk Talk Line Rental Service at the Clerk's Office

The Clerk advised that notification had been received from Talk Talk that the monthly line rental will increase to £13.80 a month. Talk Talk offer an arrangement whereby twelve months line rental can be

prepaid at a cost of £9.50 a month. The Council unanimously agreed to prepay twelve months line rental at a cost of £9.50 a month.

**Action:** The Clerk is to arrange for twelve months line rental to be prepaid at a cost of £9.50 a month (total £114.00).

(vi) Sproughton In Bloom

Cllr S.Curl put forward the idea of mass planting of daffodil bulbs on the village green. The Council unanimously agreed to the proposal and agreed that the project would be paid for from the 2010 reserve Village of the Year prize fund.

**Action:** Cllr B.Askew is to ask the school if it would like to be involved with the planting of daffodil bulbs at the village green.

72 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE TRANSPORT PANEL AND RELATED TRAFFIC MATTERS

A written report had been received from the Transport Panel and circulated to the Council.

Cllr V.Durrant advised he has been directed to a website that identifies weight-restricted roads to Sat. Nav. users. The Council unanimously agreed that Cllr V.Durrant should register Sproughton roads with weight restrictions orders with the website.

**Action:** Cllr V.Durrant is to register the details of Sproughton roads with weight restriction orders with the website.

73 SPROUGHTON MITIGATION MEASURES

Cllr V.Durrant advised he had met with Julia Proctor, of Suffolk County Council on 5th October 2011 to discuss the final proposals for the Sproughton Mitigation Measures. The proposals focussed on the Mitigation Measures associated with the SnOasis residential development. Phase 1 of the measures include traffic calming measures on the B1113 both North and South of the village and Phase 2, a pedestrian crossing at High Street, Sproughton. The Council unanimously agreed to endorse the proposals.

Cllr S.Curl asked the Transport Panel to be minded that by extending the 30mph speed limit to the north of the B1113, it could provide an opportunity for development.

74 TITHE BARN

(i) To Receive the Report of the Tithe Barn Panel and Related Matters

A written report had been received from the Tithe Barn Panel and circulated to the Council.

Cllr J.Kitson advised that following the recent damage to Tithe Barn and Shippen roof tiles, Cllr B.Askew is to source a 'No Ball Games' sign to be erected at the Tithe Barn courtyard.

**Action:** The Clerk is to report the incident of damage to PC Gary Austin and Mr M Levett.

The Council unanimously agreed to accept the quotation submitted by Mike Herbert Ltd for the works to the Tithe Barn glazed doors and to set an upper limit of expenditure of £100.00.

**Action:** The Clerk is to advise Mike Herbert Ltd that the Council has agreed to accept the contract for the works to be undertaken to the glazed doors.

(ii) To Consider the Findings of the 2011 Tithe Barn Fire Risk Assessment

The Council unanimously agreed that the Tithe Barn Panel should proceed to address the action points of the Tithe Barn Fire Risk Assessment.

(iii) To Consider Provision of the Tithe Barn Broadband

As there is no current requirement for broadband at the Tithe Barn, the Council unanimously agreed to terminate the B.T. contract, making an annual saving of £276.00.

**Action:** The Clerk is to arrange to terminate the B.T. broadband contract.

75 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE 'GREEN' SPROUGHTON PANEL

A written report had been received from the Green Sproughton Panel and circulated to the Council.

The Council agreed that the incentive for returning completed 2011 Carbon Footprint surveys would be a £150.00 payment to the school for green related expenditure if more than fifty completed surveys are returned.

76 BURIAL GROUND

(i) To Consider Requests for Memorials at the Burial Ground

There were no requests for memorials

(ii) To Consider and Approve Expenditure for Extending Burial Ground Footways

The Council unanimously agreed to accept the quotation received from Ipswich Borough Council to extend the burial ground footways at a cost of £5,539.79.

**Action:** The Clerk is to notify Ipswich Borough Council that their quote ref. mc/17.06 has been accepted by the Parish Council.

9.35pm The member of the public left the meeting.

77 SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL RISK MANAGEMENT

Cllr S.Wood agreed to undertake the risk assessment of the allotments; Cllr G.Moore agreed to undertake the risk assessment of the children's play area; Cllr S.Curl agreed to undertake the risk assessment of the village green; Cllr S.Curl and the Clerk agreed to undertake the risk assessment of Council organised events.

78 TO NOMINATE A PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIVE TRUSTEE TO THE READING ROOM & CARETAKERS HOUSE CHARITY

Cllr D.Lavington declared an interest and duly signed the register.

The Council unanimously agreed to nominate Mr M Earey as a Parish Council nominative trustee to the Reading Room & Caretakers House Charity.

**Action:** The Clerk is to notify Mr M Earey.

79 BABERGH CORE STRATEGY

Cllr V.Durrant and Cllr J.Kitson agreed to attend the forthcoming Babergh District Council Core Strategy Workshop event to be held at Suffolk One on 8th November 2011.

80 SPROUGHTON PLAYING FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AGM

Cllr D.Lavington advised the Playing Field Management Committee AGM will be held on 27th October 2011 at 7.00pm.

81 TO AGREE THE TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Sproughton Parish Council meeting will be at 7.30pm, on 9th November 2011, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sproughton.

82 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Cllr V.Durrant advised he had received a report from Mr C Harris of a fallen tree blocking the footpath beside the River Gipping.

**Action:** The Clerk is to report the fallen tree to Suffolk County Council.

Cllr B.Askew asked if there is to be a Halloween family disco. Cllr S.Curl advised there will be no Halloween family disco but it is hoped to arrange a Christmas event.

The Clerk advised the quarterly credit card payments audit is due. Cllr S.Curl agreed to carry out the audit.

**Action:** Cllr S.Curl is to carry out the quarterly credit card payments audit.

The Clerk advised the mid year internal controls audit is due. Cllr J.Kitson agreed to carry out the.

**Action:** Cllr J.Kitson is to carry out the mid year internal controls audit.

The Clerk suggested the dog litter bin would be better sited at the 'cut-through' between Lower Street and Church Crescent. The Council unanimously agreed that the dog litter bin should be relocated.

**Action:** The Clerk is to arrange for the dog litter bin to be relocated and to notify Babergh District Council of the new site.

Summary of Actions

**Action:** The Clerk is to ask PC Gary Austin to confirm the location of the second theft.

68 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

**Action:** The Clerk is to notify Babergh District Council of Cllr J.Pateman-Gee's resignation.

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**Action:** The Clerk is to notify Mr M Earey.

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**Action:** Cllr J.Kitson is to carry out the mid year internal controls audit.

**Action:** The Clerk is to arrange for the dog litter bin to be relocated and to notify Babergh District Council of the new site.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

Chairman : \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_