

MINUTES OF THE SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM, TITHE BARN, LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 5TH JUNE 2013, AT 7.30PM

Councillors present:

Cllr S.Curl (Chairman), Cllr H.Davies, Cllr V.Durrant, Cllr J.Kitson, Cllr G.Moore

Mrs S. Frankis, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr
Peter Jones, District Cllr
David Busby, County Cllr

Mr K Barwick

23 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

There were no apologies to be received.

24 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

25 CONSIDERATION FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR A PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no dispensations to consider.

26 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8TH MAY 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th May 2013, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

27 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8TH MAY 2013

Re. minute no: 13/14 18 The Clerk advised that Mr. S.Lavington had been unable to commit himself to being available to steward visitors. Cllr S.Curl agreed to be on hand should Mr. S.Lavington not be available.

Action: The Clerk is to advise Mr J.Grist, of Suffolk Green Buildings Network, that the Tithe Barn will be open for visitors, as part of the Green Suffolk Heritage Open Days Event 2013.

Re. minute no: 13/14 20 The Council asked the Clerk to approach the landlord of the Wild Man public house as a possible meal provider for the senior citizens lunch club, should the Parish Council take over the running of the event.

Action: The Clerk is to contact the landlord of the Wild Man public house.

7.38pm The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from County Cllr, David Busby, District Cllr, Nicholas Ridley and District Cllr, Peter Jones.

David Busby, County Cllr advised that the lead members of the Council have been appointed. He advised that he has a budget of £8k to spend on highway associated projects and a locality budget of £12k to spend on community projects. He referred to the proposed introduction of part night street lighting / intelligent lighting; he has learnt that street lights can be individually modified so that areas of concern can remain lit.

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised that the current round of Babergh District Council Local Plan consultation will be the final opportunity for comments to be submitted regarding the strategy policies

before the Planning Inspectorate considers his final decision. An adoptable Core Strategy Plan should be in place in early autumn 2013. He advised that the proposed solar farm planning application is due to be considered by the Planning Committee next week; it is understood that permission will be granted. Peter Jones, District Cllr, asked if Babergh District Planning Officer, Lynda Bacon had been in contact with the Parish Council in order to arrange a meeting to discuss the proposed Church Lane development. The Clerk advised that she had forwarded a copy of scheduled Planning Committee meeting dates a number of weeks previous but that to date she had received no further correspondence from the Planning Officer. Cllr S.Curl asked Peter Jones, District Cllr to request that the planning officer agree a date to meet with the Parish Council and to pass the information on to the Clerk.

8.00pm The meeting was reconvened.

- 28 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE TRANSPORT PANEL AND RELATED TRAFFIC MATTERS
Cllr V.Durrant advised there had been no movement with the Suffolk County Council traffic mitigation measures. He had received notification from Mr S. Merry, of Suffolk County Council that the speed limit extension plan will have been prepared and gone forward by Friday, 7th June 2013. Cllr V.Durrant advised that National Grid is due to make the data results of the recent Hadleigh Road traffic survey available within the next two weeks.
- 29 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.
- 30 FINANCE
(i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position
The Clerk advised that the bank statements had not been received and consequently the accounts for the month ending 31st May 2013 had not been prepared.
(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants
There were no requests to consider.
(iii) To Agree to Transfer £11,366.00 from the Tithe Barn Reserve Account to the General Account
The Council agreed to transfer £11,366.00 from the Tithe Barn Reserve Account to the General Account.
(iv) To Agree to Carry Out the Quarterly Credit Card Audit
Cllr S.Curl agreed to undertake the quarterly credit card audit.
- 31 BURIAL GROUND
(i) To Consider Requests for Memorials at the Burial Ground and Related Matters
There were no requests to consider.
- 32 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE TITHE BARN PANEL AND RELATED MATTERS
No report was received from the Tithe Barn Panel.
The Council agreed to meet as the Tithe Barn Committee on 19th June 2013. Cllr V.Durrant presented his apologies as he will not be available to attend the meeting.
- 33 2012 RISK MANAGEMENT ACTION POINTS
There were no updates to report.
- 34 STREET LIGHTING
Cllr V.Durrant advised that he has arranged for a public meeting to be held on 17th July 2013, at 7.00pm at the Tithe Barn. The meeting will provide the opportunity for questions to be raised and addressed regarding the possible installation of an intelligent lighting system on Sproughton Parish Council lighting stock. He advised that it appears a number of Intelligent Lighting System units have already been installed by Suffolk County Council, on Parish Council street lighting stock.

The Clerk advised that the interim inspection of the Parish Council street lighting stock is due. Cllr S.Curl and Cllr G.Moore agreed to undertake the inspection.

35 TO RECEIVE PLAYING FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE PARISH UPDATES

No updates were received from the Playing Field Management Committee.

Cllr H.Davies advised that she had put forward a suggestion to the Playing Field Management Committee that she act as a conduit between them and the Parish Council. The Playing Field Management Committee had accepted the proposal but wanted to defer any further action until October 2013. However Mr D.Lavington has agreed to meet with Cllr H.Davies to update her on the progress of their current project.

Cllr J.Kitson advised that he and Cllr G.Moore had revisited the 2012 children's play area inspection report. A proposed action plan had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting. In response to the inspection report, a number of discussions have taken place regarding the ownership of the equipment and what needs to be done to bring the area and equipment up to a satisfactory standard. The action plan has identified that money needs to be spent but that the question as to ownership and responsibility remains unclear. This needs to be resolved before the Parish Council agrees to any commitments. The Council agreed in principle to put the 'rocking rocket' back into service subject to funds being available and subject to any issues arising from the forthcoming meeting between Cllr H.Davies and Mr D.Lavington.

36 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 10th July 2013, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sproughton.

Cllr H.Davies presented her apologies as she will not be available to attend the meeting.

38 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Cllr J.Kitson noted that at the Parish Council meeting held on 8th May 2013, the Council had agreed to waive the charge made to Sproughton Community Shop for the use of the Barley Room, for community lunches for a period of three months; this period would end in August before the Council is scheduled to meet to re-consider the matter.

Cllr J.Kitson raised his concerns that the Parish Council had resolved to consider the security of its funds twelve months ago and considered that the Parish Council should be more pro-active when considering a safer holding for Parish Council funds. Cllr H.Davies advised that she has been looking at alternative banks and building societies and savings rates. She agreed to meet with the Clerk to consider her findings before making her recommendations for the Council to consider at an extraordinary Parish Council meeting. Cllr S.Curl agreed to call an extraordinary meeting to be held on 25th June 2013, at 7.30pm, to consider the matter

Action: Cllr H.Davies is to meet with the Clerk and to prepare her recommendations for consideration by the Council.

Cllr H.Davies advised she continues to update the Parish Council website. She advised that Mr S.Lavington had informed her there was no longer a stock of Tithe Barn promotional leaflets available for distribution at the community shop.

Action: The Clerk is to research the details of the printer engaged to produce the original leaflets.

Cllr H.Davies advised that she had recently attended an Emergency Planning workshop. The Council agreed that it does not have the resources to develop an emergency plan at this time.

Cllr H.Davies advised that she will issue the findings of her investigation into the recent parish councillor resignations and will prioritise her findings for the Council to consider at the next Parish Council meeting.

Summary of Actions

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Action: The Clerk is to contact the landlord of the Wild Man public house.

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The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Chairman : _____

Date: _____