

MINUTES OF THE SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM, TITHE BARN, LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 4TH DECEMBER 2013, AT 7.30PM

Councillors present:

Cllr S.Curl (Chairman), Cllr K.Barwick, Cllr H.Davies, Cllr J.Kitson, Cllr G.Moore

Mrs S. Frankis, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr
David Busby, County Cllr
PCSO Melissa Cohen

123 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

The Council resolved to approve the apologies received from Cllr V.Durrant for his absence due to a personal engagement.

124 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

125 CONSIDERATION FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR A PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no requests for dispensations to consider.

126 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2013

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th November 2013, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

127 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2013

Re. minute no. 13/14 112 & 119 The Clerk advised she had contacted Karen Smith, of Suffolk County Council, who had confirmed the orders are being processed but that due to difficulties relating to their new contractor and sub-contractor, she was unable to put a program of works in place at this time. She acknowledged that she should have responded to the Parish Council's correspondence.

Re. minute no. 13/14 115 The Clerk confirmed a cheque for £50.00 had been forwarded to The Royal British Legion.

Re. minute no. 13/14 117 Cllr S.Curl confirmed a request for Tithe Barn Panel volunteers had been published in the December 2013 issue of the In Touch magazine.

7.35pm PCSO Melissa Cohen arrived at the meeting.

Re. minute no. 13/14 118 The Clerk confirmed she had received advice from SALC regarding the question of the responsibility of potential fire risks created by allotment holders and had forwarded the advice to Cllr K.Barwick. Cllr. K.Barwick recommended the existing Allotment Holders Agreement required a slight re-draft to include advice regarding the storage of flammable substances at the allotment gardens.

Action: The Clerk is to circulate the advice received from the Parish Council insurers, regarding fire risks at the allotment gardens.

7.40pm The meeting was adjourned to receive a report from PCSO Melissa Cohen, David Busby, County Cllr. and Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr.

PCSO Melissa Cohen advised there had been three reported crimes in November 2013; a burglary at an out building at Lower Street; possession of Class 'B' drugs at Sproughton Road; theft from a property at Farthing Road Industrial Estate. She advised that since the work had been undertaken to tidy up the Church Lane / A14 underpass, the number of drug related crimes had significantly reduced, in that area. She advised that 'Spruce-Up Sproughton' was being kept active by engaging 'Catch 22'; they will be undertaking gardening work in the parish.

David Busby, County Cllr advised the road works throughout Ipswich are expected to extend through to 2015. He advised he had received a request for a grant from the Dame Vera Lynn Trust which he intended to fund from his locality budget.

Cllr H.Davies referred to a Freedom of Information request made by Mr C.Harris to Mid Suffolk District Council. Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised that it would be for Mid Suffolk District Council to respond and not Babergh District Council. David Busby, County Cllr advised he has spoken to the Mid Suffolk District Council Planning Officer to make him aware of the matter.

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised the proposed single turbine application is expected to be registered this week, now that the public exhibitions have taken place. He advised there is a £1million gap in the Babergh District Council budget and that the New Homes Bonus scheme will be used to partly fill the shortfall. He noted that the former sugar beet site is being remarketed.

8.03pm The meeting was reconvened. PCSO Melissa Cohen left the meeting.

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

(i) Cllr S.Curl referred to the Freedom of Information request made by Mr C.Harris to Mid Suffolk District Council. The Parish Council unanimously agreed in principle, to support the request.

Action: Cllr S.Curl is to draft a letter of support.

(ii) Cllr S.Curl advised that the Parish Council had received a request from Claydon & Whitton Parish Council for support for a proposal to re-introduce an evening bus service to run from Claydon to Ipswich, which would take in Bramford and Sproughton. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to support the request and to advertise any new service where possible.

Action: Cllr S.Curl and Cllr V.Durrant are to draft a letter of support for the proposal.

(iii) Cllr S.Curl referred to the recent circular from Mr S. Merry, of Suffolk County Council which notified residents that a request had been received to extend the 30mph speed limit on High Street (B1113), Sproughton to a point 250m north of its current extents. The Parish Council had previously agreed to an extension of 175m and not 250m; David Busby, County Cllr advised that as notice had now been given for an extension of 250m, it is unlikely it could be amended to 175m.

129 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.

130 FINANCE

(i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position

The bank statements had not been received in time for the financial statement to be prepared.

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

Council unanimously agreed to award a grant of £50.00 to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service.

Action: The Clerk is to forward a cheque for £50.00 to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service.

(iii) To Receive the Findings of the Mid Year Audit of the Accounts Ledger

This matter remains outstanding.

(iv) To Review the Performances of the Nat West, Ipswich Building Society and Cambridge Building Society Accounts

Cllr J.Kitson advised the Nat West account had not been opened as further investigation had shown the suitability of the account was questionable and would not be compatible with the Parish Council's Standing Orders. The Council agreed not to proceed with opening the Nat West account and to consider an alternative financial provider. The Council agreed to close the Co-operative Business Instant Access

Account and to split the balance equally between the Ipswich Building Society and the Cambridge Building Society.

Action: The Clerk is to split the balance of the monies held at the Co-operative Business Instant Access Account and to deposit equal amounts at the Ipswich Building Society and the Cambridge Building Society.

Action: Cllr H.Davies is to consider options for an alternative financial provider to the Nat West.

131 TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR MEMORIALS AT THE BURIAL GROUND AND RELATED MATTERS

There were no requests to consider.

132 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE TITHE BARN PANEL AND RELATED MATTERS

Cllr H.Davies set a meeting to be held on 13th January 2014, 7.30pm at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Sproughton and agreed to prepare an agenda for the meeting.

133 2012 RISK MANAGEMENT ACTION POINTS UPDATE

There were no updates to report.

Cllr J.Kitson considered the agenda item was no longer required.

134 STREET LIGHTING

There were no further matters to report.

135 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

Cllr J.Kitson had circulated an updated proposed action plan to the Council, prior to the meeting. It was agreed that Cllr J.Kitson, Cllr V.Durrant and Cllr G.Moore would work through the recommendations.

Cllr G.Moore advised that a quote had been received from F.L.P. to replace the Wetpour surface under the Rocking Rocket, at a cost of approx. £3,400.00. The Council unanimously agreed to accept the quote.

Action: Cllr G.Moore is to forward the quote to The Clerk, in order that the quote can be accepted and an order placed.

136 PFMC ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Cllr H.Davies had circulated notes to the Parish Council of the meeting she had attended of the Playing Field Management Committee (PFMC) meeting held on 14th November 2013.

137 TO CONSIDER A READING ROOM & CARETAKER'S HOUSE CHARITY PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIVE TRUSTEE

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to nominate Mr Simon Lavington for as a Reading Room & Caretaker's House Charity Parish Council Nominative Trustee.

Action: The Clerk is to notify Mrs G.Moore that the Parish Council would like to nominate Mr Simon Lavington as a Reading Room & Caretaker's House Charity Parish Council Trustee.

Action: The Clerk is to thank Mr Simon Lavington for agreeing to be nominated as a Reading Room & Caretaker's House Charity Parish Council Trustee.

138 TO AGREE EXPENDITURE FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE PARISH COUNCIL NOTICEBOARD

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council noticeboard, sited at Hadleigh Road, Sproughton was in need of replacement. She suggested the noticeboard, sited at the Village Green, Sproughton be replaced with a new noticeboard and the existing noticeboard be relocated at Hadleigh Road.

Action: The Clerk is to circulate details of noticeboards available from Grippit UK.

139 TO ADOPT REVISED PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS

The Clerk had circulated the proposed Standing Orders to the Council prior to the meeting. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to adopt the revised standing orders to include the changes to the NALC Model Standing Orders 2013.

140 TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR PURCHASE OF A LITTER BIN AT THE A1071 BUS STOP
The Clerk advised that a report had been forwarded from Babergh District Council, for a request for a litter bin to be installed at the A1071 bus stop. As no other reports have been received regarding litter issues at the site by either the Parish Council or Babergh District Council, the Parish Council agreed to monitor the situation.

Action: The Clerk is to respond to the complainant to advise them of the Council's decision.

Action: The Clerk is to write to Suffolk ONE to request that they advise their students not to litter the area.

141 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 8th January 2014, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sproughton.

142 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS
Cllr S.Curl noted that when exiting the Tithe Barn onto Lower Street, there is poor visibility to the right due to the overgrown hedge.

Action: The Clerk is to ask Mr P. Hughes-Reckitt if the hedge can be trimmed.

Cllr J.Kitson questioned whether Cllr H.Davies has become a committee member of the Playing Field Management Committee. Cllr H.Davies advised that she has been invited to join the committee but was uncertain if it would be as a Parish Council representative member. Cllr J.Kitson requested there be an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting to consider a PFMC Parish Council representative member.

Cllr S.Curl advised that the Parish Council had received an email from the Sproughton Community Shop C.I.C. regarding a payment of compensation for the loss of revenue and stock due to the recent power outage caused by storms.

Action: The Clerk is to acknowledge receipt of the email and to advise the Sproughton Community Shop C.I.C. the matter is to be explored with UKPN.

Summary of Actions

127 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2013

Re. minute no. 13/14 118 **Action: The Clerk is to circulate the advice received from the Parish Council insurers, regarding fire risks at the allotment gardens.**

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(i) **Action: Cllr S.Curl is to draft a letter of support.**

(ii) **Action: Cllr S.Curl and Cllr V.Durrant are to draft a letter a response of support for the proposal.**

130 FINANCE

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

Action: The Clerk is to forward a cheque for £50.00 to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service.

(iv) To Review the Performances of the Nat West, Ipswich Building Society and Cambridge Building Society Accounts

Action: The Clerk is to split the balance of the monies held at the Co-operative Business Instant Access Account and to deposit equal amounts at the Ipswich Building Society and the Cambridge Building Society.

Action: Cllr H.Davies is to consider options for an alternative financial provider to the Nat West.

135 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

Action: Cllr G.Moore is to forward the quote to The Clerk, in order the quote can be accepted and an order placed.

137 TO CONSIDER A READING ROOM & CARETAKER'S HOUSE CHARITY PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIVE TRUSTEE

Action: The Clerk is to notify Mrs G.Moore that the Parish Council would like to nominate Mr Simon Lavington as a Reading Room & Caretaker's House Charity Parish Council Trustee.

Action: The Clerk is to thank Mr Simon Lavington for agreeing to be nominated as a Reading Room & Caretaker's House Charity Parish Council Trustee.

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The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Chairman : _____

Date: _____