

**MINUTES OF THE SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM, TITHE BARN, LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 16TH APRIL 2014, AT 7.35PM**

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

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

The Council resolved to approve the apologies received from Cllr K.Barwick, for his absence due to a personal engagement.

2 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

3 CONSIDERATION FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR A PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no requests for dispensations to consider.

4 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5TH MARCH 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th March 2014, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Re. minute no: 13/14 196, Cllr H.Davies believed the Council had agreed to waive the demand for rental and insurance charges until after the Community Shop C.I.C.'s forthcoming employment tribunal, as requested by the Community Shop C.I.C., at a meeting held on 25th February 2014. Cllr G.Moore and the Clerk recalled the Council had considered the request as part of the report of the meeting Cllr H.Davies and Cllr J.Kitson had attended with representatives of the Community Shop C.I.C. but that it had been agreed the details of the Licence to Occupy would not be varied.

5 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5TH MARCH 2014

The Clerk advised Babergh District Council Planning Enforcement is investigating the storage of shipping containers at the former Hanson site.

Re. minute no: 13/14 188(iii) The Clerk advised there had been a delay opening an account with Unity Bank; this was due to the Council questioning the requirement to submit personal details of all key members, in addition to account signatories. The Clerk advised Unity Bank had now agreed to waive this condition.

Re. minute no: 13/14 203 The Clerk advised in order for the Parish Council's ride-on lawn mower to be used on the public highway a nil tax disc and insurance, costing £248.04, would be required.

**Action: The Clerk is to write to the village organisations, who attended the meeting, held on 3rd March 2014 to consider a single grass cutting contract, that for the purposes of the Parish Council the ride-on lawn mower would not need to be taxed and insured.**

6 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19TH MARCH 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th March 2014, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

7 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE EXTRAORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19TH MARCH 2014

There were no matters to consider.

7.45 p.m. The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from David Busby, County Cllr and Nicholas Ridley, Di District Cllr.

David Busby, County Cllr advised the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service has launched a scheme, "Fire Break" for young people. Cllr S.Curl agreed to include details of the scheme in the In Touch magazine. David Busby, County Cllr advised he is to meet with Suffolk County Council Highways to consider extending the C442 30mph speed limit towards Ipswich.

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised there are no interested parties for the former beet sugar site, at this time. He advised the recent meeting held at East Bergholt, by the Police Commissioner had been constructive. He advised the Babergh District Council annual meeting is to be held on 22nd April 2014.

7.55 p.m. The meeting was reconvened.

8 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE TRANSPORT PANEL AND RELATED TRAFFIC MATTERS  
No report was received.

9 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.

10 FINANCE

(i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position

The statements of payments for February and March 2014 were approved.

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

A grant request and request for use of the Tithe Barn toilets, tables & chairs, the urn and the Parish Council's 'A' frame, blackboard and bbq had been received from Sproughton Events Committee, for use at their event to be held on 13th July 2014. The Council agreed to offer use of the Tithe Barn toilets during the fete, the use of tables & chairs, the urn, the 'A' frame and blackboard, for use at the Millennium Green, but is to advise the organisers that the bbq is unsuitable for use at the Millennium Green. The Council agreed to offer a grant up to £150 for the cost of the event insurance. The Council agreed to ask what the funds raised at the events are to be used for.

**Action: The Clerk is to forward a cheque once the cost of the event insurance has been established.**

(iii) To Agree the Statement of Accounts as at 31st March 2014

The Statement of Accounts as at 31st March 2014 had been circulated to the Council, prior to the meeting, and were agreed.

(iv) To Agree the Audit Commission Annual Return for the Year Ended 31st March 2014

A copy of the completed Annual Return had been circulated to the Council, prior to the meeting.

The Council unanimously agreed that the Audit Commission Annual Return should be duly signed and forwarded to the external auditor.

The Clerk advised that Sproughton Parish Council has been selected to receive an intermediate audit by the external auditor.

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

There were no matters to consider.

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

Cllr H.Davies advised the next meeting of the Tithe Barn Panel is due to be held on 28th April 2014. She advised she has arranged for an electrician to visit the Tithe Barn, on 17th April and has asked the warden, Jane Draper, to advise them of all outstanding electrical issues.

13 TO CONSIDER A REVISED ALLOTMENT HOLDERS AGREEMENT

There were no updates to report.

14 STREET LIGHTING

There were no updates to report.

15 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

Cllr G.Moore referred to the corrosion of the tractor unit; Wicksteed has advised the corrosion is irreparable.

8.20 p.m. David Busby, County Cllr left the meeting.

Cllr J.Kitson advised Mike Herbert Ltd is continuing running repairs to the children's play area.

16 PFMC ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION, INCLUDING PFMC SPC REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER

Cllr H.Davies advised the opening ceremony of the new equipment went well.

8.25 p.m. Cllr V.Durrant arrived at the meeting.

Cllr H.Davies advised the PFMC continues to establish ownership of the playing field boundaries. Cllr S. Curl requested the matter of occupancy of the children's play area be addressed as it is causing issues for the Parish Council regarding funding and grant applications. Cllr H.Davies agreed to raise the issue with the PFMC.

**Action: Cllr H.Davies is to raise the issue of occupancy of the children's play area with the PFMC.**

17 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr J.Kitson advised he and Cllr V.Durrant had met with Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr in order to seek confirmation from Babergh District Council of the relevance of the Core Strategy relative to Sproughton parish. Cllr J.Kitson and Cllr V.Durrant considered the parish needs are met by the district and national planning policies, at this time and there would be no current need for a Sproughton Parish Plan.

18 TO CONSIDER 2014/2015 COMMUNITY ACTION SUFFOLK SUBSCRIPTION

The Council unanimously agreed to renew the Community Action Suffolk subscription for 2014/2015, at a cost of £30.00.

**Action: The Clerk is to renew the Community Action Suffolk subscription.**

19 TO CONSIDER 2014/2015 SALC SUBSCRIPTION

The Council unanimously agreed to renew the SALC subscription for 2014/2015, at a cost of £459.00.

**Action: The Clerk is to renew the SALC subscription.**

20 TO CONSIDER THE RECIPIENT OF THE SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL 2014 LOCAL HERO AWARD

The Council unanimously agreed to award the 2014 Local Hero Award to Sqdn Ldr John Bates, for his voluntary services to the Sproughton Senior Citizens Club, and in the past, the Parish Council.

21 FOR INFORMATION - READING ROOM & CARETAKERS HOUSE CHARITY AND SPROUGHTON PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL COMMUNITY RESOURCES

An information document had been circulated to the Parish Council, prior to the meeting, regarding the administration of a number of assets, acquired with funds/grants from the Reading Room & Caretakers House Charity (RR&CHC). The Council considered that whoever owns a piece of equipment should take responsibility for its maintenance and use.

22 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr V.Durrant advised he has received an email from Mr Don Goulding regarding the proposed cycle path between Bramford and Sproughton, along the B1113. A meeting is to be held on either 1st or 2nd

May 2014, with Suffolk County Council Highways. Cllr V.Durrant advised he proposes to ask a representative of the Transport Panel to attend the meeting. He referred to the risk assessment/safety audit that he has requested be undertaken at the C442/Sproughton Road corner and advised he continues to pursue the matter. He advised he has received no feedback regarding the recent public notification of the proposed extension of the speed limit on the B1113. Cllr S.Curl suggested he contact Mr S Merry, of Suffolk County Council. Cllr V.Durrant referred to the response drafted by Mr C Harris, regarding the proposed Greenhouse project, at Great Blakenham. He agreed to forward the response to the Clerk for her to submit it to Mid Suffolk District Council, as the response of the Parish Council.

**Action: The Clerk is to forward the response to Mid Suffolk District Council.**

Cllr V.Durrant advised Mr C Harris has received a response from the Information Commissioner, regarding the Freedom of Information request he had submitted to Mid Suffolk District Council, and the information not forthcoming.

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

The next Sproughton Parish Council meeting will be at 7.30pm, on 14th May 2014, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sproughton.

24 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Cllr H.Davies referred to the email received from PCSO Cohen and the news that she will no longer be working in the Sproughton area. She suggested a letter of thanks be sent to PCSO Cohen for her 'Spruce-Up' Sproughton initiative.

**Action: The Clerk is to write a letter of thanks to PCSO Cohen.**

Cllr V.Durrant advised an update regarding the SnOasis site had been recently published in the local newspaper, suggesting an alternative proposal to the ski centre.

Cllr G.Moore advised Ipswich Borough Council appear to meet their obligations of the Ipswich Local Plan Statement of Community Involvement by circulating 'round robin' type letters.

Summary of Actions

5 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5TH MARCH 2014

**Action: The Clerk is to write to the village organisations, who attended the meeting, held on 3rd March 2014 to consider a single grass cutting contract, that for the purposes of the Parish Council, the ride-on lawn mower would not need to be taxed and insured.**

10 FINANCE

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

**Action: The Clerk is to forward a cheque once the cost of the event insurance has been established.**

16 PFMC ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION, INCLUDING PFMC SPC REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER

**Action: Cllr H.Davies is to raise the issue of occupancy of the children's play area with the PFMC.**

18 TO CONSIDER 2014/2015 COMMUNITY ACTION SUFFOLK SUBSCRIPTION

**Action: The Clerk is to renew the Community Action Suffolk subscription.**

19 TO CONSIDER 2014/2015 SALC SUBSCRIPTION

**Action: The Clerk is to renew the SALC subscription.**

22 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

**Action: The Clerk is to forward the response to Mid Suffolk District Council.**

24 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

**Action: The Clerk is to write a letter of thanks to PCSO Cohen.**

The meeting closed at 9.08pm

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

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

