

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM,  
TITHE BARN, LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 22ND OCTOBER 2014, AT 7.30PM**

Councillors present:

Cllr S.Curl (Chairman), Cllr K.Barwick, Cllr H.Davies, Cllr V.Durrant, Cllr G.Moore

Mrs S. Frankis, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr

PC Tyrell

Special Constable Clarke

104 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

The Council resolved to receive the apologies from Cllr H.Davies, for her expected late arrival. Apologies were received from David Busby, County Cllr and Peter Jones, District Cllr.

105 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none received.

106 CONSIDERATION FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR A PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were none to consider.

107 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17TH SEPTEMBER 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th September 2014, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

108 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17TH SEPTEMBER 2014

Re. minute no. 14/15 102 The Clerk advised no response had been received from PC Tyrell or PCSO Ford regarding the report of cars parked at Lower Street, Sproughton.

109 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 15TH OCTOBER 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th October 2014, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

7.35pm The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from PC Tyrell and Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr.

PC Tyrell advised there had been four reported crimes in Sproughton for September 2014; one reported crime of theft of plant equipment at Church Lane, Sproughton, one reported crime of damage to a motor vehicle at Church Lane, Sproughton, one reported crime of theft from a motor vehicle at Hadleigh Road and one reported crime of GBH at Hadleigh Road. PC Tyrell advised the theft of catalytic converters from motor vehicles continues to be an issue and reminded vehicle owners to be vigilant.

Cllr V.Durrant advised he had received a report from Mr Blake, a Sproughton parishioner, who had submitted a report to Suffolk Police regarding the issue of vehicles parked at Lower Street and High Street, Sproughton. PC Tyrell agreed to ask PCSO Ford to monitor the area.

Cllr V.Durrant asked if PC Tyrell had been informed of when the extension to the speed limit on the B1113 would come into force; PC Tyrell advised she had not been notified.

7.50pm PC Tyrell and Special Constable Clarke left the meeting.

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised that Babergh District Council has launched the 2014/2015 Community Achievement Awards; the deadline for nominations is 1st December 2014. He advised there is an indicative overall joint saving of £400k per annum for Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils if both parties disposed of their current headquarters and a singular head office was established. He advised the turbine application is to go out for further consultation and is expected to go to Planning Committee in November 2014.

8.53pm The meeting was reconvened.

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

Cllr V.Durrant advised a meeting of the Transport Panel is due to be held on 23rd October 2014, in order to further consider the SnOasis S106 mitigation measures.

111 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.

112 FINANCE

(i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position

The statement of payments for September 2014 was approved.

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

A request for a contribution to the funding of the creation/installation of passing places for use by cyclists/pedestrians of the footpath alongside the B1113, between Bramford and Sproughton, had been received from Mr D Golding, on behalf of the Bramford to Sproughton Path Group. The budgeted cost of the project is £15k, of which £10k has been offered by Cllr John Field. The length of the footpath has already been skirted back to a satisfactory and usable width. The Parish Council supported the importance of exercise by walking and cycling and considered that the footpath, as it now is, ideally provides the provision for both. The priority for the Parish Council is to provide a footpath between Sproughton High Street and the A1071 junction; currently non existent. The Council voted three against and one abstention to offering financial support to the Bramford to Sproughton Path Group.

(iii) To Consider the Draft 2015/2016 Budget and Precept

A draft budget had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting. Cllr K.Barwick advised that the Finance Panel had prepared a draft budget and precept but due to variables not having been set by Babergh District Council, definite figures could not be set at this time.

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

There were no requests to consider.

114 TO CONSIDER TITHE BARN WARDENS JOB DESCRIPTION AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS

This matter remains outstanding.

115 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

Cllr K.Barwick advised he expects to carry out the agreed repair works next week.

116 P.F.M.C. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION, INCLUDING PFMC SPC REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER

No report was received.

117 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr V.Durrant advised he had discussed the matter of a transport only element of a Neighbourhood Plan with Mr C. Harris.

The Parish Council continued to express concerns regarding inclusions/omissions of the Babergh District Council '123' list and the opportunities for the Parish Council to submit comments and recommendations to Babergh District Council.

8.10pm Cllr H.Davies arrived at the meeting.

118 TO AGREE A BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR A NEW PARISH COUNCIL OFFICE COMPUTER

The Council agreed to set an expenditure budget of £750.00 for the purchase of new hardware and software. The Council agreed to transfer the purchase funds from the Equipment Reserve fund.

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

Cllr H.Davies advised that due to new work commitments she would be unable to devote any time to Tithe Barn matters before next year.

Cllr S.Curl advised that following recent flooding of the Tithe Barn courtyard, he and the Clerk had met with Mr M Levett to consider mitigation measures.

120 TO CONSIDER THE TITHE BARN ENERGY PROVIDER RENEWAL OPTIONS

The Clerk advised that the current E.ON contract is due to end on 24th January 2015. The Council agreed to accept the E.ON one year contract offered by U Switch; unit price 10.7072 p/kwh, daily standing charge 25.92p/day. The new charges equate to an expected annual saving of £885.00.

121 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 12th November 2014, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sproughton.

122 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Cllr K.Barwick advised he had received a request from the allotment holders for the possibility of the B1113 entrance being converted to a splayed entrance. The Clerk is to forward a request to the agents for the Felix Thornley Cobbold Trust.

**Action: The Clerk is to contact the agents for the Felix Thornley Cobbold Trust.**

Cllr S.Curl advised he had received a request from Mr Blake, a Sproughton parishioner, that the village sign be removed, as he considered the design to be inappropriate. Cllr S.Curl has asked Ms D. Bradbury, the village recorder, for details of any historical significance for the design.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

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

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