

MINUTES OF THE SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM, TITHE BARN, LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 14th JANUARY 2015, AT 7.30PM

Councillors present:

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

Mrs S. Frankis, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

David Busby, County Cllr

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr

140 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

Apologies were received from Peter Jones, District Cllr.
PCSO Denise Ford

141 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

142 CONSIDERATION FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR A PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were none to consider.

143 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th NOVEMBER 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th November 2014, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

144 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th NOVEMBER 2014

Re. minute no. 14/15 127 The Clerk advised that permission had been granted for the B1113 allotment entrance gate and side railings to be set back from the road. Cllr K.Barwick agreed to obtain quotes for the materials required to undertake the work.

145 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10TH DECEMBER 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2014, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

146 TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION TO FILL SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Peter Powell, of 8 Barker Close, Sproughton as a member of Sproughton Parish Council. Mr Powell completed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and duly joined the meeting.

7.35pm The meeting was adjourned to receive reports from David Busby, County Cllr and Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr.

David Busby, County Cllr advised of a number of substantial planning developments proposed around Pinewood which would have a significant impact on the existing roads. He expects that the proposed developments would generate an additional 4,000 car movements a day; no traffic assessments have as yet been undertaken.

7.40pm Cllr H.Davies arrived at the meeting.

David Busby, County Cllr advised that Sproughton Primary School is keen to expand by adding three additional classrooms to the existing building; proposals are currently being discussed with Suffolk County Council.

Cllr V.Durrant asked if there has been any feedback regarding the linking of the traffic light systems around Ipswich. As the scheme is not yet completed no feedback was known about.

Cllr V.Durrant advised that he will be asking Mr S.Merry, of Suffolk County Council to consider the use of temporary speed cameras along the newly extended 30mph stretch of the B1113.

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised that the turbine application was refused planning permission. He advised it is expected that Babergh District Council will maintain a 0% Council Tax increase by accepting the Governments incentive payment. He advised the consultation of the Babergh District Council and Mid Suffolk District Council Joint Local Plan will start on 19th January 2015 for an eight week period. He advised there were no special issues that would affect Sproughton; the nearest would be at Whitton.

7.55pm The meeting was reconvened.

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

Cllr V.Durrant advised of his intentions to draft a short update to be published in the In Touch magazine, following the meeting held on 24th November 2014 with Mr P Isbell, of Mid Suffolk District Council, Mr McManus, of Suffolk County Council, David Busby, Suffolk County Cllr, Nicholas Ridley, Babergh District Cllr, Carol Grimsey and Steve Merry of SCC, Sproughton Parish Cllr V.Durrant and Mr S.Lavington to understand the current position with the Gt. Blakenham Residential S106 and the related Sproughton Mitigation Measures. The completion of the draft has been delayed by Mr P Isbell's delayed submission of his comments on the meeting notes following the meeting. Cllr V.Durrant advised that the general belief of those attending the meeting had been the understanding that Carole Grimsey, of Suffolk County Council had indicated that SCC would look jointly with Sproughton Parish Council Transport Panel at potential 'other measures' that could be implemented in Sproughton, over and above, the main SMM scheme which had now stalled. Carole Grimsey has now indicated that SCC would not carry out any further design work on the main SMM scheme or the 'other measures' until the £50k S106 money was forthcoming. Cllr V.Durrant stated that the Parish Council was dismayed at the positions taken by both MSDC and SCC regarding the SMM. Neither party would take responsibility for the non-collection of the money, and are specifically disappointed with SCC, who had spent £25k on a design for the SMM, which then failed their own Safety Audit. The Parish Council is also concerned that Orbit Homes were also going through the process of making another Planning Application for the Residential Development, and even though they are increasing the number of homes by over 100, are now arguing that there will be no traffic impacts on Sproughton. What they are now suggesting is that they will not finance any SMMs.

Cllr V.Durrant advised the recent quarterly Lorry Watch report shows there were four contraventions during the period; there had been six contraventions during the previous quarter. He expressed his concerns that the reduced figures were more likely due to contraventions not being recorded rather than HGV's not passing through the village. He advised that a survey of pedestrians and cyclists using the Bramford to Sproughton footpath had been undertaken today.

- 148 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.
- 149 FINANCE
 (i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position
 The statements of payments for November and December 2014 were approved.
 (ii) To Consider Requests for Grants
 There were no requests to consider.
 (iii) To Consider the Draft 2015/2016 Budget and Set the 2015/2016 Precept
 The Council unanimously agreed to set the 2015/2016 budget at £49,573.00.
 The Council unanimously agreed to set the 2015/2016 precept at £49,573.00; this would reflect a 0.8045% reduction.
Action: The Clerk is to complete and forward the notification of precept requirement to Babergh District Council.
 (iv) To Agree Expenditure for Replacement Lawn Mower
 Following an issue with the Parish Council owned lawn mower, an inspection by Sproughton Garden Machinery showed that it is no longer viable to undertake repairs. The Council unanimously agreed to an expenditure budget of £350.00 for a replacement lawn mower.
Action: The Clerk is to liaise with Mike Herbert regarding the purchase of a replacement lawn mower.
 (v) Quarterly Credit Card Audit and Mid-Year Accounts Ledger Audit
 Cllr S.Curl continues to carry out the quarterly audit of the credit card statements.
 Cllr G.Moore agreed to carry out a mid-year audit of the accounts ledger.
Action: Cllr S.Curl is to carry out a quarterly audit of the credit card statements.
Action: Cllr G.Moore is to carry out a mid-year audit of the accounts ledger.
 (vi) To Agree to Transfer £169.01 from the Equipment Reserve to the General Fund
 The Council unanimously agreed to transfer £169.01 from the Equipment Reserve to the General Fund.
- 150 TO CONSIDER REQUESTS FOR MEMORIALS AT THE BURIAL GROUND AND RELATED MATTERS
 There were no requests to consider.
- 151 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE TITHE BARN PANEL AND RELATED MATTERS
 No report was received.
 Cllr V.Durrant suggested that a review of the condition of the Tithe Barn ridge thatch be undertaken.
Action: The Clerk is to contact the thatcher who last inspected the ridge thatch.
- 152 TO CONSIDER TITHE BARN WARDENS JOB DESCRIPTION
 The Clerk had circulated a draft Service Specification to the Council prior to the meeting. The Council accepted the draft on the basis that it is accepted by the warden, Jane Draper with no alterations.
Action: The Clerk is to forward a copy of the draft Service Specification to the Tithe Barn warden.
- 153 TO CONSIDER THE NOTIFICATION OF INTENTION TO INCREASE THE HOURLY RATE CHARGED BY MIKE HERBERT LTD

The Parish Council had received an email request from Mike Herbert Ltd asking the Parish Council to consider increasing the hourly rate paid. The Council agreed to accept Mike Herbert Ltd.'s suggested increase of 50p per hour, bringing the hourly rate to £10 per hour.

154 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

There were no updates to report.

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

Cllr H.Davies advised the P.F.M.C. A.G.M. had been held but she had been unable to attend. She advised that the barbed wire to the rear of the children's play area had been removed. The P.F.M.C. continue to ascertain ownership of the strip of land behind the children's play area. She advised there had recently been a problem with moles digging up the football pitch area; the matter has been resolved. She advised the Community Pay Back Scheme has been undertaking general maintenance works at the Playing Fields. She advised that Mr D.Lavington is working to issue Licences to Occupy. She advised that the proposed meeting between the Parish Council and the P.F.M.C. remained outstanding; she hopes the meeting can take place before 5th February 2015, the next meeting of the P.F.M.C. Cllr H.Davies advised that she and Mr D.Lavington had discussed a need for an extension to the pavilion.

156 VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS FOR PARISHES

Cllr V.Durrant advised he continues to consider the matter. David Busby, County Cllr reaffirmed he would be happy to fund the purchase of the equipment, which could then be shared for use by neighbouring parishes.

157 2014-2016 NATIONAL SALARY AWARD

The Council received notification of the 2014-2016 National Salary Award, as agreed by The National Joint Council for Local Government Services (NJC).

158 TO CONSIDER THE TERMS OF THE SPROUGHTON COMMUNITY SHOP C.I.C.'S OCCUPATIONAL LICENCE FOR THE PERIOD 1ST APRIL 2015 TO 31ST MARCH 2016

Action: The Clerk is to request a copy of the Sproughton Community Shop C.I.C.'s year end accounts, in order that the Council can begin the process of drafting a licence.

159 TO AGREE THE TIMES, DATES AND VENUES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS, THE PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 2015 TO MARCH 2016, AND THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

A draft list of proposed meeting dates had been circulated to the Council, prior to the meeting. The Council agreed to change the date of the Annual Parish meeting to 13th May 2015 and to change the date for the Annual Parish Council meeting to 20th May 2015; all other dates were agreed as drafted.

Action: The Clerk is to circulate the lists of dates to Sproughton Parish Councillors, David Busby, County Cllr, Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr, Peter Jones, District Cllr, PC Tyrell and PCSO Ford.

160 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 11th February 2015, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sproughton.

161 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Cllr V.Durrant advised that a resident of Lower Street, Sproughton had contacted him raising concerns regarding cars using the track around the village green as a short cut to avoid the Lower Street/High Street junction.

Cllr G.Moore noted the glazed door frames of the Tithe Barn midstrey doors were being stained by rain water filtering through the overhanging thatch and falling onto the wood; she wondered whether the Council should consider keeping the doors closed during the winter months to protect the wood.

Cllr V.Durrant advised that street light no: 152 is now working and that the old column has now been removed.

Cllr S.Curl advised he had received a report that the footpath along Hadleigh Road, near to the Red House was overgrown.

Summary of Actions

149 FINANCE

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

Action: The Clerk is to complete and forward the notification of precept requirement to Babergh District Council.

(iv) To Agree Expenditure for Replacement Lawn Mower

Action: The Clerk is to liaise with Mike Herbert regarding the purchase of a replacement lawn mower.

v) Quarterly Credit Card Audit and Mid-Year Accounts Ledger Audit

Action: Cllr S.Curl is to carry out a quarterly audit of the credit card statements.

Action: Cllr G.Moore is to carry out a mid-year audit of the accounts ledger.

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

Action: The Clerk is to contact the thatcher who last inspected the ridge thatch.

152 TO CONSIDER TITHE BARN WARDENS JOB DESCRIPTION

Action: The Clerk is to forward a copy of the draft Service Specification to the Tithe Barn warden.

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Action: The Clerk is to circulate the lists of dates to Sproughton Parish Councillors, David Busby, County Cllr, Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr, Peter Jones, District Cllr, PC Tyrell and PCSO Ford.

The meeting closed at 8.56pm

Chairman : _____

Date: _____

