

MINUTES OF THE SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM, TITHE BARN, LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 11th MARCH 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

Peter Jones, District Cllr

Mr K.Seager, Rev'd A.Shannon, Mr D.Shannon, Mr J.Webb

At the request of the Clerk, the Council agreed to add an agenda item in order to agree to transfer £231.66 from the Equipment Reserve fund to the General Fund.

179 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

PCSO D.Ford

180 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

181 CONSIDERATION FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR A PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were none to consider.

182 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th FEBRUARY 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th February 2015, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

183 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th FEBRUARY 2015

Re. minute no. 14/15 171 The Clerk advised she had today received a letter from the Tithe Barn warden, Jane Draper, asking if she needed to invoice the Parish Council for any back payment due for wedding receptions and parties that she had been on-call for and if so, when the payments could be backdated to. The Council unanimously agreed that the warden could invoice the Parish Council for additional payments backdated to September 2014; the Parish Council meeting held in September 2014 was the first opportunity the Council had had to consider the warden's proposal to make an on-call charge. The additional charge was calculated to be £191.00.

Action: The Clerk is to advise the Tithe Barn warden, Jane Draper that an invoice may be submitted to the Council for £191.00.

7.40pm The meeting was adjourned.

Mr K.Seager introduced himself as a member of Sproughton Events. He referred to the request that Sproughton Events had made to the Parish Council for the loan of the Tithe Barn tables and chairs to be used at the Millennium Green, at the fete to held on 28th June 2015, and for use of the Parish Council 'A'

frame outside the Tithe Barn, to advertise the event prior to the fete. The Parish Clerk had advised Sproughton Events prior to the meeting that the Council was unable to grant permission for the loan of the tables and chairs, as the Tithe Barn had been hired for a wedding reception the weekend of the fete and that she had not received confirmation from the hirers of their plans for the use of the Barn on the 28th June. As Sproughton Events were keen to finalise their arrangements for the fete, they asked if the hirers could be contacted. The Council agreed the hirers would be contacted to ascertain their intentions. With regards to the request to advertise the fete on the 'A' frame outside the Tithe Barn, the Parish Clerk had advised Sproughton Events prior to the meeting that the Council was unable to grant permission for its use on the pavement outside the Tithe Barn, but had suggested an alternative site for its use, as a compromise. Cllr S.Curl explained that the Clerk had not taken the decision independently of the Council, but had been applying a policy previously agreed by the Council. The Council agreed to consider the matter.

David Busby, County Cllr advised he had received a request for a grant from the Church Hall. He asked if the Parish Council had received a similar request. The Parish Council confirmed they had not received a grant request to assist with the payment for works to be carried out at the Church Hall.

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised the Babergh District Council budget had been set. He had been pleased to see a decrease in the Parish Council precept, which had enabled the overall Council Tax demand to show only a slight increase. He advised the CIL regulations are expected to be passed at a meeting to be held on 13th March 2015.

Cllr H.Davies asked that any news received by Babergh District Council associated with the proposed Taylor Wimpey 'Wolsey Grange' development, be forwarded to the Parish Council.

8.07pm The meeting was reconvened.

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

Cllr V.Durrant referred to a letter and associated plans dated 23 February 2014, received from Mr S. Merry, of Suffolk County, regarding the Sproughton Mitigation Measures. Following the extension of the 30mph speed limit, north of Sproughton, and the meeting held on 24 November 2014 involving the Parish Council, Mid Suffolk District Council (the planning authority) and Suffolk County Council (the Highways Authority), Mr S. Merry suggested it would be opportune to review the current situation and to suggest a way forward. Cllr V.Durrant expressed his disappointment regarding the lack of progress.

Cllr V.Durrant advised that enquiries had been received from residents asking if the new 30mph speed limit signs, on the B1113 north, could be larger. Assurances have been received from Mr S. Merry that the current signs are within the guidelines but that it would be possible to erect yellow surrounds to the signs to enlarge them. The Council agreed to request that yellow surrounds be added to the existing signs.

Action: Cllr V.Durrant is to request that Mr S. Merry arrange for yellow surrounds to be added to the existing signs.

Cllr V.Durrant advised that a response had been received from Suffolk County Cllr Graham Newman, regarding the concerns raised by the Parish Council of the recent A14/B1113 diversion through Sproughton. Cllr Newman wrote of his intentions to discuss the lack of communication on the A14 works with senior Highways Agency staff.

185 TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATION NO: B/15/00099/TEL

The Parish Council unanimously recommended no objection of planning application no: B/15/00099/TEL.

A list of planning applications and recommendations made by the Planning Committee since the last meeting had been circulated to the Council and noted.

186 FINANCE

(i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position

The statement of payments for February 2015 was approved.

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

A request had been received from Sproughton Events for a grant of £133.75 to pay for insurance for the fete to be held June 2015. Cllr S.Curl queried the post event grants awarded by Sproughton Events and the distribution of profits gained from the 2014 fete. Cllr S.Curl advised the grant awarding policy of the Parish Council meant that the application could not be considered at this time, as a grant had been previously awarded to Sproughton Events in this current financial year. The Parish Council agreed to consider the grant at the first meeting to be held in the new financial year.

8.30 pm Four members of the public left the meeting.

(iii) To Receive the Findings of the Quarterly Credit Card Audit and Mid-Year Accounts Ledger Audit

Cllr S.Curl advised he had carried out the quarterly credit card audit; there were no issues.

(iv) To Consider the Findings of the Annual Review of Internal Audit and Systems of Internal Control

The Council agreed to consider the findings at the next Parish Council meeting.

(v) To Agree to Transfer £231.66 from the Equipment Reserve Fund to the General Fund

The Council unanimously agreed to transfer £231.66 from the Equipment Reserve fund to the General Fund.

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

There were no requests to consider.

188 TITHE BARN

(i) To Receive the Report of the Tithe Barn Panel

No report was received.

(ii) To Consider a Review of the Hiring Rates

The Clerk asked that a review of the Tithe Barn hiring rates be undertaken as enquiries were being received for the hire of the Tithe Barn for 2016. Cllr H.Davies agreed to add an agenda item to consider the matter at the next Tithe Barn Panel meeting.

(iii) To Consider Appointment of Contractor for Barn Ridge Re-Thatch

The Council agreed that additional information was required to be able to consider the quotes received on an equal basis.

Action: The Clerk is to request further information.

189 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

There were no updates to report.

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

Cllr H.Davies had circulated an update to the Council prior to the meeting. She advised that she has sent a proposed agenda for a meeting with herself, Cllr P. Powell and the P.F.M.C., to the P.F.M.C. for their consideration. She advised that Mr D. Lavington is considering expanding the existing buildings at the Playing Fields and that he has received a donation of four benches from Ipswich Railway Station for use at the Playing Fields.

191 TO CONSIDER UPDATING THE PARISH PLAN

Cllr V.Durrant advised he has received a file containing the working papers and other associated documents used to set up the Sroughton Parish Plan. He suggested raising the proposal of updating the Parish Plan at the forthcoming Annual Parish meeting.

192 NEW LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME

The Clerk advised that the Quality Parish Council Scheme has been replaced by the new Local Council Award Scheme. She advised that as an existing Quality Status council, she had applied for the automatic transition to the Foundation level of the new Local Council Award Scheme; the Parish Council Foundation level accreditation will last until January 2016. The Council agreed to consider its eligibility of the Quality Award, Local Council Award Scheme, following the forthcoming May elections.

193 VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS FOR PARISHES

Cllr V.Durrant advised Mr S.Merry, of Suffolk County Council had directed him to an application form. Cllr V.Durrant advised the Transport Panel are to consider the matter.

194 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

The Clerk advised she had met with Mr Richard Howard, Sroughton Community Shop C.I.C. director. He had confirmed that it would be acceptable for the Community Shop C.I.C. to renew the Occupational Licence on the same terms as for the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015.

Action: The Clerk is to issue an Occupational Licence to Sroughton Community Shop C.I.C. for the period 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016.

195 REVIEW OF THE PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

The Council agreed to defer the matter until after the forthcoming May elections.

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

The next Sroughton Parish Council meeting will be at 7.30pm, on 8th April 2015, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sroughton.

197 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Cllr H.Davies advised she has been updating the website, including the Parish Council section.

Cllr V.Durrant advised that a full report of the background and current status of the Sroughton Mitigation Measures has been uploaded to the website. He asked why the summary document had not been included in the March issue of the In Touch magazine. Cllr S.Curl confirmed that he had forwarded the report to the editor of the magazine and agreed to ask why it been omitted.

The Council agreed to the Clerks suggestion that a request be made to the new owners of The Wild Man PH for a community bottle bank to be installed within the car park of the pub.

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised that the last date for submissions for the Village of the Year awards is 22nd May 2015.

Cllr V.Durrant advised he had drafted a response to the New Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan Document: Public Consultation (reg. 18). The Clerk agreed to circulate the draft to all councillors.

Summary of Actions

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Action: Cllr V.Durrant is to request that Mr S. Merry arrange for yellow surrounds to be added to the existing signs.

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The meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Chairman : _____

Date: _____