

**MINUTES OF THE SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM, TITHE BARN,
LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 8th APRIL 2015, AT 7.30PM**

Councillors present:

Cllr S.Curl (Chairman), Cllr K.Barwick, 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

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

The Council resolved to receive the apologies received from Cllr H.Davies, due to personal commitments.

PCSO D.Ford

2 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

3 CONSIDERATION FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR A PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were none to consider.

4 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th MARCH 2015

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

5 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11th MARCH 2015

There were no matters to consider.

7.34 pm The meeting was adjourned.

David Busby, County Cllr had circulated a written report to the Council, prior to the meeting. He advised that the County Council cabinet leadership had recently changed but the new leader had not yet been announced.

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr and the Parish Council thanked Peter Jones, District Cllr for the many years he had served the ward. Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised of his intention to write to Christine Thurlow regarding the 'Russetts' planning application, to request a site visit before the application is determined at Committee.

7.40 pm The meeting was reconvened.

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

Cllr V.Durrant advised that a meeting is to be held on 28th May when representatives of Suffolk County Council, the Highways Agency and the Police Authority will meet with members of the Parish Council and its Transport Panel to consider the recent A14 ONDR issues. He intends to draft a list of questions and comments for the Clerk to forward to Mr G.Newman, of Suffolk County Council, prior to the meeting.

Cllr V.Durrant advised that at a recent meeting, the Transport Panel considered the response of Mr S.Merry, of Suffolk County Council regarding the Sproughton Mitigation Measures and his request for the Transport Panel to identify areas of issue. Cllr V.Durrant has annotated a drawing of the parish with areas of issue, which he will forward to the Clerk for return to Mr S.Merry.

7 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE PLANING 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.

8 FINANCE

(i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position

The statement of payments for March 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 in June 2015. The Council unanimously agreed to offer a grant of £133.75 to Sproughton Events.

Action: The Clerk is to forward a cheque for £133.75 to Sproughton Events.

(iii) To Agree the Statement of Accounts as at 31st March 2015

The Statement of Accounts as at 31st March 2015 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 2015

This matter will be considered at the next meeting.

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

There were no requests to consider.

10 TITHE BARN

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

No report was received.

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

The Clerk advised she had met with S.A.Pye, the thatcher who last undertook the re-thatching of the ridge, in 2006. He had advised that the full thatch has been worked in reed and should last for up to 50 years and that the ridge has a further 3-4 years 'life' remaining. The Council agreed to accept the advice of S.A.Pye and to diarise a decision in 2017.

11 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

There were no updates to report.

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

There were no updates to report.

13 TO CONSIDER THE TITHE BARN WARDEN'S REQUEST FOR BACKDATED PAYMENTS

Following the Council's offer, dated 12th March 2015, to the warden to submit an invoice for additional payments backdated to September 2014, for £191.00, the Council has received a further letter from the warden, asking for the payments to be backdated to 1st August 2014. A letter of intention to vary the job specification by making an on-call charge from the warden, was received by the Council on 4th August 2014; the Council does not meet during August due to it being the summer holiday period. The first opportunity the Council had had to consider the matter was the meeting held in September 2014,

although the final agreement, by both parties, of a revised Tithe Barn warden job specification, which was recorded at a Parish Council meeting was 11th February 2015. The Council unanimously agreed to adhere to the decision to offer a backdated payment of £191.00.

Action: The Clerk is to notify the warden of the Council's decision.

14 TO AGREE TO UNDERWRITE THE 2015 SPROUGHTON BEER FESTIVAL

The Council unanimously agreed to underwrite the 2015 Sproughton Beer Festival by £6,085.00.

15 TO CONSIDER THE 2015/2016 COMMUNITY ACTION SUFFOLK SUBSCRIPTION

The Council unanimously agreed to renew the Community Action Suffolk Subscription.

Action: The Clerk is to arrange for the Community Action Suffolk subscription to be renewed.

16 TO CONSIDER THE RECIPIENT OF THE SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL LOCAL HERO AWARD FOR 2015

The Council agreed to consider the matter off-line.

17 VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS FOR PARISHES

Cllr V.Durrant advised he has drafted a note, to be included with the next 'In Touch' Parish Council article, calling for volunteers to take part in both a Speed-Watch Scheme and VAS scheme. He advised he has completed the VAS forms, which will be returned to Mr S.Merry, of Suffolk County Council.

18 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 20th May 2015, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sproughton.

19 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Cllr V.Durrant advised he had been contacted by Jackie Sears, who had expressed an interest in joining the Parish Council at the forthcoming elections.

Cllr P.Powell asked who was responsible for road name signs. Cllr S.Curl advised the district council is responsible for the maintenance of road name signs.

Cllr K.Barwick gave his apologies as he will be unable to attend the Parish Council meeting to be held on 20th May 2015.

Summary of Actions

8 FINANCE

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

Action: The Clerk is to forward a cheque for £133.75 to Sproughton Events.

13 TO CONSIDER THE TITHE BARN WARDEN'S REQUEST FOR BACKDATED PAYMENTS

Action: The Clerk is to notify the warden of the Council's decision.

15 TO CONSIDER THE 2015/2016 COMMUNITY ACTION SUFFOLK SUBSCRIPTION

Action: The Clerk is to arrange for the Community Action Suffolk subscription to be renewed.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Chairman : _____

Date: _____

