

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT THE TITHE BARN, LOWER STREET,  
SPROUGHTON ON WEDNESDAY 13TH MAY 2015**

Mr S.Curl - Chairman of Sproughton Parish Council  
Mrs S.Frankis - Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

16 members of the public attended the meeting, 4 of whom were Sproughton Parish Councillors

Apologies for absence were received from:

Mr & Mrs Earey, County Cllr, David Busby

1 WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Cllr Simon Curl opened the meeting at 7.30pm, introducing himself, Mrs Sue Frankis, the Parish Clerk and welcoming all of those present.

2 TO READ, CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH MEETING HELD ON 7TH MAY 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014 were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting and were duly signed.

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Re. minute no. 14/3; 13/4

Cllr V.Durrant advised that progress of the Snoasis S106 Mitigation Measures for Sproughton were disappointing. The Parish Council has continued discussions with Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council (MSDC) however the situation has now stalled. To date, MSDC has failed to collect the S106 payment of £50K; the Parish Council understands the developer is now in discussions with MSDC to re-negotiate the payment.

Cllr V.Durrant advised that, at the request of Mr S.Merry, of Suffolk County Council, the Parish Council Transport Panel has annotated a drawing of the parish with areas of traffic issues. The drawing has been forwarded to Suffolk County Council.

Re. minute no. 14/10

Mr J.Webb asked if there were any updates regarding a defibrillator unit being installed within the community. Cllr V.Durrant advised the Parish Council had taken advice from St. John's Ambulance, regarding the matter. The Council had considered that in a place of work there would always be someone in attendance to use a unit but the question would be where to site a unit within the community. It was agreed the matter could be included as an item for consideration in a revised/new round of a Parish Plan questionnaire.

4 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

The written Annual Report of the Parish Council was presented. Cllr S.Curl advised the level of councillor vacancies remains a concern and is a limiting factor in what issues and tasks

the Council can undertake at any one time. He thanked all Councillors and the Clerk for their continued work and support in serving the community.

Mr S.Lavington considered the purchase of the former sugar beet site by a local authority was better than had it been bought by a private developer. He considered the conservation aspect of the island site was important and suggested the Parish Council should contact the relevant parties. Cllr V.Durrant confirmed that contact had been made, initially regarding the security of the site and its proposed use. He advised the Parish Council has written to the CEO of Ipswich Borough Council to ask that they engage with the Parish Council, as stakeholders, regarding any future development of the site.

Mr J.Webb asked for confirmation of the extent of the land purchased by Ipswich Borough Council. Cllr H.Davies advised that some pockets of land are owned by Trinity College.

Mr S.Lavington acknowledged the low number of Council members and accepted this has an effect on the work the Parish Council undertakes. He considered the "Council at the moment projects a remoteness" and that the person in the street is put-off, especially the young. He considered that the work of a Council ranges from social well-being through to the statutory duties but that Sproughton Parish Council fails to meet the needs of the Parish within the middle of this scope.

5 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS, THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND THE COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

A written report of the District Cllrs was presented. A written report had been received by the Parish Clerk, from David Busby, County Cllr but not in time to present to the meeting.

Mr D.Lavington asked if there is much of a police presence at Parish Council meetings. Cllr S.Curl advised that attendance has dwindled.

6 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS

Written and verbal reports were presented by Sproughton Events, who thanked the Parish Council for a grant, the loan of tables and chairs for their forthcoming event and use of the 'A' frame to advertise the event; All Saint's Church; Sproughton Millennium Green Trust; Sproughton Playing Field Management Committee, Cllr H. Davies thanked Mr D.Lavington; (8.45pm Mr K Seager and Cllr K.Barwick left the meeting), and Sproughton Community Shop C.I.C., Cllr H.Davies thanked Mr & Mrs Lavington. (8.55pm Rev. Shannon & Mr Shannon left the meeting).

7 TO RECEIVE THE PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2015

The annual accounts of Sproughton Parish Council, for the year ended 31st March 2015, were presented. The accounts had been approved at the Parish Council meeting held on 8th April 2015.

8 TO RECEIVE THE READING ROOM & CARETAKERS HOUSE CHARITY ACCOUNTS AND THE SPROUGHTON ALMSHOUSE AND RELIEF IN NEED CHARITY ACCOUNTS

The annual accounts of the Reading Room & Caretakers House Charity, Sproughton and the Sproughton Almshouse and Relief in Need Charity Accounts were presented.

Cllr V.Durrant thanked the active members of the Sproughton Parish Council Transport Panel. He advised there has been a call for volunteers to undertake the Speedwatch Scheme and VAS. The Parish Council and Transport Panel will not be committing to the schemes without the support of volunteers to run them.

9 PARISH PLAN

Cllr P.Powell advised the Sproughton Parish Plan is now so out of date that it doesn't address new issues that would/could affect the parish. He presented the options available to the parish; parish plan vs neighbourhood plan. It was agreed there would be a need for volunteers to undertake the project.

9.20pm Mrs J.Webb left the meeting.

10 MATTERS RAISED BY PARISHIONERS

Mr D.Lavington advised that Sproughton Social Club was now open to all parishioners.

There being no further business to consider, the Chairman thanked those present for attending and duly closed the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm