

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM, TITHE BARN, LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 20<sup>th</sup> MAY 2015, AT 7.30PM**

Councillors present:

Cllr S.Curl (Chairman), Cllr H.Davies, Cllr V.Durrant, Cllr P.Powell

Mrs S. Frankis, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

David Busby, County Cllr

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr

1 member of the public

24 ELECTION OF CHAIR

The Council voted unanimously in favour of Cllr S.Curl being re-elected as Chairman to Sproughton Parish Council.

25 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE BY CHAIR

Cllr S.Curl duly signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

26 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

The Council voted unanimously in favour of Cllr H.Davies being elected as Vice-Chair to Sproughton Parish Council.

27 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

The Council resolved to receive the apologies received from Cllr K.Barwick, due to personal commitments.

Barry Gasper, District Cllr

28 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

29 CONSIDERATION FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR A PECUNIARY INTEREST

The Clerk advised she had received two requests for dispensations for pecuniary interests, both from Cllr P.Powell. The Clerk granted dispensations to Cllr P.Powell to allow him to participate, or participate further, in any discussion relating to the anticipated development by Ipswich Borough Council of the former British Sugar (Sugar Beet Factory) Site, and to participate in any vote, or further vote, taken on that business by that body; and to participate, or participate further, in any discussion relating to the anticipated mixed development by Taylor Wimpey at Chantry Vale ( the land bordered by A1071, A1214 and A14), and to participate in any vote, or further vote, taken on that business by that body.

**Action: The Clerk is to write to Cllr P.Powell to advise that dispensations have been granted.**

30 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

31 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2015

There were no matters to consider.

7.36 pm The meeting was adjourned.

David Busby, County Cllr advised today was the start of the 'Ten for Ten' Health and Wellbeing Board initiative; a scheme to encourage people to walk ten minutes a day for ten days.

Cllr V.Durrant advised the Parish Council had written to Mr S.Merry, of Suffolk County Council, asking him to advise of (i) when the yellow backgrounds would be added to the new 30mph signs on the B1113, north and (ii) when the overhanging vegetation obscuring road signs would be cut back. David Busby, County Cllr agreed to contact Mr S.Merry to request an update, including an update on the status of the Parish Council's VAS application.

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised he had been elected as Chairman of Babergh District Council for 2015-16. He advised the developers of the proposed 'turbine' planning application have indicated they are unlikely to appeal against the Babergh District Council decision to refuse permission. He advised the 'Russetts' application is likely to be approved by 'Committee' at the Babergh District Council meeting, to be held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015; Committee members are scheduled to undertake a site visit on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015.

Cllr P.Powell asked how he could obtain the details of the 1986 public enquiry into the future development of Chantry Vale; Nicholas Ridley, District Council was unable to offer any suggestions.

Cllr P.Powell noted the Babergh District Council planning department appears to willingly assist developers to move proposed applications forward, before submission, but that no-one appears to work with the Parish Council, by notifying and advising it.

7.55 pm The meeting was reconvened.

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

Cllr V.Durrant advised that a meeting is to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> 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 has drafted 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 noted he has not seen police speed cameras in action within the Parish, recently.

33 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.

34 FINANCE

(i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position

The statement of payments for April 2015 was approved.

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

A request had been received from Sproughton Sports Football Club, via Sproughton Playing Field Management Committee, for a grant to pay for grass cutting during the closed season. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to offer a grant of £243.25, to be held by Sproughton Playing Field Management Committee on behalf of Sproughton Sports Football Club, until such time as a demand for payment has been issued by the grass cutting contractor.

**Action: The Clerk is to forward a cheque for £243.25 to Sproughton Playing Field Management Committee.**

(iii) To Agree the Annual Return for the Year Ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

This matter was considered at the Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

(iv) To Receive the Findings of the Internal Auditor's Report

The Clerk had circulated a scanned copy of the report to the Council, prior to the meeting. The Clerk advised the Parish Council has now been registered with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO).

(v) To Allocate the General Fund as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

The Clerk had analysed the General Fund as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 and circulated the details to the Council, prior to the meeting. The Council unanimously agreed to allocate the funds as advised.

**Action: The Clerk is to transfer £40, 670.09 from the General Fund to specific reserve accounts.**

Cllr S. Curl considered funds precepted for specific reserve accounts should be allocated before the year end. The Council agreed to consider the matter at the next Parish Council meeting.

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

The Parish Council granted permission for memorials to be erected in memory of the late Dorothy Day, Roy and Mary Mills, and Roy Warner.

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

Cllr H.Davies advised matters raised and considered at a recent Tithe Barn Panel meeting included; a complaint received from Mr M.Taylor regarding disturbances from a party held at the Barn; courtyard lighting; Tithe Barn refurbishments and further developments. The Clerk confirmed an engineer had inspected the sound box and it was now working.

37 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

There were no updates to report.

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

Cllr H.Davies advised the P.F.M.C. had issued Occupational Licences to the sports groups. She advised the new benches are to be installed shortly and there is an on-going pest issue with moles. She advised that she and Cllr P.Powell are due to meet with the P.F.M.C. on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

Cllr S.Curl asked if the Occupational Licences included specifics regarding annual rental amounts. Cllr H.Davies advised she understood the licences were not amount specific.

39 TO CARRY OUT AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CLERK'S ENTITLEMENT TO AN AUTOMATIC PENSION SCHEME

As an employer, the Parish Council is required to carry out an assessment of the Clerk's entitlement to an automatic pension scheme.

**Action: Cllr S.Curl and Cllr P.Powell are to consider the matter.**

40 TO CONSIDER 2015/2016 SALC SUBSCRIPTION

The Council unanimously agreed to renew the Parish Council SALC subscription for 2015/2016.

41 CORRESPONDENCE-TO CONSIDER PARTNERSHIP WITH SPROUGHTON WARD, THE IPSWICH HOSPITAL CHARITY

The Clerk advised she has requested further information, in order for the Parish Council to consider the matter.

42 REVIEW OF THE PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

The Clerk is to allocate each councillor with a subject to review.

43 THE NEW COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME

The Clerk advised the Council currently meets the requirement that two thirds of councillors stood for election, should the Council resolve to work towards Quality Award level. The Council agreed to consider the matter at the meeting to be held September 2015.

44 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 10<sup>th</sup> June 2015, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sproughton.

Cllr H.Davies gave her apologies as she will be unable to attend the meeting.

45 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS

Cllr H.Davies suggested asking the Sproughton parishioner, who stood as a Green Party candidate at the recent District Council election, be asked to join the Parish Council. Cllr S.Curl advised he has already tried to contact her.

Cllr H.Davies referred to the comment made by Mr S.Lavington, at the Annual Parish meeting, that the Parish Council projects a remoteness; she offered to ask him to articulate an explanation.

Cllr P.Powell advised he has drafted an article to be published on the Parish Council website and the In Touch magazine regarding a revised Parish Plan.

Summary of Actions

29 CONSIDERATION FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR A PECUNIARY INTEREST

**Action: The Clerk is to write to Cllr P.Powell to advise that dispensations have been granted.**

34 FINANCE

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

**Action: The Clerk is to forward a cheque for £243.25 to Sproughton Playing Field Management Committee.**

(v) To Allocate the General Fund as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

**Action: The Clerk is to transfer £40, 670.09 from the General Fund to specific reserve accounts.**

39 TO CARRY OUT AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CLERK'S ENTITLEMENT TO AN AUTOMATIC PENSION SCHEME

**Action: Cllr S.Curl and Cllr P.Powell are to consider the matter.**

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

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

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