

**MINUTES OF THE SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM, TITHE BARN,
LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 11TH NOVEMBER 2015, AT 7.30PM**

Councillors present:

Cllr S.Curl (Chairman), Cllr K.Barwick, Cllr H.Davies, Cllr P.Powell

Mrs S. Frankis, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

David Busby, County Cllr

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr

Mrs V. Mason, member of the public

147 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

Apologies were received from Barry Gasper, District Cllr.

148 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

149 CONSIDERATION FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR A PECUNIARY INTEREST

None were received.

150 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7TH OCTOBER 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2015, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

151 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7TH OCTOBER 2015

Re. minute no: 15/16 131 Cllr S.Curl advised he had spoken to Mr C.Harris regarding the chairmanship of the Transport Panel.; Mr C.Harris felt unable to take on the role. Cllr S.Curl agreed to approach Mr D. Pryce to ask if he would be willing to take on the role of chairman of the Transport Panel.

Action: Cllr S.Curl is to approach Mr D. Pryce to ask if would be willing to take on the role of chairman of the Transport Panel.

All other actions had been carried out as minuted.

152 PUBLIC FORUM/PARTICIPATION, INCLUDING REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

David Busby, County Cllr advised the County's firefighters are required to make budget savings of £1.3m, suggesting there will be cuts to the number of engines and firefighters. Lowestoft units will be required to make 25% cuts, Bury St. Edmunds, 33% cuts and Ipswich, 50% cuts. He advised the proposals put forward appear to be reasonable and workable; resources are currently shared with Norfolk and Essex. He advised a public consultation began today, for a 14 week period; the consultation details are available at www.opinionresearch.co.uk/suffolkirmb. Cllr H.Davies agreed to publish the details on the Parish Council website and Facebook page, with a link to the public consultation. Cllr Busby advised he had attended a meeting on 9th November 2015, at which Mr T. Passmore, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and the Assistant Chief Constable presented how they will respond to budget cuts. They are considering reassigning resources to more serious crimes. In response to this suggestion, Cllr Busby had asked if services could be taken on by other parties; the response was that it would be considered necessary. Cllr Busby advised the recent visit to the proposed Wolsey Grange site, that he had arranged,

hadn't quite gone to plan. He had organised the visit to be at the site at a time when the group should have encountered high traffic congestion, in order to demonstrate traffic issues in the area. However, traffic volumes were low at the time of the visit. He advised the group had refused to visit other proposed development sites in the area; this could have demonstrated the cumulative effect on the infrastructure. He advised that Babergh District Council is likely to determine the Wolsey Grange after Christmas.

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr advised the 'Russetts' application is being delayed by S106 negotiations. He advised that Babergh District Council is likely to increase the 2016/2017 Council Tax budget however this would not be more than 1.99%, as this would 'trigger' a Government imposed referendum.

Cllr H.Davies raised concerns regarding the recent comment made by Mr P. Isbell; he had implied that a planning application is likely to be approved if the proposed development is on a Local Plan allocated site.

Mrs V. Mason asked for an update regarding the proposed development of the Church Lane site, and raised concerns regarding the impact of access during and post development. Cllr Ridley advised planning permission had been granted for the development of the site 12 months ago. Cllr S.Curl requested that Cllr Ridley ask Babergh District Council for a formal notification of the planning decision/status of the application, as the Parish Council had received no notice.

Action: Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr is to ask Babergh District Council to forward a formal notification of the planning decision/status of the Church Lane application, to the Parish Council.

Cllr Busby and Cllr Ridley agreed to liaise with Mrs Mason regarding her matters of concern.

Mrs V. Mason asked if there were any updates regarding the future development of the former sugar beet site. Cllr Ridley advised there were no updates to report.

153 TRANSPORT PANEL AND RELATED TRAFFIC MATTERS

No report was received.

154 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.

7.55pm Mrs V. Mason left the meeting.

155 FINANCE

(i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position

The statement of payments for October 2015 was approved.

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

Further to the request received from Mrs J. Webb for a grant of £360.00, and free use of the Barley Room for a first aid training course for village organisations and residents, Cllr H.Davies has spoken to her regarding the matter. Cllr H.Davies suggested that a course should be available to adults and children, and should include training related to sports injuries. Cllr H.Davies advised she would assist Mrs Webb to revise her proposal, which could then be considered at the December meeting of the Council. She suggested that Mrs Webb omits reference to a defibrillator from her grant request as Cllr P.Powell has researched the matter on behalf of the Parish Council.

Cllr P.Powell advised that the Parish Council would be eligible to submit a grant application to the British Heart Foundation Defibrillator award scheme. The British Heart Foundation are offering grants for product units and training; the Parish Council would be liable for the maintenance of the unit, including the cost of replacement batteries, and would need to provide an electricity supply for the unit. The

Council agreed to apply to the British Heart Foundation for a grant and were minded to site a defibrillator unit at the Tithe Barn.

Action: Cllr P.Powell is to submit a grant application to the British Heart Foundation for a defibrillator unit and training.

The Clerk had circulated an email, received from the Sproughton Tennis Club, to the Council prior to the meeting, which advised the Council that the PFMC will no longer submit a S106 application on behalf of the Tennis Club. Cllr H.Davies advised she had received an email from the PFMC which inferred that they were supporting an application. The Clerk is to establish the status of the S106 application with the Tennis Club.

Action: The Clerk is to establish the status of the S106 application with the Tennis Club.

(iii) To Receive the Findings of the Quarterly Credit Card Audit

Cllr P.Powell advised he had carried out an audit of the credit card statements and there were no matters to report.

(iv) To Consider the Draft 2016-2017 Budget and Precept

A draft budget had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting. Cllr S.Curl advised the Finance Panel had prepared a draft budget of £54,760 and precept of £49,110 but due to variables not having yet been set by Babergh District Council, final figures could not be set at this time.

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

The Council unanimously agreed to grant permission for a memorial to be erected in memory of the late Norman and Rosemary Goodwin.

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

There were no updates to report.

158 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA, INCLUDING RECEIPT OF THE 2015 PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORT AND TO AGREE A PROGRAM OF EXPENDITURE

A copy of the 2015 Play Area Inspection Report had been circulated to the Council, prior to the meeting. Cllr H.Davies advised she had formulated the inspection findings onto a spreadsheet, for ease of reference, which she had circulated to the Council. Cllr P.Powell advised the Council he had met with Mr M. Herbert, who had begun to address a number of the issues raised within the report. The Council agreed the budget for the repair works would be the reserve funds and the 2015 precept funds held for the play area.

Action: Cllr P.Powell is to contact Wickstead Leisure and arrange for them to provide a quote for the necessary repair works.

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

Cllr H.Davies advised the PFMC has begun to prepare a list of requirements for a new changing room building. She advised the Sproughton Bowls Club is considering installing a defibrillator unit within their club building.

160 REVIEW OF THE PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT

The Council continues to undertake a review of the risk assessment document.

161 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The proposed meeting had not taken place due to the unavailability of a number of the volunteers. The Clerk is to arrange an informal meeting, with a view to talking around aspirations.

Action: The Clerk is to arrange a meeting.

- 162 TO ADOPT A MEDIA POLICY
There were no updates to report.
- 163 ANNUAL REVIEW OF SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS
The Clerk had circulated a revised draft Financial Regulations document to the Council, prior to the meeting. The Council unanimously agreed to adopt the revised Financial Regulations. The Council unanimously agreed to adopt the revised Parish Council Standing Orders, as previously circulated to the Council.
- 164 TO AGREE A POLICY ON THE USE OF PARISH COUNCIL RESOURCES (TABLES ETC.) FOR NON PARISH COUNCIL EVENTS
There were no updates to report.
- 165 TO CONSIDER RIVER GIPPING TRUST MEMBERSHIP
The Council unanimously agreed to accept an offer to join the River Gipping Trust for twelve months, at a cost of £25.
Action: The Clerk is to arrange an annual membership of the River Gipping Trust, for the Parish Council.
- 166 TO AGREE TO DISPOSE OF THE CLERK'S DELL PC
The Council unanimously agreed to dispose of the unused PC and recognised the necessity to destroy the hard drive before disposal.
- 167 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 9th December 2015, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sproughton.
Nicholas Ridley, District Council gave his apologies, as he will be unable to attend the meeting.
- 168 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS
Cllr K.Barwick asked for an update regarding the status of the waiting list for allotments plots.
Cllr H.Davies advised the 'parish plan pc' had developed a fault; she proposed engaging the services of Penny Lane Computers, in order for them to extract information from the hard drive.

Summary of Actions

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Action: Cllr S.Curl is to approach Mr D.Pryce to ask if would be willing to take on the role of chairman of the Transport Panel.

152 PUBLIC FORUM/PARTICIPATION, INCLUDING REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Action: Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr is to ask Babergh District Council to forward a formal notification of the planning decision/status of the Church Lane application, to the Parish Council.

155 FINANCE

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

Action: Cllr P.Powell is to submit a grant application to the British Heart Foundation for a defibrillator unit and training.

Action: The Clerk is to establish the status of the S106 application with the Tennis Club.

158 CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA, INCLUDING RECEIPT OF THE 2015 PLAY AREA INSPECTION REPORT AND TO AGREE A PROGRAM OF EXPENDITURE

Action: Cllr P.Powell is to contact Wickstead Leisure and arrange for them to provide a quote for the necessary repair works.

161 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Action: The Clerk is to arrange a meeting.

165 TO CONSIDER RIVER GIPPING TRUST MEMBERSHIP

Action: The Clerk is to arrange an annual membership of the River Gipping Trust, for the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Chairman : _____

Date: _____