

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE BARLEY ROOM, TITHE BARN, LOWER STREET, SPROUGHTON ON 9TH MAY 2012, AT 7.40PM**

Councillors present:

Cllr S.Curl (Chairman), Cllr B.Askew, Cllr A.Cronin, Cllr H.Davies, Cllr J.Kitson, Cllr D.Lavington, Cllr G.Moore, Cllr S.Wood

Mrs S. Frankis, Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

Peter Jones, District Cllr

Nicholas Ridley, District Cllr

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

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

2 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE BY THE CHAIRMAN

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

3 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

The Council voted unanimously in favour of Cllr J.Kitson being re-elected as Vice-Chairman to Sproughton Parish Council.

4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE TO BE RECEIVED

Kathy Pollard, County Cllr

5 TO ACCEPT MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received.

6 TO CONFIRM AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11TH APRIL 2012

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th April 2012, having been circulated to all members, were confirmed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

7 REVIEW OF COUNCIL ACTIONS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14TH MARCH 2012

There were no actions to consider.

7.45pm The meeting was adjourned to receive a report from District Cllr, Peter Jones and District Cllr, Nicholas Ridley.

District Cllr. Ridley advised that the next Babergh District Council Strategy Committee meeting will be held on 10th May 2012. The meeting will consider moving the Babergh District Council Local Plan forward to the next stage of consultation. The Plan will include proposals to allocate land adjacent to the Holiday Inn, London Road, Sproughton, for the development of 250 residential. He advised that the former beet sugar site will remain scheduled for industrial use. It will be necessary for Babergh District Council to adopt the new Local Plan within the next twelve months. He advised there is no Central Government funding available to District Councils to deliver Neighbourhood Plans and so it may be that an updated Parish Plan will be as beneficial as a Neighbourhood Plan to a Council.

District Cllr. Jones advised that a report released today gave notification that funding to bring forward Neighbourhood Plans is to be allocated to County Councils only at this time but should be available to District and Town/Parish Councils at a later date. He advised that a LAIS document had been prepared by SALC, which provided details relating to Neighbourhood Plans. The Clerk confirmed that the document had been received and circulated to the Parish Council.

Cllr S.Curl referred to the proposed Church Lane development planning application and expressed disappointment that Babergh District Council had not actively sought the views of the Parishioners of Sproughton regarding the 'open space' element of the application. Cllr D.Lavington conveyed disappointment and frustration regarding the lack of communication from the Babergh District Council planning officer, overseeing the proposed Church Lane development planning application, with the Playing Field Management Committee.

Cllr D.Lavington asked how the District Council Local Plan will relate to a Neighbourhood Plan. District Cllr. Ridley briefly explained the principles of a Neighbourhood Plan.

8.05pm The meeting was reconvened.

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

No written report had been received as there had been no updates or matters to report.

Re. minute no: 11/12 184 The Parish Council unanimously agreed to forward the drafted response to Mr Summers, of Summers Wykes-Sneyd.

**Action:** The Clerk is to forward the letter to Mr Summers.

9 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.

10 FINANCE

Cllr S.Curl asked that the Council consider the proposed expenditure plan for the repair works to be undertaken to the wet pour surface at the children's play area, as it was a matter of urgency. Cllr G.Moore advised that she is to seek further quotes for the work to be undertaken.

(i) To Approve Payments and Budget Position

The statement of payments for April 2012 was approved.

(ii) To Consider Requests for Grants

There were no requests to consider.

(iii) To Allocate the General Fund as at 31st March 2012

This item will be considered at the next Parish Council meeting.

(iv) To Agree the Audit Commission Annual Return for the Year Ended 31st March 2012

The Clerk advised that the Annual Return was received by the internal auditor, Heelis & Lodge on 10th April 2012, via Special Delivery but that she is experiencing difficulties in contacting Heather Heelis to ascertain a date for the completed document to be returned to the Parish Council.

This item will be considered at the next Parish Council meeting.

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

There were no requests to consider.

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

A written report had been received from the Tithe Barn Panel and circulated to the Council.

Cllr D.Lavington referred to the report suggestion that some form of acoustic baffle could be installed between the end speakers and the corner of the external walls and roof; he queried the suitability of the speakers themselves rather than installing insulation.

Cllr S.Wood referred to past discussions regarding a form of advertising being placed at the Tithe Barn glazed doors, when the midstre doors are open. He advised that he had researched the possibility of a banner being made which could be temporarily placed behind the glazed doors.

**Action:** Cllr S.Wood is to contact Babergh District Council regarding any possible considerations required regarding advertising consent and for consent in respect of a listed building.

Cllr J.Kitson tendered his resignation as Chairman of the Tithe Barn Panel. As no replacement was forthcoming, Cllr S.Curl agreed to undertake the role on a temporary basis only.

- 13 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE 'GREEN' SPROUGHTON PANEL  
A written report had been received from the Green Panel and circulated to the Council.  
The Council was asked to consider whether the Green Panel could plan an apple pressing event to be held in the autumn.
- 14 TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE PLAYING FIELD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE PARISH COUNCIL TRUSTEES  
No written report has been received from the Playing Field Management Committee Parish Council Trustees.  
Cllr D.Lavington advised that a new speed limit sign had been erected. He advised that the Committee is undertaking the repair of the fencing barriers, which stop vehicles driving onto the playing fields; the work has led to a plan of the playing fields being drafted. He advised that it will be the intention of the Playing Field Management Committee to erect a plaque in memory of Mr Colin Davis.
- 15 TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL ADVICE RE. SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL UNDERSTANDING OF THE PFMC TRUST DEED  
Re. minute no: 11/12 195 The Clerk had circulated a copy of the issues and questions that have been raised in order to obtain a clear understanding of the Parish Council's role as Custodian Trustees of the Sproughton Playing Fields. She asked the Council to consider seeking proper legal clarification of the Parish Council's role as Custodian Trustees of the Sproughton Playing Fields. The Council agreed to obtain a cost for the legal work to be undertaken before considering whether to seek legal advice.  
**Action:** The Clerk is to obtain a cost for the legal work to be undertaken from SALC and Suffolk ACRE.
- 16 TO AGREE THE TIME, DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
The next Sproughton Parish Council meeting will be at 7.30pm, on 6th June 2012, at the Barley Room, Tithe Barn, Lower Street, Sproughton.
- 17 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS  
Cllr J.Kitson requested an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting to consider the findings of the Tithe Barn Risk Management report.  
Cllr G.Moore requested an agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting to consider repair works at the children's play area.  
The Clerk advised that zumba classes should resume at the Tithe Barn on 24th or 31st May 2012.

Summary of Actions

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

**Action:** The Clerk is to forward the letter to Mr Summers.

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

**Action:** Cllr S.Wood is to contact Babergh District Council regarding the possible requirements for advertising consent and for consent regarding for a listed building

15 TO CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL ADVICE RE. SPROUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL UNDERSTANDING OF THE PFMC TRUST DEED

**Action:** The Clerk is to obtain a cost for the legal work to be undertaken from SALC and Suffolk ACRE.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

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

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

