



STRATFORD ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting held at Village Institute, Higham Road,
Stratford St Mary at 7.30pm on 11th March 2019

PRESENT:

Cllr W Davies - Chairman
Cllr R Tilbrook
Cllr G Pearce
Cllr B Such
Cllr S Baker
Cllr L Shead

IN ATTENDANCE:

J Rose - Clerk
Two members of the public (one member arrived 8.05pm)
County Cllr Gordon Jones (arrived 7.55pm)
District Cllr Fenella Swan
District Cllr Sue Carpendale (arrived 8pm)

20.03.19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Barrell, Cllr Cairns – valid reasons given.

21.03.19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

- (1) to receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda;
- (2) to receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any);
- (3) to grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate.

There were no declarations of interest from councillors and no requirement for dispensation.

22.03.19 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th JANUARY 2019

Decision – Subject to amendment of minute 12.01.19, the minutes of the meeting held on 14 January 2019 were approved as a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman. Proposed Cllr Shead, seconded Cllr Such.

23.03.19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(1) Land Dispute: former garage site Lower Street (letter from Wilson Browne)

Chairman reported that a letter dated 23 January 2019 had been sent by Wilson Browne Solicitors (acting on behalf of SSM Parish Council) to Thompson, Smith & Puxon solicitors. To date, a response had not been received.

(2) **Drainage opposite the Swan Public House.** This item was returned to when Cllr Jones arrived at the meeting. No progress to report.

(3) **Strickmere Estate Pavements.** This item was returned to when Cllr Jones arrived at the meeting. No progress to report. Cllr Jones does not think remedial work will be carried out.

(4) **Overgrown trees and shrubs outside the Gables on approach road to A12.** This item was returned to when Cllr Jones arrived at the meeting. No progress to report. Cllr Jones will chase GJ on this matter.

(5) Tree Update:

(a) **tree stump outside Kenyon Close.** No progress to report.

(b) **Damaged Cherry Tree, Millennium Ave (VAT).** Clerk will write to Contractors asking if they are happy for Parish Council to retain VAT refund for the benefit of the parish. If not, refund will be CLERK returned to contractor.

(6) **Playground: Boundary Fence.** Boundary fence has been repaired and contractors paid.

(7) **Overgrown trees and hedges 17/18 Tally Ho Corner.** Cllr Davies reported that BDC have

trimmed hedges and trees and resident will now maintain.

24.03.19 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk had circulated her report prior to the meeting and this was reviewed and accepted unanimously.

- (1) Planning Committee: It was resolved to pass a resolution at next Parish Council meeting to convene a Planning Committee. Clerk will liaise with Cllr Such concerning form of words.
- (2) SSM website: Cllr Such will assist Clerk with improving website within parameters of site.

Clerk
BS/Clerk

25.03.19 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

- (1) Chairman thanked all Councillors for their contribution to the Parish Council.
- (2) Chairman attended a BAPTC meeting on 21 February and a Babergh East Police and Parish Forum meeting on 27 February.
- (3) Chairman reported that Litter Picker's hourly rate would increase to meet new minimum wage from April.

26.03.19 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

(1) Old Maltings, Lower Street: Request for planters. This item was returned to when Cllr Jones arrived at the meeting. Cllr Jones has forwarded a request for planters to Suffolk Highways and chased for a response. If no response is received within next seven days, Cllr Jones instructed Parish Council to proceed with their decision. Parish Council agreed to support the placement of planters outside the Old Maltings, however planters must be paid for and maintained by residents of the Old Maltings.

(2) Higham Road: Potholes. Chairman asked Cllr Jones if there was any progress on this issue. Cllr Jones reported there had been no response from Highways England on this issue.

(3) Lettice Dykes Foundation. Cllr Such suggested merging the Lettice Dykes Foundation and Stratford St Mary Welfare Trust. Cllr Such has been in discussions over last year relating to changing the remit of SSM Welfare Trust. Cllr Such asked Clerk to place SSM Welfare Trust and Lettice Dykes Foundation on agenda for next meeting.

CLERK

(4) Litter on A12 junction to B1029. Clerk to action.

CLERK

(5) Flood and Water Management project. No action.

27.03.19 PUBLIC FOOTPATHS:

(1) Footpath 18. Cllr Jones will email Kevin Verlander concerning this matter. Chairman will speak with the resident concerned to establish whether or not tree is shown on their Title Deeds.

WD

(2) Sign between Ancient House and Garden Meadow. Sign has been repaired.

8.05pm member of public arrived.

28.03.19 ROADS AND SIGNAGE:

(1) Radar Speed Sign. To be placed on Agenda for next meeting.

CLERK

(2) Pot Holes: Lower Street and Higham Road. Potholes in Lower Street have been repaired.

29.03.19 CAR PARKING ISSUES:

(1) Dedham Bridge/B1029. Chairman summarised discussions at recent meetings with Dedham Parish Council. Subject to approval of SSM Parish Council, an 18 month trial of double yellow lines from middle of Dedham Bridge to approximately first bend in the road (B1029) towards SSM was proposed. After discussion, Cllr Shead proposed, Cllr Baker seconded double yellow lines on left hand side of B1029 into Dedham from SSM and vote was carried unanimously. Cllr Such abstained

from vote. Councillors were satisfied that Dedham Parish Council had done everything possible to find a solution to car parking issues and that SSM Parish Council were happy to assist in this matter.

(2) Lower Street, Stratford St Mary. Following a site meeting to discuss yellow lines, Cllr Shead prepared and circulated a map showing proposed yellow lines on Lower Street. It was agreed to place this item on the Agenda for Annual Parish Meeting. The proposal of yellow lines will be advertised in the Annual Parish Meeting leaflet. The leaflet will be distributed to all residents asking for their opinion.

CLERK

30.03.19 VILLAGE INSTITUTE: PLASTIC MESH FOR CAR PARK

Cllr Such informed the meeting that cost of mesh was approximately £2,399.00 (300 sq metres) and he was currently seeking quotes for installation. The Clerk will place this on Agenda for next meeting.

CLERK

31.03.19 LAND ADJACENT TO VILLAGE INSTITUTE

Chairman and Cllr Barrell met with landowner to discuss future plans for the land. Following discussions, landowner said he will come back to Parish Council at some point in the future.

Ongoing

32.03.19 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FOR INFORMATION.

Councillors had submitted their reports for February/March which had been circulated by the Clerk.

(1) Councillor Jones presented his report. He informed the meeting that a considerable amount of energy in the future will be generated onshore and offshore along the Suffolk coast. This may result in more overhead cables, although much of the power will run through cables under the water. He also informed the meeting that a decision on Sizewell C will be taken at government level. If Sizewell C goes ahead transportation of building materials will probably be by road impacting on the A12 and A14.

(2) District Councillors Fenella Swan and Sue Carpendale. The Chairman thanked Cllrs Swan and Carpendale for their help and contribution over the last four years. In response to Cllr Such, Cllr Carpendale confirmed that there will be a large number of houses built along the A12/A14 over coming years.

(3) Police/Neighbourhood Watch Report. Chairman gave a verbal report. He understands an arrest has been made for recent burglaries in the village but had no further information.

33.03.19 PUBLIC DISCUSSION

A member of the public voiced her concerns over proposal of yellow lines on Lower Street and reasons why Parish Council are investigating availability of land for a car park. Chairman explained that Parish Council are looking at options to alleviate parking problems within the village and this will be discussed at Annual Parish Meeting in April. Resident also raised concerns about parents and members of staff from the pre-school and primary school parking along Strickmere. She said litter was being left by parents while parking along Strickmere. Resident asked that Parish Council monitor this situation. Parish Council agreed to revisit this item in the future.

34.03.19 COUNCILLORS REPORTS

(1) Cllr Such requested that the Neighbourhood Plan be placed on the Annual Parish Meeting agenda.

CLERK

(2) Chairman informed meeting that Orchard Barns pay £400 per year to park in the Village

Institute car park. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Orchard Barns requesting payment of fee by BACS.

CLERK

(3) Chairman informed the meeting that Stratford St Mary's representative on the Dedham Education Foundation is hoping to stand down after many years of service and asked if anyone would be interested in taking over the voluntary position.

(4) 9.05pm Cllrs Jones, Carpendale and Swan left the meeting.

35.03.19 PLANNING APPLICATIONS: The following planning applications were ratified.

- (1) 7 Veyses End DC/19/00172
- (2) Hayling Cottage, Upper Street DC/19/00551
- (3) Riversdale, Lower Street DC/19/00391
- (4) Anchor Inn, Upper Street DC/19/00953

36.03.19 FINANCE

(1) To approve expenditure since last meeting:

the expenditure sheet had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and the amount of £3,258.19 was proposed for acceptance by Cllr Pearce, seconded by Cllr Such and the vote was carried unanimously.

(2) Monthly cashflow analysis against agreed Precept.

No comments.

(3) To consider applications for funding.

(a) Clerks expenses were approved in (1) above.

(4) To consider applications for funding received after publication of Agenda. None

(5) To agree to update of Clerk's PC (as detailed in Clerks Report).

The acquisition of a new PC for Parish Clerk was proposed for acceptance by Cllr Such, seconded by Cllr Baker and the vote was carried unanimously. Cllr Shead will carry out data transfer on receipt of new pc to save unnecessary expenditure.

(6) Quotation from Vertas for £562.87 + VAT (01.04.19 - 31.03.20).

Acceptance of quotation from Vertas for grounds maintenance services was proposed by Cllr Shead, seconded by Cllr Pearce and the vote was carried unanimously. Clerk will speak to Vertas to ensure grass cutting is done to edges.

CLERK

(7) Inventory for street lighting, annual maintenance and energy costs.

Clerk will inform Suffolk Highways that street lights 43 and 35 are on all day. Inventory for street lighting, annual maintenance and energy costs was proposed for acceptance by Cllr Tilbrook, seconded by Cllr Baker and the vote was carried unanimously. Due to the phasing out of low pressure sodium lamps, the Clerk will request advice and guidance on replacement lanterns from Suffolk Highways.

CLERK

37.03.19 ELECTIONS: PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATIONS

Completion of Nomination forms to meet required deadline was discussed.

38.03.19 DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

Annual Parish Meeting: 8th April 2019 commencing at 7.30pm. A leaflet advertising Annual Parish Meeting and highlighting car parking issues on Lower Street will be distributed to all householders.

Annual Meeting of the Council: 13th May 2019 commencing at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at approximately 9.30pm.

