



# STRATFORD ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES of the Meeting held at Village Institute, Higham Road, Stratford St Mary at 7.30pm on Monday 9 September 2019.**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr W Davies - Chairman  
Cllr R Barrell – Vice Chairman  
Cllr R Tilbrook  
Cllr B Such  
Cllr L Shead  
Cllr N Woodard  
Cllr P Alexander

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

J Rose - Clerk  
District Cllr John Ward  
County Cllr Gordon Jones (arrived at 8.07pm)  
Two members of the public

**85.09.19 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

No apologies for absence were received.

**ACTION**

**86.09.19 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.

As the Parish Council is a trustee of the Lettice Dykes Foundation, all Parish Councillors declared an interest in The Lettice Dykes Foundation.

**87.09.19 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8 JULY 2019**

**Decision** – the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 July 2019 were approved as a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

**88.09.19 TO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS TO FILL VACANCIES ON PARISH COUNCIL**

No applications had been received.

**89.09.19 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Item 1 and 2 were returned to when Cllr Jones arrived at 8.07pm.

- (1) **Drainage opposite the Swan Public House.**
- (2) **Overgrown trees and shrubs outside the Gables on approach road to A12.**

Cllr Jones will pursue Suffolk Highways in dealing with 1 and 2 above.

**GJ**

**GJ**

**90.09.19 CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk circulated her report prior to the meeting and this was reviewed and comments received as follows:

- (1) A representative of Agrial Fresh Produce Limited (formerly Anglia Salads) will meet with Chairman and resident to discuss tractors and trailers damaging verges on Higham Road.
- (2) Grit Bins. Cllr Woodard will arrange for shovels to be kept in Grit Bins.

**CLERK/WD**

**NW**

### **91.09.19 CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

(1) Chairman attended SALC area forum in Hadleigh on 17<sup>th</sup> June - there was nothing significant to report. The subsequent meeting was held on 9<sup>th</sup> September in Hadleigh but no councillor could attend due to it clashing with the parish council meeting. When SALC release the date of the next meeting Councillors will be consulted and a representative will attend.

(2) **Church Stall.** Chairman reported that the village Church Stall will be closed at the end of September. He thanked Barbara Sparrow and Pat and Charlie Ablitt for their work over the years in maintaining the stall.

### **92.09.19 CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE THE LAST MEETING:**

A letter had been received from the Fireworks Committee requesting a donation towards the firework display scheduled for this November. **Decision** – it was proposed and resolved that £500 be donated to Firework Committee and an allowance for future donations be placed in the budget.

**CLERK**

### **93.09.19 DRAFT LOCAL PLAN**

Chairman confirmed that SSM is classified as a hinterland not a core village. Cllr Such had reviewed Draft Local Plan and had no immediate concerns. Cllr Ward said individuals and councils can respond to any concerns on policies within the Draft Local Plan via the Babergh website.

### **94.09.19 NEW COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY BID ROUND 1<sup>st</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2019**

Cllr Such requested that this be discussed with agenda item 100.

### **95.09.19 PLAY AREA AND EQUIPMENT: ON-GOING MAINTENANCE**

**Decision** – it was proposed and resolved that an Operational Inspection (£60) and Cableway Inspection (£225) be carried out to maintain equipment. Councillors agreed that the Operational Inspection should be carried out annually and a full Cableway inspection every 2 years. Cllr Woodard had instigated repairs to play area gate. **Decision:** Cllr Woodard be reimbursed £11.94 for materials purchased to repair the gate.

Cllr Woodward reported that he is checking play area weekly and has removed broken gate for repair.

### **96.09.19 UPDATE ON LETTICE DYKES FOUNDATION**

Cllr Such reported that transfer of funds and closure of the Lettice Dykes Foundation had been approved by the Charities Commission. Due to complications with the bank, there has been a delay in transferring funds and closing the account. However, this is being dealt with and closure will proceed as approved in July minutes.

**BS/CLERK**

### **97.09.19 PUBLIC FOOTPATHS:**

Nothing to report.

### **98.09.19 RECREATIONAL RIVER USE AND UPDATE ON TRO APPLICATION: LOWER STREET**

This item was returned to when Cllr Jones arrived.

Highways have provided Parish Council with an estimate of £7,643.65 for the provision of waiting restrictions on Lower Street. A member of the public raised their concerns over cost and installation of yellow lines and lack of parking provision for residents. The lack of parking provision with the proposed expansion of the Swan Inn was also highlighted. **Decision** – due to costs involved it was agreed to put this item on hold for the time being. Clerk will prepare

and send a letter to Northumbrian Water requesting permission to erect signs to deter people from parking on the bend of Upper Street/Lower Street to unload boats. **ONGOING CLERK**

**99.09.19 LAND ADJACENT TO VILLAGE INSTITUTE:**

Chairman summarised correspondence with landowner. Cllr Such will research charity status of village institute and Chairman will consider speaking to SALC to see if legal advice would be beneficial. **WD/BS**

**100.09.19 PROPOSED SURFACING OF VILLAGE INSTITUTE CAR PARK – UPDATE ON CIL FUNDING**

This item was combined with Agenda item 94.09.19. Cllr Woodard will assist Cllr Such on application for CIL funding towards resurfacing of car park. **BS/NW**

**101.09.19 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FOR INFORMATION.**

Councillors had submitted their reports for July which had been circulated by the Clerk.

- (1) **County Councillor Gordon Jones.** Cllr Jones gave a verbal summary of his report. A discussion took place regarding the proposed Northern Approach road.
- (2) **District Councillor John Ward.** Cllr Ward gave a verbal summary of his report.
- (3) **Police/Neighbourhood Watch Report.** Chairman had nothing to report on these items.

**102.09.19 PUBLIC DISCUSSION.**

A member of the public reported that:

- (1) a street light outside his house was dim and bulb possibly needed replacing;
- (2) footpaths near his house needed tending. **CLERK**

**103.09.19 PARISH COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

(1) Cllr Woodard informed meeting that a lamp post outside primary school was leaning slightly. Clerk will liaise with Cllr Woodard and report lamp post to Highways for repair. **CLERK**

(2) Cllr Barrell reported that a resident had contacted him to raise concerns over an application for 11 eleven houses on narrow strip of land next to Penrose Vets. Clerk and Councillors were not aware of a planning application and will investigate. **CLERK**

(3) Cllr Such informed meeting that a garden storage box had been purchased (as approved at Parish council meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July).

(4) Cllr Woodard and Cllr Such had met with a Contractor to discuss on-going maintenance work in the village. To date, they have not heard back from Contractor. Clerk will advertise for a person to do general maintenance work in the village. **CLERK**

(5) Millennium Avenue: Cllr Woodward will speak to a Contractor about pruning trees. **NW**

**104.09.19 PLANNING APPLICATIONS:**

**DC/19/03270 Telephone Box, Near The Swift, Upper Street.**

The proposed removal by BT of public payphone and option to adopt a red 'heritage' phone box (no payphone) at a cost of £1.00. **Decision** – it was proposed and resolved that the public payphone be removed and a red 'heritage' phone box be purchased for storage of a defibrillator. Clerk will ensure electricity supply is maintained to box to charge defibrillator. **CLERK**

**105.09.19 FINANCE**

**(1) To approve expenditure since last meeting:**

the expenditure sheet had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. **Decision** – expenditure of £2,010.99 was approved.

**(2) Monthly cashflow analysis against agreed Precept.** No comments.

**(3) Monthly cashflow reserves.** No comments.

**(4) Consider applications for funding received before and after publication of agenda.**

**(a) Clerk's expenses.** **Decision** – approved.

9.10pm Cllr Jones and Cllr Ward left the meeting.

**106.09.19 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** Monday 11 November 2019 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.