

STONHAM PARVA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN BAPTIST CHAPEL SOCIAL ROOM ON MONDAY 16th JANUARY 2023

22.198 PRESENT: Cllrs M Sealby, I Richardson, T Benjamin, K Dawson, M Goodrum and R Andrews

22.199 APOLOGIES : None

22.200 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Councillors Richardson and Dawson declared a non-pecuniary interest in 22.212 Allotments as they are plot holders. Councillor Sealby declared a non-pecuniary interest as he lives next to the playing field.

22.201 DISPENSATIONS – None

22.202 Public Forum: There were no members of the public present

22.203 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 1ST DECEMBER 2022- Minutes confirmed as correct - Proposed by I Richardson, seconded by K Dawson

22.204 REPORTS

22.205.1 Report received from Cllr Hicks for December & January ahead of the meeting. He also attended. Key points include:

- Devolution deal for Suffolk
- LED streetlight project nearing completion
- Budget proposals for 23/24
- Suffolk Winter Warmth can help with items such as hats gloves, hot water bottles etc

22.205.2 Report received from D Cllr Morley for January. She also attended the meeting. Key points include:

- Solar powered energy at Stowmarket Leisure Centre
- Winning bin lorry names as voted by the public

22.205.3 Footpaths/Pavements – Report made to Highways about the overhanging branches along the pavement between The Magpie to Chapel and this has been deemed as acceptable and not in need of cutting back.

Footbridge repair (mid-point on Church Lane leading to allotments) to be chased up as this has not been fixed still.

Action – W Brame to chase footbridge repair.

Complaints had been received about the hedge overhanging Lambeth Way, the family of the land owner have been spoken to and they have agreed for a local contractor to cut this.

22.205.4 Cemetery – No update

22.205.5 Playing Field – The playground inspection has been chased up.

The fallen branch behind the slide has been removed.

Asset Management have responded to an email regarding the playing field purchase and have asked for a copy of the lease.

Action – W Brame to send lease to Asset Management

We need to check whether goal posts are needed for winter, if not they can be removed.

Action - K Dawson to write Facebook post to check usage.

There has been no recent information about the legal advice regarding the Play Area.

Action – W Brame to email Legal

22.205.6 Neighbourhood Watch – No update

22.205.7 Tree Warden – No update

22.205.8 SALC – None

22.206 COMMUNICATION – **Recorder** – The village sign has been moved. More fundraising has taken place for the Magpie sign (quiz and beer)

22.207 PLANNING INCLUDING APPLICATIONS – DC/22/05467. It was agreed to oppose this application. Would like to see the response from the Heritage Team as this is within the curtilage of Angel Hill Farm which is Grade II listed. The structure also appears to be permanent rather than temporary. Proposed by I Richardson, seconded by T Benjamin.

22.208 ROADS/ROAD SAFETY – Nothing further has been heard regarding Quiet Lanes.

Action – T Benjamin to chase

22.209 TRAINING/CONFERENCES – None

22.210 GOVERNANCE – None

22.211 FINANCE – Clerk's finance report for November and December was emailed to everyone ahead of the meeting. No questions raised.

Budget discussion took place, all happy with the budget except an increase to playing field/hedging cuts to £1600 as it was felt that the Parish Council may have to start using contractors to cut hedging within the village if SCC or owners do not do this.

It was agreed to set the precept at £6840 which is a 1% increase. Proposed by T Benjamin, seconded by I Richardson.

22.212 ALLOTMENTS – Response received from Solicitors asking for contact by telephone as too many variables to put in an email.

Action - W Brame to telephone solicitors

22.213 FUNDRAISING – Quiz held on 03/12/22 raised £475 (not including beer sales)

There will be an Easter Family Quiz on 1st April.

It was agreed to apply for a small lottery licence so we can run a 100 club.

Action – W Brame to apply for small lottery licence.

Coffee and Chat to take place on 27th January – I Richardson will run this.

22.214 VILLAGE SIGN – The village sign has been moved. It just needs painting black. Flowers to be considered in the spring. The website is to be updated with the location.

Action – T Benjamin to update website

22.215 MAGPIE SIGN – Awaiting legal process for ownership. There will be an article in the EADT on Thursday.

22.216 ST MARYS CHURCH – We can apply for locality funding towards the compost toilet.

Action – W Brame to apply for locality funding

Some parts of the church are closed off due to falling masonry.

The nave needs to be cleared and cleaned ready for the compostable toilet to be fitted – date to be set for this.

22.217 COMMUNITY WOOD – To be discussed at next meeting

22.218 CORRESPONDENCE – None.

22.219 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 20th February 2023

22.220 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC – It was agreed to exclude the press and public in pursuance of Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the Press and the Public shall be excluded for the next items of business on the grounds that it is likely to be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Proposed by K Dawson, seconded by T Benjamin.

W Brame left the meeting at 8.50pm

22.221 CLERKS SALARY – A discussion took place regarding the Clerk's salary.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm