

STONHAM PARVA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN BAPTIST CHURCH ON
MONDAY 14th AUGUST 2023

23.81 PRESENT: Cllrs M Sealby, I Richardson, K Dawson and M Goodrum
And 5 members of the public

23.82 APOLOGIES : Cllr L Courtenay

23.83 APPROVAL OF ABSENCE: Absence of Cllr L Courtenay was approved. Proposed by I Richardson,
seconded by K Dawson

23.84 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Councillors Richardson and Dawson declared a
non-pecuniary interest in 23.93 Allotments as they are plot holders.

23.85 DISPENSATIONS – None

23.86 Public Forum: There were 5 members of public in attendance. All spoke regarding planning
application DC/23/03358 and their reasons for objections. Everyone was encouraged, if they had not
already done so, to send in their comments to Planning at Mid Suffolk District Council.

23.87 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 17th JULY 2023- Minutes confirmed as correct
– Proposed by I Richardson, seconded by M Goodrum

23.88 REPORTS

23.88.1 No Report received from Cllr Hicks for August.

23.88.2 No report received from Cllr Hardingham for August.

23.88.3 Footpaths/Pavements – Footpaths were cut last week.

Specification for extra grounds maintenance has been sent to interested people.

We require one more quote for tree cutting at the cemetery.

23.88.4 Cemetery – Interment of ashes took place on 13th August..

23.89 PLANNING INCLUDING APPLICATIONS –

DC/23/03407 - It was agreed to respond as follows ‘The Parish Council met on 14th August 2023 and
agreed to OBJECT to this application for the following reasons:

1. The visibility from the access road on to the A140 (a very busy road which has 13,000 vehicle
movements per day) is severely compromised when vehicles park in the layby. This layby is heavily used
throughout the day and night and is used for overnight parking by lorries. When lorries are parked in the
layby the visibility from northbound traffic is non-existent. There have been 2 accidents within 100 yards of
this site within the last 18 months. Could a traffic survey of the layby be carried out? (Photos of the layby
are attached as evidence of the lack of visibility when the layby is in use)
2. The proposed development is outside the area set as potential development land in the joint local plan
(which is also mentioned in the planning statement). The JLP also suggests 5 houses for this site but the
application is for 6. Setting properties this far back is out of keeping with the village which has a linear
effect of housing.
3. There is now a heritage impact statement but we still believe that listed and important buildings will be
severely impacted. The response from the Heritage Team at MSDC lists the harm this development will
cause.
4. The main sewer pipe for the village runs under the proposed development. Has this been taken into
account? Can the sewer cope with the extra houses?

5. Although a fuller ecological survey has been carried out including a recent site visit we do not believe this covers all the aspects that were raised by us previously or by other objectors. The site has rare plants and fauna which will be lost with this development? We believe the pond to the northwest corner of the site has great crested newts as do other ponds within the village and would request a full survey of these be conducted? There are turtle doves on this site and they are a protected species and their habitat should not be destroyed. We are disappointed at the removal of the mature ash tree at the front of the site, this ash tree is a very good example of an ash tree and may have natural resistance to ash dieback disease. Promotion of positive ecology is expected and removing this tree and many others will have a negative impact. This is the second proposed development in the village with one already under construction. The village is in rural community surrounded by arable farm land with very few hedgerows. The few remaining natural green spaces in the village support a wide range of wild life and fauna. Both the existing development and the proposed development will dramatically reduce these natural areas which cannot be replaced.

6. The only access to the allotment site appears to be a footpath and no vehicular access. Historically there has been a right of way across the field to the allotments. The allotments are a community asset and if some form of development is granted the developers should be encouraged to lay on a water supply to this area.

7. The noise assessment mentions extra measures required for plots 1 and 2, however we do not believe the noise assessment has taken in to account the noise of lorries which stop overnight in the layby, some of these are refrigerated lorries. It may be that even further measures will be required to mitigate against this. And to include photographs taken of the visibility of the layby.

Proposed by I Richardson, seconded by M Goodrum

DC/23/03358 – It was agreed to respond as follows ‘Stonham Parva Parish Council met on 14th August 2023 and agreed to OBJECT to this application on the following grounds: 1. The massing of the barn has increased from the previous application and is disproportionate to the site.

2. There is no response from Heritage even though this will impact a Grade I listed building.

3. There is no ecology report, we believe the building will negatively affect the ecology and biodiversity of the site.

Proposed by K Dawson, seconded by I Richardson

23.90 ROADS/ROAD SAFETY – There has been no update on the road markings at the A140/A1120 junction being repainted. Email to be sent to Cllr Hicks.

An accident occurred on the A140/A1120 junction the other day, within 1 hour all signage and traffic management was set up.

23.91 GOVERNANCE – None

23.92 FINANCE – Clerk’s finance report for July was emailed to everyone ahead of the meeting.

23.93 ALLOTMENTS – It was agreed to pay £400 of the £490 invoice while discussions are taking place. Agreed to contact BBC Suffolk to see if they wish to take on this story.

23.94 EVENTS/FUNDRAISING – The fete planning is complete, we have a number of stalls plus the ones we will run such as cakes, refreshments, tombola, raffle and guess the weight of the cake. The Baptist Church will do the BBQ. There is also free kids activities and an inflatable assault course. Vintage cars will also be in attendance.

For the evening we have Thai Food Van and Pizzas, we have 5 singers on the stage starting from 5pm.

Action – Wendy to email Vertas to ensure the grass is cut before the fete.

Action – Sum Up machine to be purchased

23.95 MAGPIE SIGN – Ownership of the sign is being progressed.

23.96 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 18th September 2023

The meeting closed at 9.12pm