

STONHAM PARVA PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN BAPTIST CHURCH ON
MONDAY 18th MARCH 2024

23.211 PRESENT: Cllrs M Sealby (Chair), I Richardson and K Dawson

23.212 WELCOME: The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

23.213 APOLOGIES: Cllr L Courtenay

23.214 APPROVAL OF ABSENCE: Absence of Cllr L Courtenay was approved. Proposed by K Dawson, seconded by M Sealby

23.215 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Councillor I Richardson & Dawson declared a non-pecuniary interest in 23.226 Allotments as they are plot holders.

23.216 DISPENSATIONS – None

<p>23.217 Public Forum: There were no members of the public present</p>
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23.218 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 19th FEBRUARY 2024 –Minutes confirmed as correct. Proposed by I Richardson, seconded by K Dawson.

23.219 REPORTS

23.219.1 Report received from County Cllr Hicks for March who also attended the meeting

Key points from report:

- Public consultation regarding devolution starts on 18th March.
- Loft insulation offer for Suffolk residents

County Councillor Hicks will chase up Highways regarding the information required for the Magpie sign.

23.219.2 Report received from District Cllr Hardingham for March. Key points from report:

- Rural Transport Grants available
- Joint Local Plan Part 2 – parish surveys

District Councillor Hardingham had advised by email after the last meeting that he did not have much left in his locality budget so it would be best to apply for any locality grant after April 2024.

23.219.3 Footpaths/Pavements – The drain on Pains Hill has been fixed but the gullies on the road nearby need cleaning as they are overflowing. The works for this have been ordered.

The rotten plank on the footbridge from Church Lane leading to the allotments was reported to Suffolk Highways and is due to be fixed within 20 working days.

23.219.4 Cemetery/St Mary's Churchyard – A member of the public emailed regarding a headstone at the Cemetery which she thought had failed due to an overflowing ditch but having checked this we believe it is natural settlement of the earth so the member of the public has been advised to contact the stonemason.

Repairs are taking place to the inside wall of St Mary's Church, a survey showed the Victorian mortar had no substance so had fallen off, this has now all been removed and is being replaced.

23.219.5 Play Area – The play area annual inspection report has been received. The content was noted as all Low or Very Low risk, to be reviewed in 3 months.

23.219.6 Neighbourhood Watch – No update

23.219.7 SALC – The Local Councillor magazine has been emailed to all Councillors.

23.220 COMMUNICATION – Newsletter will be sent out shortly.

23.221 PLANNING INCLUDING APPLICATIONS – Planning application DC/24/00021 for Listed Building Consent at Clock House, Clockhouse Lane for works to chimney has been granted.

23.222 ROADS/ROAD SAFETY – Suffolk County Council have confirmed that the location for a new SID is acceptable, works have been ordered and will be completed in 20 weeks.

23.223 TRAINING/CONFERENCES – L Courtenay was not at the meeting as she was attending Councillor training.

23.224 GOVERNANCE – The following were approved:
Standing Orders - Proposed by K Dawson, seconded by I Richardson
Financial Regulations - Proposed by K Dawson, seconded by I Richardson
Subject Access Request Policy - Proposed by M Sealby, seconded by K Dawson.
FOI Request/Model Publication Scheme - Proposed by M Sealby, seconded by I Richardson

The Internal Control Statement was approved. Proposed by M Sealby, seconded by I Richardson.

It was agreed to use SALC as our Internal Auditors at a cost of £223 + VAT. Proposed by I Richardson, seconded by K Dawson.

23.225 FINANCE – Clerk's finance report for February was emailed to everyone ahead of the meeting.

Cemetery Fees were reviewed and the new fees were agreed subject to the wording 50 years be changed to 50 year term. Proposed by K Dawson, seconded by I Richardson.

23.226 ALLOTMENTS – Awaiting response from Clarke & Simpson.

23.227 EVENTS/FUNDRAISING – A fete meeting is planned for early April.

Quiz night took place for 8th March, £155 raised.

Christmas Xmas Night to take place on 22nd November 2024.

Possible bingo night in June.

23.228 MAGPIE SIGN – The Magpie sign officially belongs to the Parish Council as the legal agreement has been signed by both parties.

No contact from Highways since the meeting in November and this information is needed so we know where the sign can be located. C Cllr Hicks should be chasing this up for us.

23.229 WOODLAND – The transfer of ownership of land near the Church is progressing, searches have been requested and paid for.

23.230 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – To take place on Saturday 18th May at St Mary's Church.

Action – W Brame to email CCT re availability

23.231 CLERKS SALARY INCREASE – The Clerks Salary increase was noted (as per NJC Pay Agreement)

23.232 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday 15th April 2024

The meeting closed at 8.47pm