

**STRADISHALL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7th September 2015**

**Parish councillors present: Mr A Swift (Chairman), Mr A Lee (Vice-chairman), Mr R Deeks, Mrs D Gates and Mr I Hutchinson**

**Also present: Mrs J Ince (clerk), County Councillor Mary Evans and 6 members of the public**

**Open Forum**

The following points were raised during the Open Forum in relation to the planning application for the land at former Clopton Hall Cold Store

- Concerns about asbestos removal and the risk to residents and animals
- The application says that the properties will be joined to mains drainage, but as far as residents are aware there is no mains drainage beyond number 1 St Margaret's Place
- The site plan maps are incorrect. The section of the land to the west of Bridge House belongs to Bridge House, but this is not shown on the map
- The church has permission to use the driveway for parking
- The access road is on a sharp bend
- There are no pavements on the road to the development from the main village
- The village lacks the infrastructure and amenities for such a development

**1. Acceptance of apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Gemma Raymond, Martin Hurst and the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

**2. Planning**

**a) DC/15/1477/FUL - Land at former Clopton Hall Cold Store, Edmunds Hill, Stradishall - (i) Demolition of former warehouse and replacement with 5 no detached dwellings and garages (ii) associated access and landscaping**

It was resolved that the Council would object to this application for the following reasons:

- In the Rural Vision 2031 document of the Local Plan Stradishall was designated as an infill village with no development allowed outside the Housing Settlement Boundary. This development would be outside the current Housing Settlement Boundary and therefore contrary to the Local Plan.
- Stradishall lacks the infrastructure and amenities for such a development. There is no pavement connecting the proposed site to the main part of the village leading to a reliance on cars. The B1063 is a busy road with an ongoing problem with speeding. As the access road is on a sharp bend this would be particularly dangerous.
- The application says that the properties will be joined to mains drainage, but as far as the Parish Council is aware there is no mains drainage beyond number 1 St Margaret's Place

The Parish Council also agreed to make the following comments:

- There are concerns about the removal of asbestos from the existing buildings and the potential risk to residents and animals.
- Although this is not a planning consideration, here is a need for affordable housing as highlighted in the Housing Needs Survey which took place in 2013, rather than more large family homes.
- In the site plan maps the boundary with Bridge House is incorrect. The section of the land to the west of Bridge House is not shown as belonging Bridge House.

**3. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda**

No councillors declared an interest in any items on the agenda.

**4. Approval of minutes of meeting held on Monday 29th June and the planning meeting held on Monday 3rd August 2015**

It was resolved that the minutes were correct. The chairman then signed the minutes.

**5. Report from Councillor Evans**

Mary Evans spoke about the following:

- The light in St Margaret's Place was positioned in the wrong place even though the order to Kier May Gurney stated the correct location. The light will be moved in the next few weeks.
- The monitoring of Kier May Gurney who are behind schedule in achieving works.
- The trees on Stradishall Crossroads - this has been referred to SCC's legal department

- GCSE and SATS results have improved this year.
- BT will be paying 3.9 million pounds to SCC because of the high broadband take up. Details of the second phase will be announced next week.
- SCC has removed the discretionary grant to the Borough Council for the disposal of green waste.
- The Council's request for a no parking sign in the turning circle in St Margaret's Place has been refused as this would require a Traffic Regulation Order which would cost £5,000.

#### 6. Report from the Safer Neighbourhood Team

No crimes have been reported in Stradishall since the last meeting. Speed checks are being carried out in Stradishall this month. Three checks were carried out recently and a verbal warning given.

#### 7. Update on list of actions agreed at the last meeting

There were no outstanding councillor actions.

#### 8. Finance

##### a) Payments made between meetings

HMRC - PAYE - LGA 1972, s111 - **£128.20** - this payment was approved at the March meeting.

##### b) Approval of payments and signing of the Schedule of Payments

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- Risby Parish Council - annual phone costs - LGA 1972, S111 - **£18.36**
- HMRC - PAYE - LGA 1972, s111 - **£128.00**
- J P Ince - expenses - LGA 1972, S111 - **£39.60**

R Deeks and A Lee signed the Schedule of Payments and A Swift countersigned it.

##### c) Approval of the record of online payments made since the last meeting

It was resolved that the record of online payments would be approved. R Deeks then signed it.

##### d) Checklist of Internal Controls

R Deeks completed the checklist of internal controls.

##### e) Statement of receipts and payments made since the last meeting

It was resolved that the statement of receipts and payments was correct.

##### f) Internal audit report

The internal auditor made an observation about the frequency of playground checks. Ideally checks would be carried out weekly.

##### a) Annual Return 2015

The Annual Return has been returned from BDO LLP. No matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

##### g) Letter from HSBC notifying the Council that the Haverhill Branch will close from 16th October and the account be transferred to the Abbeygate St branch in Bury St Edmunds

#### 9. Highways/rights of way matters/tree or transport issues:

##### a) The recent speed data. Should the Council pursue the option of Vehicle Activated Signs?

As no volunteers have come forward to help run the scheme, it was resolved that this option would not be pursued at present.

#### 10. Playing field matters

##### a) Latest play inspection report

No defects were reported.

##### b) Should the Parish Council update the play equipment on the playing field behind St Margaret's Place?

It was resolved that the Council would like to look into improving the play facilities in Stradishall. In order to be eligible for any funding the Council would need to secure a longer lease. It was resolved that the clerk would contact Greene King asking if it would be possible to extend the lease to 25 years if required.

#### 11. Village Review

It was resolved that the Council would produce a questionnaire. Ian Hutchinson and Ady Swift agreed to draft a questionnaire. The questionnaire would also canvass views of residents and children about the possibility of updating the play equipment and what amenities the village needs.

#### 12. Correspondence

##### a) Letter from Havebury asking if any councillors would like to join their Performance and Scrutiny Panel

No councillors wanted to join.

##### b) E-mail from Headway about the services they provide and asking for a donation

It was resolved that no donation would be made due to existing pressures on the Council's budget following the cut in grants by St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

- c) **Invitation to Community Action Suffolk's Annual Review on Thursday 8th October from 4-6pm**  
No councillors were able to attend.
- d) **E-mail from SEBC about a community emergency planning workshop on 5th October 2015 from 10am - 1pm in Bury St Edmunds.**  
No councillors were able to attend.
- e) **Community Emergency Planning Conference on 13th November 2015**  
No councillors were able to attend.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.42p.m.**

Signed..... Dated.....