

STRADISHALL PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7th November 2016**

Councillors present: Ady Swift (Chairman), Adrian Lee, Ian Hutchinson, Robert Deeks, Jonathan Masefield and Martin Hurst.

Also present: Joanne Kirk (Clerk), County Councillor Mary Evans and four members of the public.

Open Forum

John Harding and Larry Berkovitz spoke to the Parish Council about the playing field. They developed Cricket Meadow and at the time there were a number of covenants on the land. Larry Berkovitz's company purchased 29 St Margaret's Place as there was a covenant on the land. They contacted Greene King who mentioned the possibility of developing the playing field. They are interested in buying and developing the playing field site, using their access to get into the site. but would need the support of the Parish Council. It would only be a modest development. They own the access way into the playing field, but there is a general right of way to get into the playing field on foot.

John Harding asked who owned the playing field. The Parish Council confirmed that Greene King owns part of it and the rest belongs to a local landowner. In return for their support, this would be a chance for the Parish Council to receive some money/a facility for the village. The reason for coming to this meeting is to sound out the Parish Council before speaking to Greene King. The Parish Council agreed to add it to the agenda of the next meeting.

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Debbie Gates sent her apologies. Jeremy Farthing also sent his apologies.

2. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda

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

3. Approval of minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5th September 2016 and the planning meeting held on Monday 3rd October 2016

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

4. County Councillor's Report

Mary Evans spoke about the following:

- Dial-a-ride has now been replaced by Connecting Communities
- The Parish Council website. She apologised for the appalling lack of communication from Suffolk County Council about the move from One Suffolk to CAS Ltd
- Speed enforcement will only be carried out if there is a VAS which will provide data to the Police.
- Highways are being reorganised very slowly but the changes should make the service more efficient. Highways will be divided into specialist teams like flood and drainage. They have changed the drainage contractor who will carry out a more thorough job. They are trying to get a proper log of those drains which cause problems. The call centre staff are going to be re-located to Ipswich alongside the Highways hub. Traffic management is also going to improved.
- The devolution debate is still rumbling on.
- There is a consultation on access to 30 hours of free early years child care for working parents.
- Highways have now said that they cannot put reflector strips on the bollard on Stradishall Crossroads.

5. Police issues**a) The police and lost property**

Suffolk Police do not deal with the majority of reports of lost and found property. If firearms, drugs, high value items, laptops, cameras or mobile phones are found they should be taken to one of their

public enquiry offices in Ipswich, Lowestoft or Bury St Edmunds. No attempt should be made to handle dangerous items: contact the Police via **101** or in an emergency **999**.

Items such as passports, driving licences or bank cards should be returned to the issuing agency.

If someone loses something, this does not need to be reported to police unless it is a hazardous item such as a firearm, ammunition, explosives, chemicals or poisons: again, contact us the Police via **101** or in an emergency **999**. If residents are unsure what to do, there is an online form which will direct them to the most appropriate course of action, or the appropriate alternative agency.

6. Update on list of actions agreed at the last meeting

There was one outstanding councillor action.

7. Finance

a) Approval of any payments and signing of Schedule of Payments

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- J P Kirk - expenses – LGA 1972, s111 – **£35.18**
- Adrian Lee Contract Services – Open Spaces Act 1906, ss 9 & 10 - **£738.00**

Robert Deeks and Jonathan Masefield signed the Schedule of Payments. The Chairman then countersigned it.

b) Regular payments made between meetings

The following regular payments were made between meetings:

12/09/16	See 003 above	131/8f	Fidelity Funds Network
30/09/16	022	139/8f	J P Kirk
03/10/16	023	141/9a	K Hutchinson & Son - hedge cutting
12/10/16	See 003 above	131/8f	Fidelity Funds Network
17/10/16	030	144/4	CAS Ltd - website hosting payment
31/10/16	032	139/8f	J P Kirk

c) Approval of any payments authorised between meetings

No payments were authorised between meetings.

d) Approval of the record of online payments made since the last meeting

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

e) Signatory to complete the checklist of Internal Controls

Jonathan Masefield completed and signed the checklist of internal controls.

f) Annual audit 2016

The Parish Council has received an email from BDO notifying the Parish Council that it has withdrawn its previous qualification.

g) Draft budget 2017/18 and budget report

It was resolved that a final decision would be made in January when the Parish Council will have a clearer idea of whether or not the playing field purchase will go ahead.

9. Planning

The Parish Council has received an email from a resident about the visibility splay at the entrance to this site. He has emailed Planning but has not received a response. It was resolved that the clerk would contact planning to look into it.

10. Highways/Rights of Way issues/tree/transport issues

a) Confirm of locations of grit piles

It was agreed that the current locations are acceptable.

b) Access to public footpath on junction with A143

The clerk was asked to report that the access to the footpath is blocked.

11. Playing Field matters

a) **Playing field inspection reports**

There is now rot at at ground level on the multiplay which the Parish Council needs to monitor and replace when necessary. It was resolved that the clerk would email the report to Adrian Lee and that he would take a look and report back at the next meeting.

b) **Update on the possible purchase of the playing field**

It was resolved that the clerk would contact Greene King to update them on the progress of the Parish Council's fundraising and confirming that the the Parish Council would like to proceed with the purchase if their offer to Greene King is acceptable.

c) **Access to the playing field**

John Harding and Larry Berkovitz confirmed during the Open Forum that they own the access but that there is a Right of Way over their land, but only while it is a playing field

d) **Comments on Facebook about the Parish Council's proposal to apply for a loan if necessary to make up any shortfall for the purchase of the playing field.**

As the Chairman had posted a response inviting the Highpoint Resident's Association to the meeting on 7th November to discuss their concerns it was resolved that no further comments would be added.

12. Village issues

a) **Analysis of the village questionnaire and possible action plan**

It was resolved that this would be postponed to next meeting.

b) **Prize for village questionnaires**

A draw was carried out and the following residents were the winners:

- C Usher won the Fish and Chip Supper. Adrian Lee agreed to contact Debbie Gates to obtain the voucher and pass it on to C Usher
- Philip and Diana Rous won the bottle of Prosecco. Ady Swift agreed to drop it round.

13. Correspondence

a) **Next Parish Conference, Monday 14th November 2016 between 6.30pm and 9pm at the Memorial Hall in Newmarket – for information only**

Councillors were asked to notify the clerk if they wished to attend.

b) **Boundary commission consultation**

The current parliamentary boundaries in Suffolk were designed to achieve electoral equality and have resulted in some as fairly arbitrary dividing lines. The Boundary Commission proposal is for there to be 7 constituencies in Suffolk with South Suffolk Constituency to be split between three districts instead of two. West Suffolk and Bury St Edmunds remain split between two. In the case of the South Suffolk Constituency, there are (and will remain) two district wards from St Edmundsbury: Clare and Cavendish with just over 3000 electors. Full details of the proposals are available at:

<https://www.bce2018.org.uk/>.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.21.

Signed (Chairman) Dated