

# STRADISHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017

**Councillors present:** Ady Swift (Chairman), Adrian Lee (Vice Chairman), Ian Hutchinson, Robert Deeks and Debbie Gates

**Also present:** Joanne Kirk (Clerk), Borough Councillor Jeremy Farthing, County Councillor Mary Evans and one member of the public

**1. Acceptance of apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Martin Hurst and Jonathan Masefield.

**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 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 and the planning meeting held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2017**

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

**4. Borough Councillor's report**

Jeremy Farthing apologised for not attending any meetings recently due to work commitments. The Borough Council is currently consulting on the future of West Suffolk, with plans to merge Forest Heath District Council and St Edmundsbury Borough Council. It is hoped this will lead to greater efficiencies and cost savings. There will be a reduction in the number of borough councillors as a result, with wards being a lot larger.

**5. Police issues**

There were no issues to report other than problems with vandalism on the cricket field.

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

There were no outstanding councillor actions.

**8. 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 – **£33.42**
- HMRC - PAYE – 1<sup>st</sup> quarter - LGA 1972, s111 - **£210.20**
- Greene and Greene - Fees relating to transfer of land from Clopton Hall Farms Limited - Public Health Act 1875 s164 - **£763.00**
- Adrian Lee Contract Services Ltd - Grass cutting and repairs to the pavilion on the playing field - Open Spaces Act 1906 ss 9 and 10 - **£762.00**

Ian Hutchinson and Robert Deeks signed the Schedule of Payments. The Chairman then countersigned it.

**b) Approval of payments authorised between meetings**

The following payment was authorised between meetings:

- 22/05/17 - LCPAS - 1/6 of cost of a data - protection course for clerk - **£5.00**

**c) Payments made between meeting but previously authorised**

30/05/17	J P Kirk - salary	£94.58
30/05/17	St Margaret's Church - Stradishall PCC – online payment made as cheque cancelled as made out to St Margaret's Church, not Stradishall PCC	£600.00
01/06/17	CAS Ltd - insurance	£474.65
15/06/17	Greene and Greene - solicitor's bill for purchase of playing field	£1,120.00

**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. Ian Hutchinson then signed it.

**e) Signatory to complete the checklist of Internal Controls**

Ian Hutchinson completed and signed the checklist of internal controls.

**f) Update on the Annual Audit 2017**

The accounts are still with the internal auditor, Elaine Taylor.

**9. Planning**

**a) DC/17/1002/FUL - 28 St Margaret's Place, Stradishall - first floor side extension over existing garage**

SEBC has notified the Parish Council that the submitted block plan is not an accurate reflection of the existing/ proposed footprint of the building, which comprises the utility room and garage on ground floor. SEBC is awaiting a revised drawing

to show this. It was resolved that no objections would be made to this application, but that the following comment would be submitted. The external finish is not in keeping with surrounding properties in terms of colour and material.

**b) DC/17/1121/FUL – Former village hall, The Street, Stradishall – one dwelling (demolition of former village hall)**

It was resolved that no objections would be made to this application and a comment would be submitted that the current village hall is an eyesore and this application will improve the visual amenity of the street scene.

**c) DC/17/0865/FUL - Land adjacent to Home Farm, The Street, Stradishall - One dwelling**

This application was delegated with a recommendation to refuse the application. The application was withdrawn on 19/06/17.

**d) DC/17/1246/TCA - Tally Ho, The Street, Stradishall - Fell one ash**

It was resolved that no objections would be made to this

**10. County Councillors Report**

Mary Evans spoke about the following:

- The A1092 in Clare is due to close in August and this could lead to an increase in traffic in Stradishall.
- CAB in Haverhill is running a project to support older people and vulnerable families to help switch their energy supplier. They are also encouraging elderly or people with a medical condition to register with UK Power Network's priority list.
- Suffolk County Council's consultation for implementing the Learning Disability Strategy 'My life my future'.
- She has organised a funding meeting on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July. The clerk agreed to attend.
- There was a meeting at the Highpoint Estate to discuss the proposal that Barley Homes will build some homes with some of the money from sales to be used to maintain the roads on the estate.

**11. Highways/rights of way matters/tree or transport issues:**

**a) Roadworks on the A143**

A number of complaints have been received about the roadworks on the A143 and the signs obscuring the junction of the A143 making it extremely dangerous. The information was passed on to Mary Evans who will raise the issue with Highways.

**11. Playing Field issues**

**a) Update on the purchase of the playing field and the transfer of land**

The purchase of the playing field has now completed as has the transfer of an additional section of land from Clopton Hall Farm.

**b) Damage to the cricket pavilion and littering on the playing field and the provision of litter bins**

There have been a couple of incidents of vandalism and littering in the cricket pavilion and on the playing field. The Police have been made aware and will be keeping an eye out. As a litter bin has already been provided, it was resolved that no additional bins would be purchased. The clerk was asked to include something in the next newsletter to make residents aware of the problem and to ask that people using the playing field clear up their litter.

**c) Latest play inspection report**

The same issues were raised as before. The rot on the wooden play equipment needs to be monitored and the wood replaced where necessary.

**d) Organising a village event to celebrate the successful purchase of the playing field and to thank those residents who made donations**

It was resolved that an opening ceremony would be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September including an afternoon tea on the playing field and that Debbie Gates and the clerk would organise it. The clerk agreed to contact Elliott's to order a toilet. It was resolved that a payment up to £100 would be authorised.

**e) Hedge cutting and repairs to the playing field**

The hedge on the playing field needs cutting and the spikes on the swings need replacing. It was resolved that Adrian Lee would ask Ken Hutchinson to cut the hedges and that Adrian Lee would replace the spikes on the swings.

**12. Village issues**

**a) To review the Emergency Plan and Emergency Plan leaflet**

It was resolved that:

- The councillors' addresses would be added to the Emergency Plan leaflet
- The clerk would print off the list of resources available in the village and that this would be reviewed at the next meeting
- The emergency centre would be amended to the Shooting Lodge as toilet facilities are available there.

**b) Article about Lackford Church and arranging a meeting with the PCC to discuss plans for the church**

It was resolved that this item would be postponed until the September meeting.

**13. Correspondence**

**a) Letter from MAGPAS requesting a donation**

It was resolved that no donation would be made.

**b) Letter from Alice Martin re tree warden scheme**

It was resolved that details of the scheme would be included in the next newsletter.

**c) Email from Mary Evans about a funding talk and advice session fundraising event**

The clerk agreed to attend.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.**

Signed ..... (Chairman) Dated .....