

STRADISHALL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5th July 2021

Councillors present: Ady Swift (chairman), Ian Hutchinson (vice-chairman), Adrian Lee, Robert Deeks, Ed Hollingsworth and Jonathan Masefield

Also present: District councillor Nick Clarke and 5 members of the public.

Open Forum:

The following issues were raised:

- A road incident in Stradishall village on 19th April which has been logged with the Police.
- Fireworks in the village for 4th July. Would it be possible to put a polite notice on the Facebook page asking people to let neighbours know if they are planning to use fireworks?
- DC/21/1108/OUT

The Chairman moved item 9 up the agenda - planning issues

1. Planning Issues

a) DC/21/1108/OUT - Land rear of The Haven, The Street, Stradishall – one dwelling

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

- **Policy DM2: Creating Places - Development Principles and Local Distinctiveness**
 The Street in Stradishall is linear with most properties fronting the highway. The area round the site has a rural feel. The surrounding properties, one of which is a listed building, are on large, spacious plots. Building a property between the Haven and Orchard Close will create a crowded feeling more in keeping with an urban rather than a rural area where housing density is less of an issue.
- The new dwelling will have a negative impact on the residential amenity of the Haven and Woodcote as well as the properties in Orchard Close as the house will be positioned very close to the boundary of the plot. The plot is on higher land than the surrounding area so the new property would dominate and overshadow the surrounding area and would impact on views into and out of the Conservation Area.
- **Policy DM17: Conservation Areas**
 This development will not preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Conservation Area. It is not of an appropriate scale for the size of the plot and does not respect the area's character and its setting. The proposal will lead to the loss of an important open space which contributes to the special character of the area.
- The application states that there will be mains drainage to the property. This is incorrect as there is no mains drainage in this part of Stradishall.

b) Update on the sites put forward in Stradishall as part of West Suffolk Council's Local Plan.

West Suffolk Council is currently preparing a Local Plan. The first phase of the Local Plan was for West Suffolk Council to prepare an evidence base. Part of this process involved a 'call for sites' where landowners put forward land that they felt may be suitable for development. West Suffolk Council describes this as a landowner's 'wish list'.

Another part of the process is for West Suffolk Council to prepare a settlement hierarchy. A settlement hierarchy categorises settlements according to the range of services and facilities they offer, reflecting their level of sustainability.

Stradishall has been categorised as a Type A village. These villages have a limited range of services and facilities but can still meet some of the day to day needs of their residents and/or lie within two kilometres of a town with the opportunity for sustainable access.

West Suffolk Council is now reviewing all the comments received as part of the Issues and Options Consultation which took place in October 2020 and will identify how much development should take place and where it should go. They will prepare the Preferred Options draft of the plan. At this stage more information will be available about which sites will be put forward in Stradishall and how much new housing Stradishall is expected to accommodate. Consultation for this stage will take place in January 2022. The final plan is not expected to be approved until 2024.

2. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Debbie Gates and the reason for absence accepted. Karen Richardson and Marion Rushbrook also sent their apologies.

3. Declaration of Interest in items on the agenda and dispensation requests

No councillors declared an interest in any items on the agenda and no dispensation requests were received.

4. Approval of minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10th May 2021

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

5. County Councillor's report

No report was received.

6. District Councillor's report

Nick Clarke spoke about West Suffolk Council's current grass cutting schedule.

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

There was one outstanding councillor action.

8. Finance

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

It was resolved that the following payments would be approved:

- HMRC – PAYE - LGA 1972, s111 – **£149.80**
- J P Kirk - expenses - LGA 1972, s111 – **£20.66**

Jonathan Masfield and Ady Swift signed the Schedule of Payments after the meeting. The Chairman countersigned it.

b) Approval of payments authorised between meetings

No payments were authorised between meetings.

c) Statement of receipts and payments made since the last meeting

Receipts

Payments

Date	Supplier	Description	Total
11/05/2021	Stradishall PCC- St Margaret's Church	Churchyard maintenance	£600.00
11/05/2021	Cathy Whitaker	Internal audit fee	£65.00
11/05/2021	J Kirk	Zoom subscription 1/8	£17.99
31/05/2021	Business Services at CAS Ltd	Insurance	£399.26
Staff costs as per confidential cash book			

d) Bank balances as of 30th June 2021

HSBC current account	£8,823.32
HSBC reserve account	£5,927.48
Total in Banks	£14,750.80

Jonathan Masfield verified and signed the bank statements.

e) Signatory to complete the checklist of Internal Controls

Jonathan Masfield completed and signed the checklist of internal controls.

f) Update on the inspection of parish council property carried out by Adrian Lee

Adrian Lee has inspected the Council. The cricket pavilion has been renovated and now needs repainting. No other work is required.

g) Approval of the continued use of electronic banking

It was resolved the Parish Council would continue to use electronic banking.

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

a) Tackling speeding on Edmunds Hill

It was resolved that the Parish Council would contact County Councillor Bobby Bennett to ask for her support in tackling the problem of speeding in Stradishall and to find out if it would be possible to extend the 30mph speed limit further out of Edmunds Hill or create a 40mph lead-in to slow traffic

down as it enters the village. The Parish Council will also ask if she would support a speed survey on Edmunds Hill.

10. To review the following policy documents

a) Financial Regulations

It was resolved that no amendments were necessary.

b) Standing Orders

It was resolved that the following amendments would be made to section 1c:

*If public meetings are not allowed (as for example during the Coronavirus outbreak in 2020), remote meetings will be held via Zoom. **Members of the public are welcome to join Zoom meetings. Login details will be included on the published agenda.** A public forum will be held at the start of the meeting at which members of the public are invited to speak to councillors about any items on the agenda.*

11. To approve the updated Emergency Plan and Emergency Plan leaflet

It was resolved that the updated Emergency Plan and Emergency Plan leaflet would be approved.

12. To discuss any playing field issues

a) Latest play inspection report and Annual Inspection Report

No new issues were raised. All the items raised in the Annual Report were low or very low risk (8 or less). It was resolved that no further action would be taken at this stage and that the issues raised would be monitored.

It was also resolved that Adrian Lee would arrange for the hedge around the playing field to be cut back, and the spring horses re-installed.

13. To discuss any village issues

a) Request for locality funding for bin stickers a trough and bedding plants

The cost of planters ranges from £300 plus. It was resolved that Adrian Lee would quote to make a planter instead.

The clerk was also asked to write letters of thanks to the two residents who regularly pick up litter in Stradishall.

b) Date for a litter pick

It was resolved that a date for the litter pick would be set at the January 2022 meeting and that the clerk would prepare a risk assessment for volunteers.

14. Correspondence

a) Email from the PCC thanking the Parish Council for its donation - For information only.

b) Letter from Lord Lieutenant for Suffolk about the Festival of Suffolk 2022 to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee and the suggestion to appoint a Festival Community Champion.

It was resolved that the Parish Council would arrange a village event to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and that Ian Hutchinson would co-ordinate the event.

15. Any other business for noting or including on the next agenda.

The following items are for including on the next agenda:

- Additional verge cuts

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm

Signed: **Dated:**