

**MINUTES OF TOSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE
VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 16th DECEMBER 2015**

PRESENT: Cllrs R Perks (Vice Chairman), D Blundell, Mrs S Mansel, B Alexander Mrs C Debenham, J Kearsley, D Cllr Mrs S Mansel & Mrs M Bottomley (Clerk).
9 villagers

APOLOGIES: Cllrs Ms S Waitkins, Mrs J Le Fleming & Police

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –

Land on Norton Road amendments and parking requirements – further meeting when planning application received.

Recycling centre and waste materials query

Clerk's appraisal

Mr Cross's query on the land adjacent to Aurene and derelict workshop – not a matter for the parish council – issue now resolved

Contact Mr Hayward re opening permissive path

Flashing signs to deal with speed problems to be considered as part of review of traffic issues in village

Overgrown Hedgerow down past Church – Agenda item

Dangerous tree over bridge from Beyton

Query re purchase of litter bin – charges to be met by the County Councillor

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - none

DISPENSATIONS - none

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 4th NOVEMBER 2015

It was proposed by Cllr Alexander, seconded by Cllr Mrs Debenham that the minutes of the parish council meeting held on the 4th November be approved as a true and accurate record and signed accordingly. All in favour.

CO-OPTION

The Council had received an application from Mr R Phipps and further information had been circulated to members prior to the meeting for consideration. Cllr Perks proposed co-option, seconded by Cllr Blundell – all in favour. Cllr Phipps joined the meeting having signed his Declaration of Acceptance.

The meeting recessed for the next item.

REPORTS

County Councillor – Mrs J Storey: report circulated covering Cabinet meeting 8th December and Council meeting 10th December – Adult social care, cuts to funding (arts and culture budget), call for the Secretary of State to investigate recent failures in passenger provision and ensure existing franchise will not be repeated and the new franchise will make robust plans for better provision; annual reports to be presented; report on amendments being proposed to the Councils Constitution. Full report attached.

District Councillor – Mrs S Mansel updated on the devolution proposals; Community Infrastructure Levy; accommodation review and student transition project. Report attached.

Signature.....

Village Hall – nothing to report.

Police – report received confirming that they would not be continuing with the monthly Parish Report but instead an e-mail has been sent to the clerk providing a link to the crime map available on the Suffolk Police website so villagers can check the relevant area for recorded crimes within the chosen area. The link is

<http://www.police.uk/Suffolk/H44/crime/2015-06/akk-crime>

The quarterly Priority Tasking meetings are also being cancelled. Currently there are 1 Pc and 1 PCSO based at Elmswell Police Office. Full report attached.

The meeting reconvened

Chairman's report – referred to the recent audit and the need to reduce the high reserves held currently. Invited villagers to come up with ideas /projects /improvements in the village. Highways work has been earmarked – possibly with a £10/£15K expenditure. Article to again be mentioned in The Chronicle.

FINANCE

702 **Review of Risk Assessment:** the Parish Council office had not been inspected and the mower/grass cutter. The bench outside the village hall was breaking up. Replacement would cost approximately £455 up to £700. Replacement of tiles/slates on the bus shelter was discussed – quotes to be obtained by Cllr Perks. It was agreed that the ruts on The Leys were to have top soil infill. A physical deterrent to prevent lorries causing these problems was also suggested and considered.

Standing orders: ongoing.

708 **SALC/BDO Reports:** Both reports circulated to councillors. Noted the recommendation that the current budget position should be reported and minuted on a quarterly basis. Additionally to increase the Fidelity guarantee and that income received should be noted in the minutes as per expenditure incurred during the year. It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Mansel, seconded by Cllr Blundell to increase the Fidelity to the next level. Clerk to organise.

BDO again considered the level of reserves was high but acknowledged that the parish council was endeavouring to reduce the amount over the coming years.

Conclusion of audit notice duly displayed.

709 **Cheques:** It was proposed by Cllr Perks, seconded by Cllr Blundell that the following cheques issued for December be approved. All in favour.

<u>Chq.</u>		
1131	Technology Tamed (IT)	£ 4.66
1132	BDO (audit)	£156.00
1133	St Andrews Church (cuts)	£573.00
1134	Gipping Press (Chronicle)	£131.00
1135	Village Hall (donation)	£200.00

Signature.....

1136	Litter Picker	£ 48.75
1137	Clerk (expenses)	£ 42.77
1138	Ms J Wheeler (Chronicle)	£102.06
S/O	Personnel December	£156.50

Current A/c £7,315.45 Income £1.21 Reserve £28,394.92

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Norton Road Development – suitable response discussed by councillors and draft reply to be agreed.

VILLAGE MATTERS

Trees Church Road: Completed – remove from Agenda.

The Leys: Ongoing

BT cabinet: Progressing.

Notice Board The Notice Board had been ordered but councillors needed to agree whether the lettering should be white or gold. Cllr Mrs Mansell proposed white lettering, seconded by Cllr Alexander – all in favour.

Anti dog fouling

Signs: 10 have been ordered and will be sent to Mr Wadsworth.

Carols on

The Green Remove from agenda

The Croft

Covenant: MSDC had no record of its existence and subsequently it had been confirmed that the agreement had only been a verbal one with owner.

Hollow Lane

signs: Defer to next meeting.

Perkins Way: The County Council wished to develop this land and the Parish Council comments had been taken on board for smaller bungalows and for some affordable homes, with a view to being suitable for a variety of occupants including designs suitable for older people.

Pond on

the Leys: The Council now had control over this area and it has been suggested the pond needed to be cleaned out – possibly late summer but we would need to clear out the weeds. This item to remain on the agenda.

ACTION PLAN

The Chairman felt that the Council needed to focus on future projects overall and draw up suitable guidelines and objectives of what it wished to achieve. Councillors discussed and agreed setting up a working party. Proposed by Cllr Perks seconded by Cllr Kearsley – all in favour.

Signature.....

TRAINING

Discussion centred on having SALC training “in house”. Chairman to make enquiries.

CORRESPONDENCE

Various brochures

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 27th January 2016.

There being no further business the Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20 p.m.

DRAFT

Signature.....