

TOSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
ON WEDNESDAY 7th MARCH 2018

Present: Cllrs R Perks (Chairman), J Kearsley, B Alexander, D Blundell, Mrs C Debenham
Mrs S Mansel & Mrs P Fletcher.
10 villagers

Apologies: C Cllr Mrs J Storey

Public Forum:

- Complaint about the dog bin outside the Village Hall being emptied by villager instead of MSDC.
- Request for the Parish Council to install a bin in Norton Road by the bench further up the road
- State of Flatts Lane with excess water making it difficult for walkers to use the footpath
- Potholes – should be reported to SCC along with the problem in Flatts Lane Chairman has taken a number of photos around the village including Flatts Lane and will report this ‘on line’
- Ditch outside village Hall has been cleared
- Large pieces of tree need to be cleared – being dealt with under agenda item ‘Norton Road’

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr R Perks - Item 7 Finance and Item 8 Planning

DISPENSATIONS – None

CO-OPTION OF APPLICANT

Details of the applicant had been previously circulated to all councillors and following a brief discussion Cllr Perks proposed co-opting Mr Nicholas Cytacki to the Council. Seconded by Cllr Mrs Mansel – all in favour. Declaration of Acceptance was duly signed and Cllr Cytacki was invited to join the members.

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 17th JANUARY 2018

With the following amendment it was proposed by Cllr Kearsley, seconded by Cllr Perks that the minutes were a true and accurate record and signed accordingly. All in favour.

Page 818 Precept: change paragraph to read

“papers had been previously circulated and considered at a WP meeting earlier in the month and recommended a figure of £8,435. However after a brief discussion Cllr Perks proposed a precept of £8,285, seconded by Cllr Kearsley. Three councillors in favour, two abstentions.”

The meeting recessed for the next item.

WRITTEN REPORTS

C Cllr Mrs J Storey – written report for February previously circulated covering a Council meeting on 9th February; Cabinet meeting 21st February; GCSE results continuing to improve; Vision for mental health in Suffolk.

D Cllr Mrs S Mansel – report circulated covering the Boundary review; MSDC budget; Locality funding; Community Infrastructure Levy; Regal Theatre, Stowmarket; “Open for Business” strategy; Bin collections in adverse weather.

The meeting reconvened.

REPORTS

Village Hall Committee – nothing to report.

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Chairman's report - items covered elsewhere on the agenda -nothing to add.

FINANCE

760 **Cheques:** It was proposed by Cllr Perks, seconded by Cllr Kearsley that the following cheques issued for March be approved. All in favour.

Chq

1369	Litter Picker (February/March)	£ 97.50
1370	Village Hall (donation)	£ 57.00
1261	Communicorp	£ 12.00
1262	Haughley PC (stationery)	£ 36.69
1263	Village Hall (1 st Aid training)	£150.00
1264	Clerk (expenses)	£ 36.65
S/O	Clerk (February/March payment)	£260.38

Current A/C £10,605.90

Reserve A/C £27,412.93

761 **Financial Risk Assessment:** Confirmed at the December 2017 meeting.

762 **BDO Conclusion of Audit:** Confirmation provided that the Notice had been displayed. The meeting also noted the recommendations in the BDO report for the Risk Assessment and the comment regarding the level of reserves.

763 **Playground Inspection:** Councillors agreed to donate this year's cost to the Village Hall and to include this item in future annual grant payments to them when agreeing the precept.. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Mansel, seconded by Cllr Kearsley – all in favour.

764 **Lawn Mower Service:** In addition to the one quote obtained by C Buckle, it was hoped a further two quotes of no more than £1,000 would be sought before councillors reached a decision at the next meeting.

PLANNING

Councillors agreed that the following application needed to be displayed and discussed after villagers had been given the opportunity to comment. It was therefore unanimously agreed to hold a separate Planning Meeting on the 15th March.

00780/18 Land adj. Foresters, New Road: Severance of land and erection of one detached bungalow and creation of new vehicular access.

00927/18 Foresters, New Road: Conversion of a detached bungalow into two detached dwellings

Appledores Farm (Application 02353/17 refused)

CROFT HOUSE

Cllr Blundell provided a verbal report to councillors on his meeting with the owners and following a brief discussion the meeting unanimously agreed the Council should still ask the solicitors to write to the owners pointing out that the widening of their access would encroach on the green and if they intended to proceed with this there was a procedure to follow which the solicitor should outline.

NORTON ROAD DEVELOPMENT

A number of villagers have been in touch with the water authority and developers regarding the problem of surface water. MSDC had admitted errors were made but it was a SCC problem and not MSDC. There was some agreement between the land owner and developers but MSDC had not followed the recommendations provided by the water board consultant. Additionally there were problems with the pumping station.

Councillors discussed how to progress the matter further. Cllr Kearsley proposed drawing up a draft letter

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for the clerk to send to the Chief Executive, MSDC. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Debenham, seconded by Cllr Kearsley – all in favour.

Councillors agreed that Planning enforcement should also be contacted and in particular referring to Condition 9 which the Parish Council considered was not being adhered to.

VILLAGE MATTERS

- a) **The Leys/Green tracks:** this will be repaired at the beginning of April
- b) **Gateway signage:** The licence has been agreed and the original plan can now be progressed.
- c) **Telephone Box:** Contractor will carry out the work in mid May.
- d) **Clearance of ditches Norton Road:** The Village Hall has been written to and Mr Villars. The Village Hall have advised they will get someone to do this but the Council need to monitor this.
- e) **Dog Bins:** Arrange for the bin near the Play Area to be emptied by MSDC. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Mansel, seconded by Cllr Kearsley – all in favour.

- f) **Power Cables:** At the last meeting there was a query raised about the power cables being above ground on The Green, and it was suggested they should be put underground since it was a Conservation Area. Clerk to contact and raise the matter with UK Power.

ITEMS FOR THE CHRONICLE

Play area dog bin to be emptied by MSDC
Co-option
Flatts Lane pipe
Street Naming – Pamment Close has been recommended to MSDC for consideration.
Advertise Annual Parish Meeting 18th April 2018.

CORRESPONDENCE none

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Planning Meeting 15th March 2018 to be held in the small room at the Village Hall
Annual Parish Meeting 18th April 2018
Parish Council Meeting 25th April 2018.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

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