

TOSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON WEDNESDAY 9th JANUARY 2019

Present: Cllrs R Perks (Chairman), J Kearsley, D Blundell, N Cytacki and C Debenham
Mrs S Brown (Temporary Clerk)
Three Members of the Public

1. APOLOGIES: Received and accepted from: Cllr P Fletcher and Cllr Mansel

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Cllr Perks in respect of any item relating to the Village Hall as members of the Village Hall Committee.

3. DISPENSATIONS: None.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 12th DECEMBER 2018:

Cllr Kearsley proposed and seconded by Cllr Debenham, all in agreement that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 12th December 2018, were approved as a true and accurate record and signed accordingly.

5. REPORTS:

a). County Councillor **Cllr J Storey:** A report had been received and circulated to Councillors which included: Sport brings £270m to the Suffolk economy, Consultation on the proposed changes to the local Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) grant funding, Update from the Most Active County team, Locality funding Cllr Storey advised £9000 was available although a number of requests had already been made against this. The Chair advised the village hall was meeting at the end of the month when a number of projects will be discussed following which they may make a request for funding. The Chair felt it would be a great shame if the Citizens Advice Bureau was unable to continue and this was echoed by the Council.

b). District Councillors **Cllr S Mansel and Cllr J Levantis:** Reports had been received and circulated to Councillors which included: SCC currently have a public consultation about the future of funding Citizens Advice Bureau, General Fund draft budget, Housing Revenue Account, Joint Communities Strategy and Management of Council owned trees.

c). Village Hall: No Report had been received.

d). Chairman: Advised an email had been received today from SCC Highways relating to the extensive flooding on New Road and Beyton road with work being carried out within 5 working days. To highlight this relates to a report dated 12.4.18 although the Parish Council are reporting issues the reality is it can take many months before the remedial works take place.

6. Public Forum: It was reported a young man from the village who had witnessed someone clearing debris from the drains by the bridge to avoid the area flooding had come and helped with this work, thanks went to those concerned.

It was advised by a committee member of a local charity, which looked after a field within Tostock, they were proposing the field could be used as a BMX track for local youngsters. The committee member had experience of putting in an application for a track and what was needed to get it up and running. It would need commitment from the Parish Council that they would be happy to support it but they hoped if it did go ahead the youngsters themselves would form a club for running it. To place on next agenda.

It was asked if the Parish Council knew who owned various ditches in the village as a ditch was full of garden waste and could cause flooding. The Clerk to email both Flooding & Highways at SCC and cc Cllr Storey into the email.

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7. TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLORS: A member of the public had put themselves forward for co-option and provided a brief C.V. It was confirmed they were happy to go on training if co-opted, they were advised of the upcoming election in May. Cllr Kearsley proposed co-option seconded by Cllr C Debenham all in agreement. Cllr J Debenham joined the meeting and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr J Debenham to complete a Register of Interests form.

8. TO CONSIDER COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY: The Chair advised the Council has received £15,900 with £6,543 to come. Details were given as to where the CIL monies had come from and reminded Council there was a time limit of 5 years from being made available to spend the money. It was also advised there were still £764 of S.106 monies available to use before July 2020 which could be used on open space, sport or recreation. It was hoped at the next meeting of the Village Hall committee a number of projects will be decided upon to use the funds on. The Chair advised if the Council had General Power of Competence any future CIL monies the Council would receive 25% rather than 15% and would have the ability to spend the monies on a wider range of projects. Council briefly discussed with the need for three fifths of the Council to be elected in May so any Councillors who wish to be elected to ensure they complete the necessary paperwork at the time.

9. TO CONSIDER PARISH PLANS AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS: Council had received the Good Councillors Guide to Neighbourhood Planning, NALC Legal Topic Note 83 on Neighbourhood Planning and a SALC briefing on the subject. The Clerk advised CAS were unable to provide direct support to parishes for a Neighbourhood Plan but were able to provide consultation software and a housing needs survey which can form part of a Neighbourhood Plan. The Chair advised Tostock had a Parish Plan carried out in 2008 and explained the basic difference between a Parish Plan and Neighbourhood Plan which cannot prevent development but can propose where the development can take place. Council discussed including: time scale it can take a number of years to complete, possible costs and grants available, referendum has to be carried out & ensuring there is enough support. Once a N.P. is started the community is often approached by developers, the need to define the area of the N.P., need to form a N.P. committee, problems with identifying a site for development, how long does a N.P. last for, the support from MSDC, MSDC still has not got a Local Plan and 5year land supply. The Chair concluded this was not an easy decision and more information was needed it was agreed to ask parishes of a similar size to Tostock on their experience of N.P.'s To contact Drinkstone who have started a N.P. and Beyton who are currently considering a N.P. To place on next agenda.

8. FINANCE AND TO CONSIDER THE PAYMENT OF INVOICES:

Finance Report: The January payment schedule was circulated to Councillors.

- i. To agree the appointment of the internal auditor: The Clerk advised SALC charged £188 + VAT LCPAS had been contacted by phone and email but no price had been received as yet. Council briefly discussed and were happy for the Chair to make the decision when further prices had been received.

783 Payment of Cheques: Cllr Kearsley proposed the payment of invoices seconded by Cllr Perks all in agreement for the payment of cheques as below:

Cheques:

1372 – Litter Picker December invoice: £45.69 (Report received and read to Council the clerk to report further fly tipping to MSDC)

1373 – Mole catcher annual payment: £130.00

1374 – Clerk January and February salary: £130.40

Total income for January 2019 £2.96 interest

Total expenditure for January 2019 £303.97 & VAT £2.12

Reserve Account at 31.12.18 £17,430.93

Current Account at 31.12.18 £18,727.03 (uncleared after the invoices above have been paid £18,230.03)

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11. PLANNING:

- i. Application DC/18/05467 1 Park Cottages, Church Road – Erection of single storey rear extension: Council discussed and Cllr Kearsley proposed no objection seconded by Cllr Cytacki seconded all in agreement no objection.
 - ii. Application DC/18/05568 Westwood, Leys Road – 2 new buildings following demolition of existing dwelling and garage: Council discussed and Cllr Kearsley proposed objecting with the comments: The reduction in height of the pitched roof and length of the building was noted in the new application however for the area it is uncharacteristic and fails to reflect the form of development in the vicinity therefore the previous objections made by the Parish Council remain namely: ‘The proposed development is cramped and contrived and neither preserves nor enhances the character of the Conservation Area. The development is end on whereas all the neighbouring properties are on large plots and aligned parallel to the road. If approved it would set an unfortunate precedent for the potential redevelopment of the other bungalows fronting Leys Road and The Leys. The Council is not averse to the demolition of the existing bungalow per se, but would wish to see an enhancement to the local neighbourhood.’ This was seconded by Cllr Perks all in agreement to object with the above comments.
 - iii. Application DC/19/00078 Gable Cottage, Flatts Lane – Erection of a single storey side/rear extension: Council discussed Cllr Kearsley proposed no objection seconded by Cllr Perks all in agreement no objection.
- Applications decided by Planning Authority:**
- i. Application DC/18/03506 Land north of Village Hall, Norton Road – Discharge of conditions for application 4974/16 – Condition 13 (Energy Strategy): Approved Condition(s)
 - ii. DC/18/04677 Land adj. Foresters, New Road – Outline planning (access to be considered) Erection of 3no two-storey dwellings and 1no single-storey dwelling: Refused.

12. VILLAGE MATTERS:

- a). Norton Road – Ditches and Trees: The Clerk to email the landowner for an update.
- b). Dog Waste Bins – The Chair advised the last two dog bins had been installed the Clerk to inform MSDC for emptying. To take off agenda
- c). Speed Stickers – It was advised there were still a few available.
- d). Christmas tree on The Green: A member of public commented how nice it was to see the Christmas Tree. Many thanks were given to Cllr Fletcher for all her work and to all those who helped erect and dismantle the tree. It was suggested more lights could be added to it for next year. To take off agenda (To place on October agenda)
- e). Speed Indicator Displays: The Chair gave an update with x4 sites recommended and explained the rationale for those sites. Council discussed it was asked what the cost of the SID’s will be the Chair advised the approximate cost is £2,500 more if you wish to collect data to a maximum of £4,500. It was advised a number of volunteers had come forward to help move the SID when up and running. All in agreement for the Chair to continue using the x4 sites on the map showing the proposed position of the speed indication displays.
- f). Home Security Presentation: The Chair advised the Community Police Officer was intending to speak at the beginning of the Annual Parish Meeting on Home Security.
- g). Village To Do List: Following the recent volunteer event in December a number of residents had come forward to set up a ‘Tidy Up Tostock’ group. The group had recently walked around the village highlighting areas that need work. A number of dates have been proposed throughout the year to help keep the village tidy, to place dates in the Chronicle. The Chair thanked all the volunteers for carrying out this work and to let the Parish Council know how they can help. Cllr J Debenham highlighted the public are able to report any potholes/highway issues etc directly to SCC via their website. Cllr J Debenham to check whether the SCC reporting map shows areas of verge/ditches that SCC own and report back at the next meeting. The Chair advised the pond needs to be looked at separately and Cllr Kearsley confirmed there was a need for guidelines to protect the flora and fauna of this site. Removal of the cut grass at the correct time is the main problem. Cllr C Debenham to try to contact a suggested resident who may be able to carry this out.
- h). Flower boxes at gateways: To place on next agenda.
- i). Tree planting: To place on next agenda

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j).Overweight lorries through the village: Cllr Kearsley advised he had received an email from a resident on this matter and whether there was anything further the Parish Council could do to help in the matter. Council discussed, the Clerk to write to the resident advising there are signs ‘not suitable for heavy goods vehicles’’, speed stickers for bins have been recently distributed, the newly erected gates and it was hoped the SID would also help to make a difference to speeding in the village. It was hoped over a period of time these will all make an impact to help reduce the problem. Cllr J Debenham stated if any member of the public sees overweight lorries using for example bridges they should, if possible take photographs and report it to Highways on the SCC website.

13. ITEMS FOR THE CHRONICLE:

- Fly tipping
- Speed Stickers
- Christmas Tree thanks
- New dog bins
- Village walkabout taken place and list of future dates
- New Councillor
- Election encouraging residents to put themselves forward.

14. CORRESPONDENCE: Circulated to Councillors:

- Exacom Public Facing Module Launched which provides a publicly accessible database of developer contributions – Noted
- Free Workshop on Community Energy & Neighbourhood Planning on 24 January 12.15 – 4.30pm at Red Lodge Millennium Centre – Noted
- Buckingham Palace Garden Parties nomination form – The Chair declined to be nominated.

15. COUNCILLORS REPORTS & ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA: Cllr C Debenham asked if there had been much feedback for ideas for the village, the Chair advised the majority had been for the Village Hall and related facilities (football pitch, play area, skateboard facility) all these suggestions had been passed to the Village Hall committee. This was briefly discussed and it was confirmed outdoor gym equipment was already on the list.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: To confirm the date of the next scheduled meeting, as Wednesday, 13th March 2019 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

17. TO RESOLVE TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC TO PROGRESS STAFFING ISSUE:

It was resolved to close the meeting. The Chair updated Council in regards the Clerk. Council were all in agreement to follow the advice of SCC Legal Department.

The meeting closed at 10.10 p.m.

Signature.....