

TOSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL
ON WEDNESDAY 10th July 2019

Present: Cllrs J Debenham (Chair), J Kearsley (Vice-Chair), D Blundell, O Boland, P Boland, P Fletcher and M Johansson
Mrs S Brown (Temporary Clerk) and Mrs S Burman (Clerk)
Seven Members of the Public

1. APOLOGIES: Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs: N Cytacki and G MacDowell.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None Received

- i. Register of interest forms: The temporary clerk confirmed receipt of all Register of Interest forms a copy of which had been forwarded to the relevant Officer at Mid Suffolk District Council.
- ii. Requests for dispensations: None

3. REPORTS:

a). County Councillor **Cllr J Storey:** Cllr Storey attended and gave a report which included: Conversations start as county council seeks solutions to bus funding challenge, Suffolk pot hole repair scheme to go countrywide, new fire engines and uniforms making Suffolk safer and foster carers for Suffolk children. Cllr Boland asked whether smaller buses could be used on local routes which would be more economical. Cllr Storey advised this was a commercial choice made by the bus operator.

b). District Councillors: Cllr Wendy Turner attended and gave a report which included: draft joint local plan, councillor locality budget, bin collection day change, housing delivery test action plan, Stowupland neighbourhood plan and new directors for CIFCO In regards the Local Plan consultation Cllr Fletcher asked if they would engage with classification of the village Cllr Turner advised they would.

Cllr Harry Richardson attended and gave a report which included: Draft Local Plan, Women's cycle tour, changes to recycling, home-start charity named as Chair's choice, councils' cutting-edge database shortlisted for paperless awards, towns and parishes get £290k CIL boost in Mid Suffolk and new electric vehicle charging point come to Needham Lake. It was also advised Council needs to apply by the end of December for locality budget monies for this financial year and the second CIL applications open in October. It was confirmed the Local Plan consultation was for 10 weeks, Cllr Kearsley stressed the importance the Parish Council understands the local environment and it would be helpful if the Parish Council could be supplied with a hard copy of The Local Plan. To place The Local Plan on the next agenda. Cllr Boland highlighted local housing and MSDC borrowing, Cllr Richardson briefly explained how this worked.

c). Village Hall: A report had been circulated to Councillors and included: the 2019/20 village hall committee, village hall improvement projects (VHIP) group, wild flower meadow, recent fundraising events, future fundraising events and Tostock village fete in Spring 2020. Cllr Kearsley advised it would be helpful to have a copy of the environmental audit if the Parish Council is applying for grants.

d). Chairman: Nothing to report.

Public Forum: Hedges on Church road, the Chair advised he had contacted the Woodland Trust and they are sending someone out. Reporting of potholes and the filling of surrounding ones were briefly discussed.

It was advised there were moles on The Green this was briefly discussed, Cllr Blundell to arrange for action to be taken.

4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 17th April 2019:

Cllr Fletcher proposed and seconded by Cllr Debenham, all in agreement that the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 7th June 2019, were approved as a true and accurate record and signed accordingly.

Signature.....

5. UPDATES:

i. HGV's through the Village: Cllr Fletcher advised HGV signage was not covered under the self-help scheme, Highway's would be needed to implement signage. Signage was briefly discussed including weight limit, lorries no turning round, 30mph. Cllr Fletcher to take this forward putting together a report for Highways. To place on next agenda.

ii. Highways self-help launch: Cllr Fletcher had circulated a report on the self-help scheme which included – What is community self-help, why are we offering it, what sort of work does it cover, how would a town or parish go about delivering these works, how do I get involved and useful contacts. The scheme was briefly discussed and Council felt it was more suited to larger Councils, to take off the agenda.

iii. General Power of Competence: The temporary clerk informed Council once a resolution has been passed, a parish council remains eligible up until its next relevant annual meeting, whether or not the conditions relating to electoral mandate and qualified clerk continue to be met, compliance with these conditions is judged at the time a resolution is passed.

iv. Clerk: It was confirmed the new clerk had attended the two-day clerks training at the Suffolk Association of Local Councils. The handover of Council papers to take place on Friday, 12th July.

6. TO CONSIDER COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY & FEEDBACK FROM PUBLIC MEETING:

The Chair advised a large number of ideas had been received from the recent public consultation, some of the ideas and suggestions did not involve much in terms of cost while others did need funding. The Chair to circulate a spreadsheet with all the ideas to Councillors. Cllr O Boland asked how communicate this to the village, the Chair confirmed using of the Chronicle. Cllr Blundell highlighted that while smaller items are very important there was also a need to look at larger projects which appeared to be mostly focused on the Village Hall. To place on next agenda.

7. TO CONSIDER COSTS - POOR'S CHARITY MEADOW, NORTON ROAD & COMPLETION OF FORMAL LETTER TO THE POOR'S CHARITY:

A response had been received from the Poor's Charity in regards to the Poor's Meadow report carried out by Cllr Cytacki. The Trustees of Tostock Poors Estate had no objections to all the points raised except for item 7 they felt there was no need for a parking area within the meadow and would prefer for this not to happen. The Trustees had some suggestions they would like considered:

- That the rent be reviewed every 3 years
- That 1years notice be given by either side in the event that the Parish Council no longer require the meadow or the Poors Estate wish for the meadow back
- The site remains secure
- In the event of the land being returned it has vacant possession
- That wheelchair/pushchair paths be included where possible

Cllr Blundell stated the Parish Council will need to have a firm plan with costs and to ascertain whether the village would like the Parish Council to go ahead. To place on next agenda.

8. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE GRASS CUTTING ON THE LEYS:

A report had been circulated to all Councillors, Council discussed including guardianship of The Leys which lies with the Parish Council and how it is managed. Either to mow some areas and leave some areas for a natural state to allow wild flowers to flourish. A quote had been received for £260 which includes the removal of the cut grass which is to take place as soon as orchids etc have seeded. It is important the correct management of The Leys is carried out and the cut is carried out at the correct time of year. It is an amenity to be enjoyed by all the community.

9. TO CONSIDER DONATION REQUEST FROM TOSTOCK CARPET BOWLS CLUB:

Council discussed and Cllr Debenham proposed making a donation of £267.75 as requested Cllr Kearsley seconded. All in agreement, Cllr Fletcher suggested using S.106 monies to make this donation, the Clerk to check if it is possible to use S.106 monies.

Signature.....

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

The Chair advised receipt of a petition in regards the grass cutting of the playing field, this had been forwarded to the Village Hall Committee who had advised they had responded to the residents concerned.

11. ITEMS FOR THE CHRONICLE:

Summary of the public consultation – Chair

Grass cutting on The Leys - Chair

12. PLANNING:

i. Application DC/19/02565 Land adj Foresters, New Road – appearance, landscaping layout & scale for 2 dwellings and associated garages: Council discussed and all in agreement no comment.

ii. Application DC/19/03138 Land adj Foresters, New Road – 1 no. log cabin style dwelling: Council discussed Cllr Debenham proposed object with the comment this is outside the settlement boundary seconded by Cllr Kearsley to also add the comment this is out of keeping with the area, all in agreement refuse with the above comments.

iii. Application DC/19/02307 Land adj Foresters, New Road – 2no dwellings and associated garages: Council discussed and all in agreement no comment

13. FINANCE:

Finance Report: It was confirmed a VAT reclaim of £3014.06 for year 2018-19 had been made to HMRC. The first quarter cleansing grant form had been completed and sent back to Mid Suffolk Council. The first quarter against budget had been circulated to Councillors.

- i. To consider banking arrangements including signatories and internet banking: Cllr Kearsley proposed Cllr Debenham as the third signatory seconded by Cllr Blundell all in agreement, the Clerk to contact the bank for the necessary documentation.
- ii. To approve payment of refreshments at public meeting: Cllr Blundell proposed approving payment of refreshments seconded by Cllr Kearsley all in agreement.
- iii. To approve payment of costs for planters & plants for village gates: Cllr Fletcher proposed approving payment of planters seconded by Cllr Kearsley all in agreement.

788 Payment of Cheques: Cllr Kearsley proposed the payment of cheques seconded by Cllr Blundell all in agreement for the payment of cheques as below:

Cheques:

1397 – Litter picker June invoice £65.68

1398 – Refreshments public consultation - £93.58

1399 – Flower boxes - £131.71

1400 – SALC clerk training - £132

1401 – Photoart framing - £208

Total expenditure £595.35 + £35.62 VAT

Total income: current bank statement had not been received.

Current Account at 1.5.19 £31,374.64 - Reserve Account at 1.5.19 £17,442.39

14. COUNCILLORS REPORTS & ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:

Cllr Fletcher asked for the Christmas tree on the green to be placed on the next agenda.

Council agreed Cllr Fletcher to attend the planning training at SALC, to place use of Facebook on next agenda. Cllr Debenham reported he had received the application forms for the placing of the speed indicator displays, to place on next agenda.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: To confirm the date of the next scheduled meeting, as Wednesday, 14th August 2019 at 7.30pm in the village hall.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Signature.....