

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Stradbroke Parish Council
held at the Court House, Stradbroke on
Monday, 13th March 2023 starting @ 7.30pm

Present: Mandy Allen, Russell Ayling, Helen Ball, Antony Bush, James Hargrave, Kamal Ivory, Maureen John, Susan Loxton, Caroline Stebbing, Toni Wisbey.

In attendance: Odile Wladon (Clerk) and 24 members of the public.

Item Ref	Description
23.03.01	<p>Chairman's welcome</p> <p>A reminder was given that the meeting would be broadcast live and recorded. A recording would be available for repeated access on the Council's Facebook page, therefore anyone speaking at the meeting will be deemed to have given consent to being recorded.</p>
23.03.02	<p>Apologies for Absence There were no apologies</p>
23.03.03	<p>Declarations of Interests</p> <p>Councillors declared interests in subsequent agenda items as follows:</p> <p>(a) Pecuniary Interests - none</p> <p>(b) Other registerable interests - none</p> <p>(c) Non-registerable interests – none</p>
23.03.04	<p>Dispensations None were requested.</p>
23.03.05	<p>Minutes</p> <p>Councillors reviewed and approved the minutes as a true record of the business conducted at the meeting held on 13th February 2023.</p>
23.03.06	<p>County & District Councillors</p> <p>(a) County Councillor Gould was unable to attend and Councillors passed on their best wishes.</p> <p>(b) District Councillor Flatman highlighted the following from her submitted report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding is available to bring empty homes back into use. • Suffolk councils have a combined pot of £2.2m to help tackle housing conditions to improve tenants' wellbeing. • A new purpose built site has opened for bin lorries. • Photo ID is required for voting at the upcoming elections and Parish Council are asked to raise awareness. The Clerk clarified that the Parish Council is promoting this through the Council's Facebook page and the Clerk will be available to help residents who need to access a voter ID certificate. • Questions/Comments from Parish Councillors: • SL – commented that over the Christmas period recycling was collected and placed in the bin lorry with rubbish. • KI – if empty homes are privately owned, can they be compelled to refurbish and make them available. Cllr Flatman noted that if homes are empty for over 2 years then the council tax will increase, this serves as an incentive for home owners to ensure they are available. • RA – asked whether the free activities would be available over Easter Break. Cllr Flatman confirmed it would be and Mid Suffolk have been advertising for more

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	providers to get involved.
23.03.07	<p>Public forum</p> <p>The applicants for planning reference DC/21/06824 (6 x poultry units at Fennings Farm) addressed Councillors and expressed their frustration that the determination of their application has not been finalised. They felt the comments submitted by the Parish Council were not helping their case.</p> <p>The Chair explained that Mid Suffolk District Council is the planning authority and the Parish Council is consulted by District Council and the Parish Council submits comments to them.</p>
23.03.08	<p>Planning</p> <p>(a) Councillors reviewed and approved a response to the following planning consultations: DC/23/00981- Erection of part two storey, part single storey rear extension (following demolition of existing) 56 Westhall, Stradbroke. SUPPORT DC/23/00725 – Erection of agricultural building. Havensfield Farm, Fressingfield Road. SUPPORT with comments.</p> <p>(b) Councillors noted the following other planning matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid Suffolk have advised the applicant of the Grove Farm development that additional work is required on the submitted application. • Mid Suffolk officers have decided that the application for poultry units at Fennings Farm will be returned to the District Council committee for further consideration. • The development behind the primary school will be reviewed at committee on 15/3/23. • The application for 8 houses on the Old Garage site on Queens Street will be determined shortly.
23.03.09	<p>Finance</p> <p>(a) Councillors noted account balances at 28th February 2023 as: Current: £17,503.07 Deposit: £98,241.09</p> <p>(b) Councillors approved the payments to be made as per the schedule appended to the minutes. Councillors noted that £50,000 was transferred to the current account to cover invoices in month.</p> <p>(c) Councillors noted the receipts received during February 2023</p> <p>(d) Councillors approved a grant of £150 to the Contact Club.</p>
23.03.10	<p>Health Centre:</p> <p>(a) Councillors received an update on the progress of the works and noted that the replacement of the carpet in 2 consulting rooms is being deferred as the staff were unable to clear the rooms ahead of the scheduled date. The medical practice staff requested that the works to the accessible counter did not take place. The Clerk advised that the proposed path to the front entrance has been put on hold, pending a review of the whole area. Councillors ratified the additional expenditure of £1775 required for the additional attic space has been identified and will need to be insulated this will increase the cost.</p> <p>(b) Councillors noted that there are 2 habitable rooms on the first floor and reviewed the works required to finish the rooms to enable the staff to use them as workspaces, rather than storage. <i>Works required:</i> full electrics rather than basic, full decoration rather than basic and carpet rather than leaving chip board exposed. Building control has stated that a safety covering is required on the stairs and that the fire alarm needs to be extended into each room with a fire door fitted to each room. Councillors agreed that it</p>

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	<p>was necessary and cost effective to complete the works whilst the contractors were on site. Councillors agreed that the costs would be approved using the scheme of delegation and ratified at the next meeting.</p> <p>(c) Councillors noted the successful outcome of the CIL bid made to Mid Suffolk for solar PVs and heating, up to date quotes will be obtained. The quote for the roof lights had already been accepted.</p> <p>(d) Councillors noted that the NHS requires a RAAC report on the building, the Clerk will arrange for this to be prepared.</p> <p>(e) Councillors noted that the back rent has been received.</p> <p>(f) Councillors noted that the 3 yearly rent review is due this year. Councillors agreed that the surveyor used during the lease work be appointed to review the rent and prepare a proposal for review by the NHS – this work will take place after the year end when more time will be available to the Clerk.</p>
23.03.11	<p>Committees and Working Parties</p> <p>(a) Committees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Planning Committee – have not met (ii) Finance Committee – have not met (iii) Personnel Committee – have not met. <p>(b) Working Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Broadband – only update is that the works are not complete and the project has not been finalised. (ii) Youth Council – deferred to after the election in May 2023. (iii) Community Asset – no work has been undertaken on registering the White Hart public house as an asset of community value. (iv) Climate Change – there was no update for this meeting.
23.03.12	<p>Clerk's report</p> <p>(a) Highways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20mph zone – Councillors agreed a working party of MA/RA/SL and the Clerk to undertake the footfall survey which is. • Councillors reviewed a proposal to install white H marks at the junction of Queens Street and Church Street rather than double yellow line, the disabled bay outside the shops on Church Street and the driveway access between the Spar and the hairdresser could be completed at the same time. Cost would be iro £3,000 rather than £10,000 plus for double yellow lines. Councillors approved this work as an alternative to the double yellow lines. <p>(b) Cemetery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors noted that the brick work repair has been completed. A date for the internal work has not yet been agreed. • The gate has been reinstated. <p>(c) All Saints Green development</p> <p>S.106 variation no update, the Clerk will be meeting with the developer shortly to discuss their plans for the car park.</p> <p>(d) Community Land Trust</p> <p>Councillors noted the Executive Summary of the housing needs survey and this can be reviewed when planning applications are consulted on.</p>
23.03.13	<p>Risk Assessments</p> <p>Councillors reported areas of concern with the following:</p>

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	(a) Westhall play park – litter and fallen branches from the high winds. Risk: Low (b) Community Centre play park – all fine (c) Fitness Track – all fine (d) Permissive Path – all fine (e) Cemetery – work to improve the area is ongoing. No major risks noted.
23.03.14	Coronation event Councillors noted that the Baptist Church may be organising an event. Councillors agreed to support the Big Help Out on 8 th May and will encourage residents to volunteer to help tidy the cemetery and chapel.
23.03.15	Correspondence (a) Tabled – Councillors noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The EV chargers will be installed shortly at the Wilby Road car park. • The Clerk has offered to assist a resident who has no photo ID in obtaining a voter authority certificate. • Mid Suffolk advised that the next round for CIL bids will open on 1/5/23. • Stowmarket District Scouts – seeking trustees for their management committee, noted. • An email concerning estate charges was noted and the Clerk was asked to review the guidance referenced ahead of any major planning applications being reviewed. • Ditch/Trees off Drapers Hill – the Clerk will advise of contact details requested for land on which the trees which are causing a nuisance are sited. (b) Emails: Councillors noted correspondence previously circulated - SALC bulletins
23.03.16	Closed session (a) Councillors voted close the meeting to the press and public to review matters of a confidential nature. (b) Councillors reviewed and approved a quote for a full health and safety check on the trees in the cemetery and chapel.
23.03.17	Date of the next meeting: 17 th April 2023

Meeting closed at: 9.15pm

Signed: _____

Date: