

Minutes of the Meeting of Stradbroke Parish Council
held at the Court House, Stradbroke
Monday, 14th January 2019

Present: David Turner, James Hargrave, Velda Lummis, Kamal Ivory, Maureen John

In Attendance: Odile Wladon (Clerk), Cllr G McGregor, Cllr Julie Flatman and 6 members of the public.

		Action
19.1.1	The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and reminded those present that the meeting may be recorded.	
19.1.2	Apologies for Absence	
(1)	Apologies were received from Toni Wisbey and Chris Edwards.	
(2)	Councillors unanimously consented to these absences.	
19.1.3	Declarations of Interest	
(1)	JH and MJ declared a local non-pecuniary interest in item 19.1.10 (2).	
(2)	There were no declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests noted.	
19.1.4	There were no dispensations requested.	
19.1.5	Councillor vacancies	
	Councillors noted that there have been no applications for consideration.	
19.1.6	Minutes	
	The minutes of the meeting held on 12 th December 2018 were approved as a true record of the business conducted.	
19.1.7	Public Forum – 4 members of the public addressed the meeting (listed 1-4 below)	
	1. A question was raised concerning when payments listed in item 19.1.10 (2) were authorised for payment. <i>The Chair replied they were included for authorisation at this meeting. The Clerk responded to a repeat of the question to state that authorisation to incur the expenditure is different to authorisation of the payment.</i> A subsequent question was raised concerning perceived overspends against budget. <i>The Chair and the Clerk explained that some of the perceived overspends were in fact taken from reserves. The finance committee have approved a revamp of the budgeting system inherited by the Clerk for the year 2019/20 – this should make analysis much simpler.</i>	
	2. The Councillors were asked if they intended to hold a public meeting with regards to the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum. MSDC had informed the member of the public that this is usual and quite normal. <i>The Chair and Clerk stated this was contrary to all advice given to the Parish Council – the Clerk will follow this up.</i>	
	3. Mrs Jane Merritt, speaking on behalf of the Stradbroke Charitable Trust, asked if the Councillors would consider not closing the meeting for item 19.1.14 (2). <i>The Chair replied that the decision rested with Councillors but the Clerk’s recommendation is that as the discussions relate to an ongoing contractual process the discussions and notes should remain private until the matter is concluded. The Chair will seek advice on publishing a full statement on the matter once concluded.</i>	
	4. The matter of closed meetings was raised. The member of the public felt that there had been too many closed sessions and that it appeared the Parish	Clerk

	<p>Council was working in secret and keeping information from the public. The member of the public is not satisfied with the responses received when this matter has been raised in the past. <i>The Chair replied that the item concerns a commercial matter and that this matter has been ongoing for some time. As the matter involves a dispute between two parties, the Parish Council has no choice but to discuss the matter in closed session as it is confidential to both parties.</i></p>	
<p>19.1.8</p> <p>(1)</p>	<p>Councillors received reports from County & District Councillors as follows:</p> <p>Cllr McGregor (County)</p> <p>The preparation of the 2019-20 Budget is consuming much of the time of SCC. The Final Grant Settlement from Central Government is still awaited but the need to close the Revenue Budget Gap remains.</p> <p>I am still making enquiries about the impact reductions will have on the Hoxne & Eye Division. No clear answers are available but a reduction on Revenue support for local bus services is likely but the time scale of the impact is not certain.</p> <p>Am also concerned about the Funding for the Children’s’ Centre in Eye. This Centre provides important and vital service throughout the Division and I stressed the importance of the service when I took the new CEO round the Division.</p> <p>SCC has just received a Report about the provision for SEND pupils in the county. Too many are being placed outside the County at considerable expense (and inconvenience). If the proposals go ahead the intention will be to reduce significantly out of County placements.</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>Cllr Flatman (District)</p> <p>At the MSDC cabinet meeting in December 2018, a proposal was approved for 2x PCSOs to be funded by MSDC. Information on the work to be undertaken by the PCSOs was shared and Cllr Flatman will find out further information, such as contact details etc and let all the Parish Council’s know.</p> <p>A fund day is being held at Elmswell</p> <p>Council tax: 2% increase which equates to a 6p weekly increase per Band D property.</p>	
<p>19.1.9</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(2)</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p>Councillors consider and review the following new applications:</p> <p>DC/18/05607 Full application – erection of battery storage unit. Stradbroke Swimming Pool, Wilby Road, IP21 5JN</p> <p>Following discussions the Councillors decided to reply with comments only on this application.</p> <p>Councillors to note the results of planning applications considered by MSDC since the PC last met:</p> <p>DC/18/04862 - Town Cottage, Church Street, IP21 5JF WITHDRAWN</p>	
<p>19.1.10</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(3)</p> <p>(4)</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>Councillors noted the Account Balances at 31st December 2018:</p> <p>Current Account - £6,317.47</p> <p>Deposit Account - £20,229.80</p> <p>Councillors approved cheques for signature or BACS payment for online authorisation as per the schedule prepared by the Clerk (copy attached to minutes).</p> <p>Councillors noted the receipts received in the month and the estimated reserved accounts balances taking into account committed funds as per the schedule prepared by the Clerk.</p> <p>Councillors received and reviewed a report of the 3rd quarter actual vs budget.</p>	

	(copy attached to the minutes). (5) Councillors approved the virements in reserved funds for the 3 rd quarter (copy attached to the minutes). (6) Councillors approved the precept form for submission to MSDC. The precept for 2019/20 was set at £33,225 .	
19.1.11	Neighbourhood Plan Councillors noted that MSDC have called a referendum for 31 st January 2019.	
19.1.12	War Memorial The Clerk informed the meeting that a quote was still awaited. The item was c/f to February meeting.	
19.1.13	Policies/Procedures for review: There were none for review at this meeting.	
19.1.14	Asset Working Group (1) <u>Licence to Assign</u> Councillors noted that the assignment of the lease has not yet been completed. (2) <u>Rent Review</u> Councillors voted unanimously to close the meeting to members of the public and press to discuss a confidential matter pertaining to a contractual dispute. Councillors reviewed all the information received to date and noted that the independent expert has requested a legal opinion before reaching a determination. Councillors agreed a way forward with the dispute once the independent expert shares further information.	
19.1.15	Councillor reports: <u>TW – Community Centre Rep</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new constitution document is being considered. • The website “stradbrokeonline” has been relaunched and is now published and owned by the Community Centre. • A member of the Community Centre committee has suggested that the CC should look to take over the playing field and take on the running of it alongside the maintenance; however this idea was challenged at the time by other members of the CC committee. 	
19.1.16	Risk Assessment - Councillors received reports on: (1) Community Centre Play Park – no update (2) Westhall Play Park – no update (3) Fitness Track – all fine, some of the off cuts from tidying up are not being cleared. (4) Permissive Path – all fine. (5) Cemetery – concerns were raised about two loose granite stones with initials on them that are not secured into the ground. The Clerk will investigate.	Clerk
19.1.17	Clerk’s Report: (1) Health Centre: Councillors to note that no updates were received in the month. (2) Training: Councillors to note that no training has taken place since the last meeting. (3) General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The report on the trees and hedge cutting has not been prepared in time for this meeting. • No contractors has been identified regarding servicing of the play park equipment 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on digitally recording the burial book has not been completed. • Schedule of works for chapel has been circulated. 	
19.1.18 (1) (2)	Correspondence <u>Tabled:None</u> <u>Emails previously circulated and noted at this meeting:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSDC details on launch of Exacom Public Facing Module • Letter from Cllr Ward regarding carpark charges in Sudbury • SALC weekly update bulletins 	
19.1.19	Matters for inclusion in the Agenda of the next meeting: 11th February 2019 Councillors noted that matters for inclusion on the agenda for the next meeting need to be submitted to the Clerk by 3 rd February 2019. Items raised at this meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • War Memorial – quote for adding Miss Tate • Closed sections of Parish Council meetings • NP Referendum – public meeting 	

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed: _____ (Chairman)

Date: 11th February 2019