

**Minutes of the Meeting of Stradbroke Parish Council
held via Video Conference on Monday, 8th June 2020 @ 7.30pm**

Present: Pam Cane, Don Darling, Chris Edwards, Jeremy Fox, Stuart Gemmill, James Hargrave, Kamal Ivory, Maureen John, Dennis Merritt, Toni Wisbey.

In Attendance: Odile Wladon (Clerk), Cllr McGregor, Cllr Flatman

		Action
20.06.1	Chairman's welcome The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and reminded those present that the meeting was being broadcast live on the Parish Council's Facebook page.	
20.06.2	Apologies for Absence (1) Apologies were received from Peter Smith and Velda Lummis (2) Councillors voted to accept these absences.	
20.06.3	Declarations of Interest (1) Councillors' Declarations of Local Non-Pecuniary Interests: 20.06.10 (3): PC/DD/DM (SSCC Trustees), SG (Spouse Trustee) & TW (PC Rep) 20.06.11: PC (near neighbour) 20.06.15: PC/DD/DM (SSCC Trustees), SG (Spouse Trustee) & TW (PC Rep) 20.06.16: JH/DD as Community Shed Users (2) There were no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests declared	
20.06.4	Dispensations: There were no requests for dispensations	
20.06.5	Casual Vacancy (1) Councillors noted the resignation of Gillian Rennie-Dunkerley from the Parish Council. The Chairman advised that he wrote to her and thanked her for her time on the Council and wished her luck with her new project. (2) Councillors noted that MSDC have been advised of the resignation and a notice of vacancy has been posted on the Council's website and in the noticeboard. (3) Councillors noted that should an election be called, the election will not be held until May 2021 due to the emergency COVID-19 legislation.	
20.06.6	Minutes Councillors reviewed the draft minutes and approved them as a true record of the business conducted at the meeting held on 21 st May 2020.	
20.06.7	Public forum A member of the public submitted the following question: It would be helpful to know any connections that councillors and/or their partners have with other bodies such as the Stradbroke Trust, the Community Centre, Stradbroke Community Land Trust and so on. There is no malice in this question, just a need to understand what is going on. <i>Clerk's comment:</i> <i>A definition of a local non-pecuniary interest is:</i> <i>An interest which is not pecuniary but is nonetheless so significant that a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts, would</i>	

	<p><i>reasonably regard to be so significant that it would materially impact upon your judgement of the public interest.</i></p> <p><i>The Clerk advised that Councillors may wish to consider this matter when declaring interests in the future. Declaring the nature and extent of the local non-pecuniary interest (eg spouse/partner's membership of a trust or committee) would not prevent the Councillor from participating in discussions or votes.</i></p>	
<p>20.06.8</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(2)</p>	<p>To invite the County & District Councillors to respond to any questions on reports previously submitted to the Parish Council.</p> <p>Cllr Julie Flatman's report is appended to the minutes.</p> <p>Cllr McGregor reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He has been pursuing the matter of the jurisdiction of the planning application for Barley Brigg Farm. SCC Monitoring Officer has received legal advice which states that although the heat exchanger unit sits on land connected to the anaerobic digester the jurisdiction falls to MSDC to determine, as the heat array is being installed to be used in the drying units on the Barley Brigg Farm site. Cllr McGregor has asked to see the advice. • Care Homes and care of the elderly – this is a national topic. Suffolk has managed to get the PPE equipment to the care homes when requested. All staff and residents will have access to a test if needed. • Highways – have used the opportunity of the lockdown with less traffic on the roads to undertake outstanding repair work. • Rural buses – the government sought bids and ideas from Councils on how to improve rural transport. Information on the Suffolk County Council was circulated to the Parish Council and TW submitted a letter in support of the Suffolk's bid. 	
<p>20.06.9</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(3)</p>	<p>Monthly Finance report</p> <p>Councillors noted the Account Balances at 31st May 2020: Current Account – £17,383.81 Deposit Account - £48,865.92</p> <p>Councillors approved BACS payments for online authorisation as per the schedule appended to the Minutes in the minute book.</p> <p>Councillors noted the receipts received in the month which included the VAT repayment, and the estimated reserved fund balances taking into account committed funds as per the schedule appended to the Minutes in the minute book.</p>	
<p>20.06.10</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(i)</p> <p>(ii)</p>	<p>Reports from Committees and Representatives:</p> <p><u>Personnel</u></p> <p>Councillors noted the report submitted by the Personnel Committee.</p> <p>Councillors approved the following policies/procedures as per the report above:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Complaints Procedure b. Grievance Policy c. Disciplinary Policy d. Anti-Harassment and Bullying Policy (Staff) e. Anti-Harassment and Bullying Policy (Non Staff) 	

	<p>f. Health & Safety g. Training & Development Policy</p> <p>The following motion failed: Training & Development Policy: Section 2.2 To replace the word expected with encouraged.</p> <p>(2) <u>Planning</u> Councillors noted the report submitted by the Planning Committee including the submission made to MSDC regarding planning application: DC/20/01697 – Barley Brigg Farm: Ground Source Heating Array, site of heat exchanger.</p> <p>(3) <u>Community Centre Report</u> Councillors reviewed the submitted report, including request for questions regarding the plans for the proposed extension. Councillors suggested a few questions to be submitted via TW as PC Rep on the Stradbroke Sports & Community Centre.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is it possible to see the brief given to the architect? 2. Is there a business plan to support the proposed extension? This would be helpful in assessing whether the plans are sustainable, affordable and necessary. 3. PC – has already submitted her comments as a Trustee and supported the project should money be available. 4. TW – has already submitted comments regarding an accessible toilet on the 1st floor. <p>(4) <u>Footpath Warden Report</u></p> <p>(i) Footpath Maintenance. Nine instances of broken/missing signs and fallen tree obstructions have been reported. Action by County Council has been delayed due to Coronavirus staffing issues.</p> <p>(ii) Footpath Development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DM has commenced updating local and adjacent parish footpath routes in preparation for revised village footpath map. • DM has been working with Rattlerow Farms and the Stradbroke Trust to create two new permissive paths which will be opened on 1st July. These will help in the creation 'round walk of Stradbroke' taking walkers away from the main roads and connecting to existing footpaths. The path from the allotment site (Tyralla Way) will connect walkers to Grove End, with the “Black Barns” path (Merritt Way) connecting up to the existing footpath network. The intention it to allow a route from the allotments to Skinners without having to walk down Queens Street and from the Black Barns without walking down New Street – these will serve as a more connected circular walk. • DM confirmed that these new permissive paths will continue to be the responsibility of the current landowners and fully maintained by them. The Parish Council will have no responsibility for them. • DM was asked to pass on the thanks of the Council to the landowner and the Stradbroke Trust. <p>(5) <u>Parish Plan Working Party</u></p> <p>(i) TW has written in support of an SCC bid application for Rural Mobility</p>	
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	<p>Funding. Access to post-16 education and public transport are community actions in the Neighbourhood Plan (a copy of the submission can be found below). PC expressed thanks to TW for a comprehensive response prepared in very short time.</p> <p>(ii) Councillors co-opted Kamal Ivory to the Parish Plan working party to fill the current vacancy.</p>	
<p>20.06.11</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>(3)</p>	<p>Planning</p> <p>Councillors to review the following planning applications received: DC/20/01954 – Erection of rear lean-to and flat extension roofs (following removal of existing) & DC/20/01956 – Listed Building consent for 2 Town House, Church Street, IP21 5HS</p> <p>The Planning Committee reviewed the documents and raised no objections to the proposed alterations to the listed building.</p> <p>Councillors voted that: Stradbroke Parish Council SUPPORTS the applications for 2 Town House.</p> <p>Councillors noted the decisions issued by Mid Suffolk District Council: DC/19/05968 – Land at West Winds, Drs Lane: REFUSED 30/4/20 DC/20/01880 – Poplar Farm, Laxfield Road: formal approval NOT required</p> <p>Other Planning Matters: Councillors noted that Stradbroke Parish Council has submitted an application to undertake tree works in the churchyard (conservation area) DC/20/02018 refers.</p>	
<p>20.06.12</p>	<p>Health Centre Funding Report</p> <p>Councillors noted the funding report prepared by the Clerk following a request made at the meeting held on 20th April 2020.</p> <p>The Clerk acknowledged that the preparation of the report had clarified matters with regards to how the rent charged to the medical practice had been calculated in the past. It is evident that the rent review schedule in the Head Lease between the Parish Council and the Stradbroke Trust was the mechanism used to calculate the rent. This clarification is useful moving forward now that negotiations are underway regarding a new lease.</p> <p>A copy of the report is appended to the minutes in the minute book.</p>	
<p>20.06.13</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(2)</p>	<p>Westhall</p> <p><u>Playing Field</u></p> <p>Councillors voted to approve a motion that dogs are now banned from the Westhall grass area and children’s play area and “NO DOGS” signs will be installed at the playing field at Westhall.</p> <p><u>Goalmouth area</u></p> <p>Councillors noted that the goal posts will be moved away from the damaged areas and with the damaged areas filled in.</p>	
<p>20.06.14</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(2)</p>	<p>Village Broadband</p> <p>The Chair updated the meeting on information regarding a village broadband consultation. SG asked to be involved in the work.</p> <p>Councillors approved that the Parish Plan Working Party will action this.</p>	
<p>20.06.15</p> <p>(1)</p>	<p>Post Lockdown Event</p> <p>DD updated Councillors on the proposal to hold a celebratory event when</p>	

	lockdown is over and government guidelines allow - to be organised jointly by the Community Centre and the Parish Council. (2) Councillor comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A better theme for the event would be thanksgiving rather than celebration. • Given public fears around mass gatherings, would it be better for smaller events to be held under the banner of a village wide thanksgiving event, organised by smaller groups within the parish. • Councillors agreed to continue to discuss this matter with the community centre and others from within the village. • Councillors who wish to be involved in the discussions should contact DD. • The Event should be an agenda item moving forward with update on progress from those involved. 	
20.06.16	Community Shed (1) Councillors approved the following documents with the addition of the word “hazardous”: a. Community Shed Policy & b. Community Shed User Agreement (2) DD informed councillors that the SAS was closing down and transferring its equipment, therefore the SAS would no longer be a user of the shed. Councillors noted that the remaining current users are: Stradbroke Adult & Youth Football Clubs, the Cricket Club and Radio Stradbroke. (3) A motion concerning a proposed figure for the annual service charge was withdrawn.	
20.06.17	Dates of the next meetings: Finance Committee will meet 6 th July 2020 starting @ 7pm Full Council will meet 10 th August 2020 starting @ 7.30pm– items for the agenda to be submitted to the Clerk by 31 st July 2020.	

Record of voting:

Item	Detail	Proposer	For	Against	Abstain	Casting
20.06.2	Absences	JH	10	0	0	
20.06.6	Minutes	JH	10	0	0	
20.06.9	Payments	JH	10	0	0	
20.06.10	Amendment to Training Policy	PC	5	5	0	Against
20.06.10	Policies	TW	10	0	0	
20.06.10	Parish Plan Co-option	JH	10	0	0	
20.06.11	DC/20/01954 & 01956	CE	10	0	0	
20.06.13	Ban dogs at Westhall	KI	9	0	1	
20.06.14	Parish Plan WP & Broadband	JH	10	0	0	
20.06.16	Community Shed policies	JH	10	0	0	

Meeting closed at: 9.30pm

Signed: _____
Chairman

Date: _____

Annual Report by Councillor Julie Flatman (MSDC)
June 2020

I have just completed my first year of my second term as your district councillor and I would thank you for your kind support. I have had the pleasure of representing your views, queries and even complaints. The villages that make up the ward include Brundish, Laxfield, Tannington, Wilby and of course Stradbroke.

In these unprecedented times Mid Suffolk District Council has continued to support local charities, foodbanks and businesses.

We have so far processed grants for local charities and organisations helping the vulnerable for £46,000 and more are in the system.

We have so far processed grants to support small businesses for £18.130 million. There are also more in the system.

We have set up with our partners Home, But Not Alone phonenumber and our communities' staff have been answering these calls and making sure help is deployed as quickly as possible. Everyone should now have a card with the emergency number 0800 876 6926.

As community's Cabinet member, I have secured funding for various improvements to local amenities within my ward and assisted parishes by sign posting to appropriate funding. I sit on licensing, Gypsy and traveller steering board, Health and Wellbeing board for Suffolk and Cabinet member for Communities and Housing which takes me across the district.

I have supported the village halls with new equipment, helped buy state of the art playground equipment, etc. Supported reading Clubs, Bowls club, Purchase village sign, Village clock restoration, Stradbroke young musician's festival and many more projects with my Locality Award.

This year I supported the Stradbroke clock restoration, Court house book club, Christmas festival of fun, Radio Stradbroke music festival and Friends on Friday club.

In the past year, the communities' team have been successful in delivering the following:

- Free swims for all children 16 years and under in the school holidays at Stradbroke and Stowmarket.
- Social subscribing (activity opposed to pills) at Stradbroke and Fressingfield surgeries rolling out to Debenham and Eye.
- Safeguarding, mental health awareness, Dementia awareness and supporting activities and setting up clubs.
- Funding two PCSO's for two years and addressing County Lines and training staff.
- Arts and music- across the district.
- Town and parish liaison, Community liaison throughout the district,
- Grants for improvements to shop fronts across the district any many more projects.
- Three-year secured funding for Stowmarket CAB.
- Helping villages with securing Assets of Community value.

My locality grants are now up and running please don't hesitate to get in touch with me if you think your club/organisation could.

Rural Mobility Funding Bid: Parish Support

From: Stradbroke Parish Council

Tue 02/06/2020 19:13

To: betterdeal4buses

To Mobility Funding
Department of Transport

Dear Sirs,

Suffolk County Council Bid for Rural Mobility Funding: Mid-Suffolk

Stradbroke is one of the "extremely rural" villages in the High Suffolk cluster and our transport access is limited to dial-a-ride services for 3 days of the week, not including weekends, and for limited hours during the day. The services are extremely stretched and often have to turn requests down. These services, though available for all ages, are frequently used to help older people, sometimes frail or disabled, even wheel-chaired passengers who are often travelling to medical facilities. They prioritise these clients because of their greater need. This means that the rides cannot be specifically timed. The buses have to go door to door from pick-up to pick-up and are often extremely lengthy, unlike a direct bus.

Stradbroke has a primary and a secondary school. Parish Councillors have or are in touch with families and young people. We have also spoken to staff and volunteers on the dial-a-ride buses. We have found that younger people do not identify with and cannot rely on these dial-a-ride services because of the irregularity and unpredictability of other people's needs and times of arrival, for example. We know that many young people in Stradbroke cannot accept employment outside of the village if they have to rely on dial-a-ride for these very reasons.

Nor can young people accept employment in the evenings or shift work, which would enable them to work in supermarkets, restaurants and cafes, say. Many young people wish to go to college and/or work locally and education/training/employment are available in Eye and Stowmarket and also Diss, which is just over the river border in Norfolk. Diss Station trains go to other work and educational opportunities, including Norwich (15 minutes away by rail), with its university and jobs. Sadly, it is not possible for young people to accept these opportunities based on the public transport available through Stradbroke and the locality at present. The Parish Council fully supports the high-level ambition of the Suffolk County Council bid for Mid Suffolk which recognises these problems for its young people and wishes to find workable solutions for them.

Stradbroke Parish Council believes young people are the life-blood of our locality and need services to enable them to take advantage of education and employment in order to flourish and stay in the area--and eventually, as they grow older, to give the area what they have gained--with energy, independence and ideas. Reliable, safe and usable transport for this demographic group is essential to the development of a healthy, sustainable and flourishing village and locality..

Our Stradbroke Parish Neighbourhood Plan (SNP) encourages new mixed and affordable and starter homes and states (Policy Strad3: Housing Mix) 40% of its housing units should be one- and two-bed housing to help allow movement of tenants and owners to the sizes that suit them at different stages in their lives in a circle that frees up larger homes. This dynamic process will enable more young families to come to live and move house within our village and want to stay, as their children grow. Essential, relevant transport for all ages is necessary to support this aim. In addition, SNP 6) Transport and Accessibility d) i) sees an increase in the number of families attending school, so

increasing the need to access post-16 education opportunities. "There is an increasingly wide network of options for post-age16 age group in and around Suffolk and Norfolk". Students from Stradbroke attend at least 6 post-16 colleges. However, (ii) "Public transport is poor to a number of these locations and there is a need to work with the education providers and SCC to improve this or private bus provision." Stradbroke Parish Council suggests public transport is now often non-existent and believe the high ambition proposal by SCC will help address this problem for our young people and so give them more life choices and opportunities.

The high ambition proposed by SCC is for a 7 day a week 7 am--11 pm service, which recognises that availability is essential not only for work and education but also leisure, including music and sport. Young people will get so much more out of life with the community taxi-bus service they propose and the locality will benefit from their participation in the social activities available. Isolation and inactivity affect young people just as much as other age groups. Sadly, too, many suffer from depression and other mental health issues. I believe the access to the community taxi-bus service will be taken up by them and encourage them to socialise and live more varied lives. This will help prevent health issues that are due to inactivity, brooding and isolation.

The service will be available for all ages to enjoy, particularly "younger people and those of working age." SCC realises this and has taken into account the marketing necessary to encourage their clients. In addition, the widening of hours and days they propose will, we believe, be very popular and allow younger people who may be disabled and/or have not got cars to widen their experiences, which will benefit clubs, places of entertainment, etc in the local areas and help prevent isolation.

The SCC has been thorough and thoughtful in its high ambition solutions, and has taken into account important and recent research on addressing inequality. This is a complex area and the bid addresses many aspects of it, including inequality of education. It also has recognised how public transport is ecologically sound and helps save carbon emissions, which transport projects urgently need to address. We fully endorse these vital aspects of their bid.

We are excited about and delighted with this bid and what it can do to help our village and the others in the High Suffolk cluster and hope you will agree with and support its aims with the Rural Mobility Fund.

Yours faithfully,

Antoinette Wisbey
Councillor, on behalf of
Stradbroke Parish Council

