

**Minutes of the Meeting of Stradbroke Parish Council  
held via Video Conference on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021 @ 7.30pm**

**Present:** Brett Baber, Antony Bush, Jeremy Fox, James Hargrave, Kamal Ivory, Maureen John, Susan Loxton, Toni Wisbey

**In Attendance:** Odile Wladon (Clerk), Cllr Flatman, Cllr McGregor and 8 members of the public

Item Ref	Description
21.02.1	<p><b>Chairman's welcome</b> A reminder was given that the meeting was being streamed live on the Council's Facebook page: <a href="#">@StradbrokePC</a></p> <p>The video of the meeting will be available for repeated viewings on the Facebook page, anyone speaking at the meeting will be deemed to have given consent to being recorded.</p>
21.02.2	<p><b>Apologies for Absence:</b> (a) Councillors noted apologies for absence from Velda Lummis, Debbie Cotton-Soares and Jamie Wright (b) Councillors <b>voted</b> to accept the apologies for absence</p>
21.02.3	<p><b>Declarations of Interests</b> (a) There were no Councillors' Declarations of Local Non-Pecuniary Interests (b) There were no Councillors' Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in subsequent agenda items</p>
21.02.4	<p><b>Dispensations:</b> No requests were received.</p>
21.02.5	<p><b>Council Vacancies:</b> (a) Councillors noted the resignation of Chris Edwards and that a notice of vacancy has been published on the Council's website. The Chair noted thanks on behalf of the Council for the large amount of work Chris has done for the Parish Council and for the village over the last number of years, in particular his contribution as a member of the Neighbourhood Plan Team and as a Councillor for a number of years. The Chairman noted that the Council looked forward to continuing to work closely with Chris as Chairman of the Community Land Trust. (b) Councillors reviewed an application to join the council and <b>voted</b> to co-opt Amanda Allen to the Council.</p>
21.02.6	<p><b>Minutes:</b> Councillors reviewed and <b>approved</b> the minutes as a true record of the business conducted at the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021. The voting record was updated. Councillors noted and accepted that Brett Baber had submitted apologies for absence for the January 2021 meeting, however these had not been seen ahead of the start of the meeting and therefore were not reported at the time.</p>
21.02.7	<p><b>Public forum:</b> No comments were received from members of the public</p>
21.02.8	<p><b>County &amp; District Councillors reports.</b> Copies of submitted reports appended to the minutes in the minute book.</p>
21.02.9	<p><b>Planning</b> (a) Councillors reviewed and <b>approved the following responses to:</b> <b>DC/20/05938</b> – Erection of agricultural store. Six Acres, Battlesea Green IP21 5NE SUPPORT <b>DC/21/00311</b> – Erection of a two storey side extension following removal of existing</p>

Item Ref	Description
	<p>utility room. 19 Shelton Hill, IP21 5HZ SUPPORT</p> <p><b>AP/20/00112</b> – Appeal against decision to refuse planning permission for application DC/20/01415 – outline application for erection of 6 dwellings (inc 2 affordables) Barley Green Garage, Laxfield Road, IP21 5JX NO FURTHER COMMENTS</p> <p>(b) Councillors noted the decisions issued by Mid Suffolk District Council:</p> <p><b>DC/20/05332 &amp; 05333</b> – Chestnut House IP21 5JP GRANTED</p> <p><b>DC/20/05543</b> – Land to the rear of Windrush, IP21 5JG GRANTED</p> <p><b>DC/20/05600</b> – Moatedge, Cedar Close IP21 5JX (tree works) GRANTED</p> <p><b>DC/21/00105</b> – Barley Brigg Farm IP21 5NQ (works to yard) P/A NOT REQUIRED</p> <p>(c) Other Planning Matters:</p> <p>Councillors noted the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joint Local Plan – all submissions to the recent consultation are being analysed, considered and a summary statement is being prepared for the next stage in the process – this is scheduled for late March 2021.</li> <li>2. Response to EA permit at Denham Mill was submitted. Suffolk County Council are liaising with Mid Suffolk with regards to the site.</li> <li>3. No committee dates have been notified for the 3 referred applications: Ivy House, Land off New Street and Land of Mill Lane.</li> <li>4. No further information received on Heating Array application at Barley Brigg Farm.</li> </ol>
21.02.11	<p><b>Monthly Finance report</b></p> <p>(a) Councillors to note Account Balances at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021:</p> <p>Current Account - £10,081.50</p> <p>Deposit Account - £58,910.56</p> <p>The Chairman confirmed the balances as he had been shown the bank statements prior to the online meeting.</p> <p>(b) Councillors <b>approved</b> BACS payments for online authorisation as per the schedule appended to the minutes.</p> <p>(c) Councillors noted the receipts received in the month.</p> <p>(d) Councillors <b>approved</b> the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter virements from reserved funds.</p> <p>(e) Councillors noted the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter financial report.</p>
21.02.12	<p><b>Parish Council Policies</b></p> <p>Councillors reviewed and <b>approved</b> the following policies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Equality Policy – minor editing changes made.</li> <li>2. Safeguarding Policy – contact details updated.</li> <li>3. Grant Awarding Policy – reference to s.137 removed as Council now has General Power of Competence.</li> <li>4. Protocols for Public Participation at Meetings – reviewed, no amendments made</li> </ol>
21.02.13	<p><b>Clerk's Report</b></p> <p>Councillors noted:</p> <p>(a) <b>Stradbroke Sports &amp; Community Centre:</b> No update to report on proposed meeting.</p> <p>(b) <b>Health Centre:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dyno Rod visited the site on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February and advised that the blockage in the drainage system was somewhere between the Fire Station and the ditch behind the Tennis Courts. In the first instance, Suffolk County Council has been contacted</li> </ul>

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	<p>with a request that they clear the drains on their land. A company who can clear the piped areas of the ditch has been identified and will be contacted should this not resolve the matter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An EPC certificate has been issued as part of the new lease together with a floor plan as the current plan is inadequate. The EPC report contained recommendations on how to make the building more energy efficient, the Clerk will prepare a report on the works recommended.</li> <li>• It is anticipated that a final version of the draft lease will be agreed shortly and submitted to the NHS for approval after which it will be presented to Councillors for review.</li> <li>• Councillors <b>voted</b> to discuss the following item is discussed in closed session due to the commercially sensitive nature of the information: Quotes received for external works. <b>See minute ref 21.02.18</b></li> </ul> <p>(c) <b>Land Registration:</b>  An update on the situation had been circulated to the SSCC Management Committee who will discuss the options on a way forward at their next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021. The enquiries show that the 1965 sale of the land was not noted by either party at the time of the land swap in 1972. The fire station land has been registered and Suffolk County Council is satisfied they swapped the land in “good faith”. The options proposed to the SSCC are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. They take ownership of the land as would have happened had the 1965 conveyance been noted in 1972; or</li> <li>2. The Parish Council registers the land under Possessory Title.</li> </ol> <p>This will be an agenda item for the Parish Council once an official response has been received from the SSCC committee following their meeting. The Clerk offered to attend the SSCC meeting if required to answer any questions.</p> <p>(d) <b>Tree works:</b> The works to the trees behind the tennis courts has been completed.</p> <p>(e) <b>Community shed:</b> Invoices for the service charge for 2020/21 have been issued.</p> <p>(f) <b>Energy Audit &amp; Electric Charging Points:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Email update on EV Charging points:  We apologise for the delay in getting back to you as this project rolls out. It has been decided to pause briefly as the initial batch of surveys has shown the potential for more optimised procedures moving forward.  We are therefore in discussions for a better value solution for the installations and will be reporting to you soon on the best way forward.</li> <li>2. Email update re Energy Audit:  Thank you for the information and I will look into providing an update regarding solar PV etc  <i>BB will liaise with the Clerk on possible options moving forward.</i></li> </ol> <p>(g) <b>Matters for information:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Clerk has raised issues of flooding with Suffolk Highways Drainage – there appears to be a failure of the drains under Queens Street near the Primary School site. A timetable of when the issue will be investigated and resolved is awaited.</li> <li>2. Rev Loxton has asked for the following matters to be raised at the meeting – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car Park @ Wilby Road – Councillors noted that signs are placed in the car park area reminding users that the car park is not gritted and may be slippery if ice is present.</li> <li>• Chapel at the Cemetery – a new contractor is to be sourced for the works and the Clerk was asked to enquire about the cost of an electric connection.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

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21.02.14	<p><b>Risk Assessments:</b> Councillors to note any issues raised concerning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Westhall play park</li> <li>(b) Community Centre play park</li> <li>(c) Fitness Track – muddy areas were noted due to the recent heavy rain. There was evidence of moles on the playing field and the Clerk was asked to contact a professional to deal with this matter.</li> <li>(d) Permissive Path – a note was made of possible damage to a bridge.</li> <li>(e) Cemetery</li> </ul>
21.02.15	<p><b>To receive updates and reports from Committees, Representatives and Working Parties:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Committees: No meetings have taken place since the last full Council meeting.</li> <li>(b) Community Centre representatives: The next scheduled meeting has a full agenda and TW is concerned there may be insufficient time to discuss all matters.</li> <li>(c) Working Groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highways Due to COVID speed watch is on hold, and Lorry Watch is paused at the present time. Councillors <b>voted</b> to discuss the following item in closed session due to the commercially sensitive nature of the information: Highways Survey quote. <b>See minute ref 21.02.18</b></li> <li>• Broadband <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An online community meeting took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> February for residents in Stradbroke and Fressingfield. A further meetings have been arranged for 17<sup>th</sup> February.</li> <li>○ Some local orders have been placed.</li> <li>○ Installation would be the next phase.</li> <li>○ Should the project continue a free connection is offered to the Community Centre, it was suggested that a reduced rate for a connection to the Court House could be discussed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Youth Council – current plans: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Setting up a website</li> <li>○ Submitting an article to the Stradbroke Monthly</li> <li>○ Advertising on both village websites.</li> <li>○ Membership of the British Youth Council Association</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Climate Change – TW spoke to the submitted report appended to minutes <i>Cllrs were requested to submit any ideas on this matter for a discussion at the next meeting.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
21.02.16	<p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Tabled: Email received concerning tetra-pak recycling facilities, this was forwarded to Suffolk County Council and the response received below was forwarded to residents: We investigated whether it would be possible to reintroduce carton banks at other public locations (such as alongside bottle banks at Supermarkets and Village Halls), which were removed when cartons were added to kerbside recycling collections some years ago.. This service used to be provided by carton manufacturers for free, but this is no longer the case and the costs of reintroducing the service proved to be prohibitively expensive as a standalone service where the quantities being collected (in individual banks) are likely to be relatively small. We therefore concluded that this approach would not have provided value for money</li> </ul>

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	<p>for Suffolk taxpayers.</p> <p>We wanted to be able to retain a means of recycling cartons for residents; pre-sorted cartons received at our 11 recycling centres are stored locally and then sent for recycling in the UK once a sufficiently large number has been collected and can be transported in bulk. This approach reduces collection and transport costs and removes the need for further sorting.</p> <p>If you are unable to visit a recycling centre, or hold on to them until your next visit your only option is to place them in your general waste bin. General waste in Suffolk is no longer sent to landfill, but is used as a fuel to make energy from waste. Last year the facility produced enough electricity to power over 40,000 homes.</p> <p>We will be keeping this issue under review and should it become cost effective to increase the options for recycling cartons in the future, we will revisit it.</p> <p>Thank again for your concern, it is good to know we have such dedicated recyclers in Suffolk. Please don't feel guilty – it sounds like you are doing a very good job in all other respects! This response will be forwarded to the residents who raised the issue with the Clerk.</p> <p>(b) Emails: Councillors to note correspondence previously circulated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grants Update – Reviving our Community Fund (Suffolk County Council)</li> <li>• SALC bulletins</li> <li>• Suffolk Coronawatch bulletins</li> <li>• Census 2021 information</li> </ul>
<b>21.02.17</b>	<b>Date of the next meeting: 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021</b>
<b>21.02.18</b>	<p><b>Matters discussed in closed session:</b></p> <p>(a) Councillors <b>voted</b> to accept a quote from Manning &amp; Woods for the external works to the fascias, window and door frames at the Health Centre.</p> <p>(b) Councillors <b>voted</b> to defer a decision on carrying out a Survey of the highways to investigate possible funding sources for this.</p>

#### Record of voting: 8 Councillors present

Item	Detail	Proposer	For	Against	Casting	Abstain
21.02.2	Absences	JH	8	0		0
21.02.6	Minutes	JH	8	0		0
21.02.9 (a)	DC/20/05938	JH	8	0		0
	DC/21/00311	JF	8	0		0
21.02.11 (b)	Payments	JH	8	0		0
21.02.12	Policies x 4 approved	JH	8	0		0
21.02.13 & 21.02.15	Motion to close meeting to Press and Public	JH	8	0		0
21.02.18 (a)	External Health Centre works	JH	8	0		0
21.02.18 (b)	Highways survey	JH	8	0		0

Meeting closed at: 9.50pm

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

## **Climate Change Group Report, January 2021**

### **Background**

Nearly all scientists now accept that our use of fossil fuels, such as carbon and methane and other greenhouse gases, will lead to devastating global warming, including melting of polar ice, mountain snow caps, glaciers and other ice that is, among other things, our global fresh water storage system on earth. This has a chain of consequences such as heating the globe and oceans, high sea levels, severe, permanent drought, food supply catastrophes, etc, which will affect and eventually kill the next generations of life on earth. The consensus now is that it is a climate emergency that needs active measures to cut fossil fuel effects before it is too late to keep us stable and even, one day, start a reversal. This is a time frame estimated at 8 years: 3 parish council elections from now!

### **Climate Emergency Status**

Suffolk declared a climate emergency some time ago and so Mid Suffolk are leading initiatives in this area. NALC, the National Association of Local Councils, also declared a climate emergency and support Suffolk Association of Local Councils, SALC. They will be coordinating parish and town councillors as we come on board and, hopefully, give us ideas.

### **What others have done and what we can do**

Some town and parish councils already have structured initiatives in place, such as becoming more carbon efficient, storing and capturing carbon, and we will bring some to you in February to see if we can implement them. I am sure we already practise many now.

### **Example**

Haverhill Town Council, for example, have prepared an action plan to become carbon neutral as a council by 2025 and town by 2050 (rather late in my mind), using measures such as changing to LED lights and renewable energy suppliers, using electrical vehicles and putting in points, planting trees and meadows, rewilding appropriate public spaces, and encouraging locals to do the same.

NALC has suggested a link: [Giki Zero](#) a very family-accessible site where we can measure, track and reduce our own carbon footprint and look at ways we can improve it.

### **Brainstorming and resource collecting.**

I am now asking all fellow councillors and the public to contact me or Brett with ideas, contacts, such as residents/groups who would be interested to join us, or examples they know of, etc, so we can compile a resources and ideas list.

Toni Wisbey