

MINUTES

The Parish Council Meeting of Stow Longa was held on Wednesday 20 November 2019 at 8.17pm in St. Botolph's Church

Present Cllrs Michael G. Hayes (Chairman), Amy Pearson and Adrienne Bonwick, Councillors
Ramune Mimiene, Clerk.
CCC Cllr I Gardener
No members of the public.
Hayley Doyle, A representative from Land North of Rookery Cottages development

CC Cllr IG presented a verbal report. Update on A14 work progress provided. There is a meeting in Kimbolton re Gas Compressor Station on Thu 28 Nov 19 next week, and CC Cllr IG will check with Kimbolton PC would it be ok if Cllrs from Stow Longa attended the meeting as Stow Longa face the same problems with the volume of issues including the traffic. Cllr MGH drafted a letter to the agent acting for the project which is on the Agenda for PC approval. Cllrs AB and AP will try to attend the meeting. Waste recycling e-permits to be obtained online (Residents are allowed up to 12 free of charge visits to waste recycling centre a year).

Note since meeting: The Chairman & Clerk of Kimbolton PC have confirmed it would be ok for members of Stow Longa PC to attend the meeting next Thursday 28th November at the Mandeville Hall in Kimbolton at 7pm. It is the first item on the agenda.

CC Cllr IG left the meeting.

Further update by the developer provided on Land North of Rookery Cottages Kimbolton Road. The application will now be submitted HDC and will reach PC soon.

The representative left the meeting.

432/19 To Receive Apologies and Reasons for Non-Attendance

432/19.1 Cllrs M Allen and S Humfryes sent apologies for absence.

433/19 Declarations of Interests for Members (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests)

433/19.1 None.

434/19 Public Open Forum

434/19.1 None.

435/19 To Receive and Approve the Annual Parish Council Meeting Minutes 18 September 2019

2 places of track changes shown on the Agenda:

Minute 421/19.1 – Corrected to 'July 2018' instead of the shortened version Jul 2018.

Minute 423/19.6 – track change in the word 'Wicksteed' still shows.

Proposal: **Proposed by Councillor AB, seconded by Councillor AP, all in favour, and it was RESOLVED that the minutes of Parish Council Meeting be accepted and signed as a true record of the meeting with the above amendments.** Carried

Chairman signed the Minutes.

436/19 Matters arising from those Minutes (not on the Agenda)

436/19.1 Thank you email to be sent to the previous clerk who does litter pick in the village.

Clerk

437/19 Planning

1) Erection of a single 4 bedroom eco-friendly dwelling (all matters reserved) Site Address: Land North East of Old Vicarage Spaldwick Road Stow Longa Reference: 19/01982/OUT, *extension for PC planning recommendations provided by HDC till 21 Nov 19*

Stow Longa Parish Council recommends rejection of the proposed planning application. The reasons for this are as follows:

1. We have received two serious objections from the owners of neighbouring properties. We understand that these objections have been forwarded to the planning authority.
2. The application states that the proposed site is in the garden of the house concerned, the Old Vicarage. We do not believe that this is correct as the site is within the field behind that property. That field has been used for agricultural purpose in recent years, for example grazing sheep.
3. The loss of any part of that field is considered to be detrimental to the amenity of villagers who enjoy living in a village where there some 'green' spaces'.
4. Planning consent has already been given for a new dwelling within the garden of the Old Vicarage. That consent may have lapsed, but it is not clear why the current owners feel the need to apply for consent for a different property in the field.

5. The Council is concerned that if consent is given, this will open up a fuller application for development of the whole field. This application appears to be speculative with a long-term aim of securing consent for the whole field.
6. We don't consider that building a new house of this size represents sustainable development in Stow Longa. Currently, there are six houses for sale in the village, all of them have been on the market for over a year. This includes a new property that was constructed over 12 months ago. Further, outline planning had been given for a further four/five houses, which no doubt will also be difficult to sell. We don't accept that building houses which cannot be sold represent 'sustainable development'.
7. Following on from the above point, we consider that additional four or five bed houses is not what this village requires. These houses are generally unaffordable for local people and don't represent sustainable development.
8. The proposed entrance/exit to/from the residence is on a difficult double bend in the middle of the village. We believe that this represents serious highway safety issues.

Proposal: **Proposed by Councillor MGH, seconded by Councillor AB, all in favour, and it was RESOLVED that PC recommend refusal the above planning application.** **Carried**

Clerk to check who is the case officer for this consultation.

Clerk

- 2) 19/00464/OUT Stow Longa Outline planning permission for the residential development of 0.38 ha of land to form up to 4 dwellings with landscaping, access and other associated works - Land North of Rookery Cottages Kimbolton Road Stow Longa - *Update on development*

Points of note from the previous set of plans:

- Plots 1 & 2 have been narrowed down and moved further away from the boundary with Rookery Cottages; car parking arrangement altered.
- Additional planting either side of the main driveway to soften the entrance drive.
- Plots 3&4, slightly altered configuration; plot 3 garage relocation
- Garages for plot 4 & 5 moved so to allow more planting on the boundary edge to the north.
- Materials on front plots altered to add more variety to reflect the local vernacular.
- Plot 5 remains a timber clad property with yellow facing brickwork to appear more agricultural

Plans will now be submitted to HDC.

438/19 Finance

438/19.1 Finance Report: Cashbook, Income against Expenditure and bank Reconciliation to 30 Sep 2019 carried. Noted by PC. Cashbook balance £21,046.49 and Bank Balance was £21,248.89 due to two unrepresented chqs which did clear in Oct 19.

438/19.2 Transparency funding spending. Noted.

438/19.3 To Consider CIL spending: CIL funds available £10,367.17.

Note since meeting: Financial Regulations updated and uploaded to PC website.

438/19.4 To Approve Budget and Precept for 2020/21

It was agreed to have Budget for 2020/21 at £4,779 (it was agreed to include working from home allowance) and set the Precept at £3,600.

Proposal: **Proposed by Councillor MGH, seconded by Councillor AP, all in favour, and it was RESOLVED that the Budget for 2020/21 is £4,779 and Precept for 2020/21 is £3,600.** **Carried**

438/19.5 To Approve 20 Nov 19 Expenditure:

Date	Min Ref No	Chq No	Date cleared the a/c	Company	Details	For a/cs purpose only	Income	Total Expenditure	Balance
20/11/19		483		Wages	Wages Oct 19`			143.72	20,902.77
20/11/19		484		HMRC	Tax deductions Employee Oct 19			35.80	20,866.97
20/11/19		485		Wages	Wages Nov 19			143.52	20,723.45
20/11/19		486		HMRC	Tax deductions Employee Nov 19			36.00	20,687.45
20/11/19		487		Expenses	Expenses on running cost of PC Oct and Nov 19			20.14	20,667.31
									20,667.31
Bank Reconciliation to be carried for Q3: 1 Oct to 31 Dec 19							0.00	379.18	

Proposal: **Proposed by Councillor MGH, seconded by Councillor AP, all in favour and it was RESOLVED that all payments listed above are approved.** **Carried**

- 439/19 Parish Council website: Re-structure of the PC Website**
Carried forward to the next meeting.
- 440/19 Assets and Infrastructure**
- 440/19.1 Health & Safety – Risk assessment will be carried by Cllr MA. MA
- 440/19.2 PA Annual Risk Assessment – Carried. Remove from the Agenda.
- 440/19.3 To consider Defibrillator and the Phone Box use – Location for the Defibrillator to be considered – If suggested by the Church, would permission be needed. Cllr MGH will seek clarification from the church wardens. MGH
- Phone Box conversion into Book club as suggested by the Book Club – will be added to Jan 2020 Agenda. SH
- 441 Highways, footpaths, byways**
- 441/19.1 Highways issues
- Clerk reported an overgrown Village Sign as accessing the village from Spaldwick.
Note since meeting: The overgrown Village Sign reported to County Council Highways on 20 Sep 19, confirmation from CCC Highways received, no feedback sent to PC yet.
- 441/19.2 Grass cutting – extend the contract with the current provider. Clerk
- Note since meeting: Clerk emailed the current contractor re the next grass cutting season.*
- 441/19.3 Road safety and HGV/Construction Traffic - Stow Longa – discussed that. Letter drafted by Cllr MGH, will get amended and emailed to Clerk, send to the company and CC Cllr IG. AP
- 441/19.4 Church Walk verge.
Cllr AP contacted Highways officer - reported that they did what they could. AP
- 441/19.5 Issues brought to PC attention by the residents at the Annual Parish Meeting in May 19
Cllr MGH drafted a letter which was approved by PC.
The Parish Council has been looking at the matters raised in the resident's letter: Ditch, **Trees between the play area and Church Farm and at either end of the village, Broken kerbing, Speed restriction around the play area**
- 441/19.6 Footpaths issues: footpath down Press Road, from 'two trees' across the field to the gate is not being maintained, as reported by the resident. SH
- Carry it forward to the next meeting when Cllr SH is present.
- 441/19.7 Trees in the village: Quotes, Cllr M Hayes. MGH
One quote received. The second quote to be received after the Chairman's meeting with the tree surgeon today. PC also requested the third quote as per Council Financial Regulations. It was agreed to make a decision in Jan 2020 when 3 quotes obtained. Clerk
- 442/19 To review progress of current projects - Appendix**
- 442/19.1 It was agreed to bring this forward to the next meeting.
- 443/19 Correspondence**, circulated by email prior to the meeting
- 443/19.1 PC do not plan any events for Operation London Bridge.
- 444/19 To Consider Training for a Clerk and Councilors**
- 444/19.1 Cllr training available on Sat 23 Nov 19, details circulated to PC.
- 445/19 Councillors' questions/Any other business**
None raised.
- EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS**
That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw, Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.
- 446/19 Annual Clerk's Appraisal**
Appraisal to be carried when Cllr SH is present. Outstanding. SH
- 447/19 Date of the next meeting**
18 Dec 19 Provisional
PC agreed that meetings on the 3rd Wed of the month working well for everyone therefore it was agreed to follow the same pattern next year.
- 15 Jan 20 Scheduled**
19 Feb 20 Provisional
18 Mar 20 Scheduled
15 Apr 20 Provisional
20 May 20 Scheduled
17 Jun 20 Provisional
15 Jul 20 Scheduled

No meeting in August
16 Sep 20 Scheduled
 21 Oct 20 Provisional
18 Nov 20 Scheduled

Meeting finished at 9.22pm.

These minutes are considered draft until ratified at the next Stow Longa Parish Council meeting

Date

Chairman: Michael G. Hayes

Appendix

Project	Report	Action by
Bank mandate issues and telephone/internet banking issues re: HMRC tax deduction payments	Arrange a visit to the bank to handle in all paperwork and will seek advice on telephone/internet banking for PC	Cllr MGH will approach bank now as the Clerk is leaving to be able to do online banking and mandate of the change of address form to be obtained. Left as Clerk is carrying on working.
Village Cross	Information regarding recommended contractors for the proposed work is awaited from Quinton Carroll of CCC. Local stone masons are also being approached	Q. Carroll Cllr JY met with stone mason. Cllr JY to chase the 3 rd quote. Deferred to the next meeting in Mar 17. 15 Mar 17 – Cllr JY, 3 quotes from Stone Masons. 19 Jul 17 - Quotes were re-sent for the update but not heard back. Cllr JY will forward the email to the clerk to chase. JY – nothing heard since. To chase Cllr Amy to chase. 180919: Communication with retired Cllr JY. Cllr AP will follow this up. No update. Grant for the monuments – Cllr AP will look. 20 Mar 19: PC agreed to put this on hold.
Kerb to the Green outside the Old Vicarage	A subject for meeting with LHO	Cllr SH – resurfacing suggested after walkabout with Karl Brocket. Cllr AM will measure the kerb all the way towards the turning into vicarage. Cllr SH had some estimates, will look through the emails. 20 Jun 18: To pick up when the resurfacing is done. MA – is waiting for the quotes. 180919: 1 Quote received for £6,615.11; one email – awaiting the full detailed quote £5,700. 3 quotes needed. Check with Highways officer. Another quote presented by Cllr MA – 2 quotes provided, 1 more needed. Discuss with highways when we meet in spring. 20 Mar 19: Waiting for the 3 rd Quote