

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF STOW LONGA PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE VICARAGE ROOM ON MONDAY 11 JANUARY 2010 AT 8 PM**

Present: Councillors Hayes (Chairman), Humfryes, Millington and Young, and the Clerk (Mr D Stowell). One member of the public was present for the public open forum only.

001/10 Apologies for absence - Cllr Allen (working)

002/10 Declarations of Interest - as to personal and prejudicial interest in relation to any agenda item – none

003/10 Minutes of Meeting held 30 November 2009 were approved and signed.

004/10 Matters arising

Cllr Young reported that he had e-mailed the results of the broadband speed survey to the Chairman. This information will be passed to the Clerk to enable him to reply to J Djanogly's letter of 23 October 2009.

005/10 Finance

The following payment was approved:

100274 F D Stowell, Salary & Excs Sept to Dec 2009, £369.54

Quarterly budget review - The Clerk presented a statement of receipts and payments to 31 December 2009 which was in line with the budget. He also tabled copies of the cash book, bank statement and bank reconciliation at 31 December which were examined and accepted as evidence that the accounts are being correctly maintained.

Budget for 2010/2011 – It was resolved that the draft budget prepared by the Clerk, and reproduced at Appendix 1 to these minutes, be adopted.

006/10 Health and Safety / Risk Assessment. Due to the absence of Cllr Allen no report was available.

007/10 Roads, footpaths, verges, trees (other than those covered by item 009/10) – no matters raised.

008/10 Repairs / replacements of village assets (other than those covered by item 009/10)

Village Cross – Cllr Millington gave the following up-date received from Max Turner:-

Quinton Carroll has been told by the conservators that the cross can be taken down and rebuilt as is (which he says is the recommended course of action) for around £10,000 plus fees. Q.C. said that they had not looked at the fragments in the barn, but he will ask them to do so.

Max Turner has replied to Q.C. saying that he would be very disappointed if the cross were rebuilt as is, without improving its present truncated appearance. He has queried who recommended this course of action in view of earlier suggestions that it might be desirable to remove the ball finial and incorporate one more section of the shaft and the lantern in the rebuilt cross.

009/10 Outstanding Issues – the progress report was updated – see Appendix 2 to the minutes.

010/10 Public Open Forum – Richard Murphy addressed the meeting regarding the Bicton Windfarm proposal, giving the reasons why he and supporters of the Stop Bicton campaign are objecting to the scheme.

011/10 Planning

Proposed new windfarm – it was noted that the following meetings were to take place:
 Stop Bicton meetings on Friday & Saturday 15/16 January,
 Exhibition by Broadview, the developers, on Monday 18 January.

012/10 Correspondence**Circulated 10/12/09**

Minutes of CPALC AGM 21/11/ 09

HDC Code of Conduct Enquiries, Sept – Nov 2009, Case Nos 51 -56

Summary of key findings in Cambs consultation on East of England Plan for levels of growth.

North West Hunts Neighbourhood Forum – Sawtry Infant School, Middlefield Road,
 Wednesday 20 January at 7 pm.

Hearing Services Consultation – details are available from the Clerk

CPALC Training Courses – details of courses to be passed to Cllr Humfryes, for possible
 take up.

Police Crime Report for Oct – Dec 2009 – 3 incidents occurred in Stow Longa:
 1 Road Traffic Crash; 1 Poaching; 1 Animal incident.

013/10 Any Other Business

Meeting Room – In view of the very low temperature in the room due to absence of heating
 for most of the meeting, Cllr Millington queried whether meetings could be held elsewhere in
 cold weather, and offered her own home. The Clerk will seek advice bearing in mind that
 meetings are open to the public.

Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

In response to the Internal Auditor's report for 2008/09, the Council stated that these
 documents will be presented annually to the January meeting for review. CPALC have,
 however, advised that this review should be delayed until the issue of a revised edition of the
 NALC Model Standing Orders, which is expected shortly. The Clerk will place this matter on
 the agenda when the new edition is received.

Polling Station

The Chairman reported that, in response to a request from HDC, he had agreed to make the
 barn at his home available as a polling station for the forthcoming General Election. Members
 commented that this location had worked well at the last local elections, and that there is no
 obvious better alternative.

014/10 Next meeting

Monday, 22 February 2010

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.15 pm

Appendix 1

Stow Longa Parish Council Budget 2010/2011	
EXPENDITURE	£
To election cost reserve	150.00
Insurance	230.00
Subscriptions CPALC etc	100.00
Play equipment inspection	50.00
Audit fees	100.00
Clerk – Expenses inc SLCC sub	300.00
Clerk – Salary	1300.00
Training	150.00
Rent of meeting room	100.00
Maintenance of cemetery	335.00
Grasscutting	285.00
Maintenance of assets	200.00
Cont. to minor improvement scheme	122.00
Contingencies (inc cont to kerbing Green)	1500.00
Total Expenditure	4922.00
INCOME	£
Precept	3000.00
CCC Grasscutting	360.00
Total Income	3360.00
Balance brought forward 1/4/2009 (estimate)	4200.00
Plus Income	3360.00
Minus Expenditure	4922.00
Balance to carry forward 31/3/2010	2638.00
Projected reserves at 31/3/2011	
Election costs reserve	450.00
Operating reserve	2188.00
Total reserves	2638.00

Appendix 2

Outstanding issues – progress report

Issue	Action to be taken	Action by
Repairing seat near phone box	New seat procured. Fixing brackets being made Seat to be installed	A. Wakefield Working party
Tree for Peggy and Ray Convine	Arrange planting in Feb. Probably flowering cherry at end of play area nearest the church.	M. Hayes
Sign to Church	Sign repainted and erected on new post by A Griffiths	Complete
Damage to Green & verges by Anglian Water	Sunken areas to be levelled with soil & reseeded in the spring. Should the WP consider turfing some areas the required amount will be ordered.	Working party Clerk
Border to planted area around village sign	Brick surround to be built. Bricks will be supplied Check with HDC that they have no objection.	A. Beszant & R. Millington V. Schorer- Nixon Clerk
Moving post box	Royal Mail to be chased for response to request for the box to be relocated on the verge outside the Old Chapel adjacent to telephone pole.	Clerk
Kerbing on village green	Ringway quoted £3117.07 + VAT for kerbing 2 sides. Another quote to be sought. CCC have been asked to recommend a contractor. HDC grant applied for - response awaited.	Clerk Clerk
Townlands Charity	Andrew Murdoch is liaising with Mrs Wakefield to hand over management to the new trustees.	A Murdoch
Swing	Repaint to be carried out in the spring	Working party
Seat on Green near Cross	To be treated with preservative	Working party
Damaged Stow Longa sign, Kimbolton Road.	CCC to be asked to repair or replace.	Clerk (o/s action)