

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF STOW LONGA PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT ST.  
BOTOLPH'S PARISH CHURCH ON MONDAY 18 JUNE 2012 AT 8 PM**

**Present:** Councillors Hayes (Chairman), Allen, and Humfryes and the Clerk (Mr D Stowell).

**052/12 Apologies for absence** . none received.

**053/12 Declarations of Interest** as to personal and prejudicial interest in relation to any agenda item . none declared.

**054/12 Public Open Forum** . not required.

**055/12 Minutes of Meeting held 21 May 2012** were approved and signed.

**056/12 Matters arising from minutes (not on the agenda)**

**Water leak in Spaldwick Road** . it is understood that this problem is being dealt with by Anglian Water and County Highways who will jointly agree the cause and apportion action as appropriate.

**Bright lights at Gas pumping station** . no action was required as Mr & Mrs Whitlock reported that the problem had disappeared immediately after the last meeting.

**057/12 Finance**

**The following payments were approved:**

100318 F D Stowell, Salary & Expenses, Apr . Jun 2012, £294.82 (inc £2.66 VAT)

100319 HMRC, PAYE, £62.80

100320 Cambs ACRE, Membership fee, 1 year £30

**058/12 Assets and infrastructure**

**Health and Safety** – no report due.

**059/12 Progress of current projects** - the report was updated . see Appendix

**060/12 Planning** . There were no new applications and no LPA decisions of interest.

**061/12 Speed Limit reduction to 30 mph**

It was noted that the bid for funding from the CCC Minor Improvements Budget has not been successful The reply also stated: (1) If it proves impossible to implement any of the approved bids it may be possible to proceed with the Stow Longa bid, in which case CCC will get in touch; (2) It is anticipated that a budget will be available for minor improvements in 2013/14 and this may provide an opportunity for the bid to be reconsidered; and (3) The estimated cost of the scheme is £3500.

The Chairman proposed that Council should consider two options:

1. To offer to contribute more than the £350 assumed by the panel

2. To proceed without the help of a grant. However he queried why CCC should state the cost as £3500 when the cost estimated by the Clerk when making the bid was £1359.20.

It was agreed that the Clerk should speak to CCC about these options and the cost discrepancy and report back to Council before any decision is taken.

**062/12 Code of Conduct and Register of Interests****1. Code of Conduct**

The draft Code prepared by the Cambridgeshire group of Monitoring Officers for the 5 District Councils and Peterborough Unitary Council to meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and which they recommend is adopted by Cambridgeshire Parish Councils was circulated to members with the agenda. Although the details in the document are dependent on acceptance by the principal councils, the Clerk suggested that Council could resolve now to adopt this Code when finalised with effect from 1 July 2012, the date when the Statutory Instrument defining the current code is revoked, and when the 6 Principal Councils aim to adopt the new Code. Council considered the Clerk's suggestion but resolved to defer adoption of a new Code until the next meeting.

**2. Register of Interests**

Council noted the following explanation given by the Clerk:

The Localism Act 2011 s.30 requires newly elected and co-opted members to notify the District Council Monitoring Officer of any disclosable pecuniary interest within 28 days of taking office. S.31 of the act requires existing members to declare any disclosable pecuniary interest in any matter to be considered at a meeting, and if not entered into the register to notify the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

A disclosable pecuniary interest relates not only to the member's interests but to those of the member's spouse, civil partner or other person with whom the member is living as husband and wife, or as if they were civil partners and the member is aware that the other person has that interest.

The Register has to be published on the District and Parish Council websites. Whether or not existing members will be required to complete a new Registration of Interest form, other than when stated above, remains to be clarified.

**063/12 Correspondence**

**Connecting Cambridgeshire** . HDC is requesting support for this project which is aiming to bring fast, reliable broadband access to Cambridgeshire. A quantity of leaflets has been received. They will be left in the Church for members of the public to pick up. Jon Young is expected to champion the campaign to register an interest.

**064/12 Any Other Business**

**Verge maintenance, Kimbolton Road** . concern was expressed regarding the first cut carried out by the contractor, in particular the omission of the section of verge outside April Cottage not cut by the householder. As this is difficult and dangerous to cut with domestic equipment it was agreed to consider amending the order to include this section. The Clerk will obtain a revised cost for submission to the next meeting.

**065/12 Next meeting - Monday 16 July 2012 at St.Botolph's Parish Church at 8 pm**

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 8.40 pm

## Appendix

### Progress report on current projects at 18 June 2012

Project	Report	Action by
Tree for Peggy & Ray Convine	2/3 trees are to be planted to replace a dead tree on the northern boundary of the churchyard.	M. Hayes
Post box	No progress has been made recently re proposal to move the box to a site outside the Old Chapel	Clerk
Phone Box	A working party to be arranged to repaint the box. Advice would be appreciated by S Butcher who has started removing the old paint	S Butcher
Village Cross	In response to queries raised at meeting held 21 March Q Carroll has confirmed that English Heritage is happy with the band option (item 8 of Skillington's report). Will Fletcher of EH later confirmed this and will send a letter of support for a funding bid.	Clerk
Church alterations to facilitate community use.	Preliminary discussions are taking place.	S Humfryes
Grass on Village Green and verges in Spaldwick Road	Top soil & seed to be obtained and an early date arranged for a working party to repair the grass adjacent to the new verge around the main Village Green. Repairs to other grass areas have been deferred until contractors have finished work and carried out the reinstatement referred to below.	M Allen Jim Humfryes
Reinstatement of damage caused during water and electricity main installation	Cllr Humfryes has produced a list of work that needs to be done to the verges etc. Morrison's have agreed to do this work, plus additional work requested by residents direct, starting on Thursday next. They will not sign off the work until formally accepted by the Parish Council.	S Humfryes