

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF STOW LONGA PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT ST.
BOTOLPH'S PARISH CHURCH ON MONDAY 30 JULY 2012 AT 8 PM**

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

066/12 Apologies for absence . An apology was received from Cllr Allen

067/12 Declarations of Interest as to personal and prejudicial interest in relation to any agenda item . none declared.

068/12 Public Open Forum . not required.

069/12 Minutes of Meeting held 18 June 2012 were approved and signed.

070/12 Matters arising from minutes (not on the agenda) - none

071/12 Finance

External Audit . It was noted that the External Audit was completed on 17 July, the auditor's report stating: "On the basis of our review, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met."

Quarterly Budget Review at 30 June 2012

The Clerk presented the quarterly budget review updates to include actual receipts and payments to 30 June 2012. He also tabled copies of the cash book and bank statement at 30 June which were confirmed to be reconciled. It was resolved that the Budget Review and Bank Reconciliation be accepted.

The following payment was approved:

100321 Moore Stephens, Audit fee, £60.00 (inc £10.00 VAT)

Verge maintenance, Kimbolton Road

It was agreed to accept a quotation from A C Summerfield Co Ltd to add the currently uncut part of the verge outside April Cottage and the verge outside Rookery Cottages to this year's order at £30 per cut for the 2 remaining cuts due this year.

**072/12 Assets and infrastructure
Health and Safety** – no report due

073/12 Progress of current projects - the report was updated . see Appendix.

074/12 Planning . There were no new applications on which the Parish Council had been consulted and no LPA decisions affecting Stow Longa to report.

However Council had been made aware of Planning Application 1200967FUL for a wind farm at Molesworth / Bythorn which was submitted to HDC at the end of June with the Consultation Expiry date of 10 August 2012

The proposal is described as: Erection of six three bladed horizontal axis wind turbines up to 126 m in height to blade tip, together with associated infrastructure including: new vehicular access, onsite access tracks, foundations, external transformers (if required), crane hard standing areas, one permanent anemometry mast, one temporary anemometry mast, temporary construction compound, control building and compound and underground cabling, Land South West of RAF Molesworth, Warren Lane, Bythorn.

Following discussion, it was decided to take no action regarding this application as it was felt that any impact on Stow Longa would be minimal and no concerns from residents had been notified to Council.

075/12 Speed Limit reduction to 30 mph

Council noted a CCC statement that the cost of the scheme if funded by the Parish Council would be £2026.23, not £1359.20 as estimated by the Clerk, due to the requirement for a terminal sign at the junction of Church Lane with the byway and a repeater sign in Church Lane, plus a small increase in cost of a Traffic Regulation Order. Following discussion it was agreed to defer a decision on whether to fund the scheme until it was clear that no funding would be available from CCC arising from any approved scheme being dropped from the current programme.

076/12 Code of Conduct and Register of Members' Interests

Code of Conduct

A draft designed to meet the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 S.27 based on the Code adopted by HDC on 4 July 2012 but amended to be applicable to a parish council was discussed. These amendments were:

Paras.1.3, 1.4 and 2.2, which related to the Cabinet, Cabinet member, Cabinet committees, and Ward Councillors was deleted and replaced with not applicable

Para.3.7.2 References to the Head of Paid Service and Chief Finance Officer were replaced with the Clerk / Responsible Financial Officer.

Para. 4.2.4 The words from the Authority's Monitoring Officer were deleted as dispensations in respect of Parish Councillors are now required to be dealt with by the Parish Council, not by the Monitoring Officer. The reference to remaining in the meeting room was amended to meeting to avoid members excluded from a meeting being forced to wait in the open air in an unsuitable environment when there is no other room within the building.

It was resolved to accept these amendments and adopt the draft as presented with immediate effect.

Register of Members' Interests

Members noted that the new forms distributed with the agenda are now required to be completed in accordance with The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012. They should be returned to the Clerk in time to reach the Monitoring Officer by 27 August.

077/12 Correspondence

078/12 Any Other Business

079/12 Next meeting - Monday 10 September 2012 at St.Botolph's Parish Church at 8 pm

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 8.39 pm

Appendix

Progress report on current projects at 30 July 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. The work will be carried out this summer.	M. Hayes
Post box	No progress has been made recently re proposal to move the box to a site outside the Old Chapel. Repainting of the existing wall box will be carried out shortly.	Clerk D Baugh
Phone Box	Much of the old paint has been removed. It is hoped to start repainting shortly.	S Butcher
Village Cross	Will Fletcher of English Heritage has confirmed that EH will support the project (including the band option). Awaiting information where examples of Interpretation Boards may be viewed. Funding Application process to be started.	Clerk / QC Clerk
Church alterations to facilitate community use.	Preliminary discussions are taking place.	S Humfryes
Grass on Village Green and verges in Spaldwick Road	It was decided that, as the grass is taking over from the weeds on the Village Green, there is no need to proceed with the proposal to obtain more top soil and seed. Repairs to other grass areas remain deferred until contractors have finished work and carried out the reinstatement referred to below.	
Reinstatement of damage caused during water and electricity main installation	Cllr Humfryes reported that Morrison's have now completed about 75% of the requested work and will finish by 3 rd August. This will then be subjected to inspection and acceptance by the Parish Council before sign off.	S Humfryes