

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOW LONGA PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT ST. BOTOLPH'S PARISH CHURCH ON TUESDAY 28 MAY 2013 AT 8 PM

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

038/13 An apology for absence was received from Cllr Allen

039/13 Election of Chairman

Cllr M G Hayes was elected unanimously. A declaration of acceptance to the office of Chairman was made and delivered to the Council by Cllr Hayes.

040/13 Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr J Young was elected unanimously

041/13 To receive any new Registrations of Financial and Other Interests and to sign Declaration of No Changes where appropriate . Cllr Butcher will submit a new Registration Form to the Clerk.

042/13 Minutes of Meeting held 24 April 2013 were approved and signed

043/13 Matters arising from minutes (not on the agenda)

Kart Club . Martin Chesterman agreed to announce the new 30 mph limit at drivers briefing and in the race programme at the May meeting and on the Club website.

044/13 Appointment of Charity Trustees nominated by the Annual Parish Meeting

It was resolved that Jacqui Young, Amy Howard, having been nominated by the Parish Meeting, be appointed trustees for the next four years

045/13 Finance

To approve any payments due - none

The following receipt was noted:

HDC, Precept £3300

Grass cutting . it was noted that the grant from CCC is being increased by 5% this year to £290.06

Payments for meetings in the Church – a letter from the PCC acknowledging receipt of contributions for churchyard maintenance and for use of the Church for meetings requested that in the light of rising costs the payment for ordinary meetings be increased to say £15 per meeting. It was resolved to increase the payment to £15 for each ordinary meeting with effect from 1 April 2013.

046/13 Planning

The following new planning applications were considered:

1300512FUL, Erection of 3 wind turbines with a maximum total height to blade tip of 125m along with associated infrastructure including meteorological mast, Land west of Bicton Industrial Park, Stow Road Kimbolton.

In considering this application Council took note that a substantial proportion of the residents oppose the project as they feel that a wind farm on this site would have an unprecedented and detrimental visual effect on this small community and change forever its rural nature. There was universal condemnation of the proposal at the recent Annual Parish Meeting where there was also considerable concern that the noise from the turbines may well affect the ability of residents to sleep at night. It was felt that this **must** be addressed by the Local Planning Authority in determining its response to the application, as it is beyond local resources to procure expert advice and confirm the extent of the problem.

During the discussion by Council it was noted that the applicant has addressed the major concern of the Planning Inspector by removing turbines Numbers 2 & 4. It was also noted that the replacement for these two is located roughly in a straight line with Numbers 1 & 3 of the previous proposal. Whilst they might reduce the impact on some areas, the changes from the previous application have an adverse effect on the area around Stow Longa in that the number of turbines close to the village is increased from two to three. The angle of vision and the potential noise problem are consequently both increased. Following discussion it was resolved to STRONGLY recommend **REFUSAL** of the application.

Cllr Hayes, being a neighbour, declared an interest in the following application and took no part in the decision.

1300644FUL, Installation of 30 kW of ground mounted solar photovoltaic panels, The Old Wayre, Spaldwick Road. It was resolved to inform HDC that SLPC has no objection to this proposal and recommends approval. Note: It was assumed that the 2050 mm shown on the drawings is the maximum height above ground level.

The following new planning application in Kimbolton Parish was noted

1300495FUL, Change of use of land from storage to parking of private and delivery vehicles with electrical connection to allow freezer units to park overnight. Erection of security fencing gates and entrance barriers, East of Unit 16 Brook Road, Kimbolton. It was agreed to make no comment as it would not affect Stow Longa.

An appeal was noted against non-determination by the Local Planning Authority of Planning Application 1200967FUL, Erection of six wind turbines and associated infrastructure, South West of RAF Molesworth.

Yes2RushdenLakes – a letter asking the Parish Council to consider supporting the proposal for development on the A45 opposite Waitrose, which is to be determined at a Planning Appeal, was noted. It was agreed to take no action.

Town /Parish Council Planning Forum, Wednesday 3 July 6 . 8 pm, Pathfinder House, 2 representatives invited. Members wishing to attend are to inform the Clerk

Local Infrastructure Needs . In response to an email from HDC circulated on 02/05/13 the following were identified as infrastructure needed in the coming years

Infrastructure type	Why is the infrastructure needed?
Footpath alongside Kimbolton Road	Pedestrian Safety
Resurfacing of village road surfaces	following completion of works to services (sewerage & electricity) the current surface is a patchwork of re-instatements.
Meeting room / toilet for community use (probably in the Church building)	The Church is the only public building in the village.
Superfast Broadband	To contribute to reduction in rural deprivation
Upgrade to electricity supply	At times the supply to some premises is intermittent causing computer problems

047/13 Assets and infrastructure

Health and Safety . a report from Cllr Allen dated 19 May sated that all checks were OK. He observed that the depressions on the green dond appear to be getting any deeper.

Village Green . In view of the above report no further action is being taken. Monitoring will continue.

Footpaths, planned cutting by CCC, Rights of Way Section . Paths where there have been issues reported will be cut in May and July. CCC have asked for local assistance in monitoring this work and reporting any cases which should be included in next year's contract. The Clerk was asked to approach Jo-Ann Millington to see whether she would be interested in handling this matter.

048/13 Consideration of matters raised at the Annual Parish Meeting

1. The street sweeping that clears the road leaves the pavements unswept so that debris remains and then washes back into the gutter at the first sign of rain and blocks the drains again.

2. The 30mph repeater sign sited opposite the playground sign on Church Lane gives the impression that it is acceptable to go at 30mph past the play area.

3. Large lorries passing through the village are unsuitable for the roads. Can we approach the companies receiving these vehicles within the 17T weight restriction zone to ask their suppliers to use smaller vehicles?

4. Parking on the green outside Stow Inn is causing a problem, restricting access to the turning and obstructing the footpath. The blind turn coming from Kimbolton into Church Lane is made much worse by the presence of such parked vehicles.

Following a brief discussion it was agreed that the Clerk would refer items 1 & 2 to HDC and County Highways respectively for comment. Discussion of items 3 & 4 was deferred to a later meeting.

049/13 Progress of current projects . It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting.

050/13 Correspondence

Cambs Bobby Scheme . It was noted that Bobby Security Advisors visit burglary victims who are over 60 years old and fit security devices such as door chains, window alarms, locks etc., as well as offering advice to give them confidence and reassurance and help reduce their fear of crime. The service to victims is free of charge. The scheme also visits older and vulnerable people to reduce the chance of them becoming burglary victims, reduce their fear of crime and provide peace of mind. For these visits a small donation to the scheme is requested. Key safes can be fitted, allowing carers to gain access to residents who wish to stay in their own homes and live independently. Details will be published on the Notice Board.

051/13 Any Other Business - none

052/13 Future Meetings

To be held at St Botolph's Church commencing at 8 pm on these dates:

June17 (Reserve in the event of urgent business), July 15, September 9, October14 (Reserve), November 11, December 9 (Reserve).