

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF STOW LONGA PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT ST.  
BOTOLPH'S PARISH CHURCH ON MONDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2013**

**Present:** Councillors Hayes (Chairman, presiding), Allen and Young and the Clerk (Mr D Stowell). Due to the late arrival of the Chairman, for which he had apologised in advance, the start of the meeting was delayed to 8.25 pm when there was a quorum.

**079/13 An apology for absence** was received from Cllr Humfries

**08013 Declarations of Interest in relation to any agenda item** - none

**081/13 Public Open Forum** . not required

**082/13 Minutes of Meeting held 23 September 2013** were approved and signed.

**083/13 Matters arising from the minutes (not on the agenda)** - none.

**084/13 Planning**

**Planning application received for comment**

**1301401FUL**, 1 x 500KW wind turbine with tip height of 74M and associated infrastructure, Land South of Little Catworth Farm, Church End, Little Catworth.

In the absence of any documentation it was not possible for any meaningful discussion to take place. It was therefore resolved to ask members to view the details on the HDC website and to send any comments to the Clerk. It was also resolved to delegate to the Clerk the task of responding to HDC taking into consideration these comments.

**To note LPA decisions (if any)** . none

**Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)** . A letter from HDC was noted and discussed. This stated that a Town or Parish Council receiving a meaningful proportion (i.e. a minimum of 15%) of the CIL receipts from development that occurs in their area is required to:

a) Use the receipts to support the development of the local council's area, or any part of that area, by funding the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area.

b) Prepare a report, in accordance with the regulations, for any financial year in which it receives CIL receipts and publish the report on its website or that of the charging authority, namely HDC. A copy must also be sent to the charging authority.

c) Use the CIL receipts to support the development of its area within 5 years of receipt or be required to repay the money to the charging authority to spend on infrastructure.

It was **resolved** to accept the legal responsibilities that the CIL meaningful proportion receipts brings (rather than leaving this responsibility with HDC) and that it would prefer receipts to be paid annually (rather than twice yearly).

**086/13 Matters arising from the minutes (not on the agenda)** - none

**087/13 Finance**

**The following payments were approved and the cheques signed**

100344 CCC, Contribution to Speed Limit reduction scheme, £185.99

100345 Wicksteed Leisure, Play area inspection, £54.00 (inc. £9.00 VAT)

100346 K Royles, grass cutting, £300.00

100347 A C Summerfield, grass cutting, £252.00 (inc. £42.00 VAT)

**The following payments were approved – cheques to be signed in December**

100348 F D Stowell, Salary & expenses Oct . Dec, £271.32

100349 HMRC, PAYE, £63.40

**Budget Review for quarter ending 30 September 2013** . deferred to next meeting as the Clerk was unable to locate the documents (until the meeting had closed).

**Budget and precept 2013/14** . it was resolved to adopt the draft budget prepared by the Clerk and to set the precept at £3300.

**088/13 Assets and infrastructure**

**Health and Safety** – no report due

**Children’s Playground Inspection** . Wicksteeds report on the inspection carried out in September was considered in detail. It was noted that the swing failed two tests but the report stated no action recommended at present. However, it did make 2 recommendations, which it was agreed to deal with as follows:

Top bar and castings be painted to combat corrosion . no action.

Tyre/rope swing be removed from tree in the area to reduce potential collision and strangulation hazards . This will be removed and parents of users informed of the reason.

**Resurfacing of Stow Longa Streets**

Tony King has said this would have to be funded from our projects allocation. I will put forward a case to carry out the work but this could be some time in the future. I would ask that you explore every method at your disposal to achieve funding for this work e.g. county councillor, jointly funded etc.+ The Clerk reported that he had looked at the possibility of applying for funding from the LHII but the cost would be in excess of the maximum. He was requested to ascertain how the Old Weston scheme had been funded.

**Local Highway Improvement Initiative (LHII)** (see email 24/10/13

Schemes will be jointly funded by the County Council and the applicant. Applicants can seek up to a maximum of £10,000 from the County Council as a contribution to their scheme. The applicant is expected to provide a contribution towards each project of at least 10% of the scheme cost. The deadline for submission of application is **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013**. It was agreed to apply for 30 mph roundels at the main entrances to the village.

**Archiving minute books and other documents** . The Clerk has arranged to take the old minute books and subsequent loose leaf files to Shire Hall on 26 November with a view to arranging for them to be kept in the local archives.

**089/13 Bus Service changes** - The Clerk reported that he had attended the first meeting of County, District and Parish representatives which was convened by the Cambs Future Transport team on Tuesday 12th November. This was also attended by five county councillors and representatives from the Alconburys and Stilton. It is intended to publicise the consultation and produce a questionnaire to obtain information regarding current and possible future usage.

**090/13 Local Joint Committee** . Information received from HDC regarding the proposed committee was considered but it was decided not to appoint a delegate and substitute to the LJC.

**091/13 Progress of current projects** . see Appendix.

**092/13 Correspondence**

**Jason Ablewhite, Executive Leader HDC** - email dated 27 September.

At the HDC meeting held on 25 September it was decided that there will be no further grants to towns and parishes I wanted to inform you so that you can take account of this in your budgeting and precept decisions. As well as the obvious question of wishing to minimise necessary service cuts two other issues were raised. One referred to the danger of Parishes and Towns becoming too dependent on the District Council . a problem that is only too real for the District in its financial relationship with the Government. There was also concern at the significant number of Towns and Parishes that took the grant but did not reduce their precept level to protect the public from increases

**Cambridgeshire County Council Briefing** . October briefing received from County Cllr Bywater was circulated by email

**Housing Related Support for Older People Project (HRSOP)** . briefing emailed to members 22 October.

**HDC Decision Digest** - emailed to members 3 November

**Huntingdonshire Parish Conference – Communities First**, 3 December, 1 pm to 4.30pm, Burgess Hall, St Ives, 3 representatives invited . no one able to attend.

**OUR PLACE** . letter from Don Foster MP (when Parliamentary under Secretary of State DCLG) to Parish Councils inviting participation in this programme

**Stop Bicton Wind Farm** . Annual meeting at 8 pm Thursday 12 December at The Mandeville Hall. In the light of Broadview Energy's decision to force a second public inquiry by appealing against HDC's rejection of the company's revised proposals, the main focus of the evening will be "Fighting the second appeal."

**093/13 Any Other Business** - none**094/13 Future Meetings**

Next scheduled meeting 9 December (Reserve).- only if business is urgent

**2014 programme:** The Clerk is to produce a draft and circulate it by email for comment.

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 9.26

## Appendix

<b>Project</b>	<b>Report</b>	<b>Action by</b>
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 remains to be carried out	M Hayes
Post box	Royal Mail stated on 20/5/12 that they were still looking into the proposal to move the post box. Messages were sent to them on 21/9/12, 7/1/13 & 27/2/13 chasing a reply, but without result. To be followed up again.	Clerk
Village Cross	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.	R Whidborne will be invited to give a report to the next meeting.	M Hayes
Repairs to village road surfaces	Following repair of potholes and the worst areas of broken edges to the carriageway between Stow Longa and Spaldwick, the surface dressing has been renewed. The County Highways Engineer will put forward a case to carry out resurfacing of the roads within the village but this could be some time in the future. Meanwhile the Clerk will investigate how Old Weston's scheme was funded.	Clerk
Speedwatch	Further sessions are being planned from late October.	J Humfryes
Parking near the Village Green	Parking around the Green which restricts access and obstructs the footpaths is to be discouraged. The Chairman will write a letter to residents asking for their cooperation in reducing this problem.	M Hayes