

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF STOW LONGA PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT ST.
BOTOLPH'S PARISH CHURCH ON MONDAY 13 JANUARY 2014 AT 8 PM**

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

001/14 Apologies for absence - none

002/14 Declarations of Interest in relation to any agenda item - none

003/14 Public Open Forum . not required

004/14 Minutes of Meeting held 18 November 2013 were approved and signed.

005/14 Matters arising from the minutes (not on the agenda) - none.

006/14 Planning

To consider new planning applications (if any) - none

To note LPA decisions (if any) - none

Bicton Wind Farm appeal by Broadview against refusal by HDC of Planning Application 1300512FUL (appeal ref: APP/H0520/A/13/2207023)

It was noted that the Chairman, following consultation with members, wrote to the Planning Inspectorate on 28 December on behalf of the Parish Council explaining why we are against the proposals and that he intends to speak at the Inquiry. The Inquiry is planned to start at 10am on Tuesday 17 June at a venue to be announced later.

007/14 Finance

Q2 & Q3 Quarterly Budget Reviews and bank reconciliations

The Clerk presented statements of receipts and payments to 30 September (Q2) and 31 December 2013 (Q3) and the bank reconciliations at those dates. After discussion it was resolved that they be accepted as evidence that the accounts are being correctly maintained.

The following payments were approved:

100350 SLCC, half membership fee, £43.50 (Shared with Spaldwick PC)

100351 Stow Longa PCC, churchyard maintenance, £300.00

100352 J Young, website maintenance, £30.00

100353 CCC, creation of 2 wallets for minutes & rebinding of minute book. £35.00

008/14 Assets and infrastructure

Health and Safety . Cllr Allen presented a report on a check carried out on 12 January: The tyre/rope swing on a tree in the children's play area was taken down on 11 Jan; all Parish Council assets were O.K.; the drain adjacent to the Spaldwick end of Village Green triangle was blocked and was reported by him to CCC on 13 Jan. This had also been reported to CCC by the Clerk on 7 Jan (ref. NM-60006).

Speedwatch Signs – It was resolved to purchase from and have installed by CCC, 2 notices which state that Community Speedwatch operates here at a unit cost of £69 + VAT on the 30 mph sign posts at the entries to the village in Spaldwick Road and Kimbolton Road.

Local Highway Improvement Initiative . decision of panel meeting is awaited.

Archiving minute books and other documents . The Minute books for August 1992 to December 2002 and February 2003 to April 2007, and loose leaf files for May 2007 to December 2012 were taken to Shire Hall by the Clerk on 26 November for deposit in the archives at Huntingdon Library.

CCC advised that they can repair, at a cost of £25, the minute book for the period February 2003 to April 2007 which was discontinued in April 2007 due to the binding

falling apart; and that the loose leaves for May 2007 to December 2012 can be placed in two file wallets at a cost of £5 each. Following consultation with councillors by email the Clerk, in accordance with Financial Regulation 3.4, authorised CCC to proceed to avoid loss or further damage which might occur if left waiting around for a few months. It was resolved to ratify this action by the Clerk.

The Clerk reported that he has now located the Minute Book for 1973 to 1992 which he will also deposit with the archives at Huntingdon.

009/14 Bus Service changes . It was noted that Cambridgeshire Future Transport (CFT) is holding a drop in session at Spaldwick Community Room on Thursday 16 January 3 - 5 pm to obtain views of the public on possible local transport solutions. A questionnaire is available at <http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/CambsFT1>, the responses to which will be analysed and presented for consideration to the local working group on 26 February at Huntingdon library. The survey ends on 17 January. Any paper copies which were given to councillors on 3 December and have been completed should be returned to the Clerk.

Subsequent to the Parish Council meeting, CFT changed the date / venue of the working group to **12 March, 7-9pm at Huntingdon Town Hall.**

010/14 ShapeYourPlace

The Clerk explained that ShapeYourPlace.org is a set of community websites run by Cambridgeshire County Council where local people can raise issues and have conversations with the Police, local councils, the Fire Service and other residents. Stow Longa has been covered by a website for West Hunts but due to the lower level of engagement on this site when compared to the other Huntingdonshire sites, CCC have discontinued the West Hunts site and have added Stow Longa and other local parishes to the Huntingdon site: <http://huntingdon.shapeyourplace.org/> .

When this proposal was first mentioned in November he responded: %think the reason why there is little use of ShapeYourSpace in West Hunts is that most people who have issues about local infrastructure and services (whether provided by Parish, District or County Councils or other agencies such as the Highways Agency for the A14, Police, Fire, Internal Drainage Board) raise them with the local Parish Council, who in turn take appropriate action themselves or pass the matter to the responsible authority for action. Spaldwick and Stow Longa Parish Councils are of the opinion that ShapeYourSpace serves no useful purpose in an area with small villages most of which have a Parish Council. However if residents wish to use ShapeYourSpace I think they would rather use a website dedicated to West Hunts and not to Huntingdon.+

In addition to Huntingdon, Godmanchester, Brampton and Alconbury & the Stukeleys, the Huntingdon site now covers, Barham & Woolley, Catworth, Easton, Ellington, Perry, Spaldwick and Stow Longa. It also includes links to the local village websites. The Parish Council confirmed that it accepts this arrangement.

011/14 Progress of current projects . see Appendix

012/14 Correspondence

COUNCIL TAX BENEFIT SUPPORT GRANT . the Chairman of NALC has written to parish councils informing them of his efforts to have the parish grant maintained
Great War Commemoration . CCC letter inc. ref to <http://greatwar.ccan.co.uk/>
Campaign to Save the Cromwell Museum . email requesting support

013/14 Any Other Business – none

014/14 Future Meetings . It was resolved to adopt the following 2014 schedule:

January 13, February 10 (Reserve), March 17, April 14, May 12 (Annual Parish Meeting followed by Annual Parish Council Meeting), June 16 (Reserve), July 21, September 22, October 20 (Reserve), November 17, December 15 (Reserve);
All meetings are on Mondays at St. Botolph's Church commencing 8 pm

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 8.45 pm

Appendix

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 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 on the current position.	M Hayes
Repairs to village road surfaces	The CCC Local Highways Engineer has said this would have to be funded from our projects allocation. He will put forward a case to carry out the work but this could be some time in the future. County Councillor Simon Bywater will be asked whether he is able to obtain funding from other sources for this work to be done in the near future. support	Clerk
Speedwatch	Further sessions will be planned in Feb / March	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