

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF STOW LONGA PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT ST.
BOTOLPH'S PARISH CHURCH ON WEDNESDAY 14 JANUARY 2015 AT 8 PM**

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

001/15 Apologies for absence – Cllr Humfryes

002/15 Declarations of Interest in relation to any agenda item - none

003/15 Public Open Forum – not required

004/15 Minutes of Meeting held 18 November 2014 were approved and signed.

005/15 Matters arising from the minutes (not on the agenda) - none.

006/15 Planning

To note response delegated to the Clerk after consultation with members

1401916FUL & 1401917LBC, Conversion of store to ancillary accommodation and erection of new covered and enclosed store, 2 Church Lane: SLPC has no objection to these applications and recommends approval.

To consider new planning applications (if any) - none

The following LPA decisions were noted

1401603OUT, Replacement cottage and 2 new cottages, 5 The Lane treated as **withdrawn** 22/12/14

1401824FUL & 1401825LBC, two storey side extension single storey rear extension, re-thatch roof, 2 Church Lane treated as **withdrawn** 05/01/15.

1401916FUL & 1401917LBC, Conversion of store to ancillary accommodation and erection of new covered and enclosed store, 2 Church Lane – **permission granted**.

007/15. Finance

Quarterly Budget Review and bank reconciliation at 31 December 2014

The Clerk presented statements of receipts and payments to 31 December and the bank reconciliations at that date. It was resolved that they be accepted as evidence that the accounts are being correctly maintained. It was noted that cheque 100359 dated 19/5/14 for £140 to Stow Longa PCC had not been paid in. The Chairman will query this with the PCC treasurer.

The following payments were approved:

100371 SLCC, half membership fee, £44.00 (Shared with Spaldwick PC)

100372 Stow Longa PCC, churchyard maintenance, £350.00

100373 J Young, website maintenance, £30.00

008/15 Assets and infrastructure

Health and Safety – no problems were highlighted.

009/15 Bus Service changes – It was noted that the 'Final Options Feedback Report' was received from the CCC team on December 24. This summarised the main issues raised from the consultation, and how they intend to respond to the issues. The Clerk had immediately responded that it was very disappointing that no Saturday Service is proposed for Services 400 and 401. He was under the impression that it had been intended to retain the 400 Service between Spaldwick and Huntingdon virtually unchanged (including Saturdays); and that Saturday operation of the new 401 service would be included as an option in the tender request.

010/15 To review progress of current projects

A) Village Cross – the meeting of interested parties is still to be convened

B) Re-location of Post Box – awaiting response from Royal Mail

011/15 Correspondence

The following were noted:

HDC Decision Digest Nov 24 - Dec 17, 2014 - circulated by email 31 December

News from Cambridgeshire County Council - received via Cllr Simon Bywater and circulated by email 10 December

World War 2 commemoration – CCC announce that grants of up to £500 are available for groups arranging events – details were circulated to members by email 6 January.

CAPALC Bulletin November 2014 - circulated by email 6 December together with the Clerk's observations challenging some of the statements on procedures in it, in particular whether it is necessary to retain all agendas on the website. The CEO responded: "By having both Agendas and Minutes easily available it provides an easy to follow audit trail and minimises FOI issues. Only posting the minutes does not verify that additional items were not introduced to the meeting for debate or approval."

CCC Key Issues for November/December 2014 – circulated by email 12 January

The following were noted and action taken as considered appropriate:

Huntingdonshire Local Plan to 2036 – HDC have announced a Consultation on the current status continuing until 20 March targeted at all three council tiers. The Chairman, Clerk and one other councillor are invited to attend a seminar on either 26 January or 2 February – the Chairman and Clerk will attend, Clerk to advise HDC of dates,

Royal Garden Party - CAPALC is looking for nominations by 27 January, in recognition of past service, for this event at Buckingham Palace on 12 May. No nomination was tabled.

New Year 2016, Honours Nominations – a letter from DCLG received via CAPALC invites nominations to be included for consideration in the New Year 2016 honours round, citations are required by **Monday 9th March**. No nomination was tabled.

Parish Polls, Consultation on the Government's intentions to modernise parish poll regulations – circulated by email 8 January, closing date 30 January 2015.

Transparency Code for Councils with turnover under £25,000 (handed to members) - The Government has published the final version of this Code which replaces the need for external audit for parish councils with turnover less than £25,000. The code will require the on-line publication of information which the Government says will provide taxpayers with a clear picture of the council's' activities, spending and governance and will improve the ability of communities to hold local public bodies to account. Although the Code is published initially as recommended practice, the Secretary of State told Parliament on 17th December that he intends to make the code mandatory by the start of the 2015 to 2016 financial year and will offer support to the local council sector to help authorities comply with these requirements. The Clerk will consider the implications and take the necessary action.

ACRE Funding threat – request from Rural Services Network for support of e-petition to DEFRA not to withdraw funding from ACRE – circulated by email 9 January

012/15 Any Other Business

SBWF – an email dated 12 January from Amy Howard asking the Council to consider a further donation to the Wind Farm Action Group was noted. It was agreed to consider this at the next meeting.

013/15 Future Meetings – February 11 (Reserve), March 25

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 8.35 pm