

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF STOW LONGA PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT ST.
BOTOLPH'S PARISH CHURCH ON WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 2015 AT 8 PM**

Present: Councillors Hayes (Chairman, presiding), Allen, and Young, the Clerk (Mr D Stowell) and 6 members of the public.

029/15 Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Butcher and Humfryes

030/15 Registration of Members' Interests – The Clerk reported that he had now received the two outstanding registration forms which, following minor additions to one, would be passed to the Monitoring Officer.

031/15 Declarations of Interest in relation to any agenda item - none

032/15 Public Open Forum – 3 members of the public spoke of their objections to the proposed development at 5 The Lane. The Chairman thanked them for their comments and confirmed that they would be taken into consideration by the Council in the next agenda item.

033/15 Planning

The following planning application was re-considered taking into consideration that when it was discussed at the previous meeting the Parish Council was not aware that site notices had not been displayed and neighbours had not been informed of the application by HDC prior to the meeting

15/00057/OUT, Demolition of bungalow, erection of replacement cottage and one new 5 bed cottage, 5 The Lane.

Following discussion it was resolved to withdraw the response dated 19 February and submit the following observations in its place:

Stow Longa Parish Council recommends **refusal** of this application for the following reasons:

1. The proposed one and a half storey 5 bed 'cottages' with dormer windows are not in keeping with the existing dwellings in The Lane which are predominantly single storey bungalows.
2. Two dwellings of this size with provision for a total of 8 parking spaces are likely to generate an unacceptable increase in the volume of traffic using The Lane which is less than 3.5 m wide causing danger to pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders especially young children in all those categories using The Lane. One or two smaller bungalows would overcome this problem and be more likely to meet the local housing needs.
3. The arrangements for disposal of surface water by soakaway and pond/lake are questionable. Soakaway may not be suitable due to the clay soil in the area; the pond already overflows during wet weather and has probably reached its capacity limit. Both methods should be investigated and if necessary another method proposed.
4. Insufficient attention is shown in the proposal to disruption to the habitat of birds, hedgehogs, deer and great crested newts which are known to exist on and around the site.

In the event that the Local Planning Authority is minded to grant permission for development, Stow Longa Parish Council requests that consideration be given to the following proposals:

5. The area within the blue boundary to the south-east of this application, which is also owned by the applicant is unsuitable for housing development as it is almost certainly outside the built-up area of the village. The trees in the whole area (within both red and blue boundaries) are subject to L/TPO/361(2014), which was made in March 2014 to put an immediate stop to any further action to cut down, top, lop, uproot, wilfully damage, or wilfully destroy any tree on the land at 5 The Lane. It is suggested that when

consideration is given to the question of certain specified trees being removed in the red area, consideration is also given to imposing a condition that the woodland areas (which consisted of healthy, mature trees and orchard), having been removed by the new owner prior to the TPO being placed, should be replanted and protected from future development for housing.

6. A Section 106 agreement should be negotiated to bring the surface and water drainage system in The Lane to a suitable standard following completion of the construction work.

New Planning Application – it was noted that the following application, which had just been received, would be considered at the next meeting.

15/00245/FUL, Demolition of existing garage and construction of new garage with habitable accommodation over, together with extensions and alterations to dwelling to include new link between dwelling and proposed garage, Hill View, Spaldwick Road.

At this point the members of the public left the meeting

034/15 Minutes of Meeting held 18 February 2015 were approved and signed

035/15 Matters arising from the minutes (not on the agenda) – none

036/15 Finance

The following payments were approved:

100378 F D Stowell, Salary & expenses Jan– Mar, £273.09

100379 HMRC, PAYE, £66.00

037/15 Assets and infrastructure

Health and Safety – No problems were reported.

Grass cutting – It was resolved to accept the following quotations from A G Gardens: Area in Kimbolton Road adjacent to Old Vicarage (12 cuts) - £20 per cut; Verges in Kimbolton Road (3 cuts) - £60 per cut.

038/15 Highways, byways, footpaths

Local Highway Improvement Initiative 2015/16 The Clerk has confirmed that the parish council is prepared to pay 10% of the estimated £200 cost.

Proposed kerb to green outside the Old Vicarage – the Clerk is to arrange a meeting with Tony King of CCC Highways to obtain his advice.

039/15 Bus Service changes – no information available yet on outcome of tenders

040/15 Progress of current projects

Replacement of post box – It was noted that the old box mounted in the wall outside the Old Vicarage has been repaired. The question of relocation is currently being discussed with Royal Mail.

041/15 Review of Stow Longa Parish Council procedures

The Clerk reported that he had reviewed the following procedures; Information Publication Scheme, Standing Orders (including Financial Regulations); and the Code of Conduct for members, and that in his opinion the Code of Conduct requires no change, but the others require updating to delete out of date references and to comply with recent changes in legislation. He proposed that the Financial Regulations and Standing Orders be published as separate documents with references to finance being deleted from the Standing Orders to avoid the current repetition of some procedures.

He tabled for adoption copies of the revised documents (dated March 2015): Information available from Stow Longa Parish Council under the model publication scheme Version

2; Standing Orders Version 6 and Financial Regulations. Members were each given copies. It was agreed that these be considered for adoption at the next meeting.

042/15 Correspondence

The following items were noted

CCC Key Issues for February 2015 – circulated by email 25 February

Police & Crime Commissioner's Outreach Worker – letter from Rebecca Avery circulated by email 25 February.

045/15 Any Other Business - none

046/15 Next Meetings – Monday 13 April commencing at 8.30 pm (Note date and time changed subsequent to the meeting)

Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 13 May.

The meeting scheduled for Wednesday 22 June will be brought forward to 15 June.

In the absence of any further business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm