

Stisted Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 6th October 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillor Dave Burge – Chairman
Councillor Neil Denley – Vice Chairman
Councillor Philip Fisher
Councillor Mark Hughes
Councillor Helen Remfry
Councillor Hayley Waine
Councillor Dave Willingham

In attendance: Mrs. Melanie Whiteside – Clerk
5 members of the public

21/75 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillor Thorogood, District Councillor Walsh and Footpaths Officer Powers.

21/76 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

21/77 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

The following items were raised by members of the public:

- Play Area – Dog fouling on the playing field continues to be a problem.
- Stisted Archives – Thanks to Mark Hughes for a donation of chairs and a filing cabinet. It is hoped to be able to open to the public shortly.
- Rectory Road Closure – Residents had been notified that the road would be closed for 5 days.
- Queens Green Canopy – A photography exhibition of trees was suggested.

77.1 County & District Councillor Reports

- i. County Councillor Thorogood was absent from the meeting but had sent through a report on the following:
 - LHP Requests for the next financial year need to be submitted before 5th November.
 - Parish councils will soon be able to pay for their own VAS signs where the parish council perceive a speeding problem, at a discounted cost with ECC paying for the survey and required licence. Further details will be available shortly.
 - At last month's ECC Development & Regulation committee, the A7 quarry at Cut Hedge Lane was given its final planning permission and it was confirmed in a report that if the Coggeshall quarry/flood alleviation scheme was given permission at a later date, it would leap over A7 to be dug out first and A7 would be temporarily backfilled until the Coggeshall quarry was completed. Senior planning officer Claire Tomalin told the committee that to date no application had been received by ECC from Blackwater Aggregates and the Environment Agency for the Cogg quarry/flood scheme.
 - Incinerator – At the Rivenhall IWMF Liaison Committee, the contractor is looking at changing some of the planning conditions. This means there will be more planning applications coming up.
- ii. District Councillors Unsworth and Walsh were absent from the meeting.

77.2 Parish Paths / P3

Footpaths' Officer Robert Powers was absent from the meeting.

77.3 Village Hall Report

Mr Hughes reported that the hall is still limited to a maximum of 30 people. He added that new curtains have been ordered and an apple press event is being held on Sunday 17th October.

77.4 Eastlight

Mr. Tandy was absent from the meeting.

21/78 PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th September were a correct record and these were subsequently signed by the Chairman.

21/79 CLERK’S REPORT & PROJECTS LIST UPDATE

The Clerk’s report and Projects List were noted.

21/80 PLANNING MATTERS

80.1 Planning Applications

- i. 21/01695/HH – North Lodge, Kings Lane - Conversion of existing double garage into a 1 bedroomed annexe – It was agreed to request an assurance that there would be no change aesthetically to the exterior – i.e. the garage doors remain as per the planning application.

80.2 Planning Results

- i. None.

21/81 SUB-COMMITTEE & WORKING GROUPS UPDATE

81.1 Community Safety & Engagement

- i. Rectory Road – Information received from ECC that a section of the road would be closed from 18-20 October whilst new foul water connection works are undertaken.

81.2 Parking

Response received from Eastlight:

- Previous parking consultation responses had been mainly negative and therefore unlikely that any scheme to change the green space to parking would go ahead.
- Parking at the bungalows was previously explored and unfortunately the cost would be astronomical to only achieve a few spaces.

It was agreed to contact ECC Highways to see if they consider turning the layby into permit holders only (for the bungalows).

81.3 Recreational Activities

- i. Playing Field – Monthly inspection reported noted. It was agreed to obtain a quote for repainting some of the equipment and for a replacement to the broken mushroom.
- ii. Trees – BDC are offering free tree whips and bulbs to help tackle climate change and contribute to the Queen’s Green Canopy project. It was agreed to put in an application. It was noted that the Village Hall Committee have put in an application, as have residents from Tumblers Green and Priors Green.
- iii. Playing Field – Grass Cutting Autumn/Winter – It was noted that the current contractor stops cutting in October but there is a need for a few cuts over the winter period to enable the football club to play. It was agreed to contact the Golf Course to see if they would undertake these additional cuts on an ad-hoc basis.

81.4 Street Maintenance

- i. School Safety Crossing Zone – Parking continues to be an issue at school times. There are school parking initiatives but these need to be led by the School. It was agreed to request a meeting to discuss options.
- ii. Rewilding Project – Cllr Hughes to email BDC maps so that possible sites can be located.

- iii. Village Green Bollards – 40 sleeves have been produced and it was agreed to take delivery of these and request the remaining 35 be manufactured. A number of the wooden posts require replacement and a price is being sought for this.
- iv. Mobile Speed Device – It was agreed to await further information on the new ECC initiative which will allow Parish Councils to purchase a VAS at a reduced cost.
- v. White Gates – Signage – Response received from ECC that the Parish Council can supply and fit signage so long as it complies with the necessary regulations. It was agreed to pursue this option.
- vi. Electric Car Charging – It was agreed there are limited options within the parish but it would be something to consider if car parking is created in the future.
- vii. Sarcel Footpath – It was reported that a resident has installed gates on a public footpath which is not permitted. It was agreed to write requesting their removal.

21/82 FINANCE

82.1 Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk/RFO presented the bank reconciliation report to the end of September.

82.2 Payments

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments as per the schedule, with one additional payment for grass cutting undertaken in September.

82.3 Budget Review

The budget review to end September was noted.

82.4 Golf Club Funding

It was agreed to put forward the following funding suggestions: £500 towards the resurfacing underneath the junior swing, £500 towards white gate signs or VAS equipment and £500 towards the repair of the iron tree seat.

82.5 Resurfacing of Safety Surface – Junior Swing

Three companies had been approached to provide a quote to repair/replace the safety surface following the RoSPA inspection. Only one had responded with an estimated cost of £1,920 exc. VAT. This has been confirmed as a final quotation price and it was agreed to proceed with the work.

21/83 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION 2

- Archives – The Parish Council will shortly be receiving an application for grant funding.

21/84 INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

- Salt Bag Partnership – This year’s salt supply has been delivered. It was noted that the salt bin along Water Lane needs replacing – Clerk to report.
- Amenity Vehicle (Dust Cart) – BDC have confirmed that any items put in the dustcart are sent to landfill.
- Litter Pick – 20 litter pickers have been purchased. BDC will arrange to collect the rubbish and recycling bags from the Village Green on Monday 18th October.
- 30mph Roundels – Application has been put forward to the LHP.
- Portable Display Boards – Suggestion of joint funding put to Village Hall, currently awaiting response.
- Damaged Fingerposts – These have been reported to ECC but it has been suggested that any that require complete replacement should go via an LHP application.

21/85 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY**, 3rd November at 7:30p.m. in the Village Hall.

21/86 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 20:37p.m.