

MINUTES OF THE ONEHOUSE PRISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 7.30 P.M. IN TRINITY HALL

Present: Cllrs Willshere, Copping, Cook, Corker, Crissell.

In attendance District Cllr Matthissen (in part), County Cllr Otton (in part) and 3 member of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Nutman and Taylor.

2. **To confirm the minutes of the meeting 10 January 2022**

The minutes were approved and signed.

3. **To receive members Declarations of Interest on agenda items.**

There were none.

4. **Public comment.**

Cllrs were asked why the planning application for the 20 houses on Forest Road was removed from MSDC Planning Committee meeting on 9 February.

District Cllr Matthissen advised that the officer's report recommended approval listed the Stowmarket Area Action Plan as the relevant policy but nothing was put in the report from SAAP to support the application. The report was considered unsatisfactory on landscape issues and the erosion of the strategic gap. The application will go back before the planning committee when these issues have been sorted.

When is Burford Bridge to be repaired. County Cllr Otton will take this up with officers.

5. **Report from County Cllr Otton.**

The Scrutiny Committee met on 11 January to discuss the budget proposals. The administration has proposed a budget which raises Council tax by 1.99%, with a 2% rise in the social care precept. The budget is discussed at cabinet on 1 February and then comes to full Council on the 17 February. The administration was unable to deliver a detailed carbon budget alongside the finance budget for this year. The carbon budget is aimed to help Cllrs understand the level of emissions the Council are responsible for and helps toward achieving the Council's ambition of being carbon-neutral by 2030. The County Council is part of this regional transport body. It has drafted a new future strategy, with details of its priorities and investment with the aim of providing a leading transportation network. Highways England are planning various works between junctions 43 to 52. Parish councils will be informed. Starting 14 February, including survey of the concrete section 44 to 49 starting in March. Official diversions will be from 8pm to 6am. We need to be aware of any HGVs using the villages instead of the diversions and report to Highways England. Suffolk Libraries is running an online book festival in March, as part of Suffolk Libraries Day 2022. Suffolk Libraries Day is a celebration of the county's library service and the organisation's main fundraising event. Libraries will also be confirming special events nearer the time. Stowmarket Household Waste Centre will be closed for two weeks from 28 February for resurfacing. Suffolk County Council will not charge for road closures on the Sunday 5 June for Queens Jubilee celebrations but applications for a road

closure need to be in by 27th March. Cllr Otton has agreed some locality money to the Jubilee Players to help with the costs of the microphones
The Clerk advised she has not received details of the work on the A14.

6 Report from District Cllr Matthissen

The annual monitoring report 2020/21 gives details of housing completions and outstanding permissions and other data related to housing development in Mid Suffolk. 672 new dwellings were built in the district in 2020/21 - 131% of the current annual target (513 dwellings) set by the national standard methodology. 29% of these were affordable homes. There are 7,444 outstanding planning permissions (as at 01/04/21) which are either not started or under construction. £1,017,746.36 CIL payments were made to town and parish councils. 29% of all residential completions were delivered on previously developed land, against a target of 50%. MSDC is still waiting for confirmation of timings for the new process for the Joint Local Plan. At present, the Inspector has stated that, with regards to housing, the Council should revert to the current plans which include the Core Strategy (2008), the Core Strategy Focused Review (2012), the Stowmarket Area Action Plan (2013) and Haughley's Neighbourhood Plan (2019) with any decision taking into account the most recent National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2021). The draft 2022/23 budget was considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in January and is due to be considered at full Council in February. Current indications are that the net budget is expected to be nearly £9 million. The District's part of council tax is expected to stay the same; however the amount raised will increase by £285,000 (to £6.96 million) due to increases in households paying the tax. Currently the draft budget forecasts a surplus of £3.35 million which will go into reserves. Overall Council Tax will rise significantly however, as SCC and Police Commissioner are proposing rises. Businesses in Mid Suffolk who have been severely impacted by Omicron can now apply for a one-off grant payment through one of two Covid-19 support grants: The MSDC Cabinet has decided to reduce the office space in Ipswich, but declined to consider moving back to our district. Although Babergh DC is reviewing governance including consideration of a return to a committee instead of cabinet model, the chair's casting vote was used to defeat a proposal that MSDC conduct a review alongside Babergh.

7. Planning Matters

a) To discuss and make recommendation to MSDC on any applications received prior to this meeting.

There were none.

b) To receive MSDC decisions on previously considered applications.

There were none.

8. Finances

To approve payment of the following invoices:

a) 21/058 £349.73 Gipping Press February OHSMag

b) 21/059 £2140.00 N D Green tree work at Paupers Graves

c) 21/060 £89.99 Mrs P Reimbursement McAfee annual fee

d) 21/061 £150.16 Suffolk County Council pension payment December to be posted 5 March

Items a) –d) were approved and cheques issued.

e) to receive monthly financial report from the Clerk

The balance of the Community Account at the end of January was £34,036.98. Less this month's cheques totalling £2729.88 and adjustments of £138.56 for insurance and £155.00 for adverts the corrected figure is £31,290.66.

9. Environmental issues.

Councillors feel that at this time there is no much that it can do to reduce the carbon footprint.

10. To receive an update on the Paupers Graves site including to consider the purchase of a wood chipper and take any necessary action.

The trees have been pollarded. Wood chippings are needed for the footpaths. The working group continues to keep the area tidy. It was agreed to carry forward to consider the purchase of a wood chipper to the next meeting.

11. To discuss development of land around the parish and take any necessary action.

Bloor Homes has advised that the Project Team are currently exploring the possibility of relocating the pump station further west, away from existing residential properties on Finborough Road at the Union Road development.

12. To discuss OHSMag including paying the editor, Onehouse website and Facebook page and take any necessary action.

Mr Raisey has contacted to Clerk to request the Parish Council consider remuneration for his work on OHSMag. On average he spends 10 hours a month on the magazine. Cllrs felt this is a reasonable request and will contact Harleston and Shelland as they will need to confirm that they will pay their proportion before making a decision at the March meeting.

Action: the Clerk

The Clerk has received costs for increasing the number of issues as the new housing becomes occupied. The additional cost is approximately £30.00 for each additional 50 copies.

13 To receive correspondence/communications and to deal with any matters.

A resident expressed his concerns regarding the article in OHSMag regarding the judicial review and that residents were not consulted before taking that step and the expenditure incurred. His comments are noted. The hedge between Trinity Hall and Church Walk needs cutting back. The Clerk will contact SCC.

The following items have been circulated to Cllrs: SALC news ebulletin 17, 24, 31 January, 7 February, training and networking ebulletin 18 January. **SCC** trading standards news 13, 20, 27 January, 3, 11 February, Platinum Jubilee events 5 June, Suffolk prepared Spring 2022 update, Traffic Regulation order Mid Suffolk school waiting amendments. **MSDC** Spring Clean Suffolk 2022, funding available for Community Fridge scheme. **Rural Services Network** Rural Bulletin 11, 18, 25 January, 2, 8 February, Funding Digest February. **Community Action Suffolk** Happy New Year, newsletter 28 January, 10 February. **Healthwatch Suffolk** Elective care survey launch. **Suffolk Police** Constable County January. **Walking in England** item for magazine. **Bloor Homes** archaeological works land at Union Road, update on reserved matters application land at Union Road. **County Cllr Otton** Stowmarket HWRC closed from 28 February, Warm Homes Suffolk funds to heat cold homes this winter.

14. To receive reports

a)Report from the Clerk

Precept 2022/23 – MSDC has confirmed increase to £47.53 for Band D, an increase of 0.01%.

Handyman – A job description has been sent out but nothing further heard from the enquirer.

Union Road reserved matters application – will be considered by MSDC planning committee 9 March.

Scribe accounts – the offer of free month from March has been accepted.

Locality funding – MSDC has confirmed £500.00 towards tree work at Paupers Grave area.

Speed indicator Sign Forest Road – the additional site near to Elder Cottage has been accepted by SCC and the officer will commence work on the works pack.

Laptop and Printer – the Clerk advised that the amounts approved pre COVID are now insufficient to purchase suitable items. This will be an agenda item at the March meeting to increase amounts available so both can be purchased.

SHELF project – Cllrs met with MSDC officer and the consultant who are looking at leisure facilities and potential for the entire Stowmarket area. This includes the area included in the Taylor Wimpey approved application for recreational use within Onehouse and discussed potential options. Once all stakeholders have been consulted they will come back to councillors with their perceived options.

b)Report from OHSMC meeting

OHSMC are organising two events to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee. 4 June there will be a BBQ and live music on the playing field and 5 June a tea party on the field. Entrance will be ticket only for the tea party. Information will be published in the March OHSMag. OHSMC are applying to the Arts Council for a grant of £6500.00. We can advertise this on the Parish Council Facebook page.

15. Questions to the Chairman

Progress on footpath from 22 Forest Road to Chilton Leys corner. This will be referred to County Cllr Otton.

16. Items for next agenda

Footpath to Chilton Leys, printer and laptop, flower boxes, OHSMag including paying the editor, website and Facebook, development around the parish, Pauper’s Graves including consider the purchase of a wood chipper.

17. To confirm date and time of the next meeting as Monday 14 March2022 at 7.30 p.m. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....