

MINUTES OF THE ONEHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11 APRIL 2022 AT 7.30 P.M. IN TRINITY HALL

Present: Cllr Willshere (Chair), Cook, Taylor, Corker, Copping and Crissell.

In attendance: County Cllr Otton (in part), District Cllr Matthissen (in part), Mrs Fuller (Clerk) 2 members of the public and 3 guests.

Prior to the meeting there will be discussions regarding Stowmarket SHELF project (master planning for the Stowmarket Sports and Wellbeing hub) with Tim Mills FMG Consulting Ltd, Kate Parnum MSDC and Nathan Smith Saunders Boston Architects.

Nathan advised that there is a demand for better sports facilities in and around Stowmarket including additional grass pitches. Cllrs were shown draft plans showing proposals around the Leisure Centre, High School and Chilton Fields showing an additional grass pitch adjacent to the rugby pitches and Pauper's Graves entrance. This area was originally earmarked for housing. To accommodate this grass pitch would mean having housing on part of the area which was proposed for sport and leisure at the western section of the Taylor Wimpey development. Cllrs find this totally unacceptable as this would mean the loss of the strategic gap between Stowmarket and Onehouse which is totally against MSDC Stowmarket Area Action Plan.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Nutman.

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting 14 March 2022

The minutes were approved and signed.

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

There were none.

4. Public comment.

Why was the Forest Road development removed from the planning committee meeting 6 April? District Cllr Matthissen advised this was due to heritage and landscaping issues.

5. Report from County Cllr Otton.

The Cabinet met on 1 March to vote on the disapproval of the current plans by Sunnica to build the country's largest solar farm in Suffolk and East Cambridgeshire. Suffolk County Council has asked the Government to reject the plans in its current form, arguing the application fails to properly mitigate the impacts of such a large project. On 24 March full Council presented a rare opportunity of solidarity between Councillors, when they shared a single motion in support of Ukraine condemning the actions of the Russian government, as well as commitment to supporting and welcoming refugees as they become a part of our Suffolk communities. The Cabinet met on 29 March to vote on a plan to establish 'Freeport East'. This is part of a national strategy to create freeports across the country, in an attempt to generate economic activity through tax incentives. Felixstowe Port, Harwich Port, and Stowmarket's 'Gateway 14' Business Park are set to become part of Freeport East. The Cabinet also voted on the Enhanced Partnership between SCC and bus operators, in line with the new Bus Back Better strategy, aimed at improving services across Suffolk. The improvement plan was voted for in October 2021. Cllr Otton has at last got a commitment that survey work will start after Easter on survey work and

communication with the landowners for the Forest Road footpath. There is to be an onsite meeting 12 April to look at the problems of parking in Northfield Road and Birch Road. Cllr Otton is waiting for a reply as to when the repair work to Burford Bridge will be finished. The response from Highways regarding a speed survey on Lower Rod is not very promising. Details of the recent outbreak of Avian Flu in Buxhall and the area for exclusion have been circulated.

6 Report from District Cllr Matthissen

At the last Council meeting, the new Code of Conduct, as suggested by NALC was adopted. This will come into force from the next Annual Council meeting. It was also agreed to undertake a Community Governance Review. Councils should have such reviews every 10-15 years and can consider creating, merging or altering or abolishing parishes. Formal communication will be sent to all Parish and Town Councils and community groups explaining the process. New pay scales for the Senior Management Team were agreed at full council, as well as agreement that the Chief Executive will conduct a pay review for all staff over the next 12 months. Council agreed to support the petition to Government to allow Councils the flexibility to hold remote and hybrid meetings when appropriate. Currently voting members of a Council have to be present to make any decisions, but officers and others are allowed to make representations remotely. The technology and license are now ready for this to take place and it is hoped that this will be trailed in the next couple of weeks. A motion at Full Council for MSDC to actively encourage communities, especially all the core villages, to create and update neighbourhood plans. The Council will allocate resources in order for this to happen. A motion was proposed for the Council to adopt the Zero Net Carbon Toolkit as technical guidance for developers and homeowners to help reduce the carbon footprint in new and existing dwellings and was unanimously approved. BMSDC's first Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) was approved at Cabinet. The plan sets out the councils' approach to improving and developing the local cycling and walking network across the district over the next 10 years, to support residents in shifting towards more sustainable transport. The initial findings of last month's Corporate Peer Challenge have been published and MSDC is awaiting the full report. The initial findings include that BMSDC is a well-run organisation with huge ambition which does not always match capacity and resources. There is more work to do to embed climate concerns and wellbeing into all activities. Concern continues regarding several planning applications and if they go to planning committee, Cllr Matthissen will be there to ensure local views are heard. If there is opposition from the parish council, he will discuss with the planning officer. Union Road, Onehouse (Bloor) – was approved and work started the next day – ahead of permission being issued. I have of course complained about that.

7. Planning Matters

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

22/01397 Outline Planning Permission (Access points to be considered, appearance, layout, landscaping and scale to be reserved) Town & Country Planning Severance of garden and erection of 1 detached dwelling. 2 Star House Cottages, Union Road – object erodes the strategic gap and green space between Onehouse and Stowmarket and is against to SAAP and MSDC own policies. The entrance to the site is already dangerous with its proximity to

junction of Union Road and Starhouse Lane. Onehouse has already been saturated with additional housing against MSDC policy as a Hinterland.

22/01363 Erection of 1 detached dwelling and garage including construction of new vehicular access. Land at Lower Road – object outside the settlement boundary and classed as open countryside, concerns regarding additional access onto this section of Lower Road.

b) To receive MSDC decisions on previously considered applications.

There were none.

8. Finances

To approve payment of the following invoices:

a) 22/001 £364.00 Gipping Press April OHSMag

b) 22/002 £80.00 Mr Palmer playing field grass cutting March

c) 22/003 £30.90 Mr Taylor reimbursement for wheelbarrow wheel and strimmer cord re Pauper's Graves

d) 22/004 £298.60 HM Revenue & Customs Tax January-March

e) 22/005 £246.00 Onehouse PCC hire of Trinity Hall 2021/22

f) 22/006 £390.00 starboard Systems Ltd Scribe Accounts package

g) 22/007 \$365.70 SALC annual subscription

h) 22/008 £150.16 Suffolk County Council pension payment March to be posted 5 May

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

i) to receive monthly financial report from the Clerk

The balance of the Community Account at the end of March was £27,288.84.

Less this month's cheques totalling £1925.36 and adjustments of £98.98 for insurance and £2.00 for adverts the corrected figure is £25,484.46.

9 To discuss the current position regarding the extension of the footway from 22 Forest Road to Chilton Leys and take any necessary action.

Cllr Otton has pursued this and survey work will commence after Easter.

10. To review monthly Parish Council Drop In Sessions and take any necessary action.

Only 10 people attended over the six months. Cllr Copping was thanked for arranging these but it was agreed these would cease for the time being.

11. Environmental issues.

a) To discuss the Suffolk County Council self-help scheme and take any necessary action.

There are no spaces available on the April training dates but SCC will advise further dates in due course.

b) to discuss the condition of the flower boxes and take any necessary action.

There are 3 boxes which need to be removed and replaced. Cllr Copping will identify the locations for the next meeting.

c) To discuss dog litter bins around the parish and take any necessary action.

MSDC has been contacted to see if they would empty a dog bin (if permission was granted by the landowners) in the garage area of Northfield Road. Photos have been requested so that they can investigate further.

12. To receive an update on the Paupers Graves and take any necessary action.

The bath tub found is to be displayed with a notice of advising that it was to clean the bodies before burial. Regular working parties are continuing.

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

This has been covered elsewhere during the meeting. The likely date that the Forest Road development will go to planning committee is now 20 April.

14. To discuss OHSMag, including increasing advertising rates, Onehouse website and Facebook page and take any necessary action.

Both Harleston and Shelland have confirmed their commitment to pay their proportion of reimbursing the editor as well as any other deficit. 2 representatives from both villages will be invited to a meeting to discuss the future of OHSMag.

Action: the Clerk

Due to the many increases in paper and printing costs it was approved to increase advertising rate by 10% with effect from 1 April 2022 *Action: the Clerk*

15 To receive **correspondence/communications** and to deal with any matters. The following items have been circulated to Cllrs: Rural Services Network Rural bulletin 15 22, 29 March, 5 April, Funding Digest April. **SALC** training and networking ebulletin 15, 22, 29 March, 5 April, news ebulletin 21, 28 March, 4 April, Police Forum on anti-social behaviour 11 April. **SCC** Trading Standards news 17, 24, 31 March, 4 April, Ukrainian refugee sponsorship scheme, homes for Ukrainian scheme. **MSDC** Suffolk recycling Spring newsletter, CIL funding application for May bid round, Community Governance Review. **Community Action Suffolk** news 24 March. Letters of thanks for donations, EAAA, SARS, Mid Suffolk CAB, East Suffolk Headway.

16. To receive reports

a) Report from the Clerk

Annual Parish Meeting – this will be arranged for 7pm on 9 May prior to the Parish Council AGM.

Amenity land Northfield Road – a resident has asked who can use and what for, MSDC has confirmed it is for all to enjoy.

17. Questions to the Chairman

What is happening to celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee, OHSMC is organising an event.

18. Items for next agenda

Discussions with Harleston and Shelland on OHSMag, Dog bins, Footpath to Chilton Leys, flower boxes, OHSMag, website and Facebook, development around the parish, Pauper’s Graves.

19. To confirm date and time of the next meeting as Monday 9 May 2022 at 7.30 p.m. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....