

STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th December 2024 at URC Church Hall at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Donna Bridges (Chair), Terry Easter, Laura Johnson, Paula Murton, Hayden Power, Debra Melhuish, Ray Studd, Jerry Voden & Rachel Belcher-Nairn (Clerk)

In attendance: District Councillor Janet Pearson, County Councillor Keith Welham

1. Apologies for Absence

- 1. Apologies were received from Cllr Beeson and District Councillor Rachel Eburne.
- 2. Councillors voted to accept the apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

There was 1 declarations of interest – Jerry Voden, as a Telstar Committee Member (Item 11).

3. Dispensation

There were no dispensations received.

4. Minutes

All Councillors confirmed receipt of the minutes from the meetings of the 7th November 2024. Cllr Melhuish proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting of the 7th November 2024 as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. Cllr Studd seconded with all in favour.

5. Matters of report

MATTER OF REPORT	COMMENT
Bloor Homes: Purchase of Thradstone Meadow	On going (paperwork with solicitors)
Retreat Pond Project	On going
Bus Shelter - Thorney Green Road	Ongoing (letter sent)
Order and plant oak tree at cemetery	Spring
Defibrillator	Installed & registered. Complete
Arrange CPR training	On going
Duck crossing Signs	PC to order and install
Contact Linden Homes regarding repair of Track at Thorney Green Road	On going
Bio-Diversity questionnaire	Agreed, back with BD group for edits (Needs sending back)
Play Park inspection quotes for work	Awaiting quotes
Churchyard Gates	Order placed - installation 25 Jan
Quotes for Grass cutting	Ongoing

Quotes Tree work on The Green	Works started, continuing in December/January
Quote no turning signs Thorney Green Road	Ongoing
Investigate permanent solar SID for Church Road	PC to order and install
Hornbeam Road Sign - reposition	Contact made with Address Management to re-instate the sign
Linden Homes - Ditch	Ongoing (letter sent)
Bollards at Trinity Walk	Need to contact MSDC re. positioning
Lending Library	Ongoing

6. Public Forum

A resident requested that a repair be investigated for the church gates, rather than the replacement proposed. Cllr Bridges stated that a contractor assessed the gates as needing replacement and it was agreed at the meeting of the 5th August 2024 to go ahead with this.

A resident reported that the Biodiversity Group had looked at the churchyard and determined that a hedgerow bordering the public footpath could enhance biodiversity. A request was made that the Parish Council approach the Parochial Church Council to see if this is possible.

7. To receive a report from the County Councillor Keith Welham

Members confirmed receipt of the County Council report. There were no questions.

Councillor Welham suggested resuming meeting with Linden Homes to discuss ongoing issues. Cllr Bridges responded that, as the last meeting was cancelled and several commitments have still not been fulfilled by LH, it is better to keep correspondence in writing.

8. To receive a report from the District Councillors Rachel Eburne & Janet Pearson:

Members confirmed receipt of the District Council report. Cllr Voden asked what MSDC's position was regarding proposed devolution plans for the area. Cllr Pearson stated that there is a briefing at MSDC next week and any plans will need to wait for the publication of the associated White Paper.

9. Planning

Planning Officer Report for Dec 24 Parish Council Meeting

1. **DC/24/04921** | Householder Application - Erection of new front porch, two storey rear and single storey side extensions (following demolition of existing structures including conversion of and extension to garage to form annex ancillary to host

dwelling. Erection of garage/workshop. | Netherfield Saxham Street Stowupland
Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 5DF

This is a large plot along the country part of Saxham Street before you get to
Nunn's Farm. There are no close Neighbours that would be effected by this
extension. I would therefore propose:

Stowupland Parish Council SUPPORTS this application.
Cllr Easter seconded with all in favour.

2. AP/24/00115 (DC/24/03849) | Householder Application - 2 Thorney Green Road:
Householder Application - Erection of a single storey front, side and rear extension
APPEAL

Councillors to consider whether the Parish continues to support this application.
No further comment to be made.

3. Councillors to note the Decisions issued by Mid Suffolk District Council:
DC/24/04056 – 20 Saxham Street: Householder Application - Erection of single
storey rear extension and double garage (following demolition of existing side
extension and garage).
Planning permission was GRANTED.
DC/24/04324 – 15 Highfield Road: Householder Application - Erection of single
storey wrap-around extension (following removal of conservatory, lean-to utility
and garage).
Planning permission was GRANTED.

10. CIL PIIP

Councillors noted the report.

11. Grant Application

Councillor Studd proposed to accept the grant request from Telstar. Cllr Johnson seconded with all in
favour.

12. Bollards at Trinity Walk

The bollards installed by Suffolk Highways at Trinity Walk do not allow sufficient footpath space,
especially for pushchair or wheelchair access. Cllr Bridges requested that District Councillor Pearson
visit the site. An appointment will be made to allow this.

Councillor Johnson proposed that the Parish Council write to Highways to request the bollards be
moved. Cllr Easter seconded with all in favour.

13. A1120 Junction Upgrade

Councillors noted that the plans for this upgrade have been received.

It was noted that any financial contribution to this project would come from CIL and therefore have to be decided at the next CIL meeting.

Councillor Johnson proposed that this project be financially supported by the Parish Council up to the value of £22,000 if Mid Suffolk District Council contribute £9,999. Cllr Easter seconded this with all in favour.

14. Finance

1. Councillors noted receipts received since last meeting

Receipts	Value	Notes
Allotments	BACS	188.09£
	Various	188.09

2. Councillors approved the December payments (BACs, DD, and cheque payments).

Proposed by Cllr Melhuish & seconded by Cllr Power

Expenditure	Cheque / BACS / SO	Net	VAT	Total	Notes
Wages	BACS M Hawkins	£ 369.21		£ 347.01	Inc £22.20 tax rebate
Wages	BACS D Long	£ 247.87		£ 247.87	
Wages	BACS R Belcher-Nairn	£ 557.76		£ 557.77	
Wages - HMRC	BACS HMRC	£ 139.20		£ 139.20	
Expenses	BACS R Belcher-Nairn	£ 26.00		£ 26.00	Working from home allowance
Various	DD Barclaycard	£ 83.22		£ 83.22	
Scribe	DD GOCARDLESS	£ 35.00	£ 7.00	£ 42.00	Starboard Systems
Wages calculations	SALC				Wages Management
Cemetery	BACS Social Gardener	£ 198.00		£ 198.00	
Water	DD Wave	£ 19.50		£ 19.50	Quartly water
Advertising	BACS Suffolk County Council	£ 75.00		£ 75.00	Advertising Clerk role
IT	BACS MPM Consultancy	£ 105.00		£ 105.00	
CIL	BACS Freeman Primary	£ 10,000.00		£ 10,000.00	Towards Playground
CIL	BACS Pre-School	£ 4,500.00		£ 4,500.00	Towards Door
CIL	BACS Proludic	£ 6,212.05	£1,242.41	£ 7,454.46	Trim Trail & Play Park
CIL	BACS Holy Trinity	£ 3,190.80		£ 3,190.80	Noticeboard
Occupation Licence	BACS Village Hall	£ 20.00		£ 20.00	Playpark
Occupation Licence	BACS Village Hall	£ 20.00		£ 20.00	Community Events Cupboard
Parish Online	BACS BACS	£ 80.00	£ 16.00	£ 96.00	Parish Online Subscription
Insurance	BACS Zurich Insurance	£ 85.76		£ 85.76	Insurance for extra Trim Trail & Play Park equipment
		£ 25,964.37	£ 1,265.41	£ 27,207.59	

3. Councillors agreed to pay the insurance quote from Zurich for extra play and rim trail equipment. Cllr Johnson proposed, Cllr Voden seconded.

15. Defibrillators

Councillors noted they have been installed. Cllr Melhuish volunteered to check the defibrillators weekly and Cllr Johnson monthly until volunteers from the community can be found.

An article is to be written for Telstar informing the village of the defibrillators and requested volunteers for maintenance.

16. Councillor's Reports

Cllr Johnson reported that the new bus service has been unreliable, with buses either very late or missing. The Council will write to the bus provider to investigate this issue. Cllr Voden asked if the bus route would be extended to Trinity Walk but County Councillor Welham stated that the route has been pre-determined. It was requested that service issues be reported to County Councillor Welham immediately so the service provider can be contacted.

Cllr Easter asked for an update on the biodiversity questionnaire, which County Councillor Welham requested be returned to the biodiversity group for altering. The Clerk will send the questionnaire. Cllr Easter also provided an update on the safer school route path, which is uneven and needs further work. A water leak on the green has been resolved.

Cllr Voden extended thanks to everyone involved in the Remembrance Service. After inspection, the bus stop at Trinity Walk could be suitable for the lending library (with some adjustment). Cllr Bridges also recommended the other proposed bus shelter, at which point Councillors agreed that having both would be beneficial. Cllr Voden also requested an update on the SIDs for Church Road, which Cllr Bridges stated was an ongoing project and will progress after Christmas. County Councillor Welham offered to provide sourcing information.

Cllr Briges reported the fly posting mentioned by a member of the public at the last meeting to bout Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council. MSDC have passed the information to their enforcement team but most posters have already been removed.

17. Correspondence

1. Mobile Library (new service). This has already been advertised in Telstar so the village is aware of the service.
2. Email received from a resident concerned over the cost of Church Gates. Parish Council responded that the gates were assessed by a professional and determined to be in need of replacement, which was agreed by the Parish Council. Work will proceed in the New Year.
3. Emailed received from BMSDC about a Free Trees, Hedging & Wildflower Scheme. To be forwarded to the biodiversity group.
4. Email from FSPS Sport regarding subsidised exercise classes. It was determined no action required as the village already has several exercise classes.

5. Email from MSDC stating that Christmas tree collection will be 10th Jan at Village Hall (Village Hall requested to please leave trees in corner by bottle banks)
6. Report by resident that cars are parking on opposite side of Thorney Green Road to longstanding residents, obscuring visibility for egress. This is thought to be a temporary issue due to resurfacing of roads on the Oak Farm Meadow estate but will be monitored and reported to the police if posing a danger.
7. MSDC – SPD for Housing / Livestock & Poultry. Councillors noted that two local plans have been adopted.

18. Dates of next meetings

1. Community Litter Pick 14th December, 10am at the Village Hall
2. Parish Council Meeting Thursday 9th January 2025 7.30pm at the Church Hall
3. Bio-Diversity and Wildlife Working Group Monday 10th February 2025 7.30pm at URC Church Hall

Meeting closed 20.30 hrs

A copy of any reports or correspondence cited in the minutes can be made available from the clerk:

parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk