

STOWUPLAND PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 9th January 2025 at the Church Hall at 7.31pm

Present: Cllrs Donna Bridges (Chair), Terry Easter, Laura Johnson,
 Hayden Power, Ray Studd, & 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, Cllr Voden, Cllr Murton, Cllr Melluish and District Councillor Rachel Eburne.
2. Councillors voted to accept the apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Dispensation

There were no dispensations received.

4. Minutes

All Councillors confirmed receipt of the minutes from the meetings of the 5th December 2024. Cllr Studd proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting of the 5th December 2024 as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. Cllr Easter seconded with all in favour.

5. Matters of report

MATTER OF REPORT	COMMENT
Bloor Homes: Purchase of Thradstone Meadow	Ongoing (paperwork with solicitors)
Retreat Pond Project	Ongoing
Bus Shelter - Thorney Green Road	Completed Dec 24*
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
Play Park inpection quotes for work	Awaiting quotes
Churchyard Gates	Order placed - installation 25 Jan
Quotes for Grass cutting	Ongoing
Quotes Tree work on The Green	Works starting in December
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
Bollards at Trinity Walk	Need to contact MSDC re. positioning
Lending Library	Ongoing, meeting in January

* Works are not satisfactory and Linden Homes need to be contacted

6. Public Forum

A resident reported that approximately 40 posters would be going up around the village to advertise a fundraising garage sale, with the biggest being A2. They would like to let the Council know that, after negative feedback around other posters, they will be sure to take theirs down promptly after the sale. A resident asked about an application for tree planting on Chestnut Close. There is no update but Cllr Welham offered to chase this.

A resident raised a Highways issue, which Cllr Welham will deal with in his capacity as Suffolk County Councillor. The 300-100m countdown markers for the roundabout on the A1120/A14 junction are installed on the wrong side of the road.

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 provided further updates on 3 issues:

- The date for re-surfacing in Broomspath Road has been moved to the 10th-12th February, with signs at the location advising of the new date.
- A No Cold Calling Zone has been established in Broomspath Road.
- Regarding Devolution, there has been an update from SCC that inaugural mayoral elections will take place in 2026. There will potentially be no County elections in 2025, as per SCC's application to Government to be on the priority programme, and possible unitary elections in 2027. The Government decision on whether SCC can be on the priority programme should be made by the end of January. If County elections are cancelled, that has to have been done by the 23rd February 2025 and again, SCC will hear back from the Government by the end of January.

Councillor Welham also expanded on his meeting with Linden Homes, reporting that they are aware there are still ongoing issues to be resolved.

11. Clerk's Report

Councillors noted the report, with the following decisions:

- 1) Councillors voted to accept the W Jarvis quote for works to Chapel Lane footpath, which was £360+VAT. Proposed by Cllr Studd, with Cllr Johnson seconding.
- 4) Councillors agreed that a small advertising sign is acceptable to place in the bus shelter in exchange for voluntary works to the lending library.

12. SID Report

Councillors noted the contents of the SID report and the feedback from a resident about light intrusion. Councillors agreed to leave the SID in its existing position as it meets the requirements laid out by Suffolk County Council Highways and write to the resident to inform them of that decision. Cllr Studd proposed with Cllr Power seconding.

13. Councillor's Reports

Cllr Power reported that residents of Trinity Meadows would like a grit box. Councillor Welham explained the reporting process via SCC's website. Parking on the bends of Oxlip Way is making entry/exit on the estate dangerous. A letter is to be written to Matt Cook at Highways to see if traffic calming can be investigated, and to follow up on the request for speed bumps made after December's meeting. Cllr Power attended the High School on Christmas Day to investigate an alarm, which has been reported as a nuisance several times. The Fire Service were called but no-one from the school was contactable. The Parish Council will write to the school to request a meeting and ask for contact information or a lockbox to allow access to deactivate the alarm.

Cllr Easter asked if there were plans to improve the grass verges on Devon Road while the re-surfacing works are taking place. This will not be carried out but Cllr Eburne was aware of the verges as an issue and it is possibly part of LCWIP.

Cllr Johnson reported that the Trim Trail Committee is waiting for information before the remaining two pieces can be fitted.

14. Correspondence

1. BMSDC Address Management – road naming

Councillors noted the decision to name the new development Pear Tree Gardens.

2. Resident – Anglian Water damage to green

A letter is to be sent to Anglian Water asking that the green be smoothed over and the bench placed back in its original position.

3. Stowmarket Striders – half marathon

Councillors agreed that the marathon could take place as per the plans and an email is to be sent to Stowmarket Strider confirming this.

4. Suffolk PCC – police & Crime Plan Consultation

CLlr Bridges encouraged Councillors to respond to the Consultation request.

5. Resident – Linden Homes roadworks, etc

No action is to be taken as discussions are already in place.

6. Keith Welham – Meeting with Linden Homes

As above

7. SALC – Devolution Update

Councillors noted the contents of the update.

15. Dates of next meetings

1. Dates of meetings for 2025/26 were agreed.
2. Parish Council Meeting Thursday 6th February 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 20.23 hrs

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

parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk