

**STURMER PARISH COUNCIL**

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Minutes of the **MEETING** of **STURMER PARISH COUNCIL** held at **STURMER VILLAGE HALL** on  
**TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2020** at **7:30 PM**

Present: Cllr Garrod Cllr Porth Cllr Collar Cllr Carter Cllr Choat  
\*Cllr Jones – Item 19/130

Member of the public

19/127	<b>NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> None
19/128	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR MARCH MEETING</b> No interests declared
19/129	<b>APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING AT STURMER VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 21 JANUARY 2020</b> <b>RESOLUTION</b> - Minutes adopted as true record, Proposed Cllr Carter, Seconded Cllr Porth
19/130	<b>RECEIVE REPRESENTATIONS FROM CANDIDATES TO FILL CO-OPTION VACANCY AND CONSIDER APPOINTMENT</b> Presentations received, members deliberated merits of two excellent candidates and ultimately settled upon Terrie Jones in part due to her passionate interest in the young and improving provision for the youth in the parish
19/131	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION</b> <i>This provides an opportunity for members of the public to raise questions and comment on items on the agenda or of import. Time for this session is limited to 15 minutes (03 minutes per person)</i> <b>No matters raised from the public</b>
19/132	<b>DISTRICT AND COUNTY CLLRs REPORT(S)</b> See full report at APPENDIX A
19/133	<b>RECEIVE CLERK'S REPORT &amp; NOTE CORRESPONDENCE</b> Various correspondence circulated to members during the preceding weeks from County, District and County Authorities <b>STREET CLEANSING AGREEMENT</b> – Invitation to provide service during 2020/21 – <b>CLERK to ACTION</b>
19/134	<b>FINANCE – RECEIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT - AGREE PAYMENTS, APPOINT AUTHORISER</b> <b>RESOLUTION</b> – Approve payments, Proposed Cllr Choat, Seconded Cllr Collar – Appointed authoriser – Cllr Carter. Finance Statement at <b>APPENDIX B</b>  <b>MOTION</b> – To authorise the <b>CLERK</b> to raise payments during period of no meetings for Council to authorise, <b>CLERK to provide monthly statements</b> <b>RESOLUTION</b> – Approve authorisation, Proposed Cllr Choat, Seconded Cllr Collar
19/135	<b>CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF PARISH MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR FOR 2020-2021</b> <b>RESOLUTION</b> – Approve appointment of DH Maintenance, Proposed Cllr Porth, Seconded Cllr Collar <b>CLERK to ACTION contract</b>
19/136	<b>REVIEW FUNDING OPTIONS (CLLR COLLAR) AND CONFIRM ACTION, IF ANY, REFERENCE LAMP 9009 RENEWAL AT ABBOTS COTTAGE</b> Cllrs Porth and Collar to collaborate on this item and refer to ECC funding option for parish wide LED upgrade
19/137	<b>CONFIRM ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMBINED APA &amp; ACM</b> Agreed to combine Annual Parish Assembly and Council Meeting (AGM) on 19 MAY, commencing 7pm & 8:30pm
19/138	<b>RECEIVE UPDATE ON OPEN SPACES ACTION PLAN MINOR AMENDMENT</b>

	Agreed to accept BDC Officer recommended amendment to OSAP to broaden flexibility when seeking support
<b>19/139</b>	<p><b>REVIEW &amp; COMMENT ON CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS/APPEALS</b></p> <p><b>20/00196/HH – Pitt Wood, - Replacement of existing conservatory with single storey side/rear extension</b>  <b>20/00292/AGR - Pitt Wood, Sturmer Road – Proposed storage barn</b>          NO COMMENT – NOT IN STURMER PARISH</p> <p><b>20/00328/VAR - Land At, 11 Crunch Croft - Variation of condition 2 'approved plans' and condition 3 'samples of materials' of permission 18/02029/FUL granted 14/01/2019 for: Erection of a two storey three bedroom detached house with amended vehicle crossing on land adj to 11 Crunch Croft and a new vehicle crossing to 11 Crunch Croft. Variation would allow: Alterations to single storey rear element and submission of samples</b>          NO OBJECTION – <b>CLERK to ACTION</b></p> <p><b>20/00396/HH - Abbots Hall, Rowley Hill - Replacement of the existing conservatory with an orangery and the replacement of doors and surrounds, windows, skirting, flooring, a staircase, banisters to main staircase and the fitting of bathrooms and kitchen</b>          NO OBJECTION – <b>CLERK to ACTION</b></p>
<b>19/140</b>	<p><b>RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:</b></p> <p><b>a) Footpaths</b> – All walked, B/W17 partial clearance not passable by Horse, ECC alerted to partial fallen trees laying on opposite trees; FP21 over-grown but passable; FP4&amp;5 fit to walk but needs reinstatement by land owner.</p> <p><b>b) Flood Action Group</b> – Good news re. funding for flooded property, Full report at <b>APPENDIX C</b></p> <p><b>c) Play Area</b> – Quotation £8,248 to include Accessible play equipment and parallel bars plus safety crumb surfacing due to slippery surface issues highlighted by annual equipment / area inspection. Council unanimously approved purchase, CLERK to seek reduction in quoted price and advise supplier to remove cost of soil removal as DDA swing area requires levelling and seeding to enable suitable surfacing to be installed.          CLERK to request £6,000 contribution from S106 funds.</p>
<b>19/141</b>	<p><b>CONSIDER FUNDING OPTIONS FOR DDA SWING PURCHASE SUGGESTED AT £2,800 IN DECEMBER 2019</b>          Tesco grant balance £512, BDC Community grant £750, Eleemosynary Charity £1,500 – Total £2,762</p>
<b>19/142</b>	<p><b>RECEIVE UPDATE ON LOCAL HIGHWAY PANEL SCHEME AMENDMENTS – DETAILS CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS</b>          Council agreed the LHP proposed amendments to the Hill Lane junction with B1017 do not meet the parish needs and are to be rejected and wording change on village gate to reflect Speedwatch area to likewise be shelved.</p> <p>Following items reported to Highways, Reference numbers identify items on ECC Highways reporting system:-</p> <p>Sturmer village sign B1061 Kedington Rd Sturmer, approx.. 200yds from Tinmar Cottage, sign damaged due to RTA. Ref: 2658556 and 2658562</p> <p>Sturmer village sign mounted on gateway structure, A1017 close to Long Lindeth and Braintree District Sign. Gateway structure become rotten and fallen - Ref: 2658559.</p> <p>2 x damaged and twisted chevron signs sited at sharp corner near lay-by at B1061 Kedington Road Sturmer – Ref: 2658560</p>
<b>19/143</b>	<p><b>CONSIDER INVITATION TO ENTER ESSEX VILLAGE OF THE YEAR 2020 FROM RCCE</b>          Not this year</p>
<b>19/144</b>	<p><b>RECEIVE UPDATE ON POSSIBLE INSTALLATION OF DEFIBRILLATOR AT VILLAGE HALL</b>          Village Hall Management Committee agreed Defibrillator can be mounted on the Hall providing certain conditions were met and assurances made; sadly third party offer of funding withdrawn</p>
<b>19/145</b>	<p><b>RECEIVE UPDATE ON WOODLANDS SITE AND PROPOSALS SURROUNDING LAND SWAP FOR AREA VG52</b>          Current offer for partial land purchase rejected by PC; the motivation initiating interest in releasing the Village Green was the possibility of acquiring in exchange a piece of land in the village free of any encumbrance as an alternative village green site. Cllrs invited to identify alternative sites in the village for consideration.</p>
<b>19/146</b>	<p><b>ITEMS OF REPORT TO BE NOTED OR ADDED TO NEXT COUNCIL AGENDA</b>          APA and ACM items</p>

	War Memorial grant offers – Cllr Collar to reserach
19/147	DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 19 MAY (Combined APA & ACM) and 07 JULY – CLOSE – 9:18pm

Signed.....Date.....

## APPENDIX A

District Councillor's Report 10th March 2020 to Sturmer Parish Council (Cllr. Diana Garrod - Bumpstead Ward)

### Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders

There are likely to be delays due to the intended closure of Baythorne End, Ridgewell Road, Four Ash Hill, The Causeway, Birdbrook, due to commence on 30th May 2020 for 4 days. The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Essex County Council undertakes Surface Dressing 2020-21. Further details can be found at the following link\_ <https://one.network/?tm=116511413>

There are likely to be delays due to the intended closure of Rowley Hill, The Street, Sturmer Road, Baythorne End, due to commence on 29th May 2020 for 5 days (10.00 – 15.00). The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Essex County Council undertakes Surface Dressing 2020-21. Further details can be found at the following link <https://one.network/?tm=116511413>

### Update - Sible Hedingham Medical Centre

Following feedback from planners, the Architect is now formally instructed and is discussing a programme, with a view to a planning application in March 2020. RLF, the Council's employer's agent, has been instructed to develop a shortlist of ideally local contractors with appropriate expertise and experience with a view to an invitation to tender in parallel to the planning application. The tender process will be compliant with the Council's requirements.

### Social Isolation and Loneliness

The Bell at Great Bardfield has become our newest "Meet up Monday" venue, however they have decided to hold sessions on Thursday with effect from February 2020.

### New Electric Car Charging Point

A new Electric Car charging point has been installed at the Braintree Leisure Pool.

### Enforcement

CCTV has been used in various areas around the District identified as hot spots for waste offences and this has provided evidence to enable Fixed Penalty Notices to be served in these areas.

Below shows the work undertaken by the enforcement team during November and December 2019: 21 Dog barking complaints investigated

3 Dog fouling complaints investigated

16 Stray dogs detained (11 BDC / 5 UDC)

14 Statutory Notices served (Includes fly-tipping, failure to micro-chip, Anti-social

Behaviour, accumulations of waste, Waste Duty of Care, vehicle on private land, noise/odour nuisance, excessive dog barking, dangerous dogs and S.108 Notices (Requisitions for Information)

31 Fixed Penalty Notices served (Includes general litter, cigarette litter, Duty of Care, fly- tipping & smoking in a smoke free vehicle)

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner : Eighteen new firefighters join Essex County Fire & Rescue Essex County Fire and Rescue Service has welcomed its biggest new squad in over 10 years with eighteen new firefighters welcomed into the Service. The new recruits have been put through their paces over the last 15 weeks during an intensive training course at the Fire Service College in Gloucestershire and the Service Training Centre in Witham, and will now join crews in fire stations across the county where they will continue their training and develop their skills.

### Great British Spring Clean

Braintree District Council has pledged its support for this year's Great British Spring Clean, run by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy.

The campaign, which runs from March 20<sup>th</sup> to April 13<sup>th</sup>, will see up to 600,000 people taking action to clean up streets, parks and beaches across the country.

There's many ways you can get involved - whether that's pledging to pick while you're walking the dog or taking the kids to school, hosting a clean-up or joining someone else's clean-up. If you're organising a clean-up in your local area, register with Keep Britain Tidy today and encourage others to join you. Also please do let us know if you're hosting one & we'll help support with free litter picking equipment, advice & take the rubbish away afterwards! We would love to see your photos afterwards too!

To find out more about the Great British Spring Clean and register your event visit [www.keepbritaintidy.org](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org) or email: [csc@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:csc@braintree.gov.uk)

#### Visit Braintree District – Tourism Website

Braintree District Council has officially launched our new Visit Braintree District tourism website, capturing what our unique and attractive district has to offer. From visitor attractions, independent shops to local events and things to do, residents and visitors will be able to find it all under one roof.

You can view the website at: [www.visitbraintreedistrict.co.uk](http://www.visitbraintreedistrict.co.uk).

A new dedicated [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) page has also been introduced to promote the latest news, events, attractions and offers across the district. BDC are continuing to look for content to upload on the website, whether that's local events taking place in villages, new attractions and things to do so if you are aware of any, please do let us know by emailing [tourism@braintree.gov.uk](mailto:tourism@braintree.gov.uk). We are also encouraging local tourism businesses to get in contact with us and use the opportunity to have a free listing on the website. If you know of any, please do share our contact details with them.

#### Braintree Museum Trust

I would encourage people to visit the Braintree Museum to view the Courtauld Exhibition which runs until 30th May 2020. The exhibition reveals the story of the development of artificial silk, the influence of the Courtauld family and their rich local legacy including some of the art collection owned by the family.

Cllr. Diana Garrod

District Councillor - Bumpstead Ward

#### **APPENDIX B**

Sturmer Parish Council Finance Statement FEBRUARY & MARCH 2020										
<b>Expenditure</b>										
DATE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	INVOICE	BACS	ACCOUNT	GROSS	VAT	NET	Ccentre	Box
17-Feb-20	A&J Lighting	Maintenance	33847	DD	CURRENT	27.00	4.50	22.50	Lighting	6
18-Feb-20	Haven Power	Electricity	9228/9235	DD	CURRENT	48.04	2.29	45.75	Utilities	6
28-Feb-20	Employee	Salary	PAYE	S/O	CURRENT	404.73		404.73	Clerk	4
11-Mar-20	Sturmer Village Hall	Hire	32	FPO	CURRENT	24.00		24.00	Grass	6
11-Mar-20	DH Maintenance	Groundworks Maintenance	12 & 19/02	FPO	CURRENT	590.00		590.00	Maintenance	6
11-Mar-20	Employee	Expenses	N/A	FPO	CURRENT	16.20		16.20	Clerk	4
28-Mar-20	Employee	Salary	PAYE	S/O	CURRENT	404.73		404.73	Clerk	4
						<b>£1,514.70</b>	<b>£6.79</b>	<b>£1,507.91</b>		
DATE	PAYER	DESCRIPTION	REMITTANCE	Cq No	ACCOUNT	GROSS	VAT	NET	Ccentre	Box
05-Mar-20	BDC	Community Grant	BGC		CURRENT	750.00		750.00	Income	3
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>£750.00</b>		<b>£750.00</b>		
Accounts		Balance								
Parish	40527300		£12,017.68	Signed			Date			
				Minute Item						

## APPENDIX C

### Sturmer Flood Action Group Report March 2020

Thank you for clearing the blocked drains in Hill Lane which have been adding to the deep flood on the main road during recent heavy rainfall.

Please give the following update to the Parish Council from SFAG:

Property Protection Grants:

A number of forms and brochures were given out during the village hall open day. We know of 4 properties which have applied. One has had an initial and an installation survey and is waiting for a quote. There will be an article in the next village news to advise residents of the new arrangements (they do NOT need photos of internal flooding or insurance claims from 2001) so we hope some more people will apply.

Arising from the village hall open day the ECC Flood and Water Team have arranged for a CCTV camera to look at problems that arose at Malting Cottages before Christmas.

Sturmer Station (Water Lane) bridge:

We hope Highways will reschedule the bore holes for the works soon as they could not take place in February.

University research:

The Parish Council will remember a group of academics including Japanese professors interviewed us last year about how a community group can help with disasters like flooding as part of their research in Essex, Devon and Japan. We have heard recently that they presented their findings at an international conference in Nice and are hoping to publish their research in the Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health.

Regards

Linda Bevan  
SGAG