

## **Minutes of the Sturmer Parish Council**

**Held on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in Sturmer Village hall at 7:30pm**

### **In Attendance**

- Mr. D. C. Porth (Chair)
- Mrs B. Collar (Vice-Chair)
- Mr. G. Coles
- Mrs. D. Garrod
- Mrs K Mcleod-Jones.

2 Parishioners

### **Apologies**

Received from Rachel Mitson, Parish Clerk. The chair asked member's permission for Mrs G. Porth to take the minutes. This was agreed.

### **Absent**

Cllr. R. Bolton, District Councillor.

### **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2016, having been previously circulated were agreed as a correct record of the meeting.

### **Declaration of Interests**

Mrs. Collar stated interest in Sturmer Village Hall Charity.

### **Matters arising**

(a) A1017, Hill Lane, Water Lane, Coupals Road, Sect.106 agreement for village lay-by

Hill Lane, chair had received notification (today) that Hill Lane will be closed for approximately 3 days due to water leakage at The Endway, Steeple Bumpstead, diversions are in place.

Lay-by, Mrs Collar reported that three test holes had been dug another three test holes are required.

Footpath junction Hill Lane and A1017, Mrs Collar reported that this may be looked at in April.

Potholes Mrs Collar had reported pot holes at entrance to Crunch Croft and Coupals Road and the condition of the footpath along the A 1017 at the entrance to Pear Tree Lane.

It was noted that some pot holes/repairs had been identified by spray paint at Roost End.

(b) Play Area

Chair had received notice of ROSPA inspection during May, Parish Council could be informed of date at an additional cost of £44 + VAT not agreed by Parish Council. Playbark required, chair to arrange during April.

(c) Flood Action Group update

Chair had received an update (1) Water Lane, blocked ditch near Hanson site, Essex Fire Volunteers will be attending on 10<sup>th</sup> May. (2) Water Lane culvert and ditch. (3) Great Wilsey Park information on supposed increase water levels in Stour Brook, from Anglian Water Authority (4) Proposed removal of tyres in Stour Brook at Pope Mill has been raised again.

Re: (2) Water Lane culvert and ditch, letter received from Sturmer Flood Action Group asked Sturmer Parish Council to re-apply for the £4,000 LFM grant to enable the project to go ahead. Members require more information regarding risks and legalities of the project and a site visit will be arranged with LFM officers, Chair to write to Chair Sturmer Flood Action Group.

(d) Transparency Code implementation and estimates

Chair had received cheque for £1,795.60p from EALC funding towards computer, printer/scanner, internet connection, website and training sessions. Mr Coles stated that essexinfo.net was free and that he was willing to master the website for the time being.

(e) Solagen estimates for new signs and ongoing maintenance

+ report on Speedwatch Training and implementation

Mrs Collar was investigating further costings. Mrs Collar will provide Mr Coles with previous read outs from Solagen.

Mr. Coles reported on Speedwatch training carried out on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016, more people required for training.

Sturmer Fayre Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup> 2016, Chair asked members to ratify Mr Coles attendance with Speedwatch information, for Public Liability Insurance purposes.

(f) Community Governance Review Essex/Suffolk boundary

Chair had written to Braintree District Council, James Cleverly Braintree MP and David Finch, Leader Essex County Council over members concerns about St Edmundsbury's suggested changes to county boundary. A reply had been received from Steve Daynes, BDC stating that they were aware and that Braintree were in complete opposition to any changes but maintaining a watching brief. Chair reported

speculation over possible Essex devolution resulting in North Essex potentially joining the East Anglian devolved authority.

## Finance

### (a) Statement of accounts

Current account £6,880.65

Instant Savings account £4,111.69

No interest added

### (b) Payments and receipts

Mr D. Porth Chairman's expenses November 2015 to March 2016 £36.60

Grant Sturmer Village Hall Charity £1,000.00

Grant Sturmer Parochial Church Council (for churchyard maintenance) £150.00

## Correspondence

Reminder "networking" evening Birdbrook Community Centre  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 7:30pm

## Planning

| Site         | Planning Id/Link             | Status  |
|--------------|------------------------------|---------|
| Crunch Croft | <a href="#">15/01492/FUL</a> | Refused |

|                |                              |                        |
|----------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Spinning Wheel | 16/00024/TPO                 | Granted                |
| Spinning Wheel | <a href="#">16/00252/VAR</a> | No decision at present |

### **Any Other Business**

- (I)Footway light outside “Woodcroft” intermittent, chair to report.
- (ii)Overhanging hedge Medina House/Old Forge, to be reported to ECC.
- (iii)Kissing gate at baulk cannot move due to tree roots.
- (iiii)Willow tree near to flume Environment Agency topped.
- (iiiii)Suggestion; invite Police to Annual Parish Meeting.
- (iiiii)Suggestion; invite James Cleverly MP to Annual Parish Meeting.

### **Date and time of next meeting**

Annual General Meeting Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2016, 7:30pm

Annual Parish Meeting Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016, 7:30pm

The meeting closed at 9:29pm