

STURMER PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the **MEETING** of **STURMER PARISH COUNCIL** held at **STURMER VILLAGE HALL** on **TUES. 17 SEPTEMBER** at **7:30 PM**

Present: Cllr Garrod Cllr Porth Cllr Collar Cllr Carter

Members of the public

<b>19/53</b>	<b>NOTE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies noted from Cllr Mcleod-Jones and Cllr Choat
<b>19/54</b>	<b>DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR SEPTEMBER MEETING</b> None declared
<b>19/55</b>	<b>APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING AT STURMER VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 06 AUGUST 2019 RESOLUTION</b> - Minutes adopted as true record, Proposed Cllr Carter, Seconded Cllr Collar
<b>19/56</b>	<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>  To comment on Agenda item
<b>19/57</b>	<b>DISTRICT AND COUNTY CLLRS REPORT(S)</b> Review presented by Cllr Garrod - District Councillors report can be read at <b>APPENDIX A</b> Reference Climate Change targeting initiative mentioned in the report Cllr Porth made the observation that BDC could relax obstacles for owners of listed properties when seeking to install energy efficient, green alternative technologies which would assist in meeting those targets by reducing energy consumption and CO2 emissions. Cllr Garrod agreed to take those observations to the next meeting of the Climate Change Committee of which she has been appointed a member for one year.
<b>19/58</b>	<b>RECEIVE CLERK'S REPORT &amp; NOTE CORRESPONDENCE</b> ENERGY COMPANY LED FUNDING – None available or forthcoming at present ECC FOSTER CARER INTITATIVE – Flyer circulated, call for additional Foster carers, more can be read at ECC website CPRE MAGAZINE – Handed to members for circulation CPRE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL – CLERK to ACTION - £36 per annum INSURANCE POLICY RENEWALWITH BHIB – Minimal increase on previous year, Premium settled for 2019-2020 GRANT AWARD PAYMENT – Received £3,078 towards new play equipment for Pocket Park EALC/ECC AGM/CONFERENCE – 19 September, Clerk to attend GRANT AWARD SCHEME -Applications due in by 30 September EMAILS/TELEPHONE – Various communications received, any pertinent forwarded to members PRECEPT PART 2 - £3,953 due into account 27 September

19/59	<p><b>FINANCE – RECEIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT - AGREE PAYMENTS, APPOINT AUTHORISER RESOLUTION</b> – Approve payments, Proposed Cllr Carter, Seconded Cllr Collar – Appointed authoriser – Cllr Carter. Finance Statements at <b>APPENDIX B</b></p>
19/60	<p><b>CONFIRM ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACQUISITION OF WREATH FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY RESOLUTION</b> – Approve donation of £30 to RBL for the wreath, Proposed Cllr Collar, Seconded Cllr Carter CLERK to ACTION via Sylvia Allworthy and Mr. Arthur</p>
19/61	<p><b>REVIEW &amp; COMMENT ON CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS/APPEALS</b></p> <p><b>WEST SUFFOLK – DC/19/0834/RM</b> – Wilsey Farm development Amendment – Parish Council concerns and comments remain as per original application and echo those concerns raised by the Sturmer Flood Action Group, who’s representative took the opportunity to reiterate those concerns highlighting the stress placed on existing flood mitigation without the spectre of increased stress brought upon that mitigation from such a large development.</p> <p><b>LOCAL PLAN</b> – Amended, individuals to comment direct to BDC Planning department.</p> <p><b>EMERGENCY PLAN</b> – The Parish Council plan requires contact amendments plus a change in role for Cllr Collar due to mobility issues and inclusion of Cllr Choat, Cllr Garrod to update and forward to the CLERK for submission to BDC.</p>
19/62	<p><b>RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:</b></p> <p><b>a) Footpaths</b> – Pear Tree Lane FP resolution is in hand, Cllr Choat to adopt responsibilities for Footpaths, suggested Cllr Mcleod-Jones adopt responsibility for the Amenity Walk</p> <p><b>b) Flood Action Group</b> – See <b>APPENDIX C</b></p> <p><b>c) Play Area</b> – Retirement of existing grass cutting contractor, Cllrs to seek alternative to include additional parish maintenance duties</p> <p><b>d) Speedwatch</b> – No report</p>
19/63	<p><b>CONSIDER OPTIONS FOR AMENITY WALK SIGNAGE, PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS RESOLUTION</b> – Approve Quotation No 2, Proposed Cllr Carter, Seconded Cllr Porth CLERK to ACTION</p>
19/64	<p><b>RECEIVE UPDATE ON WOODLANDS SITE AND PROPOSALS SURROUNDING LAND SWAP FOR AREA VG52</b></p> <p>Awaiting date for meeting with West Suffolk Council, current contact leaving West Suffolk, initial offer from WS to purchase alternative parcel of land to replace VG52 was refused by the vendor</p>
19/65	<p><b>RECEIVE UPDATE FROM CLLR PORTH ON LAMP CONDITION REVIEW, ABBOTS COTTAGE</b></p> <p>Suggested lamp is circa 40 years old but the post seems sound. CLERK to seek quote to renew and possibility of changing to LED fixing</p>
19/66	<p><b>REVIEW QUOTATIONS RECEIVED FOR NEW PLAY AREA EQUIPMENT, CONFIRM A SELECTION RESOLUTION</b> – Approve Quotation from Sovereign at £3,016 to include Swing set, grassguard surfacing and necessary worker safety protection during installation, Proposed Cllr Carter, Seconded Cllr Porth</p>

	<p>CLERK to ACTION</p> <p>Cllr Garrod abstained from the decision citing concerns over the choice of toddlers swing seat and due to its design the ability of small children to climb out with the resultant risk of injury. CLERK to approach Sovereign for alternative toddlers seating.</p> <p>Due to mix of swing seat on same swing set the council will be asked to provide a disclaimer as it is not common practice to mix the seat type/age of user on the same swing set.</p>
<b>19/67</b>	<p><b>ITEMS OF REPORT TO BE NOTED OR ADDED TO NEXT COUNCIL AGENDA</b></p> <p>Grass cutting contractor replacement with additional duties</p> <p>Grant Award Application review</p>
<b>19/68</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER – CLOSE – 8:45pm</b></p>

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

## APPENDIX A

### District Councillor's Report 17/09/2019 (Cllr. Diana Garrod – Bumpstead Ward)

#### Love Essex Campaign

Local authorities and fast food restaurants have come together to fight the scourge of people throwing litter out of their vehicle. This year's Love Essex campaign will highlight the recently increased fines that people throwing litter from their car face from Fixed Penalty Notices of up to £150 to fines of up to £2,500, plus costs upon conviction in a court. Banners will be displayed at fifteen KFC and three McDonald's drive through restaurants and take-away packaging will also be branded with "Can you afford to throw £150 away?" A humorous video has also been produced as part of the groups attempted to spread the message on social media. On Thursday 29 August, a man from Maldon was convicted in Chelmsford Magistrates' Court for littering a cigarette butt from his vehicle in Parkway, Chelmsford. He was fined and ordered to pay costs which came to £757. Keeping Essex clean and tidy costs the tax payer over £17 million a year and with decreasing local authority budgets year on year, the demand and pressure put on providing services such as street cleansing continues to rise. If you see someone throwing litter from their vehicle, take the registration plate number and report them using Braintree District Council's 'See it – Report it' service [www.braintree.gov.uk/carlitter](http://www.braintree.gov.uk/carlitter) or call 01376 552525.

#### BT – Removal of Phone Boxes

I have received one or two concerns about a consultation which is taking place into the removal of public payphones in the Braintree district. However, none are in the Bumpstead Ward. The proposed boxes had notices put in them. Braintree District Council has a Local Authority veto which it can use to prevent the removal of a phone service. The Council has to use the veto in a reasonable fashion and OFCOM guidance provides a number of relevant factors which can be taken into consideration. This includes housing type in the area (owner occupied/social rented) which may indicate a need for a service, the number of calls made from the box, the need for emergency calls, and mobile phone coverage. It is proposed to veto the removal

of 3 of these services and this will be discussed at the next Cabinet meeting. The consultation period closes on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019. The use of public phone boxes has reduced by 90% in the last 10 years, additionally OFCOM state that 20% of phone boxes have not be used within a 12 month period. Essex County Council have stated that two locations within the District have black spot accident signage, at Sible Hedingham and at the A131 at Bulmer. One of the effected telephone services is near to the Bulmer location, and should therefore not be removed. Officers have visited the box and confirm that whilst it is a card payment box, it does have a dial tone and appears to work. Officers have compared the phone box locations with the online OFCOM website for mobile phone coverage (see below). For outside mobile phone reception, at least one mobile phone provider is available at each phone location. You may find the website below handy:- <https://checker.ofcom.org.uk/mobile-coverage>

#### [Climate Change Working Group](#)

On 22nd July 2019, Braintree District Council declared a Climate Emergency and agreed to establish a Climate Change working group to develop an action plan to ensure, all Council activities are as far as practical carbon neutral by 2030. The working group is expected to produce an action plan for the Council's consideration within 12 months, this plan should set out the proposed actions required and an implementation plan. It is anticipated that once the plan is adopted this will be linked to an ongoing process of monitoring and refinement to ensure the target is met. It is recommended that this Group be formed of Elected Members and representatives of the business community, key partners, academic experts and community groups with interest and experience in this area. I am delighted to say that I have been invited to participate.

Cllr. Diana Garrod  
District Councillor - Bumpstead Ward

