**STURMER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Ian Brown 72 St. Edmunds Fields**

**Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer Dunmow**

**Email:** [**sturmerpc@gmail.com**](mailto:sturmerpc@gmail.com) **Essex, CM6 2AN**

Minutes of the **MEETING** of **STURMER PARISH COUNCIL** held at **STURMER VILLAGE HALL** on

**TUESDAY 21 JANUARY** **2020** at **7:30 PM**

Present: Cllr Garrod Cllr Porth Cllr Collar Cllr Carter Cllr Choat

Member of the public

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| **19/108** | **NOTE APOLOGIES** **FOR ABSENCE**  None |
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| **19/109** | **DECLARATION OF INTEREST FOR JANUARY MEETING**  Interest declared by Cllrs Porth, Choat and Carter in Item 19/117 |
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| **19/110** | **APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING AT STURMER VILLAGE HALL ON TUESDAY 03 DECEMBER 2019**  **RESOLUTION** - Minutes adopted as true record, Proposed Cllr Porth, Seconded Cllr Choat |
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| **19/111** | **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**  *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)*  No matters raised |
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| **19/112** | **DISTRICT AND COUNTY CLLRS REPORT(S)**  Full report **APPENDIX A** |
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| **19/113** | **RECEIVE CLERK’S REPORT & NOTE CORRESPONDENCE**  SUPPORT 4 SIGHT SW Charity – Funding request or fund raising event support – clerk to signpost charity to PC Grant Award Policy  NALC – Confirmed parish councils cannot make financial contributions towards Churches and open graveyards  EALC CEO - Retirement fund, invitation to contribute – CLERK to action £10 contribution  RELOCATION OF BENCHES – Quote received confirmed total cost of all works at £495 |
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| **19/114** | **FINANCE – RECEIVE FINANCIAL STATEMENT - AGREE PAYMENTS, APPOINT AUTHORISER**  **RESOLUTION** – Approve payments, Proposed Cllr Choat, Seconded Cllr Carter – Appointed authoriser – Cllr Carter.  Finance Statement at **APPENDIX B**  **19/114(i) AUTHORISE PRECEPT REQUEST**  Precept application duly signed for 2020-2021 - £9,332 – **CLERK to ACTION** |
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| **19/115** | **REVIEW FUNDING OPTIONS (CLLR COLLAR) AND CONFIRM ACTION, IF ANY, REFERENCE LAMP 9009 RENEWAL AT ABBOTS COTTAGE**  DEFER to next meeting |
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| **19/116** | **RECEIVE FUNDING UPDATE FROM ELEEMOSYNARY CHARITY TOWARDS PLAY AREA, CURRENT FUND STATUS AND PROPOSED CHARITY FUTURE – VARIOUS DOCUMENTS ATTACHED**  Cllr Porth provided brief overview of the charity financial history, Trustees have agreed liquidation of investments at BlackRock and closure of Trust with a resultant contribution in the region of £1,580 being offered towards the cost of installing a DDA swing in the Pocket Park. Cllr Porth confirmed there were no Taxes due ffrom the quarterly dividend payments the Charity received from the BLK Charity Investment Fund.  Council unanimously approved the generous funding offer to assist defray the expense of the swing installation that is expected to cost c. £2,800. |
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| **19/117** | **REVIEW & COMMENT ON CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS/APPEALS**  **20/00042/FUL - Haverhill Golf Club Ltd, Coupals Road - Extension to golf shop for the purpose of a golf swing coaching room**  NO OBJECTION – CLERK to ACTION  **19/00660/FUL - APP/Z1510/W/19/3241165 – Annexe at 8 Abbotts Cottages – APPEAL**  NO COMMENT |
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| **19/118** | **RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:**  **a) Footpaths**  Reinstatement problems persist due to weather and ground conditions, situation being monitored. Cllr Choat to meet with ex Cllr Mcleod-Jones to review footpath territory, draft a list of missing FP furniture (markers, Way-signs and Finger Posts) for submission to the Local Highways Panel (LHP)  **b) Flood Action Group**  See update and available flood victim Grant information from Sturmer Flood Action Group (SFAG) **- APPENDIX C**  **c) Play Area**  Residents commented how appreciative and pleased they were with the new swings.  **19/118 c)(i) CONSIDER EXTENDING PLAY AREA SAFETY SURFACING TO MATCH EXISTING**  Cllrs Carter and Porth to arrange site meeting with contractor  **d) Speedwatch**  Group disbanded, equipment to be returned to the Essex Speedwatch Co-ordinator |
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| **19/119** | **CONSIDER FUNDING OPTIONS FOR DDA SWING PURCHASE SUGGESTED AT £2,800 IN DECEMBER 2019**  Proposed disabled persons access swing (DDA) costed at £2,800, current potential funding pot – c. £1,580 ELEEMOSYNARY Charity, £512 PC Grant monies and £750 District Councillor award = £2,842  DDA swing installation will require the re-siting of benches and some groundworks currently estimated at £495 |
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| **19/120** | **RECEIVE UPDATE ON LOCAL HIGHWAY PANEL APPLICATION(S)**  30mph ROUNDELS - Under review, may be installed in current financial year or slip into 2020-2021.  ROAD SIGN KEDINGTON ROAD – Missing sign to be reported to LHP (Cllrs to provide location photograph and sign wording details) – CLERK to ACTION |
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| **19/121** | **AGREE ACTION TO HELP CO-OPTION PROCEDURE TO FILL CASUAL VACANCY**  One confirmed interested party, Clerk to acknowledge receipt and advise process for co-option |
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| **19/122** | **CONSIDER INSTALLATION OF DEFIBRILLATOR**  Mounted on external wall of the Village Hall suggested as most suitable location, Hall committee requires further information and will write to the Council, DEFER to next meeting |
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| **19/123** | **RECEIVE UPDATE ON WOODLANDS SITE AND PROPOSALS SURROUNDING LAND SWAP FOR AREA VG52**  Awaiting formal offer from West Suffolk for the acquisition of up to 200SqM of VG52 before considering the matter any further |
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| **19/124** | **AGREE ACTION RE FALLEN TREE ALONG RAILWAY WALK AT WEIR**  Section of tree laying on PC land is now removed, CLERK to advise Chelmsford EA contacts with request they advise colleagues at Ipswich of the fallen tree and potential damage to Weir. |
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| **19/125** | **ITEMS OF REPORT TO BE NOTED OR ADDED TO NEXT COUNCIL AGENDA**  Co-option presentation |
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| **19/126** | **DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 10 MARCH – CLOSE –** 8:44pm |

**Signed…………………………………………………………………………………………………………Date………………………………………………….**

**APPENDIX A**

**District Councillor's Report 21st January 2020 to Sturmer Parish Council (Cllr. Diana Garrod - Bumpstead Ward)**

# Braintree District Community Transport

Braintree District Community Transport is celebrating a rebrand, rolling out the new logo on its fleet from Thursday 16th January. The rebrand is the first in 21 years and is an opportunity to refresh the image of the service to appeal to the whole community, including young people. The aim is to connect well with their key target audience and provide further clarity on the benefits of Community Transport. Community Transport offers journeys to the local community and its services such as health related appointments, shopping, visiting friends and family and attending clubs or day centres. The aim of the scheme is to provide affordable transport via fully accessible minibus or car for individuals and groups of people who might be rurally isolated with no bus service or may have limited mobility or disabilities which makes it difficult for them to use public transport. Membership for individuals is £20 a year and each journey costs just £3.50 for up to 5 miles or 70p per mile thereafter. Membership for groups is £25 a year and trips can be made for as little as £30 up to 20 miles of £1.50 mile thereafter. The buses hold 12 passengers.

Journeys need to be booked the day before at the latest but can be booked well in advance.

If you are interested in driving as a volunteer either in a minibus or in your own car please contact us using the details below.

For more information visit [www.braintree.gov.uk/communitytransport.](http://www.braintree.gov.uk/communitytransport) For queries or questions email community.transport@braintree.gov.uk or call 01376 557883

## Nearby Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders

Chapel End Way, Mill Road, Church Road, Stambourne

Intended closure due to commence on 24th January 2020 for 21 days.

Link: <https://one.network/?tm=115889303>

Baythorne End, Ridgewell Road, Four Ash Hill, The Causeway, Birdbrook Intended closure to commence on 20th February 2020 for 5 nights.

Link: <https://one.network/?tm=115817710>

The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Essex County Council undertakes prepatching in preparation for surface dressing in Spring/Summer 2020.

Birdbrook Road, Stambourne

Intended closure from 20th January 2020 for 9 days.

Maltings House Road, Steeple Bumpstead

Intended closure of Maltings House Road, due to commence on 3rd February 2020 for 3 days.

Link: <https://one.network/?tm=116032953>

The Endway, Sturmer Road, Steeple Bumpstead

Intended closure of The Endway, Sturmer Road, due to commence on 5th February 2020 for 10 days. Link: <https://one.network/?tm=116032960>

Old Hall Road, Eggshell Lane, Whitehouse Farm Link, Steeple Bumpstead Intended closure due to commence on 17th February 2020 for 3 days.

Link: <https://one.network/?tm=116032784>

The closures are required for the safety of the public and workforce while County Broadband LTD undertakes installation of fibre broadband.

Haverhill Road, Steeple Bumpstead

Intended closure due to commence on 22nd January 2020 for 3 days.

Link: https://one.network/?tm=115802612

Bumpstead Road, Sturmer

Intended closure due to commence on 23rd January 2020 for 5 days.

Link: <https://one.network/?tm=115802724>

The Closures are required for the safety of the public and workforce while Essex County Council undertakes to renew gullies.

Baythorne End, Ridgewell Road, Four Ash Hill, The Causeway, Birdbrook Intended closure to commence on 20th February 2020 for 5 nights.

Link: <https://one.network/?tm=115817710>

The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce while Essex County Council undertakes prepatching in preparation for surface dressing in Spring/Summer 2020.

## Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex

Essex has received an additional £1.1 million to help fund the county’s multi-agency approach to understanding and tackling the causes of violent crime. The Home Secretary Priti Patel made the announcement on Sunday 5th January. The money will be given to the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex and will be used to continue running the Essex Violence Reduction Unit.

The former offices of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex will soon be on the open market for sale. Roger Hirst, Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex, said: “The capital value of the property is estimated to be around £1.4 million – money, which can be invested back into policing.

“We need to deliver as much funding to frontline operational policing as possible rather than pour money into maintaining buildings that have long since ceased to be viable for the demands of modern policing.

PFCC next local event is taking place in Saffron Walden on January 23rd, 6.30pm at the Town Hall in Market Place. Roger Hirst, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex, and his deputy Jane Gardner will also be attending a number of functions organised by parish, town and district councils and community and voluntary groups over the coming months

## Love Essex Campaign

Local authorities have come together to do their bit for our planet and are encouraging residents to join them and ‘Love Essex Not Plastic’. The Essex-wide 2020 campaign aims to tackle the amount of waste across the county by highlighting the issue of single-use plastic and urging households to switch to reusable options and recycle more. The campaign launched on the 6 January with adverts on Heart Radio and social media, inspiring Essex residents to make a New Year’s resolution and say no to single-use plastic by taking the Love Essex Plastic Pledge. Throughout the year there will be easy swap ideas, such as ditching single-use plastic cups, bottles, straws and bags - switching to reusable ones instead. By focusing on one item every month and making one small change at a time, together we can make a difference. Each year, around 400 million tonnes of plastic is produced and 40% of that is single-use plastic such as drinks bottles, carrier bags and coffee cups. However, in the UK, only 57% of plastic bottles are collected to be recycled. If you want to be a part of the Love Essex plastic solution, take the Love Essex Plastic Pledge at [www.loveessex.org/plasticpledge](http://www.loveessex.org/plasticpledge)

# Councillor Community Grant Scheme

The Braintree District Councillors’ Community Grant scheme allows organisations and groups to apply for funding to support local projects and initiatives that will benefit the people of the Braintree District. Funding for projects could include: building improvements, playground equipment, vehicle purchases, recreation facilities, IT equipment, sports equipment, events costs and energy efficiency measures.I would like to advise the Sturmer Parish Council and Local Community Groups that I have already allocated over a third of the grant and my remaining sum must be allocated before the end of March and will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.

# Braintree District Council – Council Tax – Collection Fund Surplus – Allocation to Town & Parish Councils

It was decided at the Full Council meeting 2nd December that a total of £29,450 of the surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund be allocated to parish/town councils in 2020/21. The estimated allocation for Sturmer is £105.00.

Cllr. Diana Garrod

District Councillor - Bumpstead Ward

**APPENDIX B**



**APPENDIX C**

ECC property protection flood grants are now available to those who have been flooded in their houses e.g. in 2001 even if they do not have photographic or insurance evidence.  Residents can sign a declaration and attach a statement about flooding from SFAG to a paper copy of the application form (the on line form requires you to say you have photographic evidence before can progress through it)

A survey of flood measures can be carried out free of charge. As the PC will know Lakeside Flood Solutions are the contractor for ECC for this. Up to £5000 per property is available.

Please ask Parish Councillors to let residents know about this development which has been negotiated with ECC by SFAG.

There was a flood warning in the village on 20 December 2019 and some gardens and garages were flooded.

Linda Bevan

SFAG