STURMER PARISH COUNCIL

Karen Simmons
Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer

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MEETING OF STURMER PARISH COUNCIL held at STURMER VILLAGE HALL on TUESDAY 10th September 2024 AT 7:30PM

COUNCILLOR	IN ATTENDANCE
Cllr David Porth - Chairman	YES
Cllr Gareth Morley	NO – apologies received
Cllr Terrie Jones	YES
Cllr Coral Fordham	YES
Cllr Sean Mercer	YES
Cllr Matt Porth	YES
Dist Cllr Diana Garrod	YES
Cnty Cllr Peter Schwier	NO – BDC Planning meeting

CLERK – Karen Simmons

0 Member(s) of the public

AGENDA

24/062	NOTE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE — G Morley and P Schwier sent apologies	
24/063	WITH REFERENCE TO THIS AGENDA MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO DECLARE ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, NON-REGISTRABLE INTERESTS AND OTHER REGISTRABLE INTERESTS	
	There were none	
24/064	APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON TUESDAY 13th August 2024	
	Done and no amendments needed	
24/065	RECEIVE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS delayed until 8:30 pm	
	As well as the attached report please note that anyone struggling with the removal of winter fuel payments are to contact ClIr Garrod or the BDC	
24/066	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 members of the public attending.	
24/067	REVIEW & COMMENT ON CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS/APPEALS	
	Ref. 24/01794/HH – No Comment VG52 – progress – Legal identification of Chair and Clerk made with solicitors. Legal notices have gone up and and relevant user groups have been emailed. Solar Park – NB final review is this evening at Braintree.	
24/068	RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT:	
	a) Footpaths – Clir S Mercer	
	FP3 – still needs the removal of trees to make safe. Issues with access etc to be dealt with as it is unsafe to use the amenity walk. There are other access points available. SM to follow up again. FP15 is now all cleared.	
	We have been notified that the unusable "kissing gate" has permission from the landowner to be removed. The trees are wrapped around it too and it will need to be cut out.	
	b) Flood Action Group – note received Re Sturmer Station Bridge. Linda writes: My latest enquiry about progress on the bridge in August met with the following response from Vasileos Papadimos - Principal Engineer:	
	"We are in the process of finalising the structural assessment for Sturmer Bridge, which we currently aim to be within the next 3 months. We will provide a further update"	
	It has been noted that sand bags have been laid by the river to prevent damage to the road bridge. However this has narrowed the river further downstream as needs to be monitored.	
	c) Play Area – Clir G Morley. All ok in the playground. There might be some areas of minor maintenance needed shortly as we go into Autumn. Mainly the metal plates/fixings are now losing their paint and starting to rust.	

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I'll give the top of the shelter a good sweep of debris and leaves when I get back.

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I know we are currently looking to upgrade the play surfaces. Depending on costs, the black rubber area will need some attention if we don't have funds to stretch this far with replacement. There are some soft areas and weed growth coming through. I do try to keep on top of the main bits there and in the fenced multi-link area. Surfacing under the two swings is probably the main priority, as this area is very rough now.

One of the benches has a plank which is just starting to work loose a bit, but I've been keeping an eye on that.

- **d) Parish Maintenance** 3 Quotes for Hedgerow work opp Red Lion received and an offer was made to RJG Services.
- **e) War Memorial –** Volunteer Carter will ensure that the weeds, bushes and painting is all completed before 11th November.
- **f) Village Hall and Defib Clir T Jones.** The Defib has been checked and is all working. The Village Hall has a new shed that is now up.

g) Highways - Cllr Coral Fordham

Floline have been onsite again and have reported more issues. If you own a ditch in water lane it needs to be dug out so that the relevant works on the road can take place. We understand that the fines for non compliance can be high.

Despite some polite notifications, some cutting back has not been completed. You should be aware that it must go back to the boundary line and this includes large overhanging branches. Any open areas you have a responsibility for need to be kept as per your agreement with the relevant parties.

We are still chasing the company that deals with our speed signs. They have been chased again today.

Although our chances of a crossing are unlikely we are still pushing for assistance in this area especially with the problem using buggies, wheelchairs etc and the excessive traffic.

Police are likely to attend more often to deal with speeding. Other ways of dealing with this are being looked at.

Anglia Water came today to repair the water main in the main road. Hopefully the new hole will be filled asap.

24/069 FINANCIAL STATEMENT – AGREE ANY PAYMENTS Invoices signed and agreed. AGREE SIGNATORY AUTHORITY TO AUTHORISE RAISED PAYMENTS BEFORE NEXT MEETING TO AVOID CHARGES/LATE BILLING 24/070 CLERKS REPORT A number of policy documents need to be updated. This will be done in time for the next

Karen Simmons - Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer Dated 12th September 2024.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING Tuesday 22nd October - at 7:30 pm

meeting with an agenda issue raised to agree same.