

STURMER PARISH COUNCIL

Karen Simmons
 Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer
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MINUTES OF MEETING OF STURMER PARISH COUNCIL held at STURMER VILLAGE HALL on TUESDAY 21st January 2025 AT 7:30PM.

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

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| 24/098 | NOTE AND APPROVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE |
| | SEE ABOVE |
| 24/099 | WITH REFERENCE TO THIS AGENDA MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO DECLARE ANY DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, NON-REGISTRABLE INTERESTS AND OTHER REGISTRABLE INTERESTS |
| | NONE |
| 24/100 | APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON TUESDAY 3rd December 2024 |
| | WITHHELD TO NEXT MEETING AS INSUFFICIENT ATTENDANCE. |
| 24/101 | RECEIVE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS |
| | CLLR D GARROD REPORT ATTACHED |
| 24/102 | PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION <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> |
| | NO ONE IN ATTENDANCE |
| 24/103 | REVIEW & COMMENT ON CURRENT PLANNING APPLICATIONS/APEALS |
| | NOTED THAT THE AGRICULTURAL BUILDING PLANS ARE BEING BUILT ON FLOOD PLAIN THAT REGULARLY FLOODS. NOTIFICATION SENT TO BDC VG52 PLANNING MEETING IN FEBRUARY. D PORTH TO ATTEND. |
| 24/104 | RECEIVE REPRESENTATIVES REPORT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Footpaths – Cllr S Mercer. KISSING GATE REMOVED TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO FOOTPATH. FOOTPATH BY PUBLIC HOUSE NEEDS ATTN. INFILLING OF HOLES TO BE DEALT WITH. DISCUSSION REGARDING FAILING FENCE. b) Flood Action Group – council rep still to be decided. REPORT ATTACHED. c) Play Area – Cllr G Morley. AWAITING ACTION ON REPAIRS. GRAFFITTI TO BE PAINTED OVER/ REMOVED. d) Parish Maintenance PLANKS HAVE BEEN REPLACED ON FOOTBRIDGE BEHIND PUBLIC HOUSE. e) War Memorial VOLUNTEER CARTER REGULARLY REMOVING HAY AND STRAW FROM BUILDING UP AROUND SIGN. f) Village Hall and Defib – Cllr T Jones. There is a course on the use of the defib coming up. Dates to be decided. |

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| | <p>g) Highways – Cllr Coral Fordham.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broken tourist sign at the top end of the village (might get done this month?) Was due to be done last month and has been broken down for about 3 years??• Broken signage next to cement works, following car accident – reported and chased to get mess and debris cleared up and new signage – and have asked for more Snr Cllrs to add weight to this one. Told will only get cleared up when sign replaced – not seen as that important• LOTS of pot holes have been reported – Clerk will have all details• Water Lane is back to where it was when I joined the PC – even though we have seen some TEMPORARY work done. I know some of you will think that things will never get done but they can IF WE CHASE AND PESTER ENOUGH!! We pay our taxes and should have a say in where the ££ is spent• I still think there is a case for the widening of the pavements in the village and as you know, have tried to get some support for a pedestrian crossing in the village. These points need to be addressed further. |
| 24/105 | <p>Popes Mill Bridge Progress – Cllr G Morley</p> <p>Awaiting information from ECC at this time</p> |
| 24/106 | <p>Budget discussion – things to include/changes on 2024/25 TO 2025/2026</p> <p>Budget set and to be authorised.</p> |
| 24/107 | <p>Discussion on overnight parking at pocket park.</p> <p>Contact with highways regarding a penalty enforcement.</p> |
| 24/108 | <p>TREE ISSUES</p> <p>It appears that some cutting of trees with TPO status has taken place. Because of this a complete review of all TPO orders to include reinstatement of previous orders to be followed up.</p> <p>Next tree survey due 2026/7</p> |
| 24/109 | <p>FINANCIAL STATEMENT – AGREE ANY PAYMENTS * AGREE COST OF COURSE ON FOOTPATHS FOR CLLR M PORTH Agreed to also add CLLR S Mercer to course.</p> <p>REVIEW ELECTRIC SUPPLY AND BILLING ISSUES CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW AS SSE HAS NOT TAKEN OVER AS ASKED IN SEPTEMBER. FULL INVESTIGATION BY BOTH COMPANIES INVOLVED UNDERWAY.</p> <p>AGREE SIGNATORY AUTHORITY TO AUTHORISE RAISED PAYMENTS BEFORE NEXT MEETING TO AVOID CHARGES/LATE BILLING AGREED</p> |
| 24/110 | <p>CLERKS REPORT</p> <p>FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING DRAX / SSE ISSUES NEW AUDITOR NEEDED.</p> <p>Cllr Fordham resigned. We would like to thank Cllr Fordham for her excellent work and she shall be sadly missed.</p> |
| | <p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING Thursday 20TH FEBRUARY 2025 - at 7:30 pm</p> |

Karen Simmons – Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer Dated **22nd January 2025**