



STOW MARIES PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at The Smythe Hall, Church Lane
7.30 p.m. on Monday 25 January 2016

ITEM	SUBJECT
16/1	<p>Apologies for absence and members attending</p> <p>Chairman: Cllr Hollington</p> <p>Members: Cllrs Pilgrim, Gilmore & Chappell</p> <p>Also present: The Clerk, Dist Cllrs Archer & White and 6 members of the public</p> <p>Apologies from: District Cllr Channer and Cllr Nunney</p> <p>RESOLVED. Apologies were noted and accepted.</p>
16/2	<p>Declaration of Interests.</p> <p>Cllr. Hollington expressed an interest should Brownstock Festival be discussed.</p>
16/3	<p>To Confirm the Minutes of Council meeting held 12 October 2015</p> <p>15/161 The minutes should have shown that Cllr Pilgrim chaired the meeting and Cllr Hollington had tendered his apologies.</p> <p>RESOLVED. The minutes of the Full Council Meeting held 16 November 2015 were accepted with the above amendment, and signed as a true record.</p> <p>Action: The Clerk</p>
16/4	<p>Maldon District Council</p> <p>i. Brownstock Festival</p> <p>Several residents expressed their concerns about the way the Brownstock Festival had been run in the past and will be run in the future. They voiced concerns about the working party not working and the licensee not complying with the conditions of the licence.</p> <p>Dist Cllrs White and Archer advised they had been in communication all day with several heads of departments within MDC to try to get some answers for tonight's meeting.</p> <p>Action: Dist Cllr Archer to arrange a meeting with all the relevant people to try to resolve passed and future problems.</p>
16/5	<p>Local Council Tax Scheme Precept increase by 6%</p> <p>The Clerk wrote to Ka Ng, Director of Resources at MDC at the beginning of January but had not received a reply. Members noted it was a very busy time of the year for her.</p> <p>Dist Cllr White said if the Clerk forwards the letter to her, she will raise it with Ka Ng.</p> <p>Action: The Clerk to forward the letter to Dist Cllr White.</p>
16/6	<p>Clerk's report</p> <p>The clerk advised the council that the application form for applying for financial assistance from the government to aid them with complying with the 'Local Council Transparency & accountability' scheme had been sent off.</p> <p>The clerk advised that she had sent off her CiLCA to SLCC to be marked, it can take up to 6 weeks.</p> <p>The clerk advised councillors that she would be on annual leave prior to the meeting in March. It was agreed to move the meeting to Tuesday 29/3/16 if the hall was available. This would be a week and a day later than previously advertised.</p> <p>Action: The Clerk to contact the hall to see if it was available and contact members.</p>

16/7	<p>Highways</p> <p>1) Update from The Clerk How much does Stow Maries residents pay MDC in council tax for to litter pick.</p> <p>The Clerk advised she had not received a response from Ka Ng, Director of Resources at MDC. Members noted it was a very busy time of the year for her. Dist Cllr White said she will raise this again tomorrow with her. Residents said the litter is the worst ever at the moment Action: Dist Cllr White to raise this issue tomorrow with Ka Ng.</p> <p>A resident reported that the south side of the railway bridge, Church Lane was sinking. Action: Cllr Hollington and the resident to report it.</p> <p>Dist Cllrs White and Archer advised members that they had both voted against the carpark charges MDC had proposed. If residents want to do the same they should email MDC.</p> <p>2) Update from the Clerk regarding speed cameras. The Clerk wrote to the Police asking them to provide their speed survey on Stow Maries. They replied they were not aware of any being carried out. Members and residents advised they had remembered seeing one for a few days in December last year. Action: The Clerk to write back.</p> <p>3) Update from The Clerk regarding Local Area Highways Panel. The Clerk wrote to Jon Simmons, the Highway Liaison Office for the Local Highways Panel at the beginning of the month but had not received a reply. Action: Keep on agenda, wait for reply.</p>
16/8	<p>Public rights of way - To consider any rights of way issues A local resident informed members that the footpath between their house and Cllr Hollington's house was full of rabbit holes making it almost impassable. Action: Cllr Hollington to advise the resident who they can both contact to report this.</p>
16/9	<p>Planning.</p> <p>i. New applications.</p> <p>a. None received</p> <p>ii. Decisions from Maldon District Council</p> <p>a. OUT/MAL/14/00496 Site adjacent Former Stow Bullock PH, The Street. Refused.</p> <p>Action: Noted</p>
16/10	<p>Training and Parish Transport.</p> <p>There were no issues raised regarding parish transport. Cllr Chappell attend the Dengie Hundred meeting. There she spoke to Chief Inspector Alan Cook about her concerns of the Brownstock Festival and drug taking. The Chief Inspector advised that the police have sniffer dogs at the entrances and everyone has to walk passed them; the police take it very seriously. Cllr Chappell attend Advanced Cllr training day at the EALC where, amongst other things, the LDP (Local Development Plan) was discussed. Cllr Chappell advised members the AGM for transport is coming up and they are looking to invite the local MP. Action: Noted</p>
16/11	<p>Litter, Dog Bins, and Grass Cutting.</p> <p>There were no issues raised regarding the dog and litterbins.</p>
16/12	<p>Broadband</p> <p>Cllr Pilgrim advised members a broadband company had visited his residents to investigate if they could get a signal but it was very windy that day. They are going to come back next month. If they have a strong enough signal they could put broadband in. Action: Noted</p>

16/13	<p>Website</p> <p>The Clerk advised councillors that she had updated the website with the new financial regulations and register of interest that now includes Cllr Nunney and added the wording: Note- It is the Council's intention to publish the draft minutes of their meetings within four weeks of the meeting. However, you should remember that the minutes will not become a part of the council's dataset until they have been approved at the next meeting. Until then, they may be subject to change so you should not rely on them as a definitive account of the meeting.</p> <p>Action: Noted</p>																																
16/14	<p>Financial matters, including approval of payments and the budget</p> <p>Bank Reconciliation.</p> <p>Members received the bank reconciliation.</p> <p>Payments.</p> <p>The following invoices were presented for payment:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="236 633 1401 920"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Payable to</th> <th>Total Amount</th> <th>Amount less VAT</th> <th>In respect of</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>18/01/16</td> <td>K. Smiles</td> <td>£575.90</td> <td>£575.90</td> <td>SALARY Dec & Jan 2015</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18/01/16</td> <td>MDC</td> <td>£65.28</td> <td>£65.28</td> <td>Uncontested fee</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18/01/16</td> <td>Information Commissioner</td> <td>£35.00</td> <td>£35.00</td> <td>Data Protection</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18/01/16</td> <td>Smythe Hall</td> <td>£90.00</td> <td>£90.00</td> <td>Hall rent for meetings</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>RESOLVED: The above accounts were approved for payment apart from the uncontested fee from MDC. Cllr Hollington wanted to contact MDC first to clarify a few points.</p> <p>Action: The clerk.</p>	Date	Payable to	Total Amount	Amount less VAT	In respect of	18/01/16	K. Smiles	£575.90	£575.90	SALARY Dec & Jan 2015	18/01/16	MDC	£65.28	£65.28	Uncontested fee	18/01/16	Information Commissioner	£35.00	£35.00	Data Protection	18/01/16	Smythe Hall	£90.00	£90.00	Hall rent for meetings							
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16/15	<p>The Budget for 2016/17</p> <p>The Clerk had previously emailed a proposed budget for councillors to consider.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="225 1173 652 1883"> <thead> <tr> <th>Budget 2016/17</th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Clerk's Salary</td> <td>2400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Office Allowance</td> <td>250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Travel Allowance</td> <td>210</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Admin Expenses</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Auditor Fees</td> <td>75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Affiliation Fees</td> <td>265</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hire of Smythe Hall</td> <td>100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Insurance</td> <td>300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Training</td> <td>150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elections</td> <td>250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grass Cutting</td> <td>1650</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grant</td> <td>150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Web site fees</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Expenses</td> <td>250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Expenses</td> <td>6170</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>RESOLVED: Members discussed the above budget for 2016/17 and approved it.</p> <p>Action: The clerk.</p>	Budget 2016/17	£	Clerk's Salary	2400	Office Allowance	250	Travel Allowance	210	Admin Expenses	100	Auditor Fees	75	Affiliation Fees	265	Hire of Smythe Hall	100	Insurance	300	Training	150	Elections	250	Grass Cutting	1650	Grant	150	Web site fees	20	Other Expenses	250	Total Expenses	6170
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16/16	<p>The precept for 2016/17</p> <p>RESOLVED: Members set the precept for 2016/17 at £6,170.</p> <p>Action: The clerk to put the precept on the website & synopsis and advise MDC.</p>																																
16/17	<p>To consider correspondence received</p>																																

	A folder of correspondence received was passed for circulation amongst the Councillors.
16/18	Items for next agenda. None. Date of next meeting – 15 February 2016

Meeting closed at 9.26 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....