

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Stow  
Held at The Cross Keys Stow**

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2024 7.00 pm**

**Present:** Cllr Waudby, Cllr Hewitt, Cllr Arden, Cllr Eden Cllr Turner

**In attendance:** Mrs M Cotterill Clerk

Three members of the public

Before the meeting was declared open the public were asked for any comments they had?

It was asked if anything could be done re access into the Cemetery to make it easier for persons using wheelchairs?

This was on the agenda and enquiries will be made.

The Chairman declared the Agenda would slightly change in order as Cllr turner had to leave early and some items he would prefer to discuss.

**064. Apologies for Absence** Cllr Mullally

**065. Declarations of interest in accordance with the Localism Act 2011 and any dispensations that may arise**

There were no declarations of interest

**066. Minutes of previous meeting of Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

It was proposed by Cllr Eden and seconded by Cllr Waudby to accept the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting as a true copy of the meeting, it was **Resolved** All in favour

**067. Clerk's report on matters arising**

None

**068. Financial Matters**

a. To agree payment of invoices paid since last meeting:-

Accounts from 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024-31<sup>st</sup> October 2024

|            |             |                  | <u>Reciepts</u> | <u>Payments</u> | <u>VAT</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|
| 04/09/2024 | M Cotterill | Cartridge Save   |                 | 78.39           | 18.38      | 96.77        |
| 11/09/2024 | M Cotterill | Salary & postage |                 | 198.12          |            | 198.12       |
| 09/10/2024 | M Cotterill | Salary           |                 | 156.72          |            | 156.72       |
| 11/10/2024 | S Solecki   | Grass Cutting    |                 | 358.50          | 71.70      | 430.20       |
| 25/10/2024 | Burton & Co | Land Registry    |                 | 450.00          | 90.00      | 540.00       |

Receipts £ 0.00

Cheques None

**PC Bank Balance as of 31/10/2024**

**£14324.65**

Balance includes:

Currently **£468.87** is ring fenced from Stow Recreational Fund for play equipment, which is accessible to children with disabilities.

**Stow Recreation Fund**

Balance

**£5316.23**

**Cil Allowance** for items for village use

Balance **£3709.56**

The accounts were accepted and proposed by Cllr Hewitt and seconded by Cllr Eden, it was **Resolved** all in favour to accept the accounts.

b. The Council had previously received the draft budget prepared in order to agree with the Precept for 2025/2026, this was accepted and agreed that the Precept would remain the same. The official forms were then consequently signed, proposed by Cllr Arden and seconded by Cllr Eden, **Resolved** all in favour.

c. In the past Stow Council have supported the Joint Youth club with Sturton and it was suggested that it could again contribute. Cllr Waudby to contact the Youth club to ask that they contact the Council should they need any support, then the council can discuss and make the decision.

d. Suggestions for spending of CIL for use of the village.

Speed signs – to be discussed after costing. Cllr Eden to look into the costs.

Entrance to the Cemetery – discussion awaiting on enquiries made to County council.

Plots of unregistered land – cost of registering to add to the list for further discussion, if we have any.

**Council and village matters**

**069. Appoint new Clerk**

The Clerks resignation had been accepted, adverts and interviews for a new clerk are being carried out.

- The Clerk suggested to extend her leave date for four weeks to allow a smooth handover to the new Clerk. Proposed to be accepted by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Eden, **Resolved** all in favour. Subject to interview and acceptance of role, new clerk applicant N Culliford will require administrative access to parish bank account for payment and account reporting purposes. Access agreed by all councillors present. **Resolved** all in favour.

#### **070. Co-option Applications**

The council had received verbal resignation from Cllr Sharp, the clerk to email for written confirmation of this. There is still a councillor vacancy, for which it was decided to leave the poster up, slightly amending it to draw new interest. Proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Eden, **Resolved** all in favour.

New councillor forms to be sent to Mr J Martinson to be co-opted on to the council, proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Waudby **Resolved** all in favour.

#### **071. Cemetery and Play Park**

- a. It had been brought to our attention that access to the Cemetery was quite difficult for disabled people to negotiate the steep slope. Cllr Butroid offered to look into this for us, to be clear of ownership regarding who should deal with the repair/maintenance to the entrance slope. The Clerk to email Cllr Butroid for feedback.
- b. Overgrowth on unattended graves to be added to the tender for Grass Cutting in 2025, along with the rear/overflow area to be mowed. It was stated it needed to be cut down flat as it was quite overgrown first. Cllr Waudby offered to go and spray the grave areas and cut down the rear area, which will then be easier for maintaining within the contract. Proposed by Cllr Hewitt and seconded by Cllr Turner, **Resolved** all in favour.
- c. The positioning of a memorial bench was accepted, proposed by Cllr Waudby and seconded by Cllr Turner, **Resolved** all in favour.
- d. It was discussed whether a small area could become a memorial corner if any more requests were made. This will need further discussion if this arises.
- e. It was agreed that the 'Rockers' in the Play Park were not a danger and would be checked regularly to see if the condition worsened. Also there seemed to be no need for side fencing in the Park, as the trees previously planted are growing. Proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Eden, **Resolved** all in favour.
- f. We now have two volunteers to keep an eye on the Play Park for damage/litter on our behalf. The Clerk will email to offer our thanks.
- g. The council are now in the possession of the Deeds for the Play Park and it is now registered to the Council at the Land Registry. Further discussion needs to be taken on registering any other land, if need be. To be looked at in 2025, proposed by Cllr Arden and seconded by Cllr Eden, **Resolved** all in favour.

#### **072. Highways Update**

- a. The solar speed signs have now been erected on their new poles, all working. There is still some ongoing work, but all in hand.
- b. The narrowing of the pathway by overgrowing conifers is still ongoing.
- c. Cllr Eden suggested 30 mph speed signs at the crossroads and will look at the costs. It was also suggested to enquire about speeding solutions further along Ingham Road, the Clerk to email Highways to ask advice on the problem.
- d. No grit was ordered as the grit bins were full.
- e. All flooding works on roads in the area are progressing.
- f. After a residents complaint about speeding outside the Play Park area, the council will ask advice from highways department if anything can be done.

#### **073. Neighbourhood Plan Update**

The Council are now in possession of a hard copy of the finalised Neighbourhood Plan, should anyone request it.

#### **074. Communications with Parish Residents**

- a. It was discussed should the council open a Facebook page, but it was thought not necessary as people would view articles more on a village/community page, as at present. The council do publish articles on their Web page, in the Stow Bugle and on notice boards.
- b. Stow Bugle, Cllr Eden to re draft our advert for a New Councillor (as minuted item 070).
- c. It was agreed to put a notice regarding Flood Plan – emergency numbers on the web page and a link in the Stow Bugle. Cllr Eden proposed to draft this, seconded by Cllr Arden **Resolved** all in favour.

#### **075. Ongoing Solar Projects and Battery Storage.**

Tillbridge Solar Project The deadline for submission on comments is 23:59 14 November 2024  
The council have stated our comments.

#### **076. Councillor Roles and Responsibilities**

It was discussed whether Councillors could take on a responsibility for a particular subject, so cutting down on emails and knowing who to contact in the first instance. Cllr Eden proposed to draft a list, seconded by Cllr Arden, **Resolved** all in favour. It was also discussed on engaging with the public more, the main proposal was to have a coffee

evening on the Annual Meeting night, like a 'Meet and Greet' or indeed a Charity cause. Hoping this would bring the village along thus generating interest. Discussions on going.

**077. LALC** – no trainings to be booked at the moment.

**078. Planning**

All planning applications will be publicised on the web page along with a line in the Stow Bugle, for public view with a link to West Lindsey site for them to comment and or to feed their views back to the council.

**WL/2024/00395** Land at Barker Farm Stow Park Road – Ground mounted Solar PV array      Pending

**WL/2024/00662** Land at Willingham By Stow Farm, Marton Road - BESS Storage Facility      Comments made

**WL/2024/00766** Harpers Barn, Stow Park Road. – change of use of land and erection of a garage.

**079. Correspondence**

All emails received and were relevant have been forwarded to Councillors, who were reminded their response is important to issues arising within the village.

Cllr Eden suggested he would attend the Zoom meeting held by Lincs Police.

Cllr Arden has submitted our Xmas lighting information to Northern Power.

**080 Councillors' reports**

None

**081. Date of next meeting      Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at The Cross Keys Stow 7.00p.m.**

Cllr Waudby thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting over

**Please be advised that these are notes of the meeting taken by the Clerk and cannot in any way be regarded as the official minutes of Council proceedings until they are approved and signed at the next meeting.**

**Signed** .....      **Date** .....