

A meeting of the Stukeley's Parish Council held at Great Stukeley village hall on Monday 1st December 2008 at 7. 30pm.

ATTENDANCE	M/s J. Butter, R. Turpin, P. Ryan, D. Middleton, R. Hulstrom, D. Hossack, T. Pinner, C. Cowdery, D. Adams, H. Raby, P. Hobson, P. Vincent, Mrs. S. Parkin, County Councillors Laine Kadic and Sir. Peter Brown and two members of the public.
OPEN FORUM	Mr. I. Sly the treasurer of the Great Stukeley village hall committee asked whether it would be possible to know if the Council would be likely to grant aid the refurbishments at the hall and by what amount. The chairman indicated that the matter was an agenda item and that a decision would be made then, he asked Mr. Sly if he had any thing to say that may assist the Councils debate, he said no but was invited to remain in the room to hear the Councils decision, he was reminded that at that stage he would not be permitted to contribute further.
APOLOGIES	Apologies were received from D. Bartlett, who had declared an interest in an agenda item concerning a planning application, M. Reynolds family commitment, Mrs. Gifford, family commitment, Dist Councillor K. Baker, District Council meeting.
94. MINUTES	It was approved that the chairman signed the minutes of the meeting dated 3 rd November 2008 as a true and correct record.
96. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST	There were three members declarations of interest, as previously mentioned, Mr. Bartlett in planning application. Mr. Raby said that he would not participate in any discussion relating to the Northbridge development and Mr. Ryan declared that he knew personally, one of the quotation suppliers for the work needed at Great Stukeley village hall. These declarations were all noted.
97. ACCOUNTS	On a proposal by Mr. Butter, seconded by Mr. Turpin it was resolved that the following accounts were approved for payment. EON Energy for September supply £59.16. Printing Matters for December magazine £92. 00. M.J. Newman, clerks salary and expenses £266. 54, MHB Electrical for lighting repairs £52. 88. A. Summerfield for grass cutting services £440. 63. and C. Cowdery for Web site fees £47.00.(this was reimbursement for fees already paid) The clerk reported receiving £1740 grant from the War Memorials Trust.
97a. CLERKS SALARY	Mr. Hulstrom revealed that a recent directive from NALC had approved a 2.45% increase in clerks salaries starting at 1 st April 2008, he proposed that the Council award this increase to the clerk, this was seconded by Mr. Adams and approved by the members present.
98. PROJECTS	Mr. Ryan circulated among members the quotation figures received for the acoustical improvements required for the main hall together with new lighting installations, these represented in total some £28.000, he said grant aid from WREN had been offered at a rate of £8500 and that the requirement from the Parish Council would be £7000 together with the third party fee of £1600 and the remainder to be funded by the hall committee. When he was asked for figures for the disabled toilet feature he said that figures had not yet been received, but that the estimate was around £12000 of which the District Council would fund £8000. At this stage Standing Orders were suspended so that Mr. Sly could be asked the total of funds available from the village hall, he said they had reserves totalling £20000 and that they were prepared to release up to £15000 for these projects. After much discussion on the availability of Council funding in the long term, on a proposal by Mr. Turpin, seconded by Mr. Hulstrom the members agreed that the Parish Council would fund the £8600 needed for the works on the main hall and as it was not absolutely clear about the strict necessity for the provision of invalid toilets, the hall committee should be invited to consider funding this

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>aspect from village hall reserves. It was also suggested that if the project proved to be, by way of costings, totally outside the halls means, they should through Mr. Ryan approach the Council again sometime in the future.</p>	
99. FOOTPATHS	<p>Mr. Cowdery reported to members a meeting held at Mr. Ryan's house recently which was attended by himself, Mr. Ryan and Mr. Raby representing the Parish and officers of both the County and District ROW departments .He said many issues concerning paths in the Parish were raised and that a productive discussion was held in which the County admitted their records in many cases needed updating, with several paths needing to be reviewed, some refurbished and some with no possible necessity, extinguished, the status of footpath 16 was one that was in need of some urgent review as was footpath 11 at Grange Farm. He said that the process had now been started and that he and his committee would pursue the issues until such time as the matters could be satisfactorily resolved, he intimated that there were also issues concerning footpaths at Brookfield Farm, especially in the region of the Northbridge proposals, that could not be finalised until development proposals were finalised. He agreed to keep members updated on progress. Mrs. Parkin raised the issue of an incorrectly sited footpath indicative sign at Waterloo Farm, this ran on the Eastern side of a field boundary rather than the Western side, Mr. Cowdery took relevant details and said that he would inform the District Council officer responsible.</p>	
100. WAR MEMORIALS	<p>The clerk reported that he had received confirmation from the authorities of the grant now being authorised and that enquiries had revealed that the figure of £1740 had been paid into the Council bank via the BACS system. This it was agreed concluded the matter and the chairman remarked that a good result had been achieved and that the memorials should be sound for a further 20 years. The clerk thanked Mr. Turpin for his time and effort in providing the photographic evidence to support the grant payment, this was endorsed by members.</p>	
101. TRAFFIC CALMING	<p>The Clerk informed members that the recent presentation in Great Stukeley village hall had been well attended with visitors in general being very supportive, he circulated among members the results that the County officers had compiled from the completed questionnaires received at that presentation. This revealed that of those who had completed the document 83% were in favour of the entire scheme being adopted 8% were against with 4% registering no view. Mr. Adams suggested that this was conclusive that, as everyone in the villages had been adequately notified with good notice, the vast majority of those who registered an opinion were in favour of implementing the whole scheme through both villages, this together with finance now available because of the reduced commitment to grant aid to the village hall, he felt the decision was a 'no brainer'. Mr. Butter intimated that he still considered that there was not a significant problem with speeding through Great Stukeley but acknowledged that the situation was different through Little Stukeley. After much more debate Mr. Hulstrom proposed, seconded by Mr. Turpin that the entire scheme be sanctioned for implementation as soon as practicable. In the ensuing vote ten members were in favour with none against and two abstentions. The Clerk was told to write to the County Authorities to ask them to proceed with installation as soon as possible, Jo Challis was to be thanked for the professional presentation and questionnaire and also for all her hard work in planning the scheme.</p>	
102. PLANNING	<p>The following applications were presented for appraisal Application No 0803139FUL For change of use, from mixed use and Post Office to a dwelling at 35. Church Road, Great Stukeley, this application was recommended for approval by the planning group and supported by the</p>	

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	<p>meeting with a note to state the Councils disappointment that this was necessary after Mr. Snitch had provided the facility in his own home for many years when nowhere else was available.</p> <p>Application No 0802305FUL further landscaping proposals for 129 houses at Pond Close and Bliss Close Huntingdon. This was also approved on a proposition by the planning group.</p> <p>Application No. 080362FUL for an extension to a dwelling at 2. Church Road, Little Stukeley. Planning group reported no adverse affect on neighbouring properties and in keeping therefore approval given.</p> <p>Application No.0803335FUL for an extension to a dwelling at 61. Christie Drive, Huntingdon. Approval recommended by planning group and passed by the members.</p>	
103. PARISH MAGAZINE	Mr. Turpin reported that Martin Fox of Hill Close had now taken the position as editor and that he would not be requiring remuneration. A letter was to be sent to Mr. Fox to thank him for his very kind offer, a letter was also to be sent to Jenny Watson to thank her for all her efforts over recent years. The members thanked Mr. Turpin for his considerable efforts in this matter.	
104. PRECEPT.	<p>The clerk gave members a budget which explained the financial position of the Council and it's prospects for the future, the main issue was that after this precept period the Council was set to loose the Council Tax contribution from Hinchingsbrooke area which had over recent years contributed some 30% to the Parishes budget and this may mean in future years a reduction in services provided for the Parish or a steep rise in the Council tax charge from it's present rate in the region of £25 to a figure closer to £35 in future years. After much discussion with some members in favour of increases and others not so sure it was decided after lively debate to set the Parish Precept for 2009/10 at £21500 and leave the decision about services versus increased charges to another fiscal period when the parishioners views could have been 'sounded out' The precept figure was approved on a proposal by Mr. Turpin, seconded by Mr. Adams by ten votes in favour with two against</p>	
105. CPALC	Mr. Cowdery reported that he had attended a recent meeting and informed members that there were many committee positions to be filled if anyone was interested. On the matter of the clerks complaints of inefficiency within that organisation it was agreed that a letter should be written from the chairman to the CEO Mr. Dewar, of CPALC complaining of the problems this Council was experiencing, the chairman said he would get the clerk to type the letter then he would sign and post.	
107. ITEMS TO REPORT	<p>Mr. Cowdery reported attending an exhibition at the Marriott Hotel about the new A.14 proposals, he said he would commend anyone to go as they were interesting even if they did not directly effect the villages.</p> <p>Mr. Ryan reported the availability of new environmental grants and asked for the matter to be included on next months agenda. Mr. Hulstrom said that the caravans had disappeared from Grange Farm but that he still had the matter under review. It was agreed that a meeting with Persimmon homes to discuss the new proposals for the Northbridge site should be arranged by the clerk.</p>	
108. NEXT MEETINGS	<p>On Monday 5th January 2009 at Lt. Stukeley village hall starting at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 2nd February 2009 at Gt. Stukeley village hall starting at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 2nd March 2009 at Lt. Stukeley village hall starting at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 5th April 2009 at Gt. Stukeley village hall starting at 7.30pm.</p>	