

**A meeting of the Stukeley's Parish Council held at Little Stukeley village hall on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at 7. 30pm.**

ATTENDANCE	M/s J. Butter, R. Hulstrom, T. Pinner, C. Cowdery, P. Vincent, H. Raby, R. Turpin, D. Middleton, Mrs. S. Gifford County Councillors Sir. Peter Brown and Laine Kadic together with four members of the public.
OPEN FORUM	<p>The first issue raised was by Mr. Woolcock of Green End. He stated that the large volume of traffic including many HGV's accessing the Grange Farm area was becoming quite intolerable in this supposedly quiet Country lane with extreme danger being inflicted on young children by often speeding vehicles and excessive damage being done to verges in the area. The chairman explained that the Council were aware of the problem, which had been significantly compounded by the District Councils granting of even more permissions for new businesses within the farm diversification of the area and not appearing to want to take any responsibility for the resultant chaos. The County Councillors reported that marker posts were being considered on the verges as a temporary measure but assured the complainant that residents views would be considered in the solution measures.</p> <p>Two residents of Church Close Great Stukeley raised the subject of the problem with dogs in that area and how the situation, far from improving, was steadily becoming worse, one particular owner of a large dog was mentioned. Mr. Turpin suggested that photographic evidence should be acquired of any suspected offence and then the matter brought to the attention of the Dog warden at the District Council, another article was to be placed in the magazine warning of the Councils desire to obtain this photographic evidence.</p>
APOLOGIES	Apologies were received from Mr. P. Hobson who was indisposed. Mr. D. Bartlett who was delayed by business, Mr. D. Adams a business commitment. Mrs .S. Parkin, Mr. D. Hossack and Mr. P. Ryan on holiday, Mr. M. Reynolds due to illness. District Councillor K. Baker another meeting.
1. MINUTES	The minutes of the meeting held on 2 <sup>nd</sup> March 2009 were approved on a proposal by Mr. Hulstrom and seconded by Mr. Turpin and then signed by the chairman.
2. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST	There were no such declarations.
4. ACCOUNTS	<p>On a proposal by Mr. Butter, seconded by Mr. Turpin it was resolved that the following accounts were approved for payment.</p> <p>EON Energy for March supply £59.16. Printing Matters for May magazine £92. 00. M.J. Newman, clerks salary for April £196.79. Gt. Stukeley village hall hire charges £35.00. Lt. Stukeley village hall hire charges £42.50. Fergusons for general maintenance work £506.00. Fergusons for specific work on Tumuli maintenance £690.00.</p> <p>The Clerk reported that he had sent an account to the County Council for grass cutting in the Parish for 2009 amounting to £1231.59 and also that he was in the process of reclaiming £2147.52 VAT. He also gave all members a copy of the bank reconciliation figures for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.</p>
5. PROJECTS	Mr. Ryan informed members via an email message that the refurbishment work at the hall was still on schedule and that all works should be completed in the advised timescale.
6. FOOTPATHS	Mr. Cowdery informed members that the new decking had now been completed on the bridge over the Alconbury brook on footpath 6 with restriction provided by gates which allowed pedestrian and horse rider access to be unlimited. He said he was enquiring whether the 'safe routes to school' scheme would provide for refurbishment to local paths to allow access for

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>village children to the proposed new school at Northbridge, it had been intimated in the media that central government was providing new money for the continued public ‘access to the Countryside’. He also added that he was intending to attend a training day on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2009 in connection with our registration with the Parish Paths Partnership of the County Council.</p>	
7. TRAFFIC CALMING	<p>Mr. Hulstrom raised with the County members the fact that he considered that the new scheme was totally ineffective and he asked whether the cushions were of a universal size and whether any restrictions may have been imposed because of possible objections from emergency services. He was told that the cushions were of a standard type and that the entire scheme was designed to meet with the authorities approval, ie nothing any more severe would have been agreed. He said the MOT had stipulated that this type of restriction was ineffective. The Clerk said that the County believed that once the ‘gateway’ feature was introduced, it would have the desired effect of reducing speed and that those motorists intent on speeding will be difficult to deter. The measures were designed to deter speed which in general it would appear to have done. The constant problem of HGV’s was more complex as with local businesses and both USAF and Civilian HGV’s accessing the main gate at RAF Alconbury for the foreseeable future. Mr. Cowdery said he considered the measures to have been what we were offered and that they were in that context, successful, the chairman said he agreed with that sentiment and with the exception of Mr. Hulstrom all members agreed that the County should be thanked for the measures, in particular the huge effort made on the Parish’s behalf by Councillor Laine Kadic. The clerk told members that he was monitoring traffic at selected ‘peak’ times, had done so before the scheme was implemented and after the ‘cushions’ and would again after the ‘gateway’ feature in an effort to ascertain what impact had been achieved by the scheme.</p>	
8. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE	<p>The chairman reported that all works had now been completed. The only remaining issue was the provision of the bark material for the ‘play area’ at Lt. Stukeley village hall and that was due in tomorrow. The clerk said that a new seat was required for one of the swings and this could cost £120.17., he was told to investigate further to ensure that the parts were compatible. The members agreed that the clerk should carry out maintenance work and painting on village seats and signs as he had done last year.</p> <p>Another issue was raised that involved vermin control on the playing field at Great Stukeley, the clerk had received a price of £660 to eliminate both rabbits and moles. This was considered excessive and plus the fact that many of the rabbits were in burrows on neighbouring land to which the Council had no access and therefore no measures implemented by the Council could be totally successful. As far as liability for injury was concerned it was considered that signage might be applicable notifying the danger of open rabbit holes, Mr Hulstrom said he doubted the legality of such signage, he however was in the minority as all other members supported such action. It was agreed that the clerk should establish the legal position with our insurance company before any measures were implemented.</p>	
9. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION	<p>Although Mr. Hobson was not at the meeting he had sent an email to all members with the fourth draft of this legislation, Mr. Turpin indicated that in the last page the sentence beginning ‘Where questions are said to be’ would have to be repositioned on a separate line to distinguish it from the previous statement on notice boards. With this small alteration it was agreed by all members on a proposition by Mr. Turpin, seconded by Mr. Hulstrom that this legislation, in the form indicated, be adopted by the Stukeleys Parish Council.</p>	

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
10. THE POWER OF WELL BEING	Mr. Cowdery said that he would summarise this legislation as giving the Parish Council the power to do anything it sees likely to improve economic, social and environmental well being of our community. It gives us the power to enter into agreements or arrangements , incur expenditure, give financial assistance, to co-operate, facilitate or co-ordinate any activities. He said he considered that the legislation to be very complicated and that the Council had several options, were they likely to employ these powers now, within a year or not likely at all. It was also advised that to attain these powers, 80% of councillors would need to undertake training and that the clerk should obtain the CiLCA qualification. It was agreed unanimously that members were not likely at all to adopt these powers and that the authority was to be advised accordingly.	
11.CPALC	The clerk reported receiving an account for membership amounting to £560.45. on enquiry it was revealed that this included provision for the Hinchingbrooke ward and that this should have been the case for the past five years, which had been omitted due to error, but after discussion a separate account was received for £288.62 for the year. After much discussion on the merits of membership it was decided that given the circumstances that had occurred over the recent years that membership was no longer justifiable, the clerk was instructed to inform CPALC of the Councils decision.	
12. DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT CONSULTATION	As Mr. Ryan was away on holiday, discussion on this issue was deferred to the next meeting, even though he had emailed his thoughts to all members.	
13. ITEMS TO REPORT	<p>The Clerk reported that he had obtained the pledge of a £1000 grant spread over 5 years from the County Council providing a five year maintenance agreement was signed, M/s Turpin and Raby who had inspected the document recommended signature, this was supported by members and the chairman duly signed.</p> <p>A discussion document from the County Council had been circulated among members, which was a Consultation on Further Additional Mineral and Waste Development Proposals and involved land at Nook Farm in the Stukeleys adjacent to the Alconbury brook at the boundary with Alconbury Parish. The proposal for Temporary Waste recycling facility to support the upgrading of the A.14. Mr Monk had made some observations which were taken into account. A reply was to be sent that the Parish Council had no objections in principle but made the following points. The dust generated from the site must be monitored and carefully managed so as not to cause nuisance. Any ‘run off’ must be strictly monitored so that there is no adverse impact on adjacent SSSI at the racecourse and further down the brook at Portholme. The Council is very greatly concerned at the inference that at some stage Low Road could be used for access to the site and if this were to be the case it would be strongly opposed as previous experiences have indicated, the use of narrow Country lanes by HGV’s is a recipe for disaster. A similar caveat applies to the track leading to the A.1, even if to a lesser extent. The Parish Council also seeks assurances about landscapes and biodiversity enhancements as part of the restoration package once this temporary use is ceased. All members supported this stance.</p>	
14. DISTRICT ISSUES	As the local Councillor was not present this agenda item was deferred.	
15. COUNTY ISSUES	Mr. Hulstrom asked the County members if the calming was the subject of restrictions from the emergency services, the reply was that it was a consideration. Also were the cushions a standard size, once again the answer was yes. He asked whether the traffic management scheme for Northbridge	

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>was any closer to fruition, the answer was not at present. The County Councillors said that the 'interactive' signs within the villages would not be repaired anymore, but replaced and asked whether the Council thought that they were now needed, Mr. Hulstrom asked, if we say no, could we have the monies saved to spend on other road safety issues, the answer was no. The members said they would decide at the next meeting as to whether the signs were necessary to replace.</p> <p>There were no further developments on the A.14 upgrade but it was still on the County Council agenda.</p> <p>Mr. Butter asked if there was any further information on the proposed 'congestion charge' for Cambridge, it was said that this was a part of a package of government support for the local highway network and was a condition of the provision of this support, but that the County were still endeavouring to negotiate a deal for the support but without the congestion charges.</p>	
16. PLANNING	<p>Application No0900229FUL for alterations and extension to a property at 1. Park View Gt. Stukeley was approved as being consistent with developments to similar properties in the same location on a proposal by the planning group supported by Mr. Turpin.</p> <p>Application No 0900371 TREE for tree works on the site of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints at Ermine Street, Great Stukeley was approved with the following caveats; Tree 1 should be reduced by one third to one half maximum. Tree 2 Take out the dead wood only. Tree 6 This tree is not considered to be 'over the fence line' and as such should remain untouched. As for Trees 7-10 all the dead wood on these trees should be removed before the more drastic removal option is exercised.</p>	
18. ITEMS TO REPORT	<p>A letter was received from a resident of Church road with a noise complaint about an electric motor running twenty four hours a day seven days a week since last September, not horrific but annoying, was the remark, not a request for removal but some form of noise suppressant, a letter was to be sent to District Environmental health asking for their examination.</p> <p>Mr. Cowdery remarked on the excellent quality of the magazine since a new editor took over, especially with website text being available in good time every month. All members endorsed this opinion and the clerk was to inform the editor of the Councils gratification of this improvement.</p>	
19. NEXT MEETINGS	<p>On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at Little Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm and will be the Annual meeting of the Council preceded at 7.00pm by the Annual Parish Meeting.</p> <p>On Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 at Great Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at Little Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at Great Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm.</p>	