

The Annual Parish Council Meeting held in the village hall at Little Stukeley on Monday 11th May 2009 at 7.30pm

ATTENDANCE	M/s J. Butter, T. Pinner, P. Ryan, D. Middleton, R. Hulstrom, D. Hossack, P. Hobson, H. Raby, M. Reynolds, P. Vincent, C. Cowdery and Mrs. S. Gifford, together with County Councillors. Sir Peter Brown and Laine Kadic and three members of the public.	
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING	This was held at 7.00pm prior to the full Council meeting, there were three members of the public present who had no questions, the clerk confirmed the meeting had been advertised for seven days prior to the meeting in the village notice boards.	
20. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN	The clerk asked for nominations. Mr. Pinner was proposed by Mr. Raby and seconded by Mr. Reynolds and as there were no other nominations Mr. Pinner was duly elected.	
APOLOGIES	Were received from M/s D. Bartlett away on business, Mr. Adams in hospital, Mr. Turpin another meeting commitment, Mrs. Parkin on holiday. District Councillor K. Baker had other meetings but would attend later to present his annual report.	
21. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN	Mr. Butter proposed Mrs Parkin, this was supported by Mr. Raby and as there were no other nominations, and she had intimated her willingness to stand she was also elected unopposed.	
22. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS	<p><u>Footpath Committee.</u> The following agreed to serve and were duly elected. M/s. P. Ryan, R. Hulstrom, C. Cowdery and P. Vincent.</p> <p><u>Lighting Committee.</u> The under mentioned members were proposed and agreed to serve. Mrs. S. Parkin, M/s. D. Hossack, M.Reynolds and D. Middleton.</p> <p><u>Playing Field Committee</u> After much discussion on liability for advice given, specifically with regard to ‘rabbit damage’ to the surface it was agreed that all members were significantly covered by liability insurance when undertaking designated Council duties it was then resolved that the following members were proposed and agreed to serve M/s. H. Raby, C. Cowdery, D. Middleton and R. Turpin.</p> <p><u>Planning Group.</u> Members listed below were proposed and agreed to serve. M/s. M. Reynolds, J. Butter, D. Middleton, D. Adams and R. Hulstrom.</p> <p><u>Tree Officer</u> Mrs Parkin was proposed and agreed to continue so was duly elected.</p> <p><u>Police Liaison</u> M/s R. Turpin and M. Reynolds agreed to continue to serve and were duly elected.</p>	
23. MINUTES	On a proposition by Mr. Butter, seconded by Mr. Reynolds the minutes of the meeting held on 6 th April 2009 were approved and signed by the chairman.	
25. ANY MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST.	There were declarations of interest to any agenda item.	

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
26. ACCOUNTS	<p>The clerk produced for all members copies of the Income and Expenditure account, the Balance Sheet, Bank reconciliation for the financial year ended 31st March 2009. He also reported that the books had been the subject of an Internal Audit by Mr. Bloomfield of Great Stukeley. On a proposal by Mr. Hulstrom, seconded by Mr. Middleton it was resolved by members to adopt these accounts..</p> <p>The Clerk then referred to the Annual Return, a proposal by Mr. Butter, seconded by Mr. Reynolds was supported by members and the chairman signed the return in preparation for its dispatch to the External Auditor. On a proposal by Mr. Hulstrom, supported by Mrs. Gifford it was resolved by members the following accounts were in order for settlement.</p> <p>EON Energy for electric £59.16. Printing Matters for Magazine £92.00. The Clerks Salary £197.79. Clerks expenses including paint etc for village seats and signs £131.16. Trevor Marks for play bark for Little Stukeley play area £150.00. Mrs Drinkwater £5.50, return of advertising payment which was not used. Came & Co £1182.66 being the insurance premium for the year commencing 1st June 2009, as advised in agenda item 29. The Clerk reported a monthly income including £846.00 for magazine advertising space and from the District Council £10750.00. being the first instalment of the Precept. County Council £1231.59 for cutting Parish grass on their behalf and County Council £600.00. being grant aid for Tumuli maintenance.</p>	
27. FOOTPATHS AND BRIDLEWAYS	<p>Mr. Cowdery reported that we were now officially members of the Parish Paths Partnership and that he had attended a ‘workshop’ on the 25th April attended by many like minded persons, he mused that although it was interesting it was not really very informative. He also reported that in connection with the 3 ‘P,s’ John Cooper of the County Council was meeting with him on the 21st May at 4pm, meet in the village hall car park at Great Stukeley, to walk several paths in the Parishes to see the works that may be needed to bring them ‘up to scratch’, he added that if any Council member wished to join them they were welcome, he did however add there could be a significant amount of ‘walking’. He finished by saying that their was an express wish to join Parishes through the paths and bridleway network and that ,as far as possible, it should be a policy criteria that no proposed new development should impinge in any way on the network.</p>	
28. PROJECTS	<p>Mr. Ryan reported that all the refurbishment work was now complete and, endorsed by the chairman, he said that they had made a significant improvement to the facility, he however said that the required curtaining to cover the walls was still ‘out to tender’ and that as village hall reserve funds were now very low, some external funding</p>	

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	<p>assistance would be required. The clerk then read a letter from the village hall committee, in which they thanked the Parish Council for it's financial support and also paid great compliment to all the hard work completed by Mr. Ryan in pushing the project forward, this praise was wholeheartedly supported by all members present at the meeting. Finally he reported that once a suitable person could be found there would be an official opening of the refurbished facilities.</p>	
29. INSURANCES	<p>The Clerk reported receiving a competitive quotation for the Councils insurance needs and that he had passed this to Mr. Hulstrom. Mr. Hulstrom reported that he had studied the quotation which gave the Council more cover for less money, £1182.66. As a policy he said he believed it contained all the elements of the existing cover whilst significantly improving the cover for the Council, it's Councillors whilst on Parish Council business, Public Liability is increased to £10.000.000. Libel and Slander Cover up to £250.000. and Fidelity Guarantee up to £100.000, this to cover any fraudulent activity by a Council official. He commended the new insurance provided through Came & Co by Norwich Union to the members, this was supported by Mr. Reynolds and approved unanimously.</p>	
30. PLANNING	<p>Application No 0900455FUL for the erection of a single storey side extension to the bungalow at 2. Mill Close, Little Stukeley.</p> <p>Application No 0900437FUL for the erection of an extension to a dwelling, following the demolition of two stores and a utility room at 45. Park View, Great Stukeley.</p> <p>Mr. Reynolds reported that the planning group had inspected both sites and felt that the alterations were in keeping, had no adverse impact on any neighbouring properties and were well thought out and designed with suitable material use, therefore approval was recommended, this was supported by members and the clerk was told to advise the District Council of the decision.</p>	
32. REPORTS	<p>The members received annual written reports from both the County and District members. In the case of the County Councillor Sir Peter Brown said they had enjoyed working with the Council and were pleased to have assisted with the provision of the new traffic calming measures. He reported that County wide the CCC were to put an extra £2m into the footpath maintenance budget. Extra monies are to be granted to the Citizens Advice Bureau to enable it to offer more community assistance in these difficult economic times. He said that although the Brampton recycling facility had closed because the lease had expired a new state of the art, undercover site was to be opened in the 'Industrial Area' towards the eastern</p>	

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	<p>edge of St. Neots in the autumn. The new Huntingdon library will be opening on 11th June at a cost of £4.6m and will be one of the best in the Country. He said the County were keeping a close ‘eye’ on the development proposals for both RAF Alconbury and the Northbridge site. It was reported also that the Alconbury ‘Truck Stop’ was opening again, initially only as a stopping area but eventually it will open fully again with all the original facilities.</p> <p>Mr. Baker reported that although Gt. Stukeley post office had been lost, the Alconbury facility was saved and was to be redeveloped now that planning had been obtained. He said he was pleased to report that a 4.99% increase had been obtained in the Council Tax resulting in an increase of £5.76. per Band ‘D’ property. He reported that the new Pathfinder House development was on course and that the main office unit was now operational and that members were looking forward to the completion of the main building. He also mentioned the Truck Stop, RAF Alconbury development issues and the traffic calming through the Stukeley’s villages. He finished by saying that he looked forward to working with the Parish Council for another year.</p>	
33. ITEMS TO REPORT	<p>The editor of the magazine supplied copy of a letter he had been asked to place in the magazine, after reading several members were concerned about the text, it was unanimously agreed to edit the letter before publication, and the clerk was asked to write to the person concerned to let them know it was a Council decision to edit the content.</p> <p>Mr. Raby informed members that Alconbury Colts Football club had asked if they could use the playing field for practice sessions. The concern was the danger from rabbit damage to the surface and the club were asked to put in writing a disclaimer for the Parish Council and also provide copy of their public liability insurance, if all this was in order members agreed to allow this practice. A quantity of topsoil was to be provided to fill the holes and this would be the responsibility of the users. It was generally agreed that this use was to be supported in every way possible. Signs were to be acquired to place on playing field entrance points warning. BEWARE UNEVEN SURFACE, PARTICULARLY RABBIT DAMAGE. ALL PERSONS USING THE PLAYING FIELD DO SO AT THEIR OWN RISK. NO LIABILITY FOR ACCIDENT OR DAMAGE WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THE PARISH COUNCIL.</p> <p>The clerk reported that the District Council had agreed to place two extra dual use waste bins in Great Stukeley, Mr. Reynolds was to agree the most suitable sites.</p> <p>Mr. Butter registered his concerns about the standard of grass cutting in St. Bartholomew’s, the chairman</p>	

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	<p>reminded him that the Parish Council paid for this service as a 'Grace and Favour' and if complaints were continued members in general may decide to rescind the facility.</p> <p>The Clerk was given permission by members to purchase and plant summer flowers under the village signs, mainly geraniums as rabbits did not 'like' them.</p>	
34. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS	<p>Monday 1st June 2009 at Great Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm</p> <p>Monday 6th July 2009 at Lt. Stukeley village hall at 7.30pm</p> <p>Monday 7th September 2009 at Gt. Stukeley village hall at 7.30pm.</p> <p>Monday 5th October 2009 at Little Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm</p>	