

A meeting of the Stukeley's Parish Council held at Little Stukeley village hall on Monday 7th December 2009 at 7. 30pm.

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| ATTENDANCE | M/s R. Turpin, D. Middleton, P. Hobson, D. Hossack, P. Ryan, Mrs. S. Parkin, C. Cowdery, P. Vincent, J. Butter, T. Pinner, M.Reynolds, R. Hulstrom, Mrs. S. Gifford, County Councillors Sir Peter Brown and Laine Kadic together with two members of the public. |
| APOLOGIES | Were received from Mr. D. Bartlett away on business, H. Raby, indisposed, D. Adams other commitment and County Councillor Baker away on holiday. |
| OPEN FORUM | A question was posed on behalf of Mr. Evans at Great Stukeley regarding the lack of reinstatement after recent electric works in the area of Denmark House also the replacement of the safety barrier at the end of the 'cinder path' in the wrong position, Ms Kadic said she would inform the relative department at the County Council. Mr. Lumley of Low Road Little Stukeley asked if the County gritters could treat Mill road down to it's junction with Low road in icy periods as it was very dangerous for the large number of heavy vehicles accessing Nook Farm through the winter and he feared, that after having a car 'come to rest' in his garden hedge during snow last year a similar accident could happen to one of these lorries in similar circumstances this winter, once again Ms Kadic agreed to lobby the relevant County Highway department. |
| 100. MINUTES | The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd November 2009 were after one small alteration to read 'Metal' and not wood as stated, signed by the chairman with the approval of a proposition by Mr. Turpin seconded by Mr. Cowdery. |
| 102. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST | Mr. Pinner said that one of the footpaths to be discussed ran over property within his ownership, but that he intended still to register his opinion on certain issues |
| 103. ACCOUNTS | On a proposal by Mr. Turpin, seconded by Mr. Butter it was resolved that the following accounts were approved for payment. EON Electric for November supply £59.16. Printing Matters for December magazine £100.80. Cambs County Council for traffic calming contribution £8308.00. Alan Summerfield for verge maintenance in summer 2009. £287.50. There was no reported income for the month. |
| 104.CLERKS SALARY | Mr Hulstrom reported that NALC had advised a salary increase of 1.35% back dated to 1 st April 2009 this meant the hourly rate being increased from £10.35 per hour to £10.48 per hour with a new salary of £199.46 per month and with back pay the December salary would total £220.82. this together with an increased holiday entitlement of 23.52 hours annually was proposed by Mr. Hulstrom, seconded by Mr. Cowdery and approved by members. |
| 105.FOOTPATHS | Mr. Cowdery reported that orders had been placed to have the surface of the byway to Alconbury assessed to see what action was acceptable to improve the surface, he said that the difficult to open gates were actually in the Alconbury Parish and that that matter had been passed to them for attention. He reported that the kissing gates and steps had been provided on footpaths 17 and 18 at a total cost of £2200, Mr Pinner asked that signage warning dog owners to keep their pets on leads in the field and to refrain from letting the dogs 'relieve' themselves in the field be provided, Mr. Cowdery said he had signs for dogs on leads and would seek signs relating to dog fouling from the County, he also said he would put an article in the magazine reminding pet owners of their responsibilities on footpaths in the countryside. Mrs. Gifford complained that she had received no notification of the works at all, Mr. Cowdery said this must have been an oversight and gave apologies for the omission. Footpath 2 in Low road that was severed by the A.14 was under review to see whether an alternative crossing could be established, in the |

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| | <p>meantime members felt that the existing section, although it had no thoroughfare should be maintained open until some alternative could be agreed. He said he had had requests to make the path between Hill Close and Ermine Street a route for horses to use as well, he said the County had no objection but had to seek the permission of the District Council who owned the land in that area. Mr. Cowdery said he had Way posts and path markers and would replaced the sign on footpath 5. The situation concerning 'Raby's' bridge was raised by the chairman, he said it was unsafe for horse riders and that the mounting platforms provided on either side were of little use, Mr. Cowdery said that the County could liaise with the Highway Authority, who owned the bridge, about providing higher parapets but that they did have much optimism of success. Footpath 1 across land owned by the chairman was still under discussion and although the chairman had accepted that metal gates were to be used he still was to meet with County Officials to agree the strategy for implementation. It had been reported that the recent development of stables at Grange Farm had actually been built on the line of footpath 11 the clerk was asked to write to the District Council to establish what action if any may be needed. Mr. Ryan reported that contact with the County had revealed that the connections of footpath 19 within the Northbridge proposals had not been made, he also said that it was emphasised that the section 106 proposals only concentrated on links to the Hinchingsbrooke Park and that they should be widened to encompass the wider area of the countryside including links with the village networks thus using available funds in a more efficient manner.</p> | |
| 106. TRAFFIC CALMING | <p>The clerk reported receiving survey detail carried out by the County Council over a four day period in September Friday to Monday inclusive, this showed that the daily traffic on weekdays was in the region of 3200 vehicles and this dropped to 2000 at weekends, the average speed for all vehicles was 32mph, this it was agreed had in some way justified the scheme, Mr. Turpin said that when he was leader at the Council those figures were 5000 vehicles a day so the improvement was tangible.</p> | |
| 106a PLAY EQUIPMENT | <p>Mr. Vincent asked members whether they had a preference for either wood or metal structures, it was agreed that with past experience metal was the best option, he said there was little difference in cost and that he had obtained three estimates for multifunctional equipment, two sets of swings, climbing frame and a slide all with a rolled out type of matting safety surface(the type which grass will grow through) these averaged around £14500. He was instructed to seek what grant funds were available and thus the type of funding liability that the Council was looking at.</p> | |
| 107. PLANNING | <p>Application No. 0901487FUL for the erection of a conservatory at 19 Woodlands, Hinchingsbrooke was approved on a proposition by the planning group.</p> <p>It was reported by the clerk that the application 0900076ENUCO for a 'Certificate of Lawful Use' at Grange Farm had been withdrawn because of serious inconsistencies and that the applicant intended to re-submit another application sometime in the future.</p> <p>It was reported to the Council that it was considered that stables and offices given planning permission in 2006 at Grange farm and recently completed had subsequently been built on the line of footpath eleven in the area, the clerk was instructed to contact the District Council Planning Dept; to ask them to investigate.</p> | |
| 108. A.14 ISSUES | <p>Mr. Ryan reported that he had researched the proposals and had found</p> | |

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| | <p>insufficient data on traffic flows on which to make any constructive comment, he added that because of the location there unlikely to be a significant impact on the villages, Mr. Butter asked that a further point be added that because the A.1 at Alconbury was three lanes and then approaching the A.14 Interchange it was only two, this in conjunction with the closure of the present A.1/A.14 junction at Alconbury had the potential to generate serious traffic hold-ups at the new A.14/ A.1 interchange. Another related issue it was agreed that the members could ‘support in principle’ the request from Brampton PC for an access to the further countryside facility across the newly aligned A.14 through their parish.</p> | |
| 109. PRECEPT | <p>The clerk had produced and circulated to members a budget forecast that could retain services at present levels but would require a Parish Rate increase of approximately £2.50 per ‘Band D’ property per annum, this would raise the £12.000 he considered the minimum to achieve that aim. Mr. Turpin proposed this proposition be adopted, the motion was seconded by Mr. Ryan and the voting was nine in favour, one against with two abstentions. The clerk was asked to Precept £12.000 for the fiscal period ended March 2011.</p> | |
| 110. DISTRICT ISSUES | <p>As Mr. Baker was not present there was not a report.</p> | |
| 111. COUNTY ISSUES | <p>There were no further issues other than those dealt with in earlier discussions.</p> | |
| 113. ITEMS TO REPORT | <p>Mrs Parkin reported that the tree officer from the District was very supportive for the tree planting plans on the verges of land owned by G. C. Field & Sons of Nook Farm and suggested that between the old native varieties perhaps flowering cherry and similar species would enhance the planting and in years to come allow spaces for the larger trees to develop. It was reported by the clerk that the tree officer at the District had imposed a tree preservation order on an established Ash tree between 4 and 10 Ermine street Great Stukeley to protect it from the development proposals for that area.</p> | |
| 114. NEXT MEETINGS | <p>On Monday 4th January 2010 at Great Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm On Monday 1st February 2010 at Little Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm. On Monday 1st March 2010 at Great Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm. On Monday 5th April 2010 at Little Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm. On Monday 10th May 2010 at Great Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm</p> | |