

**A meeting of the Stukeley's Parish Council held at Little Stukeley village hall on
Monday 1st February 2010 at 7. 30pm.**

ATTENDANCE	M/s R. Turpin, C. Cowdery, J. Butter, M.Reynolds, R. Hulstrom, P. Ryan, P. Vincent, D. Hossack, Mrs. Gifford, Mrs Parkin, County Councillor Sir Peter Brown, District Councillor. K. Baker together with one member of the public.
APOLOGIES	Were received from Mr. D. Bartlett away on business, D. Adams, on holiday, T. Pinner, another engagement, H. Raby, another engagement, P. Hobson, ill. Mr. Middleton on holiday
OPEN FORUM	There was no question from the member of the public present.
CHAIRMAN	In the event of the absence of Mr. Pinner, the vice chair, Mrs Parkin chaired the meeting.
126. MINUTES	The minutes of the meeting held on 4 th January 2010 were signed by the chairman with the approval of a proposition by Mr. Turpin seconded by Mr. Cowdery.
128. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST	There were no such declarations from members attending.
134. COUNTY ISSUES	<p>At the request of Sir Peter Brown, who had another engagement, this item was brought forward for earlier discussion.</p> <p>He reported that Councillor Kadic had recently been in hospital for an operation but was home now and that she had tendered her apologies for absence, she was recovering slowly, the members asked him to convey to her their best wishes for a complete recovery.</p> <p>He said that the County were having difficulty to maintain services in line with the 3% increase in rate next year and that there inevitably would be some cuts in services and some staff redundancies.</p> <p>Mr. Turpin asked whether the care for the elderly budget would be affected, especially as central government funding had been reduced, he said that adult social services budget would also inevitably be affected but that the Council would make every effort to try to ensure that the elderly be able to stay in their own homes, if that was what they wished, it was agreed that early releases from hospital compounded the problem, with many not really able to cope.</p> <p>Mr. Butter said he was concerned about the library service, because although a new facility had been opened at Wisbech, it was rumoured that the mobile service was to suffer cuts, the councillor said that it was not true that the service was to be withdrawn completely but there would possibly be 30% cuts in access points, he added that by being personally involved in that area he would do all in his power to protect the service as much as possible, especially in rural areas.</p> <p>Councillor Baker said that he had received complaints about 'non' gritting a motorway 'slip' roads, Sir Peter said he would make enquiries, but he had received no complaints and the County had received fewer complaints this year, primarily because they had 'stocked up' with extra salt in the summer months.</p>
129. ACCOUNTS	On a proposal by Mr. Butter seconded by Mrs Gifford it was resolved that the following accounts were approved for payment. EON Electric for February supply £59.16. Printing Matters for February magazine £100.80. M. J. Newman, clerks February salary £199. 46. MHB Services for electrical repairs £103. 50. K. Fergusons Ltd for grass maintenance(Oct/Nov 2009) £1010. 18. There was income for the month of £77. 50 for magazine

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>advertising and £544. 19 from HDC for recycling credits. Mr. Turpin enquired whether magazine advertising revenue was covering costs, the clerk said there would be a surplus of income over expenditure for the whole year, he also reported that the editor was now invoicing on the Councils behalf for advertising space but that copy invoices were being lodged with the clerk at all times.</p>	
130. FOOTPATHS	<p>Mr. Cowdery reported that works were to be completed on footpath one within this financial year, the clerk informed him that there were issues with this path and the footpaths 17 and 18 surrounding signage, he agreed to speak with the chairman by phone as soon as possible. He said County officers had met with Mr. Smith and his agent at Grange Farm to discuss various issues pertaining to footpath 11 in the area. The clerk reported that the chairman had also met Mr. Smith who had shown keen interest in redirecting this path onto the metalled roadway from Lodge Farm all the way to Green End and also to upgrade it too Bridleway status, it was generally agreed that if this was to be the case it should be welcomed and was another issue which Mr. Cowdery could discuss with the chairman.</p> <p>Mr. Cowdery also mentioned the Parish Path Partnership, he said we had been members now for twelve months and that much had been achieved for very little input from the Parish Council and that he felt it had been a good project, he said however that membership now required renewing and as he had left the village and was not standing for re-election a new point of contact had to be nominated, it was agreed that this should be the clerk until after the election when the composition of the new Council was known and a serving councillor could be elected to the post.</p>	
131.PLAY EQUIPMENT	<p>As Mr. Vincent reported that he was now in a position to make a grant application based on the approx; overall cost of £15,000 to £16,000 but that this would require a guaranteed input from the Parish Council of £3,500. The Clerk was asked whether the Council could warrant such a figure, he said regarding the importance the members attached to the project, he felt it was prudent to use an element of the reserves to fund this figure. Mr. Vincent then proposed this figure to the members and Mr. Turpin seconded the proposal, in a subsequent vote all members were in favour of that guaranteed figure of £3,500.</p>	
132. PLANNING	<p>An Application No 0901638REL by Mr. Wright of College Farm was discussed and was the renewal of the listed building consent associated with last months approval so on a proposal by the planning group, seconded by Mrs Gifford members agreed to approve the application.</p> <p>SHLAA(Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment) which had been available to members on-line on the HDC Website. Mr. Ryan, who had examined the document explained that basically this is part of an ongoing process to define future development. It started with the Core Strategy, and works through several stages of SHLAA to the Development Plan Document(DPD) that defines development locations. The SHLAA started with a 'request for proposals for sites' and this present consultation with HDC's response to sites that have been proposed. This is the first part for 'market housing', i.e. the bulk of housing. Subsequent sections will cover rural affordable housing and provision of sites for Gypsies and Travellers. For the Stukeley's, the more interesting items are in the section 'discounted sites for market housing' which lists sites that have been suggested by owners/ developers but which HDC believes are not appropriate for various reasons including 'the site is not within the direction of growth' as based on the Core</p>	

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	<p>Strategy which does not allow for growth North or North/West of Huntingdon. He proposed that the Parish Council respond that they broadly agree. Agree that the proposed sites for development are the only suitable ones and are consistent with the Core Strategy. In relation to the 'discounted sites' agree that these too are consistent with the Core Strategy objective to keep settlements distinctive. 'To conserve and enhance the special character and separate identities of Huntingdonshire villages and Market Towns. Mr Turpin who said he had viewed the document on-line supported this motion and the members accorded their complete support also. Mr. Ryan was asked to submit these comments on behalf of the Council 'on line'. Mr. Butter took the Council copy of the consultation document to study fully before passing on to Mr. Reynolds</p>	
133. DISTRICT ISSUES	<p>Mr. Baker reported that the District now in relation to the SHLAA consultation are dealing with the issues surrounding the provision of sites for gypsies and travellers.</p> <p>Mr. Baker also reported that the District Councillors would soon be able to move into the new Centenary House to conduct council business, rather than moving round various other sites for their meetings.</p> <p>On questioning from Mr. Hulstrom regarding planning enforcement measures at Grange Farm he agreed to try to set up a meeting in the Council offices to discuss the relevant issues raised by this Council on many occasions, this meeting would include, Mr. Hulstrom to represent the Parish Council, proposed by Mr. Cowdery, seconded by Mrs Gifford and approved by the members, Councillor Baker and relevant officers from the District Planning Office. Mr Baker agreed to liaise with Mr. Hulstrom for dates and times.</p> <p>Mr. Butter raised the issue of the lack of toilet facilities in Huntingdon and asked if the Council had plans to solve the issue, Mr. Baker said unfortunately due to the high cost of maintenance the District policy was more to close these facilities than to replace them. Mr. Butter said he felt that most unfortunate especially in the light of the Council policy of trying to promote tourism more for the area, Mr. Baker said he took note of these concerns.</p>	
136. ISSUES TO REPORT	<p>The Clerk reported that the Parish Precept for a 'Band D' property was to be £28.92 for the coming fiscal period, an increase of £1.80.</p> <p>Mr. Butter thanked members concerned for providing extra salt bins requested at last months, he said they were very helpful, on a question of their removal at the end of winter, the clerk said that M/s Ferguson would be asked to empty them onto a concrete pad at Pringle Farm, where they could be stored and the salt 'reserve' used in future winters.</p> <p>Mr. Butter also enquired as to whether the clerk intended to promote membership of the Council at the forthcoming election where it was generally believed that a significant number of the present Council intended to 'retire' from office. The clerk said this was his intention and that all possible detail would be provided, including availability of nomination papers and the relevant timescales relating to any possible election in May.</p> <p>Mrs Parkin reported that she and the District tree officer were seeking an on site meeting with Mr. Field to discuss positioning and type of trees to form the tree belt on his verges through the village of Little Stukeley.</p> <p>The chairman, through the clerk, said he had a person 'ferreting' the rabbits in the playing field and surrounding properties at no cost to the Council.</p> <p>Mr. Cowdery said by using his office as a Parish Councillor had now received conformation by the Highways Authority that there was some incorrect road marking at the Spittals Interchange, which they intended to</p>	

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	<p>remedy. Members agreed that the issue of whether the village sign in Great Stukeley should be re-sited should be put on next months agenda.</p>	
137. NEXT MEETINGS	<p>On Monday 1st March 2010 at Great Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm. On Monday 12th 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 On Monday 7th June 2010 at Little Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm. On Monday 5th July 2010 at Great Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm.</p>	