

A meeting of the Stukeley's Parish Council held at Great Stukeley village hall on Monday 4th October 2010 at 7.00pm.

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| ATTENDANCE | M/s R. Hulstrom, M. Monk, P. Hobson, H. Raby, T. Pinner, P. Ryan, Mrs. N. Sly, Mrs. S. Parkin, County Councillors Sir. Peter Brown and Laine Kadic. |
| APOLOGIES | Were received from District Councillor K. Baker and Mr. Vincent who was absent for personal reasons. |
| 70. NORTHBRIDGE | <p>The chairman introduced Mr. Attwood of John Martin Associates who gave members a resume of the proposals his company were intending to submit to the District Council Planning Authority on behalf of the landowner for the development of the site known as 'Northbridge' He stated that the site is allocated for housing in the Huntingdonshire Local Plan Alteration 2002 and extends to an area of some 50 hectares, the site was previously in the Stukeleys Parish but as of April 2010 had become part of Huntingdon West Ward and had been the subject previously of an application by Persimmon Homes.</p> <p>These proposals were however a new outline planning application on behalf of the land owners for a development of similar scale and content. He said that a 'Project Team' had been assembled to identify the opportunities and constraints to develop the site dealing with the following issues.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transportation and Travel Planning-including new bus routes and highway access improvements to Ermine Street and the A 141. 2. On and Off site Ecology. 3. Archaeology. 4. Site Contamination. 5. Noise and Air Quality matters. 6. Trees and Landscaping. 7. Overall Master Planning. 8. Drainage and Utilities. <p>He also reported that ongoing discussions were being held with Officers of the Local Planning Authority, the County Council, the Highways Agency, the Environment Agency and other consultees. The size of the development will be supported by a full Environmental Statement.</p> <p>Mr. Attwood handed out various literature and proceeded to guide the members through various sections of the application, with map displays and diagrams. He said the project was for 1021 houses of which 40% were to be affordable housing, there would be a school, with room for expansion in future years, playing fields, a community building, shops and a pub restaurant. The access to the site would be opposite Ermine Street Business Park with that section of Ermine Street subject to 'duelling' to provide safer, easier access, the northern end of the site would be exit only except for emergency vehicles. New pedestrian crossings and an access bridge for cycles and walkers over the A.141. New bus routes would form part of the proposals and eventually it was hoped that these would link with the new 'Busway'. Overall he said that they were planning a development that would reflect character similar to that at in front of the Victoria Inn in Ouse Walk Huntingdon.</p> <p>After this he was questioned by Mr. Monk on green space issues, the provision of and the positioning of these, specifically the green corridor beside Ermine Street, this should visibly give the appearance of progressing from Urban to Rural area, he also added that the vista of the tower of St. Bartholomew's should be retained as long as possible. The Open space to the north of the site should be maintained as a 'buffer' between the development and the rural setting of Great</p> |

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| | <p>Stukeley. He said that when the plans became available particular emphasis would be put on these issues.</p> <p>At this stage Mr. Attwood informed members that it was hoped to submit outline plans this month and that the timetable for events was 16 weeks.</p> <p>He then answered questions from Mr. Ryan on public rights of way to and from the site, as well as those through the site, also questions from Mr. Hulstrom on transport issues, in agreeing to return for further discussions after the plans were available he said he would bring with him a colleague who was dealing with those issues. At this stage the chairman thanked Mr. Attwood for attending.</p> | |
| ELIZABETH PARKIN | Mrs. Parkin thanked all for their kind messages of sympathy following the death of her daughter. | |
| 69. OPEN MEETING | There were no members of the public present. | |
| 71.MINUTES | On a proposal by Mr. Hulstrom, seconded by Mr. Raby and approved by the meeting the minutes for the 6 th September were signed as true and correct by the Chairman. | |
| 73. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST | Mr. Raby who had already declared an interest in the first item on the agenda was given permission by the chairman to stay in the meeting and observe but take no part in that phase of proceedings. | |
| 74. ACCOUNTS | <p>The following monthly accounts were agreed for settlement on a proposal by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mrs. Sly and approved by the meeting EON Electric for October supply £59.16. Easiprint for October magazine £90.00. M. J. Newman, clerks October Salary £199.46. MHB for lighting repairs £132.25.</p> <p>There was no income to notify for the period.</p> | |
| 75.RIGHTS OF WAY | <p>Mr. Raby reported that in discussion with Mr. Field over the problems surrounding access to and along footpath 7 on the south western boundary of Nook Farm had revealed that he was not keen on any diversion across his land, he had emphasised that the problem was not of his making but of those who sanctioned the diversions to Alconbury brook to allow gravel excavation. It was agreed by members that Mr. Ryan discuss the issues with John Cooper of the County to see if a solution was possible.</p> <p>The clerk followed by reading correspondence from Mr. Cooper with reference to footpath 11 at Grange Farm with a specific request that a resolution to the problems be hastened, he also added that if it could be established that there had been continued use of the proposed diversion route, without hindrance or objection for a period exceeding twenty years, ‘users rights’ may be available to the Parish Council. Mr. Pinner then reported that, that very morning he had had discussions with the owner of the land, Mr. Trevor Smith in which it had been verbally agreed that, ‘if the Parish Council were to agree to the closure of the complete length of the path 11 from BR 10 at Lodge Farm to Green End and specifically the section running across the grass meadow immediately to the south of Grange Farm House, he would for his part agree to the diversion of the public path onto the metalled track from BR 10 to Grange Farm and then onto the farm access driveway to Green End, to facilitate safer passage the width restricting fencing on the drive side would be removed to provide a grass strip for walkers, it was also agreed that whilst doing this the complete length would be upgraded to Bridleway status. On a proposition by Mr. Monk, seconded by Mr. Hulstrom and fully supported it was agreed that the clerk should write to both the Owner and John Cooper of the County Council to confirm that the Parish Council would support such a proposition. The clerk was also the contact Mr. Cooper to say the Council were satisfied that the 20 year use of the new route could be proven but that at this stage it was not a route that the members were about to pursue, providing a satisfactory outcome was agreed.</p> | |

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| 76. PLAY EQUIPMENT | The clerk reported that the proposed equipment for Great Stukeley had been ordered after receiving the 'go-ahead' from WREN to start. As Mr. Vincent was absent there was no news about Little Stukeley other than the fact that a questionnaire had been placed in the October magazine to find out what type of equipment was required in that area. | |
| 77. TREE PLANTING | Mrs Parkin revealed that her latest insert in the magazine had enlisted the help of two further volunteers for tree planting, Mrs Sly said she had received one offer from a WI member, Mrs Parkin observed, more were needed if possible. | |
| 78. PRECEPT | The Clerk had supplied all members with the latest financial detail of the Council up to 30 th September 2010 together with a forecast as to the possible liabilities up to 31 st March 2011. It was clear from the figures supplied that the budget as it stood would not finance the level of expenditure that had been normal in the past and that this reflected clearly the loss of revenue from the Hinchingsbrooke Estate. Members debated issues surrounding grass cutting and village maintenance which was a significant percentage of the Council's annual expenditure. Both Mr. Monk and the chairman reflected that it was a matter of pride the Council felt in the way open spaces and the churchyards had been maintained in the past and a thing of envy for other communities, they both felt that these standards should be maintained if possible. Mr. Hulstrom, supported by Mrs. Sly, said that although he did not completely agree with this view he appreciated the dilemma faced by members, he suggested the solution was to raise the Precept to a figure of £15,000 per annum and that this would facilitate village maintenance to remain at the present high level that most members supported, this after all would possibly represent an average Parish Rate of £32 per annum per Band 'D' property, an increase of approximately fifteen pence per week per household, this motion was supported by Mr. Monk and endorsed by the entire Council, therefore the Precept request for 2011/12 was to be set at £15,000 and that was the figure the clerk was asked to submit to the District. It was also agreed that the chairman should write a letter to be placed in the November magazine giving a full explanation of the increase and the reason the increase was thought necessary. | |
| 79. PLANNING | Although not an official consultee to the proposals for a wind farm at Wooley it was decided that it was pertinent that the council commented on the proposals. After a lengthy discussion Mr. Monk proposed, seconded by Mrs. Parkin that the Council should register its objection to the proposals on the following grounds, The development would have an unacceptable visual impact on the amenities of the two villages by nature of its prominent positioning on the hills the west side of a rolling rural valley on the skyline of both villages, also members are not convinced that they are an effective renewable resource, in the following vote, three members supported the motion with two against and with two abstaining, the clerk was therefore instructed to inform the District Planning Authority of the Council's opinion. | |
| 80. DISTRICT ISSUES | As Mr. Baker was absent through illness there was no report this month. | |
| 81. COUNTY ISSUES | Sir Peter Brown said there was nothing to report as the County were still waiting to hear the effects of the Central Government Spending Review in three weeks time. In answer to a question he said that the new Courts at Huntingdon were only to have the County division under review for closure, the magistrates and Crown Court would remain functional. Laine Kadic said she would like to work, together with the Rights of Way Officer of the County, John Cooper, to improve the ROW's in the Parishes and also access to them, this was readily accepted. Mr. Monk reported that the hedges mentioned at the previous meeting still had not been cut, Mrs. Kadic said the County worked on a twenty eight day schedule | |

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| 83. ITEMS TO REPORT | <p>for completion, it was agreed to monitor progress.</p> <p>The Clerk reported via; a letter from the Authority that officers had visited the site of the new swimming pool at the Birches, Ermine Street, and that all was in order and planning was not required, however the erection of a hot tub and associate building was above the required limit and did require planning permission, the owners had been accordingly advised.</p> <p>Mr. Ryan advised members that the Council was being consulted about development proposals on a new site South/East of the Love's Farm development at St. Neots, considering the distance from our Parish it was agreed by all that no comment was needed from the Council.</p> <p>Mr. Hobson advised that the printers required £80 to reproduce A3 size definitive footpath map for the magazine, the clerk was asked to check with the County on the implications of the Copyright regulations, if this was in order it was agreed to go ahead with the usual disclaimers about authenticity.</p> | |
| 68. NEXT MEETINGS | <p>On Monday 1st November 2010 at Little Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 6th December 2010 at Great Stukeley village hall commencing at <u>7.00pm.</u></p> <p>On Monday 10th January 2011 at Little Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 7th February 2011 at Great Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 7th March 2011 at Little Stukeley village hall commencing at 7.30pm.</p> | |