

**A meeting of the Stukeley's Parish Council held at Little Stukeley village hall on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2011 at 7.30pm.**

ATTENDANCE	M/s M. Monk, T. Pinner, P. Ryan, H. Raby, P. Vincent, Mrs. S. Parkin, Mrs. N. Sly, County Councilors Laine Kadic & Sir Peter Brown and District Councillor Keith Baker and one member of the public
APOLOGIES	Were received from Mr. Hulstrom who was unavoidably detained on business and Mr. Hobson who was indisposed.
OPEN FORUM	Mr. Day the new resident of the Swan and Salmon at Little Stukeley registered his wish for faster broadband in the village but his strong objection to the BT cabinet to facilitate this being placed on the verge immediately adjacent to his property. He explained, the cabinet 1.6 meters in height would obstruct the view of the Swan and Salmon motif on the gable end of his property which was a listed building. He said it was being placed there for convenience because of its close proximity to the BT service cabinet on the opposite side of Ermine Street, he said it would have an undesirable and adverse impact on both his property and the conservation area of the village in which it was proposed to be sited, the chairman thanked him for his comment and said these would be taken into consideration when determining the application later in the meeting.
148. MINUTES	On a proposal by Mr. Monk, seconded by Mrs. Parkin after the clerk had agreed to amend the minutes to add that Mrs Sly had been co-opted onto the Planning Group and that Mr. Ryan had intimated that the Recreation Field was one of the areas under consideration as an allotment area, were approved by the meeting as a true and correct record for the meeting on the 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2011 and were signed by the Chairman.
150. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST	The Chairman declared an interest in the item headed Village Maintenance as he knew two of the tender suppliers personally.
151. COUNTY ISSUES	Ms. Kadic told the Council that she had received several complaints from people walking down Low Road about the amount of mud being deposited on the road, allegedly by farm vehicles, she enquired whether the Parish Council could send a letter to M/s Fields to ask them to try to clear up occasionally, the chairman said that he had dealings with the farm and declared an interest, it was agreed that initially the issue was one for the County and that one of their officers should make contact and advise of responsibilities to keep the roadway clear, Mrs Kadic agreed to do this and report back. Sir Peter Brown advised that the County had adopted their cost cutting budget with the emphasis being on the protection of front line services, he said he was still hopeful that there would be no library closures and that the service would be maintained in its present reduced form. Mrs Kadic said that they hoped to maintain the Youth Service run club in Alconbury and hoped that the Parish would promote this through the pages of the Parish Magazine. She also advised that she and Sir Peter were setting up their own 'blogging site' in the near future.
152. DISTRICT ISSUES	Mr. Baker reported that the District had also approved a cost cutting budget which he considered would be achievable in the first year but there after may prove significantly more difficult. He reported that he had registered his view that the application for the Telecom facility on the side of Ermine Street should be refused on impact related matters. Mr. Monk supported by members told him that when the new District Headquarters at Eastfield House was established the Parish was assured that District vehicles would be instructed not to use Ermine Street as a route north, this was not now the case with HDC vehicles regularly

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	<p>using the route, he was asked to remind officers of their original agreement and that the practice should be stopped as soon as practicable.</p>	
153. PLANNING	<p>Application No 1100180TELDET for the installation of DSLAM equipment cabinet on Ermine Street verge adjacent to 1 Low Road, Little Stukeley. After discussion and a recommendation by the planning group, on a proposal by Mr. Monk, seconded by Mrs Sly it was agreed to recommend refusal of the application on the grounds of severe adverse impact on adjacent listed building the Swan and Salmon and also the adverse visual impact on a village conservation area.</p> <p>Application No 1100197FUL for the erection of a new garage to replace existing garage and shed at 14 Church Way, Little Stukeley, this was a new application but as a decision was required prior to the next meeting it was agreed to adjudicate. It was agreed that this new development was a great improvement on existing and could only enhance the visual appearance of the area with that in mind and on a proposal by Mr. Monk, seconded by Mr. Ryan it was agreed to approve the application.</p> <p>Mr. Monk reported that the planning group had held consultations with Mr. Juggins reference his planning proposals for Green End. He confirmed that the original application had been withdrawn but that a new application was inevitable. He also reported that the meeting discussions were inconclusive with several options being reviewed including 3 dwellings plus two affordable units and then only two dwellings on a single access. The problem in the area was the possibility of whether or not the area was within the 'village envelope', this was believed to be District thinking at present but there was no clear guideline on decision making in that area, although Mr. Ryan felt that the Council did not at present have sufficient guidelines to make an informed judgement on planning decisions for the area. It was agreed that if plans were submitted before the 'Localism' bill is made law a judgement would have to be attempted. If and when that bill is passed the Parish Council is likely to be given the powers to make such decisions. Mr. Juggins was advised to continue dialogue with District Officials to determine their opinions on the direction his proposals should follow.</p>	
154. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE	<p>The Council had received four quotations for the maintenance of the villages grass areas, churchyards and hall grounds. These were displayed on a table for members to assess, all the quotations proved to be very close and after much discussion and on a proposal by Mr. Vincent, seconded by Mrs Sly it was decided that the clerk should advise M/s T &amp; S Gardening and Grounds Maintenance that they have been awarded the contract for 2011 with the possibility of an extension for a further two years with an agreed inflation proof increase each year. The Clerk was asked also to inform the other three applicants that they had been unsuccessful.</p>	
155. ACCOUNTS	<p>The following monthly accounts were agreed for settlement on a proposal by Mr. Raby, seconded by Mrs. Parkin and approved by the meeting EON Electric for March supply £59.16. Easiprint for March magazine £90.00. M. J. Newman, clerks March Salary £199.46, also 2010/2011 holiday entitlement £246.49 and office expenditure Dec/Mar £58.27. Internet Charges for Magazine(cash contra) £10.80. Registered Income for the period was Magazine Advertising £44.00. The Clerk reported balances at the 28<sup>th</sup> February of Current Account. £3394.37. And Deposit Account balance of £15.638.00.</p>	
156. RIGHTS OF WAY	<p>Mr. Ryan reported that at a recent meeting with Urban &amp; Civic they had been very responsive to the Councils suggestions with regard to footpath 11 at Grange Farm but that because of the three year lease agreement with their tenant Mr.</p>	

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	<p>Smith it may require his agreement also to push forward these proposals, he suggested that a meeting should be convened between County Officials, the Parish Council Rights of Way committee and Urban &amp; Civic as this could facilitate dialogue for the way forward, he was given authority to arrange such a meeting.</p> <p>He also raised issues surrounding footpath 13 from Ermine Street and Beech Avenue and the need for attention to both the steps leading from Ermine Street and the kissing gate at the Beech Avenue end , several thoughts were aired but it was agreed in the end that he should contact John Cooper of the County to ask him if these works could be prioritised possibly through the Parish Path Partnership, he said he would keep members informed of progress.</p>	
157. PLAY EQUIPMENT	<p>Mr Vincent reported that although the grant application for new equipment at Little Stukeley had failed subsequent conversations with the grantors had been very positive and he had been advised to apply again with extra information and a larger financial input from possibly more sources, the chairman said he would attend the village hall AGM to endeavour to enlist their financial support, Mr. Ryan said he would approach the District Council and Mr. Vincent he would approach WREN. The clerk advised he had contacted both the insurance company and their assessors to facilitate another site inspection to see what the latest prognosis was, he also said he would keep members updated.</p>	
158.ALCONBURY	<p>Mr. Monk reported two very positive meetings with Urban &amp; Civic last month, he reported that they had also shown a very positive reaction to the suggestion that an independent planning consultant be appointed to advise the Parish Council and to be funded by U &amp; C, furthermore it was accepted that this consultant was to assist with the assessment of implementation of U &amp; C's master plan in the best interests of all parties, they also agreed that information provided by this source should be made available to other interested Parish Councils upon request. Mr. Monk also advised he was in the process of researching qualified consultants with a view of submitting name to U. &amp; C. A full report of both meetings is appended in the minute book.</p>	
159.ALLOTMENTS	<p>Mr. Ryan reported receiving interest from five parties thus far, one of which had intimated that if six or more applications were received the Parish Council may be obliged to research available land for the purpose. It was emphasised that if land had to be leased or rented numbers were relevant to the viability of the project. He said he intended to work with U &amp; C to see if it were feasible for them to provide land on Grange Farm, one site in particular was mentioned as being on the farms western boundary at the eastern end of Owl End, where the clerk intimated he was sure, in the days when it was a grass meadow there was a water supply to the area. Mr. Ryan was asked to continue his enquiries, he was also authorised to insert an article in the magazine to highlight the fact that the Council was investigating the issue.</p>	
161.ITEMS TO REPORT	<p>Mr. Vincent reported that while tidying up in the play area he had started cleaning the stonework surrounding the millennium tree in the area, he said he was about three quarters of the way round and would, weather permitting, finish the job next weekend, he was thanked by the chairman for his efforts.</p> <p>Mr. Monk again raised the issue of water from a hydrant being flushed onto the road inside the Alconbury base and then flowing out the base gate at the Great Stukeley end, onto the entrance thus causing difficulty to both pedestrians and cyclists who were unable to avoid this water, Mr. Pinner said he had been assured by the RAF Base commander that the issue had now been addressed, but it was agreed that the matter should be carefully monitored. Mr. Monk said he was still very concerned and perhaps a copy of the minutes should be sent to the</p>	

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	<p>Commander to register these Council concerns.</p> <p>Mr. Ryan said he would proceed with the recent ‘Green Infrastructure’ consultation on behalf of the Council. He said also that although he and the clerk were reviewing the Councils Financial Regulations, he really did need some help with the review of several other Council Procedural regulations, but unfortunately most other Councillors felt that they had insufficient time to devote to the issues, Mr. Ryan said he would ‘soldier on’ but it would take longer, the clerk intimated provided the procedure was in process by the time the internal auditor visited he thought that would suffice.</p> <p>The clerk reported that he was finding that the Council computer was no longer functioning in an efficient manner, he was authorised to employ an expert who was advertising in the Parish Magazine to assess what the problem was and to also advise on the best solution.</p>	
147. NEXT MEETINGS	<p>On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2011 at the village hall, Ermine Street, Great Stukeley commencing at 7.00pm with the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting.</p> <p>On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2011 at the village hall, Low Road, Little Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2011 at the village hall, Ermine Street, Great Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at the village hall, Low Road, Little Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011 at the village hall, Ermine Street, Great Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm</p>	