

**The Annual Parish & Parish Council meetings of the Stukeley's Parish Council held at Great Stukeley village hall on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 7.00pm.**

ATTENDANCE	M/s M. Monk, P. Ryan, H. Raby, P. Vincent, R. Hulstrom, P. Hobson, Mrs. S. Parkin, Mrs. N. Sly, Mrs. S. Smith County Councilors Peter Ashcroft & Sir Peter Brown and three members of the public
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING	<p>This part of the meeting which was open to the public attracted questions from two of the general public in attendance. Mrs. Gee enquired, at what stage the Council investigations were in relation to the passage of HGV's through the villages, a subject she raised at the previous meeting. On behalf of the Council, Mr. Ryan said that he and Mr. Monk had attempted to make a survey of movements but that it had proved impossible to record all the data required in the moments as the vehicles passed. He had subsequently contacted Cambridgeshire police with a view of using photographic evidence in an effort to make significant records. He had been informed that this was permissible and that such evidence, if supplied to the police would be used as an aid to write to the offending owners to warn them that they were breaking the laws of that stretch of road in that there was a 7.5 tonne limit except for delivery and collection from actual village sites such as farms etc; He said the Council intended to forward this matter on those lines and that he would keep her informed of progress.</p> <p>Mr. Butter enquired of the latest situation with the 'Northbridge' development proposals, because he said when he was a council member the plans were supported provided that all the required infrastructure was in place prior to building commencement, that included the A.14 upgrade and also that the introduction of the tree screening along Ermine Street be in place, also prior to commencement. Mr. Monk said that unfortunately the Highways Agency had downgraded there recommendation of 'Nil Detriment' to one of 'Limited Impact' which was not helpful to the Parishes observations, he added that recent discussions with the District Planners revealed that they may 'find it difficult to refuse' the application given that the major authorities now posed no serious objections. Mr. Monk added that other matters revealed in the aforementioned discussions were that there were to be no tangible benefits to be derived through either section 106 agreements or CIL grants for the parishes, so no extra traffic calming or upgrading of the local footpath network. It also appeared that there would be no provision for tree planting prior to the development. Mr. Ryan added that this Council, through its County Councillors were lobbying the County for provision of primary school places for village children at the new proposed school on the site as it made no sense for them to transport children past two schools to the select County facility in Huntingdon. It had however been established that if and when this matter went to the Development Control Panel the PC would then have an opportunity to address this body on it's major concerns regarding these development proposals.</p>
17.ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN	<p>Mrs. Parkin vacated the chair and the election of Chairman was presided over by Mr. Monk</p> <p>Mr. Ryan proposed that Mrs. Parkin be re-elected this was seconded by Mrs. Smith and as there were no other nominations Mrs. Parkin was duly elected.</p>
APOLOGIES	All members were present, but apologies were received from Mr. K. Baker and Rebecca Britton of U&C.
18.ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN	Mr Monk was proposed by Mr. Raby and seconded by Mr. Ryan, Mr. Monk suggested that he would only accept the post if no one else was prepared to stand, at this juncture Mr. Hulstrom proposed Mrs Sly which was seconded by Mr. Vincent, upon which Mrs Sly intimated that she was prepared to stand, so Mr. Monk said that he would happily withdraw so there being no further

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
19.ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS	<p>nominations, Mrs. Sly was duly elected to serve.</p> <p><b><u>Rights of Way Committee</u></b> M/s P. Ryan, H. Raby and P. Hobson all agreed to serve another year and were duly elected on a proposal by Mr. Hulstrom, seconded by Mrs Sly, it was further agreed that Mrs. Smith should join that committee.</p> <p><b><u>Lighting Committee</u></b> It was proposed by Mr. Monk and seconded by Mr. Vincent that Mr. Ryan and Mr. Hulstrom continue in office as representative of Great Stukeley, also that Mrs Smith would serve as the representative for Little Stukeley, this motion was agreed by all.</p> <p><b><u>Playing Field Committee</u></b> Mr. Raby, Mr. Vincent both agreed to serve for another year and Mrs Smith agreed to serve as well, on a proposal by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hobson were duly elected.</p> <p><b><u>Planning Advisory Group.</u></b> The existing members, M/s P. Ryan, R. Hulstrom, M. Monk and Mrs Sly were proposed by Mr. Raby, seconded by Mr. Hobson and all agreeing to continue were elected.</p> <p><b><u>Tree Officer</u></b> Mrs Parkin intimated she wished to continue in that role and on a proposal by Mrs. Sly, seconded by Mr. Ryan, she was elected.</p> <p><b><u>Dog Warden</u></b> Mr. Hulstrom was no longer prepared to continue so on a proposal by Mr. Hulstrom, seconded by Mr. Vincent, Mrs Smith agreed to fill that post.</p>	
20.MINUTES	The minutes of the Council meeting of Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2013 were approved by members on a proposal by Mr. Monk, seconded by Mr. Ryan.	
21. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTEREST	<p>After a great deal of discussion on the relevant issues of interest declaration specifically when representing a small village community where most people know many of the residents it was agreed that there was a specific difference in ‘declaring an interest’ and ‘declaring a prejudicial interest’ and it was also agreed that the former was the more likely scenario. It was also established that the clerk upon a request had the dispensation to contact the monitoring officer to establish in some circumstances a councillors ability to partake in a debate of which they were unsure of their legal position. It was further agreed that standing orders would have to be amended to reflect this matter.</p> <p>Mr. Hulstrom and Mrs Sly then declared an interest in agenda item 25a and furthermore Mr. Ryan and Mr Hulstrom declared an interest in any item in association with Urban &amp; Civic as they were the organisers of the 10k charity run which takes place in part on U&amp;C property.</p>	
22. ACCOUNTS	<p>The following monthly accounts were agreed for settlement on a proposal by Mr. Raby, seconded by Mr. Monk and approved by the meeting EON Electric for May supply £58.35. Easiprint for May magazine £180.00. M. J. Newman, clerks April Salary £159.66, M. Newman, Office Space Allowance £28.00. T&amp;S Gardening Services for grass maintenance £1232.23. 34SP.COM web hosting £47.40. Guava Design for new Website £500.00. CAPALC subscription £332.79. Came &amp; Co Parish Council Insurance £1338.32. Cranbrooke Nurseries for geraniums £53.99. CANALBS for Internal Audit £126.60. MP Windows for bus shelter cleaning £50.00.</p> <p>The Clerk reported receipts of HMRC vat reclaimed £400.86. HDC Precept £9699.00. Magazine adverts £96.00. SMYFC pitch hire £40.00.</p> <p>The Council then on a proposition by Mr. Monk, seconded by Mr. Hobson agreed and signed off the accounts for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013. Following this the clerk advised the requirement to sign the Annual Return prior to its lodging with the external auditor, the clerk then read to members the Annual Governance Statement contained within that document, after agreeing the substance of the two matters, on a proposal by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Hulstrom members authorised the chairman to sign the document as a true and</p>	

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
	correct reflection of the Councils financial transactions for the period ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2013 also of satisfactory financial practices for the same period.	
23.COUNTY ISSUES	<p>Several tributes were paid to Laine Kadic who had recently lost her County seat, Sir Peter Brown saying that he had not experienced a councillor who had made such an effort on behalf of the community despite her issues with health, he said he was sure she would be sorely missed, but that we had to accept that the electorate had made their choice. The Parish members had agreed a letter, circulated prior to the meeting, that should be sent to Ms Kadic in recognition of all the good works that she had done for our local community, in the interests of impartiality members all contributed to the purchase of a parting gift of thanks from Stukeleys Parish Council, this was to be sourced and delivered by the clerk together with a fully signed card from all Council members and the clerk. Through the clerk Ms Kadic said that she had enjoyed every minute working with SPC and you all became a great part of her life and that she would hugely miss you all, she thanked SPC for all the kindness they had shown her and promised, that, someday she will return. Sir Peter told the meeting that there was now overall control in Cambridgeshire County Council so there were several negotiation meetings envisaged so that a leader could be chosen and members elected to ensure the continued smooth running of the authority.</p> <p>Mr. Ashcroft said that as he had only just been elected he was unable to contribute at present, he was told by Mr. Ryan that there great concerns about the progress being achieved by MTTs especially as our area was soon to be surrounded by several major new developments. Mr. Monk advised him of the function of the Joint Parish Councils Liaison Group specifically in conjunction with the development of Alconbury Weald, he also mentioned the traffic group which looked at traffic issues along with the County, District, Police, U&amp;C and the base authorities, he advised that Ms Kadic had been in the habit of attending these meetings, it was agreed that both M/s Brown &amp; Ashcroft be invited in the hope that one or both would be able to attend.</p>	
24.DISTRICT ISSUES	Mr. Baker was not in attendance.	
25. PLANNING	<p>(a)Application No 1300375FUL for the demolition of existing garage, stable &amp; greenhouse to build a detached dwelling on land at 20 Green End. Mr. Hulstrom as an adjacent property holder said he had exercised his rights and had lodged an objection to the development which he then related to fellow members. It was to be noted that the Council had recommended refusal to a previous site application in 2010. After much discussion it was generally agreed that these new plans did not differ a great deal from the original and were unlikely to change this councils general attitude to further development in the area. On a proposal by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Monk it was agreed that refusal should be recommended for these proposals on the following grounds. The closeness of these proposals to Holly House were likely to have serious visual impact on that listed building. The Council considers that any additional infill in the area will seriously impact on the desired rural environmental aspect of this country lane. The proposals would also have a detrimental impact on the street scene of Green End.</p> <p>(b) Application No 1300496FUL for two new dwellings on the Team Plant site at Lt. Stukeley, a decision had been lodged with the District Authority on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2013, to comply with closure date, by the planning group, supported by all members, that decision was for refusal as it was still considered that the type of development was not appropriate for that site.</p> <p>(c) Draft Community Infrastructure Levy, regulation 123 list and the PC</p>	

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>response. Mr. Ryan said that he had read through the vast majority of the legislation proposals which were many and complex, he said one major thing he failed to understand was that the utilities were to receive CIL money for upgrades of Electric, Sewage, Water and Gas etc and he wondered why, what could be construed as public finance was being diverted to these large organisations, Sir Peter said he would investigate and see what light he could throw on the matter. Mr. Ryan said he was also concerned that there was no mention of financial contributions to the upgrade of the A.141 or any remedial work, that he thought was imperative, to the Iron Bridge junction. Mr. Monk added that he believed that this Council should put forward a robust case for CIL contribution for traffic management measures along Ermine Street and also for the creation and maintenance of strategic open space on the Grange Farm site. Mr. Ryan said that in compiling, on behalf of the council, a response to this consultation he would include all matters raised, he would circulate his proposals to all members prior to release to the District Authority.</p>	
26. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES	<p>Mr. Hulstrom reported that there was no alteration required to matters involving the ‘freedom of information act’.</p> <p>He also reported reviewing the council insurance cover, in which he had recommended a reduction in the cover of ‘office equipment’ from £5000 down to £4000 and also that the council enter another 3 year deal with the insurers to take benefit of the annual cost savings available, the clerk reported taking the necessary steps with Came &amp; Co which resulted in a saving of over £100 compared with the amount paid last year and the original quotation for this years cover.</p> <p>He reported that in his opinion, in future years the council should be considering within their budget, specifically regarding significant expenditure proposals, a three year strategy, also bearing in mind capital expenditure that may be sought for either of our village hall facilities. With this matter in mind the clerk advised that year end balances only had to be quantified to the external auditor when those balances exceeded a figure measuring ‘twice the annual precept, i.e. at present a figure of £32.000 based on this years precept figure. This strategy if adopted would suggest that members had to highlight what capital projects they may have in mind as a basis of any future precept increase as, as intimated balances have to be identified and apportioned at year end.</p> <p>Mr. Hulstrom’s idea that a new form of payment of accounts may be required in future was not supported because at present the issuing of cheques was cost free to the council.</p> <p>Mr. Hulstrom reported that in his view Standing Orders, Procedures and planning decisions were all in order and required no updating.</p> <p>He was thanked by the chairman for undertaking the review.</p> <p>Mrs. Parkin reported receiving a request from a parishioner that the council give consideration to the purchase of the parcel of land that was for sale behind the bus shelter in Little Stukeley as a ‘pocket park’ for the community, containing picnic benches, some planting and possibly a couple of allotments. It was agreed that the idea had sound reasoning but that the sale price was well above the councils financial ability. Mr. Outteridge was to be informed that the Parish Council fully supported the idea of a ‘Pocket Park’ but under the present financial constraints and without sufficient reserves they could not at present consider the matter. The idea would however be kept on the agenda and if and when the necessary finance became available, and the land still available, the matter could be considered again.</p> <p>The clerk advised that the internal auditor had suggested that the Parish Council</p>	

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>ought to start thinking about the time that Mr. Newman may decide to retire as she believed a fully CILCA qualified replacement would have extra cost implications so this should be taken into account when formulating future precept requests.</p>	
27.TRAFFIC GROUP	<p>Mr. Monk indicated that he had nothing to report.</p>	
28. RIGHTS OF WAY	<p>Mr. Ryan reported that U&amp;C were now in a position to go ahead with the diversionary work on footpath 11 as the authorities now appear to have satisfied themselves that there would be no archaeological damage inflicted, however an issue had been raised about ‘fishing ponds’ in the immediate vicinity, by a local resident, it was agreed to invite the resident to attend the June open session to discuss this issue.</p> <p>The clerk reported that agreement had been reached with Nook Farm’s new owners and that remedial work was to be undertaken on bridleway 4 between the two villages as soon as this week.</p> <p>He also reported that the CCC were way behind on their grant allocation decisions on local highway improvement schemes and that the council would be advised in the next two weeks as to how their grant application for footpath 13 had fared.</p>	
29.ALLOTMENTS	<p>Mr. Hulstrom had circulated the adjusted lease documents for the allotments and woodland open space areas in Owl End to all members prior to the meeting, he explained that U&amp;C were only prepared to grant a 125 year lease even though he had requested that it be extended, he went on to add that most of the Councils requests had now been met and that it was probably time to sign the agreement, this was supported by Mr. Monk. Mr. Ryan interjected that it may be more prudent to delay any signing until planning permission had been granted, this was supported by all members, so that was the instruction given to Mr. Hulstrom. Mr. Monk added that whilst talking in terms of amenity land the Council should be pushing U&amp;C to establish in trust form an agreed open space area on Grange Farm in perpetuity.</p> <p>Ms Britton, via Mr. Ryan, advised that U&amp;C now wished to start works to erect the agreed barrier at the junction of Owl End and the bridleway, it was agreed that all local residents should be advised of the timing before works start.</p> <p>Another point was that U&amp;C wished to commence works on establishing an entrance to the new allotment and woodland site, that involved the grubbing out of a section of hedgerow, which apparently as owners they were allowed to do, even before planning permission has been granted, one condition was that it had to be ensured that there were no nesting birds in the section to be removed, another point was that if for some reason planning consent was not given, the hedge would have to be replaced.</p>	
30.ITEMS TO REPORT	<p>The Clerk reported to members that he had today received a letter from the National Lottery Fund in which they advised that Mr. Vincent’s request on behalf of the Council for grant aid to ‘Rabbit Fence’ the playing field at Great Stukeley had been successful and that the sum of £6609.00 had been awarded for that purpose, Mr. &amp; Mrs. Vincent were warmly thanked by members for their outstanding work in achieving this result which meant that in the past three years they managed to secure over 40K in grant aid for village projects, a wonderful effort.</p> <p>Mrs. Parkin thanked all members and the clerk for supporting her so much over the past year and having the confidence to elect her for a second year, she made special mention to the immense help provided to her in what she termed as a ‘steep learning curve’ by her vice chairman, Michael Monk.</p> <p>Mrs Sly provided the clerk with a letter of complaint from a resident of Owl End</p>	

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>about the introduction by HDC of a 'second green bin' tax of £40, the clerk was to enquire of Mr. Baker why he had not informed members of the councils decision.</p> <p>It was also agreed after discussion that the clerk instruct our maintenance contractor to lightly trim around the trees on AgriReserve land beside Ermine Street through the villages, this after consulting with the farms manager.</p>	
31. NEXT MEETINGS	<p>On Monday 3rd June 2013 at the village hall, Low Road, Little Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013 at the village hall, Ermine Street, Great Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2013 at the village hall, Low Road, Little Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013 at the village hall, Ermine Street, Great Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm.</p>	