

A meeting of the Stukeley's Parish Council held at Little Stukeley village hall on Monday 3rd February 2014 at 7.30pm.

ATTENDANCE	Mrs. S. Parkin, Mrs. N. Sly, M.Monk, R. Hulstrom, H. Raby, P. Hobson, P. Vincent, P. Ryan & Mrs. S. Smith. County Councillors Sir Peter Brown and Peter Ashcroft & District Councillor K. Baker & two members of the public.
OPEN MEETING	Mr. Bird from Pringle Way reported that the lighting unit on the RH bend in that area had failed, the clerk was to report. Mrs. Sue Stevens from 13 Moorfield Way explained to the council that after NLS builders had commenced the new development next to Denmark House on Ermine Street, they had in the process of excavating the foundations broken into the underground culvert with the result that the water from that drain was now running over the surface of the adjacent plot and onto her garden with the result that both her garden and her path and drive were continually covered with soil containing water. She said that she had complained to HDC, CCC, Luminus and the builder and that at present no body were prepared to accept liability. She explained that she had lived at number 13 for nine years and had never experienced anything like this before, even after substantial rainfall in 2012. She also explained that she had employed the services of a surveyor in an effort to establish whether the continual coverage by water was affecting the foundations of her property. She said that she could not afford to engage in litigation that may last for some time, she was advised that an application to the 'small claims court' may be less costly and get the development works suspended until such time as it was established what was actually causing her problems.
APOLOGIES	There were no apologies.
187. MINUTES	On a proposal by Mr. Monk, seconded by Mr. Raby, the minutes of the meeting of the 6 th January 2014 were signed by the chairman.
188. MEMBERS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS	Mr. Hulstrom & Mr. Ryan declared a non prejudicial interest in matters relating to Urban & Civic because of their involvement in the promotion of the 10k run staged on their land at Alconbury Weald. Mr. Ryan also declared an interest in Agenda item 193A as did Mrs. Sly, on this item it was agreed that they be allowed to remain in the meeting but to take no part in any discussion or voting.
189. COUNTY ISSUES	Mr. Ashcroft reported that the 46a bus service will be retained until any final detail on this service is agreed. Sir Peter informed members that in April, because there was no overall majority on the County Council that it would be administered by a committee rather than by a cabinet as it used to be, he added that the Council Tax requirement for County Purposes would be agreed later this month. He also reported that he had no further information on any future planned fire brigade strikes. On questioning he said that the trustees of the Cromwell Museum had engaged a consultant to establish the best way of administering the museum in the future, results were awaited, he added that Peter Downes had been installed as the chairman of the trustees and that he was acting as vice chairman, he assured that the fight for the museums future in Huntingdon would go on. On another issue he reported that the County had identified the majority of pot holes requiring attention but that there would be a delay in repair until the present continual wet weather cleared away.
190.DISTRICT ISSUES	Mr. Baker reported that he was of the opinion that by virtue of all the cuts the authority had put in place, that there would be no rise in Council Tax for the year 2014/5. He also reported that the recent appeal by the developers against the District Council for no decision on the Megatron site, had been

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
	to members but due to the scale of the information a delay in response until 3 rd March 2014 had been agreed with District Officials. Due to the complexity of these proposals it was generally agreed that members seek the guidance of a professional planning consultant, with the names of Tim Slater and Andy Brand being suggested, contact by M/s Ryan & Monk would hopefully establish a cost factor, which it was universally agreed should be limited to £1000 should they in fact accept the commission.	
194.ALCONBURY WEALD	With Ms Britton not in attendance there were no issues to report or discuss.	
195.PLAYING FIELD	Mr. Raby furnished members with a quotation from T&S Gardening Services for some remedial and tidying works within the recreation field at Great Stukeley, this amounted to £360, on a proposition by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Vincent, the clerk was instructed to order the works to be completed. Mr. Vincent advised that all the paperwork regarding the provision and usage of the grant aid from the Big Lottery Fund had now been completed satisfactorily and that he had received plaques for erection in the area and also one on the site of the refurbished play area in Little Stukeley to advertise the fact that the work had been made possible by Lottery Fund Grant Aid.	
196.RIGHTS OF WAY	Mr. Ryan said he had no information to report, other than the fact that the 'Bollard' in Owl End had now been erected, unfortunately it would appear no in a particularly practicable position, as vehicles appeared to be driving 'round the bollard', this fact was to be reported to Urban & Civic together with the commitment to monitor the situation with a view to re-siting at the position recommended by the Parish Council, Mr. Monk observed that it was unfortunate that the bollard, marked 'erected by the Stukeleys Parish Council' had clearly been put in this totally inappropriate position. Mr. Raby registered his concern, that a phone call from Simeon Carroll informed that the 'bridges' expert from the footpaths department of the County had now got involved in issues surrounding footpath 13, however the phone call had ensured that the agreed works would be completed before the end of the present financial year, namely 31 st March 2014.	
197. BUS SHELTER	Mrs. Smith reported no further progress to report on this issue.	
198.MAINTENANCE	The Council received quotations for grass cutting and village maintenance from T&S Gardening maintenance and M/s Fergusons, the former being very much cheaper, taking that together with the fact that T&S Gardening had recently completed a very acceptable three year tender it was agreed on a proposal by Mr. Vincent, seconded by Mr. Raby that T&S Gardening Services be awarded the contract for the period 2014 to 2016 inclusive, the clerk was instructed to inform the company.	
199. RECYCLING	The clerk reported that the collection date had been set as Wednesday 12 th March 2014 and had been duly advertised in the March magazine, closer to the date bill posters would be used as a reminder.	
200. TRAFFIC ISSUES	Mr. Monk reported that he and the chairman had recently attended a panel meeting assessing a number of bids for Minor Highway Improvement Grants, this to speak on behalf of the SPC application for 'Gateway Feature' at the southern entrance to Great Stukeley, a bus shelter in Little Stukeley and extra HGV limit signage opposite the new RAF Alconbury entrance. Mr. Monk observed it was alarming that one Councillor appeared to question the need for the 'gateway' feature, stating that the 'speed cushions' already reduced him to 20mph on that road, which Mr. Monk pointed out was quite different to all villagers perception of the matter, and that his worry was that this perception would jeopardise the councils application. Peter Brown said that	

ITEM	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>the councillor concerned was obviously not talking about the same route and that he would remind that gentleman of the true facts.</p>	
201. ALLOTMENTS	<p>There was much discussion on Mr. Vincent's request for the Council to provide funding for individual plot hedging amounting to £700, Mr. Ryan advised there may be cheaper sources to access the plants and suggested that a plain Hornbeam hedge would be more suitable. Mrs. Sly felt that if the allotment holders required these plants, their society should finance the cost, Mr. Monk interjected that he felt that it was a community facility owned by the Council and as such he said he felt that it would be aesthetically more acceptable if the Council accepted the cost especially in the need for continuity of hedging and planting. It was established that 500 hornbeam plants could be obtained through the District Council for £140 + the required amount of mulching strip, on a proposal by Mr. Vincent, seconded by Mrs. Smith it was agreed by six votes for, one against & one abstention that Mr. Vincent be allowed to order the materials as described and the account sent to the Parish Council.</p>	
203. ITEMS TO REPORT	<p>Mr. Vincent asked that a request by Mr. Brawn of Owl End for a litter bin in the region of the allotments for usage by dog owners be put on next months agenda.</p> <p>The fact that it would appear that the rear of the Three Horse Shoes car park is being used for car storage was to be investigated by Mr. Hulstrom who would report to the next meeting.</p> <p>A letter was requested to be sent to the builder responsible for the development between 4 & 10 Ermine Street, requesting that he ceases leaving building materials on the grass verge and that he regularly clears mud and debris deposited by his machinery from the adjacent footpath.</p> <p>Drainage Issues in Owl End and verge maintenance in Green End were to be added to the March agenda for review.</p>	
204. NEXT MEETINGS	<p>On Monday 3rd March 2014 in the village hall, Ermine Street, Great Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 7th April 2014 in the village hall, Low Road, Little Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm</p> <p>On Monday 12th May 2014 in the village hall, Ermine Street, Great Stukeley commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p>On Monday 2nd June 2014 in the village hall, Low Road, Little Stukeley commencing with the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AT 7.00pm to be followed by THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING AT 7.30pm</p>	