

STRATTON STRAWLESS PARISH COUNCIL

Locum Clerk: Miss Lolly Dawson Email: ssparishcouncil@outlook.com

MINUTES OF THE MEETING STRATTON STRAWLESS PARISH COUNCIL
held on Monday 13th November 2023 at 7:30pm in Burroughes Hall, Parish Road.

In attendance: Wayne Farrow, Diane Farrow, Martin Howard, Lee Drake, Levi Drake (Chair)

Clerk: Miss L Dawson (locum)

Member of the public: 4

1. To receive apologies.

None.

2. To receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for Dispensations.

None.

3. To approve minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2023.

The minutes of the meeting were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

4. To report matters arising from the previous meeting not on the agenda.

None.

To receive District and County Councillors & Police reports

Apologies received from County Councillor Dan Roper and a written report received:

“The Western Link has moved a step closer with the government signing off the business case for the road and a commitment of £213 million towards the cost. What is not clear yet is how much the projected cost of the road will have increased in the light of inflation. The plan has always been that the government would pay for 85% of the road with the rest coming from the County Council. A possible sticking point will be if the £213 million falls short of 85% of the cost. We should know by January.

I am sorry to report that the Mayton Wood recycling centre will close in December. The decision was taken despite 92% of respondents in the consultation being opposed to closure. Unfortunately, the Council prioritised the projected saving of £70,000 a year.

This may not be a good time to talk about consultations but one has just opened on the County Council budget for next year. The Council is proposing a further Council tax increase of 4.99% and cuts of £26.5 million.

One consultation I am feeling more positive about and is about to commence is on the Cromer Road speed limit. This is the next stage of the process for securing a speed limit reduction. There has been one change to the design following representations from Hainford Parish Council in that the Waterloo Road junction will now be included within the proposed 40mph zone rather than be just outside it. Just to confirm that the proposal will also mean a new 50mph limit through Stratton Strawless.

Yet another consultation that has been open is regarding the Greater Norwich Local Plan. This follows a report from the Planning Inspectorate and some recommended changes. There are no

Sign:

Date:

changes or implications for Hainford or Stratton Strawless as there are no proposed sites for development in the villages in the plan.

A decision will be made on the “County Deal” by the County Council on 12th December. There are many arguments for and against – the main points in favour are the prospect of an extra £20 million a year for the County for the next 30 years. Those against will argue that other areas have received larger amounts of money and that with no indexing £20 million will not be worth nearly as much in 10 let alone 30 years. One of the big changes in accepting the deal will be that we will all have to go to the polls to elect a leader of Norfolk, probably next May. What would be very interesting would be if someone got elected with totally different views to the rest of the County Council.”

District Cllr Shane Ward reported on the Broadland Country Park, there is a proposal for a kiosk and public toilets within the park. The district council has a customer experience programme, looking at improving the service to the public, including following up public feedback. The food waste food processing contract is up for renewal, this will be mandatory nationwide by 2026, and he is supporting this service continuing. The Public Space protection order has been enforced within Norwich, with regard to behaviour involving motor vehicles in public spaces, it is adopted in other areas of Norfolk, but is likely to be adopted ubiquitously over time.

5. Public participation

A member of the public reported there has been considerable flooding on Parish Road in recent weeks and historically. The clerk will contact highways to investigate.

A member of the public reported some anti-social behaviour from a local residence including loud music after 11pm, and bright lights. This has been reported to the police who attended the address. The Clerk will investigate local SNAP meetings and attendance, and all members of the public were advised to report any incidents to the appropriate authority, be that the police or District Council, dependent on the incident.

6. To discuss and agree any action regarding outstanding issues.

- 6.1. It was AGREED that the Clerk contact planning enforcement for an update on the Induct Training.
- 6.2. It was AGREED for the previous Council laptop to be used by the SAM2 volunteer, Cllr Howard reported on the SAM2 data results and attended the Traffic Liaison Meeting on Wednesday 8th November as a Council representative.
- 6.3. It was AGREED for the Clerk to contact highways with regard to the possibility of a ramp for mobility scooters at bus stops, and to investigate any grants available. It was AGREED for Cllrs Levi Drake and M Howard to visit the site and propose whether it is feasible.
- 6.4. It was agreed for Cllr Howard to source quotes for solar powered lights at the bus stops.

7. Planning

None.

8. Administration

- 8.1. It was RESOLVED to purchase a Parish Council mobile phone with a budget of £90.00 for the handset plus a £10.00 top up. PROPOSED Cllr M Howard, seconded Cllr Levi Drake.
- 8.2. It was AGREED to transfer Microsoft Office 365 business standard account to the Parish Council.
- 8.3. It was AGREED to update clerk contact details wherever necessary.

- 8.4. A General Reserves Policy was considered and it was AGREED it was not necessary.
- 8.5. It was RESOLVED to nominate Mr Pip Mellows as a trustee of the Stratton Strawless Reading Room Trust for a period of 4 years, PROPOSED Cllr Levi Drake, seconded Cllr W Farrow.

9. Finance

- 9.1. It was AGREED to allow the locum clerk access to all things necessary relating to banking and payroll.
- 9.2. A Bank Reconciliation was RECEIVED.
- 9.3. The payments were APPROVED as presented, up to and including September and October 2023.

Company	Description	Net	Vat	Gross
	Staff Costs Months 6 & 7	£552.61	£0.00	£552.61
Microsoft	Monthly subscription 9/10/23	£9.40	£1.88	£11.28
Microsoft	Monthly Subscription 9/9/23	£9.40	£1.88	£11.28
T.W.D Outdoor Pursuits	Grass-cutting July, August, September, October, November.	£250.00	£0.00	£250.00

- 9.4. A budget/expenditure review for 2023/2024 was reviewed.
- 9.5. The draft budget for 2024/2025 financial year was reviewed and will be finalised at Januarys meeting.

10. Receive items for agenda of next meeting.

- Footpaths and signs
- Induct Training
- Signage on Shorthorn Road junction

11. Date of next meeting

Next meeting to be Monday 8th January 2024.

- 11.1. The 2024 meeting dates were AGREED as presented.

A resolution was made under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 to exclude the press and public for the duration of the item in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted as the item relates to Terms and Conditions of Employment.

12. Staffing Matters

- 12.1. The appointment of a locum clerk as RFO, and the employment terms were APPROVED.
- 12.2. It was AGREED that the recruitment pack would be considered at the next meeting.