

MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF ONEHOUSE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDY 8 MARCH AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Cllrs Taylor, Corker, Crissell and 4 members of the public.

Cllrs Taylor read out the letter received from Cllr Willshire who has resigned with immediate effect. She cited MSDC planning committee decision on Wednesday 3 March to yet again ride rough shod over our parish, against Mid Suffolk own policies to allow continued development to expand Stowmarket as the main reason for her decision. Cllr Willshire was thanked for her huge contribution and hard work on Onehouse PC over many years and she will be sorely missed
As Vice-Chairman Mr Taylor took the Chair.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Vile and Copping.

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting 8 February 2021.

The minutes were approved.

3. To receive members Declarations of Interest on agenda items.

There were none.

4. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 7.45 p.m.

5. Report from County Cllr Otton.

The Suffolk County Council Budget was voted through Full Council on February 11th. This year's budget is based on a 12-month financial settlement from government, rather than the 3- or 4-year agreement which is usually offered. Key points include: a council tax rise of 3.99% (1.99% basic council tax and 2% Social Care Precept), representing an increase of £53.55 for a Band D property, a council tax shortfall of £7.9m less than expected, to be met by using reserves, planned spending is £597.9m, 7.4% more than 2021-21, £15.3m of spending to address ongoing COVID-19 costs, no proposed reductions in council services or personnel. Suffolk and Norfolk County Councils have submitted a joint bid to the £200 fund for Flood and Coastal Resilience, requesting £6m to invest in flood protection schemes across both counties. Suffolk County Council will receive £27m for highways repairs, maintenance and drainage in 2021-22, a reduction in from £31m the previous year. The cabinet has agreed to give the new school transport contract to Vertas, a company of the county council. This has been challenged by Ipswich buses, as to do so could be illegal. There are no details of whether there will be changes to how the contract will be run. Cycle to school scheme has been launched to encourage pupils to cycle to school by offering a voucher worth up to £70 if they trade in their bus pass. They must have done cycle training

6 Report from District Cllr Matthissen

The outline planning application by Endurance Estates for 146 houses in Union Road was controversially approved on the casting vote of the Chair, after the vote to approve was tied 4/4. The company will now be trying to sell the land with permission to a house-builder. There were a modest range of improvements after

after the previous deferral in January, but the local area has no need of more houses with 2 huge estates under development. It will eventually provide a welcome safe alternative to Starhouse Lane for walkers and cyclists between Union Road and Finborough Road. As an aside to the consideration, the chair did instruct council officers to look again at the existing flooding problems. At the Council meeting on 23 February, the administration put forward budget proposals which they had amended in the run-up to the meeting. In response to the Green and Liberal Democrat alternative budget proposals, the portfolio holder put forward an amendment to his recommendations. The result is that cross-party working groups will be set up to advise on projects to be funded from the additional £4 million allocated for investment in the local economy, housing, communities and wellbeing of residents. The proposal that Council Tax be increased by 1.66% was carried by one vote; this is equivalent to 23p per month for a Band D property. An increase of £1.25 in Council House rents was agreed by one vote. The latest financial report shows that MSDC incurred additional costs due to Covid of £1.1m and a reduction in income of £950k. All but £138 of these losses has been reimbursed via central government grants. To help avoid our most in-need families going hungry over school half-term, Mid Suffolk District Council have funded 'food and activities', including a kit to build a bird box. Help will also be given over the Easter school holidays. The new Independent Living Service started in December 2020 and the whole process of assessment and funding of adaptations to privately owned homes has become much more efficient. Today the MSDC Cabinet approved a number of bids for CIL funding, including a couple of 5 figure sums for villages. These were village hall improvements and a school running track with community use. It is time to consider what benefits might be gained for our villages in the next CIL decision round in 6 months' time. Cllr Matthissen was asked regarding the number of pitches at Forge Caravan Park. There has been an increase in use of the travellers' site but is well within the licensed number of 18 pitches.

Cllr Crissell asked if there had been a vote to change the Union Road development sites from reserve to strategic sites. Cllr Matthissen advised this had not taken place. A Freedom of Information request is being considered.

The meeting reconvened at 8.07.p.m.

7. Planning Matters

a) To discuss and make recommendation to MSDC on any applications received prior to this meeting.

21/01011 Erection of a three bay storage building to store equipment used in maintenance of the land. Land South of Onehouse Hall, Lower Road – support.

21/01022 Erection of outbuilding for use as yoga studio/office (following demolition of existing). Keepers Cottage, Finborough Park, Great Finborough – support

b) To receive MSDC decisions on previously considered applications.

20/05824 & 20/05825 Erection of single storey extensions, covered parking and insertion of bi-fold doors. Alterations per Heritage Statement. Lodge Barn South, Forest Road – granted.

21/00979 Application for Non-material Amendment of condition 5 of Planning permission 4455/16 to be amended to allow for Athena Blend Multi Brick in lieu of Renaissance Reds. Land South of Union Road – approved.

8. Finances

To approve payment of the following invoices:

- a)20/038 £3360.00 Westcote Ltd Speed Indicator Display Unit
- b)20/039 £63.41 Kingfisher Leisurewear Ltd Hi Vis jacket & vest for handyman
- c)20/040 £200.45 Suffolk County Council pension payment March to be posted 5 April
- d)20/041 £240.00 Matthew Ball website & OHSMag 2020/21

Items a) –d) + k) were approved

To approve payments under Section 137

- e)20/042 £200.00 Suffolk Accident Rescue Service
- f)20/043 £550.00 Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice Bureau
- g)20/044£100.00 Ipswich & East Suffolk Headway
- h)20/045 £350.00 East Anglian Air Ambulance

Items e) –h) were approved

i)to receive monthly financial report from the Clerk

The Community Account at the end of February was £37,660.97, less this month's cheques totalling £5769.77 and adjustments of £118.77 for insurance and £508.00 for adverts the corrected figure is £32,517.97.

j) To consider the recommendation of the Clerk to write off 3 bad debts for outstanding advertising invoices and take any necessary action.

We have three long standing debts totalling £500.00. One company is no longer trading £150.00, one has changed names and management £190.00and one is a sole trading £160.00. Individually they are not worth pursuing through the small claims court. It was unanimously agreed to write these items off. The Clerk will contact Shelland for their proportion of the shortfall for last year, Harleston has already sent their cheque.

k)20/046 £327.37 Gipping Press March OHSMag

9. Highways

a) To receive an update on additional sites for speed reduction signs and take any necessary action.

One SID has been received and SCC is arranging for the net amount to be reimbursed from Cllr Otton's Highways budget.

Cllr Vile has chased SCC regarding the poles for the agreed site and an update on the addition site request in Forest Road. Cllr Otton will contact SCC Highways to see why officers do not respond to our emails.

10. To discuss development of land around the parish and take any necessary action.

Cllrs are very disappointed with MSDC decision to approve outline planning permission for the second Union Road development.

Surveying has taken place in the field opposite 22-44 Forest Road but no planning application has been received to date.

There have been several items of correspondence between a Stowmarket Town Councillor and MSDC regarding the safety of the attenuation ponds adjacent to the footway at the Hopkins Homes development.

11. To discuss OHSMag, Onehouse website and Facebook page and take any necessary action.

It was agreed that residents are made aware of non- payments in a general item that will be published in OHSMag

12. To receive an update on the Paupers Graves site and take any necessary action.

Working parties will recommence following government guidelines. A letter has been received regarding safety issues by the pond. The fencing has been pushed over. It was unanimously agreed to replace with a more substantial fence.

13. To receive correspondence/communications and to deal with any matters. **MSDC** Leisure, Sports and Physical Activity Survey it was agreed that the Clerk would complete this.

The following items have been circulated to Cllrs: MSDC how to report flooding in Suffolk. **SCC** Trading Standards news 11, 18, 25 February, 4 March. **SALC** ebuletin 15,22 February, 1 March, online benchmarking group, free webinar all about sleep, Mid Suffolk area forum 18 March, note from area forum chairman, new consultation – Planning Model Design Code deadline 12 March. **Rural Services Network** Rural Bulletin 9, 16, 23 February, 2 March, Funding Digest March. **Community Action Suffolk** newsletter 11, 25 February, Eastern Community Homes support for communities. **Onelife Suffolk** Suffolk service extension. **Headway Suffolk** how Headway Suffolk helps community through COVID. **Suffolk Accident Rescue Service** request for grant. **County Cllr Otton** cycle allowance poster.

14. To receive reports

a) Report from the Clerk

Commemorative bench – all the information on the bench has been received from the family and the Clerk can now apply to SCC for the license.

Defibrillator – the Clerk has spoken to Mr Jones and he hopes to have installed the defibrillator in the next two weeks.

15. Questions to the Chairman

The handyman has asked if he can carry out work on the village sign. Firstly clean and repoint brickwork, yes he can, repaint the metalwork no just wash down until the Clerk can investigate the special paint that was used in the manufacture of the sign.

16. Items for next agenda

Pauper's Graves, OHSMag, website and facebook, development around the parish, handyman report.

17. To confirm date and time of the next virtual meeting as Monday 12 April 2021 at 7.30 p.m. Noted.

The meeting closed at 9.02 p.m.

Signed.....

Dated.....