

# Stonham Aspal Parish Council

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7:30pm on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at the Village Hall,

Present: Cllr Emberson (Chair), Cllr Wright (Vice-Chair) Cllr Josephine Mitson, Cllr Mullings,

Attendance: 15 members of the public Alison Green (Parish Clerk), Cllr Suzie Morley, Cllr Matthew Hicks

### 22.1 Apologies and Approval of Absences

Apologies were received from Cllr Betts, Cllr Timms and Cllr Stevenson and their absence was approved by the members.

### 22.2 Declarations of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests by Members –

No interests were declared by members.

### 22.3 Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2021 were unanimously approved by the members who attended the meetings as an accurate record. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

### 22.4 Consideration of Reports by the District Councillor & County Councillor

District Cllr Suzie Morley and County Cllr Matthew Hicks delivered their reports to the meeting, copies can be found on the Parish Council Website  
<http://stonhamaspal.onesuffolk.net/meetings/councillors-reports/>

Cllr Emberson raised the issue that Stonham Aspal was still being described as a core village in some sections of the JLP and this had not yet been corrected. Cllr Morley confirmed that this mistake was known about and she had in writing confirmation that it is an error

Cllr Emberson asked Cllr Hicks about the remaining houses in the village without superfast broadband. He asked that details be sent to him again.

A member of public asked about signs obscured by trees it was confirmed that this was the responsibility of the land owner to keep clear.

### 22.5 Contributions by Members of the Public

Most members of the public attended to express opinions on planning application DC/21/06597

#### Those objecting raised issues including

Lack of detail about the plots

Potential further development of the site

Access being in adequate

Compliance for junction onto A1120

Noise created by residents of the new properties

Noise during construction

Erosion of privacy

Contradictions in opinions over whether access/ visibility was suitable

Inadequate paths at this end of the village – bigger issue with more residents  
Other developments in the village have not considered privacy and the result is properties which have very little  
Significant impact on the properties on the east side of Walnut Tree Meadow one plot being 1ft from the boundary  
Road safety / additional traffic

**explanation, of thinking behind the application was given by the applicant** including intention to move family to the area and stay themselves. They took on board comments re noise pollution, imposing on neighbouring properties and conservation management. He is not sure who will be building the properties at this point

**Those supporting the application raised issues including**

Whole development within the parish boundary (conflicting information on the night of the meeting but MSDC planning confirmed that this is the case)  
Driveway / access onto A1120 does / will comply with Suffolk County Council Highways rules.  
It will remove derelict out buildings  
Existing property will still maintain a good-sized garden  
Consistent with other developments in the village  
Well thought out plan  
Better option than demolishing existing property and cramming houses onto the sit  
Road safety,  
Survey of environmental issue

Other issues raised by members of the public

- There will be a service at the church to celebrate the Queens Platinum Jubilee on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June, if there are other celebrations in the village the plans can be changed. To confirm what is happening elsewhere in the village
- Questions regarding resitting of the recycling bins and the income they generate versus the mess they create
- Road safety another instance of being clipped by a wing mirror problems turning right at The Pound from Village Hall direction
- Talks within Village Hall committee about making a proper carpark at the tennis courts.
- Car broke down on side of the road in a dangerous location police were notified and nothing happened. Clerk to ask police for a response as to why there was no action

## 22.6

### Planning

Consideration of Planning Applications

[DC/21/06597 | Application for Outline Planning Permission \(Access points to be considered, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale to be reserved\) Town and Country Planning 1990 - Severance of garden and erection of up to 4No dwellings and garages. | The Junipers The Street Stonham Aspal Suffolk IP14 6AL](#)

During the Parish Council's meeting on 18th January 2022 it became apparent that there are two different maps of Stonham Aspal's settlement boundary. Both obtained from the MSDC website, one showing part of the proposed site outside of the settlement boundary (joint local plan) the other inside the boundary (interactive mapping). The Parish Council would like confirmation of the correct settlement boundary. This is fundamental to their

opinion on planning applications as they are not minded to support applications outside of the boundary.

The Parish Council is not against appropriate development within the settlement boundary however in recent years permission has been granted for around 70 houses. This equates to an increase in housing stock of 30% across the whole parish and 50% when you consider the main Street where most approved developments are. Members felt that this increase was enough for the village to bear. There are few / no services in the village. The village school is at capacity.

The exit to the development falls on a bend with reduced visibility and some council members were concerned about the safety of having more cars accessing the road at this point.

If planning permission were granted the Members of the Parish Council would ask that the planning department consider lessening the impact on the landscape, neighbouring properties and environment by restricting the height of the properties to that of bungalows.

Should it be confirmed that the site is inside the settlement boundary a majority of the council members were neutral to the application however if it fell outside of the village boundary then they would unanimously object.

### **Decision Notices**

DC/21/04275 Green Farm, Crowfield Road, Stonham Aspal, Discharge of Conditions Application for Suffolk- Condition 15 (Affordable Housing) Approved condition

DC/21/03589 Land To The Rear Of The Leas, Quoits Meadow, Stonham Aspal, Suffolk reserved matters REFUSED

DC/21/05986 Land East Of Kennylands, Thornbush Lane, Stonham Aspal, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 5DX Proposal & Location of Development: Application under Section 73 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) of planning permission DC/20/01031 dated 23/04/2020 - Erection of 1no. dwelling including alterations to existing access. To allow addition of conservatory and a flue instead of a chimney GRANTED

DC/21/06099 Symonds, The Street, Stonham Aspal, Suffolk IP14 6AG Householder Application - Conversion of and alterations to a detached garage for use as annexed accommodation for a dependant relative. Symonds, The Street, Stonham Aspal, Suffolk IP14 6A GRANTED

DC/21/06261 Isosceles House, Mickfield Road, Stonham Aspal, Suffolk IP14 5LT Full Planning Application - Erection of 1No dwelling (following demolition of existing dwelling). GRANTED

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Update from MSDC Stonham Barns Meeting

Cllr Emberson shared a list of questions that he had asked of MSDC at the last meeting and their answers. Full document to be circulated to Members and included with a request for a meeting with the senior managers at MSDC to get more clarity on plans for next 5 years for Stonham Barns

## **22.7**

### **Finance**

#### **22.7.1 Authorisation of Payments**

The following payments were unanimously agreed and the payment sheet was signed by Cllr Mullings and Cllr Emberson

Clerks wages for January 2022 £185.64

Clerks office expenses £18.00

Grass cutting at recreation ground and tennis courts £779.72

**22.7.2 Funding for defibrillator** it was believed the council had previously offered a sum, Clerk to check back and see what it was – Can confirm that no pledge had been made for a defibrillator just a suggestion to request funding from Cllr Morleys locality budget.

**22.7.3 Agree budget for 2022/23**

Members unanimously approved the budget for 2022/23 agreed

**22.7.4 Setting of precept for 2022/23**

Members unanimously agreed not to increase the precept and keep it at £5500 for 2022/23

**22.8 Recreation Ground**

Deferred to February for Cllr Betts to give more detail on quotes and work.

**22.9 Highways**

**22.9.1** Cllr Mullings reported back from the Mickfield Parish Council meeting that she attended. The parish council have concerns about speed and traffic and are looking at methods to monitor traffic speed and volumes. They have raised concerns about the condition of signs and the visibility at the cross roads

**22.9.2 Road names at Green Farm development**

Members unanimously agreed to send the same response as before.

**22.9.3 Other highways issues**

Drains need clearing on Scotts Hill

**22.10 Update on other issues from previous meetings**

**22.10.1** Recycling bin signage and move – it was agreed to delay signage as bins would need to be moved for building work at the football ground. Members unanimously agreed to approach Stonham Barns

**22.10.2** Dog waste bin at the Pound – Mr Fuller had written to the council and given his permission for a waste bin to be put on his land and suggested it was by the entrance to the meadow which was unanimously agreed by neighbours near the entrance to the meadow all agreed thank Andrew

**22.10.3** Village sign – Still being worked on Cllr Emerson to get more information

**22.10.4** School bus stop idea currently on hold

**22.11 Dates of the Next Meetings**

15<sup>th</sup> February 2022

15<sup>th</sup> March 2022

**21.12 The Chair closed the meeting at 22:15**

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10<sup>th</sup> February 2022