

# Stonham Aspal

## Approved Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 16 May 2017 at 7.00pm at the Village Hall, Stonham Aspal

**Attendees:** Cllr Malcolm Leith (Chair), Cllr Peter Emberson, Cllr Josephine Mitson, Cllr Jean Timms, Cllr Charles Tydeman and Cllr Ian Wright (Stonham Aspal Parish Council), Cllr Suzie Morley (Mid Suffolk District Council), Cllr Matthew Hicks (Suffolk County Council), Rae Betts (Recreation Ground Committee), Audrey Catto (Women's Institute), John Ince (Stonham Aspal and Mickfield Parochial Church Council), Simon Ashton (Parish Clerk) and two Members of the Public

**1. Welcome by Stonham Aspal Parish Council's Chair**

Cllr Leith welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Agreement of Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish Meeting on 17 May 2016**

Mr Ashton's confirmation that he had not been able to locate any draft minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting on 17 May 2016 was noted. It was understood that they had not been taken as there had been no Parish Clerk in post at the time.

**3. Report by Stonham Aspal Parish Council's Chair**

Cllr Leith delivered his report at the meeting. A copy of the report has been made available at the end of these minutes for information.

**4. Report by Mid Suffolk District Councillor**

Cllr Morley delivered her report at the meeting. A copy of the report has been made available at the end of these minutes for information.

**5. Report by Suffolk County Councillor**

Cllr Hicks delivered his report at the meeting. A copy of the report has been made available at the end of these minutes for information.

**6. Report by Suffolk Police's Stowmarket Safer Neighbourhood Team's Representative**

A representative of Suffolk Police's Stowmarket Safer Neighbourhood Team did not attend the meeting to present a report.

**7. Report by the Village Hall Committee's Chair**

Cllr Tydeman delivered his report at the meeting. A copy of the report has been made available at the end of these minutes for information.

**8. Report by the Community Council's Representative**

Cllr Mitson presented a report received from Stonham Aspal Community Council at the meeting. A copy of the report has been made available at the end of these minutes for information.

**9. Report by the Recreation Ground Committee's Member**

Ms Betts confirmed that new playground equipment and seating had been installed with the benefit of various grants received from Viridor, Tesco and Cllr Hicks from his locality fund. Work was currently underway to install nets to stop balls from leaving the recreation area.

**10. Report by the Metcalf Charities' Chair**

Cllr Wright presented a report received from Metcalf Charities at the meeting. A copy of the report has been made available at the end of these minutes for information.

**11. Report by the Women's Institute's Representative**

Ms Catto delivered her report at the meeting. A copy of the report has been made available at the end of these minutes for information.

**12. Report by Parochial Church Council's Representative**

Mr Ince delivered his report at the meeting. A copy of the report has been made available at the end of these minutes for information.

**13. Report by the Mid Suffolk Planning Officer for Stonham Barns**

Cllr Leith presented a report received from the Mid Suffolk Planning Officer for Stonham Barns at the meeting. A copy of the report has been made available at the end of these minutes for information.

**14. Public Forum**

Mr Ashton shared the gratitude of a couple who had been in touch following a car accident in the village a couple of weeks earlier. A group of parishioners had provided them with support. In addition, Cllr Emberson agreed to investigate the advantages and benefits for the village arising from the development of a neighbourhood plan. The meeting finished at 8.15pm.

Simon Ashton, Parish Clerk

[sapc.clerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sapc.clerk@yahoo.co.uk)

15 May 2018

**STONHAM ASPAL  
Parish Council**

**Parish Council Report for the Annual General Meeting 16 May 2017**

The key points of note are as follows:

- 1. Stonham Barns**
  - a. Stonham Barns continues to grow with no obvious limits.
  - b. The PC sees no financial benefit even though housing increases the potential population by around a third.
- 2. School Parking**
  - a. Parking at and around the school continues to be limited and not ideal.
  - b. Parents have been making efforts ease the problem for local residents.
- 3. Play Ground**
  - a. The Recreation Ground Group has been hard at work this year.
  - b. All the fundraising efforts were worthwhile and the development of the site has been successfully completed.
  - c. Many congratulations to the Recreation Ground Group led by Charlotte Mallett.
- 4. Recycling**
  - a. Thank you to everyone who uses the recycling bins located by the recreation ground.
  - b. However, can we ask that no rubbish is left by the bins. At the end of last week some general waste had been left next to the bottle bins.
- 5. 4G and Superfast Broadband**
  - a. The 4G mast to the south of the village enables most of the village to get a good mobile phone signal.
  - b. Superfast broadband is a dream. We await further news.
- 6. Debenham Road/Scotts Hill**
  - a. After some investigations and various attempts the drainage along Scotts Hill continues to be a problem. This will be an ongoing issue for the coming year.
- 7. New PC members**
  - a. We would like to appoint a new Parish Councillor. Please contact the Clerk if you would like to apply.
- 8. A special thank you to:**
  - a. SCC Councilor Matthew Hicks
  - b. MSDC – Councilor Suzy Morley
  - c. SAPC Clerk Simon Ashton and our previous Clerk Alison Green for their hard work.

**Malcolm Leith  
16 May 2017**



## Mid Suffolk District Council

### Report for The Stonhams Ward – April 2017

We are unable to report in full on our achievements over the last year, as the moratorium is in place due to the Elections taking place. Our Year End Report will be published after the General Election. As an interim measure we have compiled this list of 10 Achievements, with the figures explaining each

- **Recycling UP: 20 tonnes** of glass being collected and recycled a month, with **6.5% increase** in our business waste service customer base.
- □ **New Council Homes UP:** we are building 65 new council homes across the districts, with 14 already in the hands of their new occupants.
- □ **Funding for Community-led-Housing UP:** £430,000 of DCLG grant secured to promote community led housing and kick start the delivery of new affordable homes.
- □ **Green Energy income UP:** £460,000 of income generated this year by solar panels installed by our Solar PV project, up by almost 70% on last year. The project has now reduced CO2 emissions by 3.7 million tonnes since June 2014.
- **Opportunities for businesses UP:** established enterprise parks at Stowmarket and Sproughton which could attract up to 293 new businesses and 2,400 new jobs.
- □ **Number of empty homes DOWN:** we brought 97 empty homes back into use, generating £130,000 of income to the local economy this year.
- □ **Avoidable Evictions DOWN:** Financial Inclusion Project has taken over 150 referrals, helped tenants claim £33,106 more in benefits they are entitled to and averted 13 evictions.
- □ **We've empowered communities to bring forward neighbourhood plans** across the districts with the first 3 now adopted in Lavenham, East Bergholt and Mendlesham and 14 further communities have started the formal process.
- □ **Following our Annual Electoral Canvas** 97% of those surveyed feel well informed about electoral matters.
- □ **The Councils provided over £725,000 in grants to community groups,** comprising £492,184 in revenue funding and £233,526 capital funding. The capital funding represented 12% of over £2million total project costs

## April 2017 report for the Thredling Division from Cllr Matthew Hicks

### **Suffolk Fostering and Adoption Service to launch a new approach to support foster families**

Suffolk Fostering and Adoption Service is launching the Mockingbird Family Model of foster care in Suffolk, in partnership with The Fostering Network. The Fostering Network has already introduced the pioneering Mockingbird Family Model to the UK, and it has been piloted with 7 organisations across the country since April 2015. They have now been successful in securing an additional £3.76m in funding through the Department for Education's Children's Social Care Innovation Programme to extend the model to a further 5 organisations in the UK, including Suffolk Fostering and Adoption Service. The model is based on the idea of an extended family. It uses a 'constellation' where 6 to 8 fostering 'satellite' households living near each other are offered support from a dedicated 'hub home' fostering household of specially recruited and trained carers. The hub home carer offers regular planned respite care and emergency respite care to the satellite carers. They will also assist with peer support, regular joint planning and social activities. Relationships are central to the model, with hub carers and foster carers providing frontline care and with social workers able to concentrate on successful relationship building. The hub also builds links with other families integral to the children's care plans and to resources in the wider community which can provide them with enhanced opportunities to learn, develop and succeed. Suffolk plans to launch its first constellation of foster carers by October 2017. More information on becoming a foster carer please visit: [www.fosterandadopt.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.fosterandadopt.suffolk.gov.uk)

### **Community Fire Volunteers are being sought by Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service**

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service are currently on the lookout for enthusiastic and caring people who want to make a difference to their community. Community Fire Volunteers are fully trained volunteers who share fire safety advice in their area, visiting elderly and vulnerable people in their homes to undertake a Safer Home Visit for them, fitting smoke alarms if required and offering fire safety advice. Those who become Community Fire Volunteers will also be able to get involved in other ways, such as attending community events and fairs or giving talks to community groups about fire safety. Applicants must be over 18 years old and be available for at least 12 hours every month. Volunteers will receive ongoing training and uniform for when they undertake their duties. Support will also be given to allow volunteers to extend their skills and expenses will be paid to cover any costs incurred while on duty. To download an application form and information pack go to <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/suffolk-fire-and-rescue-service/working-and-volunteering-for-fire-and-rescue/apply-to-be-a-community-fire-volunteer/> or call 01473 260588. The vacancy is also available on the Volunteer Suffolk website at <http://volunteersuffolk.org.uk/>

### **Foster & Partners selected as Architectural Team to join the Upper Orwell Crossings Project, Ipswich**

Following a competition run in partnership with the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), Suffolk County Council is very pleased to announce that Foster + Partners has been selected as the architectural team to join the Upper Orwell Crossings project in Ipswich. The crossings will be the second project Foster + Partners has undertaken in the town, following the construction of the architecturally significant Willis Building in Ipswich town centre. The Panel, chaired by Sir Michael Hopkins CBE, selected Foster + Partners from a strong shortlist of five internationally renowned teams. Foster + Partners impressed the panel by the quality of their overall approach and thinking, including the initial design concepts. The approaches were considered to have the potential to enhance Ipswich's thriving waterfront, as well as acting as a catalyst for regeneration of the wider harbour area. The county council and key partners, including Ipswich Borough Council and Ipswich Vision, keenly anticipate seeing the initial design ideas developed further with the wider project team and in consultation with local businesses, communities and residents. Competition concept design images can be downloaded from here <https://www.flickr.com/photos/suffolkcountycouncil/> A video is available at [www.youtube.com/user/SuffolkCC](http://www.youtube.com/user/SuffolkCC)

### **Travel in time – online!**

Suffolk Record Office now offers online resources to help you search for a particular person or piece of information. The new website allows users to access catalogues for the records from the comfort of their own home and means many more people will be able to use the service. More records are being digitised and added to the collection on an on-going basis. To find out more about the services available online, visit [www.suffolkarchives.co.uk](http://www.suffolkarchives.co.uk) In January, Pringle Richards Sharratt were announced as the design team behind the planned heritage centre, 'The Hold', which will house 900 years of Suffolk's historical archives and is expected to open in 2019. As well as providing a teaching and research space, it will also form a unique visitor attraction and important cultural resource for the community.

**Matthew Hicks - County Councillor for the Thredling Division**

Tel : 01728 628176 Mob : 07824474741 E-mail : [matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.hicks@suffolk.gov.uk)

## Village Hall committee report to the annual Parish meeting.

We have had a busy year raising funds and planning for the refurbishment of the Village Hall.

The main events held this year were the Caberet night and the Pudding evening which were both very popular and successful. We also have the monthly bingo and Quiz nights.

The Third Friday Inn evenings are also well supported.

The hall is also regularly booked for children's parties, the WI have their meetings in the committee room and the church uses the hall for some fund raising events.

The building sub committee have been working very hard and I'm very pleased to report that we now have most of the funding in place and we should start the refurbishment works on the 5<sup>th</sup> June. Thanks go to Charlotte Mallett, Bob Pratt, Tracy Hall, Kevin Blatch, Ian Wright and Alison Davies for all their work in getting this project up and running.

The Village Hall and car park will be closed from the 30<sup>th</sup> May for about 3 months whilst works are carried out.

Charles Tydeman  
Chair of the Village Hall management committee.

#### Stonham Aspal Community Council review 2016/17

- Village magazine, still holding its own, we are actively trying to get more content and adverts in it.
- Autumn lunch, was well attended and appreciated, seeking means of funding for it.
- Christmas Sleigh, well subscribed and plenty positive feedback. Hampers went down well. Again seeking funding to help with hampers. Sleigh is in need of some attention, which is in hand.
- Cinema club, still being run on third Wednesday of each month, covering costs and then some, but on hold now til hall revamp completed.
- New members would be good, to give backup to committee members.
- Looking into buying telephone kiosk in village, for £1 and have various ideas for how to use it, main one being to house a defibrillator, in it. Any thoughts gratefully received.
- Thanks to all who have supported us and helped in many ways over the year.

## THE METCALF CHARITIES

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It is just over 400 years since the Rev. John Metcalf, a Rector of Stonham Aspal, made a bequest in his Will which was to lead to the formation of the Metcalf Charities. Those Charities are still here to-day, administered by a small group of locally resident Trustees, and are still able to help this village in a number of ways.

It was John Metcalf who had established in Stonham Aspal the forerunner of the present Primary School, and in recent years the Educational branch of the Charities has continued to make significant grants to the School to assist in financing improvements to its facilities which are not funded by the Education Authority. The Educational Branch can also give financial assistance to School leavers who wish to move on into further education — e.g. a College course, an apprenticeship — but who are unable to obtain the necessary funding to do so.

Another branch of the Metcalf Charities is able to make payments to long-time residents of the village who, as they get older, are finding it harder to make ends meet. The constitution of this branch requires that any income then remaining from the previous year must be shared equally between the Parish Church and some other, non-ecclesiastical, organisation serving the village community. In recent years the latter grant has been made to the Village Hall as a contribution towards the costs of its ongoing refurbishment programme.



(2)

So, after more than 400 years, the Metcalf Charities are still, largely unnoticed, playing a useful role in the welfare of Stanham Aspal. Identifying those who might benefit from this kind of help can be a sensitive area but, if you know of someone the Metcalf Charities might be able to help, you can contact me at 3 Quartz Meadow (tel. 711475) either to discuss the matter in confidence, or for me to put you in touch with one of the other Trustees who might already be known to you.

FRED GEE

Trustee of the  
Metcalf Charities

**Report for Parish Meeting 2017**

Stonham Aspal WI continues to meet on the third Monday of the month usually in the village hall.

We are pleased to report that over the past year our membership has increased from 7 members to 12 (plus one joint member who attends another WI in Ipswich). This has been very encouraging. We now have 6 members on the committee which makes organisation much easier.

We follow the pattern of all WI's having a formal time when the minutes of the previous meeting are read and an agenda followed. We then hand over to a visiting speaker.

Over the past year we have

- Visited the Suffolk Cheese farm
- Learnt about the life of a Norfolk Parson
- A last minute talk on Credit Unions
- A cookery demonstration by one of our members
- A talk on the Fisherman's mission including some sea shanties being sung.
- A talk from local man Matt Pilling from Owl Book binding on the history of book binding and how books are made.

Following the talk we have the raffle and enjoy are refreshments. Our speakers comment on the high quality and quantity we provide. The competition is judged - this is something connected to the talk eg for the book binding we brought in an old book. This is then judged by the members and the results recorded leading to a prize at the end of the year.

The WI continues to raise the profile of concerning issues through the resolutions. At our last meeting we discussed

- The problem with synthetic micro fibres contaminating the ocean
- Raising the profile of the lonely with health, social care and government.

This gave rise to interesting discussion on both resolutions.

Next month we have our annual garden party. This is held at one of the members homes. We wander around their garden and then eat a meal together to which we have all contributed. This is a really good evening with good food, good company and good surroundings.

Last year we decided to Clean for the Queen by doing a Litter Pick in Stonham Aspal. Although dismayed by the amount of litter we found we decided that we would continue to do this twice a year. There is still plenty of litter to collect but maybe a little less now that we are doing this regularly. The amount of takeaway food refuse found on the edges of the village is noticeable. Within a couple of hours of doing the last pick there were already discarded McDonalds containers on Scotts Hill. What ever happened to Keep Britain Tidy campaign!!

We have continued to raise funds by holding our annual coffee morning although we were disappointed at the small number who attended this year. However we were still able to raise over £100 for our funds. Our car boot sale in July was also very successful.

We are able to attend the Group meetings held in our area twice a year which gives us the opportunity to meet with other WI's and hear more expensive speakers. In October we experienced Alan Smiths spectacular flower arranging.

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## STONHAM ASPAL PARISH MEETING

### Report from Stonham Aspal and Mickfield Parochial Church Council 2016-2017

Together with the Revd Philip Payne, the PCC is responsible for promoting the whole mission of the church of St Mary and St Lambert in the ecclesiastical parish of Stonham Aspal and Mickfield.

Revd Philip Payne is responsible for 10 parishes and 8 churches in the North Bosmere Group. He cannot physically be at all the services in every church, but with the help of Self Supporting Minister Helen Norris and lay people, we ensure that there is a church service in this parish every Sunday and at other festivals.

Our Chairman is Revd Philip Payne with Miss Josephine Mitson as Secretary, Mr James Mackintosh as Treasurer and an overall PCC membership of 9. Mr David Tydeman is the Churchwarden.

The average Sunday service attendance was 19, so we would particularly welcome newcomers to the parish and young families to come and join us. There is an important and strengthening link between the church and Stonham Aspal Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School and the Pre-school.

Our overall income last year was about £20,000, with expenditure of about £21,000 and we have total cash funds of about £31,000. The PCC is also responsible for the maintenance of the churchyards in both Stonham Aspal and Mickfield. Some of this work is paid for but much is done by volunteers, and more are always needed!

The church is open to everybody all day and every day and with the provision of services and other events this costs about £2 every hour of the year. After a Quinquennial Inspection by our Architect during 2016 we have been advised of fairly urgent repairs costing in the region of £23,000. Other work also required in the near future will include repair and renovation of stained glass windows and hatchments, replacement of the cemetery gates and upgrading the interior light and sound systems – all potentially costly. The maintaining and repairing of a Grade 1 listed building is expensive and we are always grateful for any financial assistance which, of course, can be Gift Aided if appropriate.

We would also welcome increased attendance and help with our worship, plus help with and support of church events. The church is here for you and if you can help in any way please contact any PCC officer or member.

Full details of church services and activities are publicised in the village magazines and in the church. The Annual Report and Financial Statement can be viewed on the noticeboard in the church porch.

Our next fund raising event is the Bank Holiday Plant Sale, Lunches and Refreshments 27 and 28 May in the Village Hall. On Sunday 11 June, there will be A Summer Event. The Worship for All service at 11am will be followed by a barbecue, stalls, tombola and activities for the children in the church and churchyard. There will also be a display of church and village historical artefacts and the chance to find out more about the history of the church. Everybody is welcome!

John Ince  
14 May 2017

**Stonham Aspal Parish Council**

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**From:** "Kathryn Oelman" <Kathryn.Oelman@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>  
**Date:** 10 May 2017 16:38  
**To:** "Parish - Stonham Aspal" <sapc.clerk@yahoo.co.uk>  
**Cc:** "Val Last" <Val.Last@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>; "Parish - Pettaugh" <parishcouncilpettaugh@hotmail.co.uk>; "Simon Bailey" <Simon.Bailey@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>; "BMSDC Planning Area Team Blue" <planningblue@babberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: Stonham Aspal Annual Parish Meeting 160517

Dear Simon,

The current situation is that the application is awaiting committee. The next available referrals committee for this application is 14<sup>th</sup> June whereby it is likely members will undertake a site visit. The current plans is that the committee would then return to discuss and vote on the application at the following committee, which is 28<sup>th</sup> June. This schedule is subject to my workload and no new issues arising in relation to the application, you are welcome to call in early June to confirm this is still the case. The application has most recently been delayed in order to reach a solution between the agents and Suffolk County Council Floods Team in respect of surface water drainage issues. If a decision is made by the Committee to approve the application it is likely there will need to be a Section 106 Agreement which should be drawn up before a decision can be issued so it is not possible for me to say precisely when the application will be fully resolved. My understanding from our Enforcement Department is that this application, if approved, will regularise all unauthorised development currently at Stonham Barns. To date the history of the site has been complex with a myriad of conditions applicable to different elements. In my view the favourable determination of this application offers an opportunity for us to achieve a clear framework of conditions which will also make it easier in future to identify if breaches are occurring in relation particularly to the holiday occupancy or showground uses.

Whilst I have conveyed to the applicant's agent that it is not in their interests to continue develop the site during this process, I have noted that they have continued to assemble the lodges in the east in accordance with the plans they have applied for. This is done at their own risk and does not prejudice any determination that the council wish to make, but equally we are not able to refuse the lodges simply on the basis they are retrospective. Should consent not be granted for these lodges then the matter would pass back to our Enforcement Team to consider the merits of enforcement action.

If you have any further questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,  
Kathryn

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**Kathryn Oelman BSc(Hons), MSc, MRTPI**  
Senior Development Management Officer  
Mid Suffolk and Babergh District Councils Working Together

Mobile: 07860 827055  
Websites: [www.babergh.gov.uk](http://www.babergh.gov.uk) or [www.midsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk) (Both lead to joint website)

**Important Update Regarding Planning Service:**

From 5pm 11th May the start of the new planning software installation will begin. We must migrate our existing data across to the new system and we will need to 'freeze' our existing software. This work will interrupt normal business activity, such as consultations and publicity and some services will be suspended. Please see website and our planning pages for more details. We have undertaken considerable preparation and this will only take three weeks along with testing for the new system to be set up for launch on the 1st June. Extensions to consultation periods are being made to cover any difficulties and we have made other arrangements.

[Click Here](#) for the latest planning news and changes to the service coming up this year.

Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils – Working Together  
Mid Suffolk District Council | Council Offices | 131 High Street | Needham Market | IP6 8DL