

# STOW BEDON & BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council on Monday, 12 December 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: Lee Pilkington (Vice-Chairman), Andrew Hayward, Paul Howe, Dawn Jessett, John Morfoot, Jonathan White.  
Julian Gibson (Clerk)

*The meeting scheduled for 14 November 2016 did not take place.*

*In the absence of the Council Chairman, the Vice-Chairman assumed the Chair.*

- 1 **Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to accept the reason for absence offered by Councillor Childs.
- 2 **Declarations of interest.** None
- 3 **Dispensations.** None.
- 4 **Public participation session.**
  - 4.1 The applicant for agenda item 8.6 on the agenda explained the background behind his proposal and answers some questions put by members of the Council. District Councillor Phil Cowen explained that he understood that the Breckland officers were intending to recommend refusal of permission as it was in contravention of Policy DC3 which opposes replacement dwellings in the countryside if they are larger than the original. He said that his fellow District Councillor, Bill Smith, had given several nearby examples where permission had been given for substantially larger replacement dwellings, and was intending to ask for this to go before Planning Committee.
  - 4.2 Councillor Cowen said that his Council had done various calculations, and come to the conclusion that they had at last achieved a 5-year housing supply, although this needed to be tested. He said that the Thetford Riverside development, where the hotel and cinema were now open, was proving very successful, and that he had been told about the installation of a broadband cabinet on Mere Road (see item 6). He provided more information about the application for a Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence at an operating centre at The Warehouse, Stow Bedon Road (see item 7.7), and finally said how impressed he was with the re-ordering of St Botolph's Church. In response to a question he said that he had twice been told by the planners that they were minded to refuse permission for the proposed Prince of Wales Lodge development, and so did not understand why this was taking so long. He would continue to raise the issue.

*It was agreed to move agenda item 8.6 up to this point.*

- 8.6 **3PL/2016/1418/F: Oakglen, Caston Road, Stow Bedon.** Application for Demolition of existing bungalow & replacement with 2 storey dwelling & associated garage & landscaping. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objection. The Clerk was asked to contact District Council Bill Smith, and ask him, if the planners were to be minded to refuse permission, to request that the matter be called in to the Planning Committee, and then to point out the views of the Council.
- 5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 17 October 2016 were **confirmed** and **signed**.
- 6 **Matters arising.** [10 Minutes of 18 July 2016] **Broadband.** The Better Broadband for Norfolk Project has sent details of a new communications cabinet (Caston 1) to be installed on the verge opposite Mere House, Mere Road, Stow Bedon. This will be connected to the existing cabinet in Caston Road and to the power pole further in to Mere Road. The new



cabinet is expected to be operable within about a year, and residents can check which cabinet they are served from and the available speeds using <https://www.btwholesale.com/includes/adsl.htm>. (Caston 1 will only appear on the website when implementation is complete.) When operational, residents will need to contact an Internet Service Provider of their choice to upgrade their broadband package.

## 7 Correspondence. The following correspondence was received:

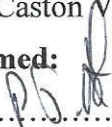
- 7.1 Department for Communities and Local Government: *Re: Norfolk & Suffolk Devolution.*
- 7.2 *Clerks & Councils Direct* - November 2016.
- 7.3 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account statement* - 1-31 October 2016.
- 7.4 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Active Saver Account statement* - 1-31 October 2016.
- 7.5 HM Revenue & Customs: *Paying your Pay As You Earn (PAYE).*
- 7.6 The Pensions Regulator: *Act now: the law on workplace pensions has changed*, advising that the Council's staging date is 1 April 2017.
- 7.7 Ian Mackintosh: *Letter re. Ravers Trading Limited, and also accident at junction of Stow Bedon Road and A1075.* Ravers Trading Limited has applied for a Goods Vehicle Operator Licence to authorise the use of one vehicle and trailer at an operating centre at The Warehouse, Stow Bedon Road. Parish Councils are not consulted on these applications, but several parishioners had now expressed concerns, and Councillor Cowen had advised that the matter was going to be subject to a public enquiry on 19 December. The Council echoed the parishioners concerns about working hours, noise and road safety, and asked the Clerk to write and ask for those concerns to be included in the decision making process. With regard to the second issue and damaged signs at the road junction, a Member reported that he saw the DPD van responsible. The Clerk was asked to advise Norfolk County Council so they could claim the cost of the repairs.
- 7.8 Department for Communities and Local Government: *Freedom of Information act 2000 - 2757524* - Response to the Council's request for data to justify the Government's statement that it "is aware that increases in these precepts continue to concern local tax payers and is therefore prepared to consider extending referendums to all parishes." It seems that "the data is not held"!

## 8 Planning.

- 8.1 **3PL/2016/1103/HOU: Heath Farm, Breckles Heath, Stow Bedon.** Proposed extension to existing dwelling. Planning permission dated 19 October 2016 was **received**.
- 8.2 **3PL/2016/0748/F: Peels Farm, Whitings Lane, Rocklands.** Proposed expansion to existing pig rearing unit to provide 5 additional pig rearing sheds. Notice of referral to Planning Committee on 14 November 2016. The Clerk reported that this application has been approved by Planning Committee, subject to the resolution of outstanding matters in relation to the EIA relating to traffic and odour management. Formal confirmation is still awaited.
- 8.3 **3PL/2016/0787/F: Mere House, Mere Road, Stow Bedon.** Proposed single storey detached dwelling and detached garage. Notice of referral to Planning Committee on 14 November 2016, and Planning Permission dated 15 November 2016 was **received**.
- 8.4 **3AG/2016/0018/AG: Church Farm, Stow Bedon.** Agricultural building. **To note** that the Clerk has responded "no objection" under his delegated powers, and Notice of refusal of permitted development dated 26 November 2016 was **received**.

- 8.5 **3PL/2016/0892/F: Waters Edge, Mere Road Stow Bedon.** Application for Erection of 3 dwellings with integral cart lodge accommodation. Refusal of Planning permission dated 15 November 2016 was **received**.
- 8.6 See above.
- 9 **Mere Road notice board.** In the absence of Councillor Childs it was **agreed** to hold this item over until the next meeting.
- 10 **Bus shelter graffiti.** In the absence of Councillor Childs it was **agreed** to hold this item over until the next meeting.
- 11 **Meeting dates.** The schedule of meeting dates for 2017/18 was **agreed**.
- 12 **Meeting venue.** Councillors Hayward and Jessett reported that they had attended the Open Day at St Botolph's Church, Stow Bedon, to see the results of the recent reordering. The problem is that they still have no water supply and thus no toilet facilities, and parking is either on the verge or adjacent field. Members asked how much use of the church would cost, but the Clerk was only able to give an indicative figure. It was **agreed** he should ask for the proposed charge, and that armed with that information, the Council would make a decision at the next meeting.
- 13 **Budget 2017/18.** The Clerk presented a draft budget for 2017/18 which was **approved**. This included provision in the reserves against the possibility of the Council having to pay for contested elections.
- 14 **Precept 2017/18.** It was **agreed** to fix the Precept for 2017/18 at £4,600, the same as for the current year. However the Clerk pointed out that the number of Band D equivalents in the parish had risen so parishioners should see a small reduction in the Parish Council part of their Council Tax bills.
- 15 **Finance.**
- 15.1 **Clerk's Salary.** It was **resolved** that cheques number 100711 & 100712 to the Clerk and HM Revenue & Customs totalling £708.56 (salary for 1 October 2016 to 31 December 2016: £621.78; Mileage Allowance Payment for 2 September 2016 - 4 December 2016: £86.78) be signed. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 112(2)*)
- 15.2 **Clerk's reimbursement.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100713 for £6.36 (Postage & Telephones) to the Clerk be signed, as reimbursement for items paid on behalf of the Council for 2 September 2016 to 4 December 2016 (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 111*)
- 15.3 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 30 November 2016 was **received**.
- 16 **Matters for consideration at next meeting.** None.
- 17 **Next meeting.** The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as Monday, 16 January 2017, **OR**, if there is no urgent business, on Monday 20 February 2017, at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Confirmed:



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**Phil Childs, Chairman**

16 January 2017



**Scheduled future Meeting dates:**

Monday, 16 January 2017\*

Monday, 20 February 2017

Monday, 20 March 2017

Monday, 10 April 2017

Monday, 15 May 2017

\*If needed

Monday, 19 June 2017

Monday, 17 July 2017

Monday, 14 August 2017\*

Monday, 18 September 2017

Monday, 16 October 2017

Monday, 20 November 2017

Monday, 18 December 2017

Monday, 22 January 2018\*

Monday, 19 February 2018

Monday, 19 March 2018