

Stoke Ash & Thwaite Parish Council
Minutes of the video meeting held at 7.30pm on Thursday 18 June 2020

Present: Cllrs P Morris (Chairman), M Fleming, Mrs C Maisey, D Maisey, R Kember, Mrs V Lane, G Leggett, T Pulham and G Tancred. County Cllr A Stringer and one member of the public

1. **Apologies for absence** – Cllr Stringer would joining the meeting later.
2. **Declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda** – none.
3. **PUBLIC FORUM** – to receive the following reports/parishioners comments:
Police – report available online. Cllr Leggett reported there had been a recent incident of tyres slashed on a vehicle in Chapel Lane. This was now in police hands and it was understood the incident had been recorded on CCTV.
County Councillor – a written report from Cllr Stringer had been circulated. (copy attached to the Minutes) No comments were raised.
District Councillor – no report.
Member of the Public – In order to comply with the Local Government Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities the member of the public stated a list of all expenditure for the year over £100 should be published on the website. The Chairman thanked the parishioner for his comments, this would be reviewed and addressed.
4. **To consider for approval Minutes of the meeting held 21 May 2020**
Cllr Pulham proposed adoption of the Minutes, seconded Cllr Tancred and unanimously agreed.
5. **Matters arising from the Minutes for report**

May 2019	PC vacancy	Continue to include in parish magazine. LC
17.5.18	Damaged road signs	Stoke Ash list prepared – MF. Thwaite – none A140 – 3 identified - TP MF&TP to provide list to LC to report via Suffolk CC reporting tool
23.11.17	Red telephone kiosk – maintenance Install defibrillator	Investigate moving to VH Green – District Cllr confirmed Planning Permission not required. Move deferred pending lifting lockdown. MF to progress in preparation
17.5.18	Storage of PC documents at Ipswich Record Office	Deferred pending record office move
18.1.18	Wash Lane maintenance: Bridge Arrange ditch clearance Remove tree stumps Maintenance during growing season Tractor wheel	Postponed No action currently required Monitor Confirmed at £50 per month Triangular metal base for wheel plus Wash Lane name. PM to provide costing and make metal base.
17.5.18	Thwaite Comm Projects Group	St George’s Hall – parishioners’ questionnaire on future of Hall – TP/GL deferred pending lockdown lifting. St George’s fund Bring & Buy sale. Flyer for parish magazine – GL Collection of items for a Bring & Buy sale after lockdown. RK
17.5.18	Speeding – The Street – high viz 30mph vests	AS to deliver to Post Office
20.9.18	Grit Bin application Fill new bins Plus existing Order 4 new larger bins	Funding for 4 larger bins - Finance Group to approach County/District for funding LC LC LC
May 2018	Bus Stop A140 opposite Walnut Tree PH –	Notice Board for timetable – TP to obtain and install up to cost of £100

		Install Seat – TP/PM
15/11/18	PIIP's – identify items of community expenditure via Cil Parishioners views on joint village hall or retain separate halls	Village Sign – GT /TP to progress sign/post/base Consider other items on Wish List including additional play equipment - deferred Deferred pending lifting lockdown
30.5.19	Monitor road edge – The Street, SA	All councillors
18.7.19	Play equipment/play surface grant funding Refurbish existing Tyre and additional tyres	Pursue grant funding with MSDC – Finance Group PM
18.7.19	Suffolk CC Our Water Project	Working Group to meet Mr Locksmith, Suffolk CC to progress– TP, GT, PM, DM, CM GL. Deferred pending lockdown lifting
21.11.19	Neighbourhood Watch Scheme	VL & RK to progress with Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch – signs, window stickers and publicity in both villages
16.1.20	The Orchard Planning Appeal	Substitute Planning Inspector at site meeting – await District Cllr report
16.1.20	Lunch Club Funding	Possible funding from MSDC – District Cllr Burn - GL
19.3.20	Monthly parish council meetings	Agreed on trial basis
21.5.20	Covid 19 community funding	GL to investigate

May 2019 – PC Vacancy, Stoke Ash – request for a parishioner interested in joining the council to fill the remaining Stoke Ash vacancy had been included in the parish magazine report.

17.5.18 – Damaged road signs – Cllrs Pulham and Fleming to send list of signs in need to repair to clerk.

23.11.17 – Red telephone kiosk and defibrillator – agenda item.

17.5.18 – Storage of parish council documents at Ipswich Record Office – deferred pending Record Office move.

18.1.18 – Wash Lane – agenda item.

17.5.18 – Thwaite Comm Projects report – agenda item.

17.5.18 – Speeding, The Street, Stoke Ash. Reminder had been sent to County Cllr Stringer to provide high viz vests.

20.9.18 – Additional Grit Bins – four 350ltr bins had been ordered and would be delivered to Cllr Pulham upon payment of cheque totaling £503.48 plus vat. Cllr Stringer had offered to contribute to the cost from his Highway locality budget. Application to be made to Cllr Stringer.

May 2018 – Bus Stop A140 opposite Walnut Tree PH. Cllr Pulham was still looking into style and cost of a notice board up to a cost of £100. The Chairman and Cllr Pulham would install the seat within the next week.

15.11.18 – PIIP's – agenda item.

30.5.19 – Monitor road edge in layby at The Street, Stoke Ash – no further changes.

18.7.19 – Additional play equipment – agenda item.

18.7.19 – Suffolk CC Our Water Project – deferred pending lockdown lifting.

21.11.19 – Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – agenda item.

16.1.20 – The Orchard Planning Appeal – Substitute Planning Inspector at site meeting – awaiting District Council report.

16.1.20 – Lunch Club Funding – agenda item.

19.3.20 – Monthly Parish Council meetings – this had been agreed at the May meeting, possibly on a trial basis.

21.5.20 – Covid-19 community funding – Cllr Leggett reported no expenses had been incurred to date from the voluntary scheme operating in both parishes. Cllr Fleming had registered the scheme in a Community Action Suffolk survey and ticked the box for funding but had heard nothing further. No further action.

6. **To consider Planning Applications for recommendation to MSDC** – none received.

7. **Planning Decisions received from MSDC** – none received.

8. **Planning Correspondence** – none.

9. **Proposed Affordable Housing Scheme** – no further report.

10. **Neighbourhood Watch Scheme** – progress report

Cllr Mrs Lane reported an application had been made to the Suffolk Neighbourhood Watch (SNW) scheme for street signage, 5 for Stoke Ash and 4 for Thwaite. The scheme had yet to be officially approved by SNW and MSDC would need to approve the street signage.

11. **MSDC Cil Award – PIIP report**

1. Stoke Ash Village Sign – Cllr Tancred reported the sign had been made and now required powder coat painting, this would cost approximately £80.00. The sign included the post but a brick base would need to be built. It had been agreed to site the sign on the Village Hall green one foot from the wooden rail.

2. Provision of additional Play Equipment

Through the efforts of Cllr Leggett and Mr L Coe the Village Hall had received a grant payment of £10,000 via MSDC from the Government's Covid-19 grant scheme to village halls following closure on 23 March due to the lockdown. The VH committee were considering using some of the funding towards the purchase of play equipment for younger children and it had been suggested the parish council considered contributing an equal sum. There was also some £500 remaining in the current play equipment reserve fund. Cllr Pulham suggested the VH Committee also look into bidding for further Cil funding for purchase of play equipment. Parish Council members agreed there was a need for equipment for younger children. Cllr Fleming agreed to look into the cost and obtain quotes for swing, slide and see-saw type equipment.

Cllr Pulham raised the issue of the future of the village hall in Stoke Ash and St Georges building in Thwaite. Due to the ongoing high maintenance cost for both buildings there had been a suggestion of one new community building for both parishes. Cllr Fleming would obtain the view of the committee at the next VH Committee meeting.

3. Other items for consideration from the community Wish List

Drainage ditch flooding between A140 and Church. A section of Church Lane between the A140 and entrance to Stoke Hall on the south side of the road floods during rain. The culvert opposite the Church was also subject to flooding. It was reported a member of the PCC had taken this up with County Highways and was progressing the repair work required.

12. **Thwaite Community Projects Group report**

St Georges Bring and Buy – Cllr Kember thanked Cllr Leggett for producing a very good flyer distributed in both parishes. Three households had contributed so far, the items had been collected and were stored in St Georges.

13. **Lunch Club** – no action until lockdown lifted.

14. **Stoke Ash Play and Exercise Equipment**

1. ROSPA inspection – clerk to check with Mr Coe when last inspection was carried out.

2. Tyre Maintenance and provision of additional tyres – the VH committee had agreed they would like the additional tyres offered, 2 would be sufficient. Siting would need to be agreed. Cllr Fleming would arrange for the delivery of 200 litres of bark.

Cllr Morris was dealing with maintenance of existing tyre.

3. To consider additional play equipment with contribution from Parish Council

To enable the Parish Council to consider a contribution costings would need to be provided. Cllr Fleming would obtain quotes for the type of equipment suggested at item 11.2 above. Consideration of a PC contribution would be considered when costings were available.

15. **Wash Lane**

Tractor wheel sign – the Chairman was progressing as per the last Minutes.

Maintenance – the lane had been strimmed as agreed and would continue over the growing months. The width of the lane would however need to be wider, over 1 metre.

Cllr Fleming reported on the wildlife inhabiting the lane. To make the lane more accessible Cllr Fleming requested the bridge was re-visited. Item to be included on next agenda including design, costings and alternatives.

County Cllr Stringer joined the meeting at 8.35pm. The Chairman proposed the meeting was opened to Cllr Stringer to present his report

Cllr Stringer reported every part of the County Council was trying to keep to business as normal despite covid-19. Staff had risen to the challenge and home working was going well. The council was working with each individual school to arrive at extending opening arrangements.

Additional items reported included the County Council Cycling Strategy and tourism which could bring huge benefits. Questions raised included tourism in villages which was not always welcomed by

residents and did not always have discernible advantages to villages. The closure of the Eye Recycling Centre was raised. Cllr Stringer offered to make enquiries as to when it would be re-opening. The availability of funding from the County Highways locality budget towards the cost of the grit bins was raised. Cllr Stringer stated application should be made direct to him.

16. Former telephone kiosk, The Street, Stoke Ash

1. Refurbishment and move – deferred during lockdown
2. Defibrillator progress

It had been suggested a defibrillator was housed in the telephone kiosk if the kiosk was moved to the village hall green. Details had been obtained of another scheme through London Hearts. Cllr Fleming to compare London Hearts with with the Community Heartbeat Trust scheme. Cllr Stringer added members needed to be aware of the ongoing costs. Item to be included on the next agenda for further consideration.

17. Report on possible covid-19 community funding – see item 5 above.

18. To consider village celebrations for VJ Day 15 August 2020

There had been a suggestion from parishioners for an outdoor picnic event on the Village Hall Green to celebrate VJ Day. It was anticipated this would include Thwaite parishioners and it was believed the green was large enough to enable social distancing. Parish Council members had no objections to an event and parishioners should go ahead if they wished to organize it with the permission of the VH Committee for use of the green. It was suggested the parish council could offer some help. Item to be included on next agenda for consideration should the event go ahead. Cllr Leggett offered to prepare a flyer for distribution in the village if required. Content for flyer would need to be supplied. Cllr Tancred would include details on the website.

19. Finance

1. To consider s.137 donation requests – none received.
2. Accounts for Payment

Date	Payee	Purchase/Service	Amount	Vat	Total	Agreed/Decld	Ch no.
18.6.20	ESE Direct	4 350ltr grit bins	£503.18	£100.70	£604.18	Agreed	100464
18.6.20	Stoke Ash VH	Hire of Hall 2019-20	£74.75	-	£74.75	Agreed	100465
18.6.29	E.on	Old School Rm electricity April-May 2020	£10.57	-	£10.57	Agreed	100266

Cllr Leggett proposed payment of the above accounts, seconded Cllr Mrs Maisey and agreed.

3. Finance Working Group – no report, the working group had not met since the new financial year.

20. Clerk's report/correspondence

NALC – the Local Government Association had launched a new model Member Code of Conduct consultation, open for comments until 17 August 2020. NALC were encouraging parish council and individual councillors to respond to the consultation. Item to be included on next agenda.

21. Chairman's urgent business

The owner of the Brookside development in Stoke Ash had raised a query regarding the development boundary line with the village hall green running along the footpath. The owner was willing to keep the boundary open but if required would be prepared to put in a privet hedge along the footpath edge from the footpath sign back to the tree line. Members were of the view the boundary should remain as it was. Cllr Leggett to inform the landowner.

22. Any other business for information exchange/agenda requests

Village Halls re-opening – Cllr Stringer warned caution and reported daily statistics showed that Suffolk was at the peak of the virus, it had been rising since early May and now beginning to plateau. He believed the county should remain vigilant. Cllr Stringer would email the latest daily statistic reports for information.

Thwaite allotment land – Cllr Pulham requested selling allotment land in Thwaite was included on the next agenda for consideration.

Emergency Action Plan – Cllrs Fleming, Leggett, Pulham and Kember to review the current plan.

Celebrating Suffolk Day 21 June 2020 – Cllr Mrs Maisey reported Thwaite residents would be celebrating Suffolk Day on Sunday 21 June with a picnic at a distance in the Thwaite field. Cllr Stringer requested that residents remained vigilant.

Meeting closed 21.47pm

Signed:

Chairman

Date:

Summary of action points:

May 2019	PC vacancy	Continue to include in parish magazine. LC
17.5.18	Damaged road signs	Stoke Ash list prepared – MF. Thwaite – none A140 – 3 identified - TP MF&TP to provide list to LC to report via Suffolk CC report tool
23.11.17	Red telephone kiosk – maintenance Defibrillator	Investigate moving to VH Green – District Cllr confirmed Planning Permission not required. Move deferred pending lifting lockdown. MF to provide comparisons – Community Heartbeat Trust and/or London Heart
17.5.18	Storage of PC documents at Ipswich Record Office	Deferred pending record office move
18.1.18	Wash Lane maintenance: Bridge Remove tree stumps Maintenance during growing season Tractor wheel	Include on next agenda Monitor Path to be cut wider, 1 metre plus Triangular metal base for wheel plus Wash Lane name. PM to provide costing and make metal base.
17.5.18	Thwaite Comm Projects St George’s Hall St George’s Bring & Buy Sale To consider sale of allotment land A future joint Community Hall	Parishioners’ questionnaire on future of Hall – TP/GL deferred pending lockdown lifting. Collection of items for a Bring & Buy sale after lockdown. RK Include on next agenda Obtain Stoke Ash VH committee view - MF
17.5.18	Speeding – The Street – high viz 30mph vests	AS to deliver to Post Office. Vests available for both villages.
20.9.18	Grit Bin funding application Fill new bins Plus existing Order 4 new larger bins	Application to County Cllr Locality Budge - LC LC LC Complete and delivered.
May 2018	Bus Stop A140 opposite Walnut Tree PH – Install seat	Notice Board for timetable – TP to obtain and install up to cost of £100 Complete
15/11/18	PIIP’s – identify items of community expenditure via Cil Parishioners views on joint village hall or retain separate halls	Village Sign – GT /TP progressing Consider other items on Wish List including additional play equipment – MF to provide costings Deferred pending lifting lockdown
30.5.19	Monitor road edge – The Street, SA	All councillors
18.7.19	Play equipment/play surface grant funding Refurbish existing Tyre and additional tyres Bark chippings ROSPA inspection	Pursue grant funding with MSDC – Finance Group PM MF Obtain date of last inspection - LC

18.7.19	Suffolk CC Our Water Project	Working Group to meet Mr Locksmith, Suffolk CC to progress– TP, GT, PM, DM, CM GL. Deferred pending lockdown lifting
21.11.19	Neighbourhood Watch – awaiting confirmation of application from SNW Dedicated signs – awaiting confirmation of application from MSDC Provide window stickers and publicity in both villages	VL Neighbourhood Watch – awaiting confirmation of application VL VL/RK
16.1.20	The Orchard Planning Appeal	Substitute Planning Inspector at site meeting – await District Cllr report
16.1.20	Lunch Club Funding	Possible funding from MSDC – District Cllr Burn - GL
19.3.20	Monthly parish council meetings	Complete
21.5.20	Covid 19 community funding	Complete
18.6.20	Local Government Transparency Code – ensure PC compliant	LC
18.6.20	Flooding between A140 and Church and culvert opposite Church	PCC progress with County Highways
18.6.20	VJ Day Celebration 15 August 2020	Parishioners to progress – include on next agenda
18.6.20	Boundary next VH Green next Brookside Development, SA – suggested hedge.	PC agree boundary remained open as at present. Inform adjoining owner - GL
18.6.20	Review Emergency Plan	MF, GL, TP & RK

County Cllr Andrew Stringer – June Report COVID-19 Update

Latest Government advice is available here: www.gov.uk/coronavirus Latest SCC information is available here: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Further opening of schools

From 1 June it is expected that school will gradually begin to reopen to more pupils, in addition to accommodating children of key workers and vulnerable pupils. The phased opening of schools will start with pupils in nurseries, reception, year one and year six. Secondary schools and other schools such as pupil referral units and special schools will also gradually increase the number of children and young people they can accommodate. For secondary schools this will start with year 10 and year 12.

Suffolk County Council has been supporting schools in preparing for the possibility of increased pupil numbers and have provided all schools with a risk assessment checklist.

Important: It is not compulsory for parents to send their children to school at this time and there will be no penalties for families who choose to keep children at home.

More information is available at: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/parent-guidance-about-schools-during-covid-19-pandemic/>

Testing in Suffolk

A regional testing centre for Suffolk and surrounding areas can be found at the **London Road Park and Ride, Copdock, Ipswich**. It is open from 8am to 7pm, every day.

There are also various mobile testing units across Suffolk. In addition, home testing kits can be requested.

More information on how to access a test in Suffolk is available at:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-19-testing-in-suffolk/>

Changes to pavements/roads to aid social distancing

Suffolk County Council has confirmed that local councils and communities can make some small-scale temporary changes to pavements without needing to seek consent from the county council. These will be local safety measures on pavements that outline queuing areas, social distancing reminders or simple painted markings on pavement surfaces for pedestrians.

However, if the activity that the community wants to carry out requires working on or in the road, then the county council will need to be contacted first. If communities are unsure of where their proposed changes fit, they are encouraged to contact the county council at: transport.schemes@suffolk.gov.uk.

We have also been encouraging the county council to make more radical changes to the road layout to support cycling and walking. The Department for Transport has announced a £2bn package to boost cycling and walking capacity in the UK, and this is an opportunity for councils to tackle historic congestion problems by encouraging a change in the behaviours of their residents by giving a fairer share of road space to walkers and cyclists.

Domestic Abuse helpline available 24/7

The existing Domestic Abuse Outreach Service, run by Suffolk County Council and Anglia Care Trust, has extended its **0800 977 5690** freephone number to be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Anyone with concerns including professionals who may be supporting clients, as well as friends and families who are concerned for loved ones, can access this local support.

Recycling centres reopen with booking system

Suffolk County Council have reopened household waste recycling centres, following weeks of closure due to the lockdown. They are operating on a booking system, to help reduce traffic disruption on roads around the sites and support social distancing on site for staff and members of the public.

Members of the public will need to book a 15-minute slot online at www.suffolk.gov.uk/recyclingcentres or by calling 0345 606 6067. It is not possible to access the sites without a booking.

The following temporary rules apply:

- No access to site without pre-booking
- Cars, car-derived vans, and pedestrians only – no larger vans, trailers or commercial-type vehicles
- One adult to unload, unless 2 adults needed for heavy items
- No staff assistance to unload vehicles
- Chargeable DIY waste (soil, rubble and hardcore) will be accepted, but payment must be made using contactless cards only
- No trade waste, textiles or re-use items accepted

EDF submits application for Sizewell C DCO

On 27 May, EDF submitted an application for a development consent order for Sizewell C to the Planning Inspectorate.

I am very concerned about EDF's decision to go ahead with an application during the current crisis, as it will be much more difficult for the public and stakeholders to fully scrutinise the plans and particip

