

## Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Cherry Martin and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** Mark Harrison and Steven Bashforth

### 1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008 were read, approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman following an amendment to item 5:1. The planning application was in relation to The Red Lion 44 Wells Road not number 14 Wells Road as recorded in the minutes.

### 2 Matters Arising

**Mr Peter Stoner – Donation of a village seat** For the moment the seat has been stored in Mark Harrison garage until a base has been prepared.

### 3 Correspondence

**Environment Agency** - Communities and Local Government code of recommended practices for local authority publicity - A consultation document.

**Norfolk Police Authority** – Parish Newsletter

**Norfolk Police Authority** – Budget 2009 / 2010 An Open Meeting is to be held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

**Norfolk County Council** – Review of East of England Plan to 2031.

**North Norfolk District Council** – Local Development Framework – Design Guide

**North Norfolk District Council** – Minutes of a Meeting held at Aldborough Village Hall on 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 08.

**NALC** – Business Plan.

### 4 Finance

**The following expenditure was approved.**

**E-on Energy** – Monthly street lighting energy charge cost £48.60.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that E.on Energy had provided a schedule of charges and direct debit payments relating to the past 3 years and this indicated that Stiffkey Parish Council was £30.30 in credit and this credit would be deducted from the next direct debit payment.

**5 Planning** – There were no outstanding planning issues

**6 Parish Plan** No report available as Steven Bashforth was unable to attend the meeting.

### 7 A O B

**Parked Vehicles** - Concerns were once again expressed that vehicles are again parking in front of the seat located at the junction of Bridge Street. It was suggested that a notice asking people to be more considerate and not to park in front of the seat may prevent this re-occurring.

## Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Mark Harrison, Steven Bashforth, *F Procter*,  
Councillor D Baxter and Councillor J Savory and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** Cherry Martin

### 1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009 were read, approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman

### 2 Matters Arising

**Mr Peter Stoner – Donation of a village seat** For the moment the seat has been stored in Mark Harrison garage until a base has been prepared which will be located slightly further back from the river.

### 3 Correspondence

**NNDC** Informing the Parish Council that the amenity verge cutting, which is 10 times per year, to the area of land at Camping Hill and the verge approaching Church Street would no longer be financed by the NNDC. They would continue to cut the verge 5 times per year as a highway safety measure. The cost for the amenity verge cutting had been estimated at £194.23 per year. The Councillors agreed that they would not pay for the amenity verge cutting for the next year. However, they agreed that the Clerk should write to Victory Housing to enquire if they would be willing to pay or make a contribution to the amenity verge cutting as the majority of the area in question was surrounded by their properties.

**Local Links** – Various publications

**N C C** – Newsletter issue

**Wells Town Council** - Joint Meeting of Parish Councils at Binham Memorial Hall – the Clerk will be in attendance.

### 4 Finance

**The following expenditure was approved.**

**E-on Energy** – Monthly street lighting energy charge cost £48.60.

**Stiffkey Parochial Church Council** - The Councillors agreed a donation of £50 per year towards the upkeep of the Knoll/Churchyard.

### 5 Planning Application

**5:1 Curlews, Greenway** - Erection of single-storey extension and installation of replacement roof covering - The Parish Council had no objection to this application

**5:2 Stiffkey Old Hall** – Installation of a paneling bookcase, replacement of roof structure to North End Tower and installation of flagpole to North East Tower Roof – The Parish Councillors had no objection to this application.

*19/11*

**6 Parish Plan** Steven Bashforth informed the Councillors that the questionnaire was now ready for printing and then distribution. It is hoped that everyone will fill it in. Clarification on the current housing policy is being obtained

**7 A O B**

**Parked Vehicle in front of seat at Bridge Street Junction** - The Clerk informed the Councillors that she had placed a notice on the offending car and within a very short time it had been moved, hopefully the parking of the vehicle in front of the seat will not occur again.

**Church Street. Overhanging Vegetation** Once again Councillors expressed their concern regarding the overhanging vegetation from the Village Hall to Bridge Street. Mark Harrison reminded the Councillors that despite a visit from the Highways Representative it had not been possible to get the hedge cut back and the footpath reinstated. The Councillors agreed that the Clerk would write again to the Highways Department to request action.

**Recycling Centre Costessey** The Councillors agreed that a possible tour of the Recycling Centre at Costessey would be investigated.

#### **Report from Councillor Jonathan Savory**

Councillor Jonathan Savory informed the Council that the decision for the Boundary Commission Review Report was due to be made public on the 13<sup>th</sup> February.

The N N D C website which was first developed in 2002 is being upgraded and will be available by the end of March.

#### **Report from Councillor Derek Baxter**

##### **The market for recycled materials**

The Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) are fairly confident that, while market conditions are difficult, the great majority of material collected for recycling is finding a market. Reports of extensive stockpiling are not justified by the facts. There has been a significant reduction in the prices paid for recycled materials - as there has for virgin materials - which will have implications for local authority finances but even here there is evidence that prices are starting to stabilise.

Paper has borne the brunt of the downturn, however demand does still exist for newspapers and magazines, glass, organic waste and plastic bottles. WRAP are concerned by the risk that media reports will persuade significant numbers of people to stop participating in recycling services and indeed may make it difficult for local authorities to introduce necessary service improvements. This would inevitably increase the volume, and associated cost to the council tax payers, of waste sent to landfill.

##### **Invitation to the launch of the Norfolk Climate Change Strategy**

Norfolk people are responsible for significantly more CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per head than the national average, according to Norfolk Climate Change Strategy - Tomorrow's Norfolk, Today's Challenge - which will be launched on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February in Norwich.

As a low-lying county with a growing population, Norfolk is particularly vulnerable to the effects of a warming climate - including sea level rises, storms, heat waves and drought. Yet the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> produced per person in Norfolk is 8.00 tonnes a year, well above the national average of 7.4 tonnes.

'Tomorrow's Norfolk, Today's Challenge' outlines the implications of climate change for Norfolk, identifies priorities for action to reduce CO2 emissions, and the need to adapt to unavoidable global warming. It also recognises that there may be opportunities from the development of low-carbon industries, as well as for tourism and new crops if summers are hotter and growing seasons longer.

The strategy is a key element of 'Norfolk Ambition', the county's Sustainable Community Strategy, which has set a target of an 11% reduction in carbon emissions by 2011. As major service providers, purchasers and energy users, local authorities can lead by example, and at the same time provide better value for money for tax payers. But the strategy is also aimed at the wider community, covering travel and transport, business and the economy, development and housing, and energy.

### **Update on refreshment of the Drainage Protocol**

At the last time of reporting' in January 2008, it was evident that some District Council officers, amongst others, were not aware of the "land drainage protocol". The protocol has now been discussed and agreed by the Norfolk Resilience Forum Environmental Sub Group and at the Highways Management Liaison Group which involves all District Councils. All District Councils, the Environment Agency and the Internal Drainage Board have returned signed letters to Norfolk County Council stating that they agree with the protocol and have undertaken to ensure their staff are aware of its existence and understand each partners responsibilities.

Norfolk County Council have added the Drainage Protocol to its website and have ensured the Customer Service Centre is aware of its existence and understand its contents. Planning & Transportation Area Managers have refreshed the protocol amongst their operational staff to ensure members, Parish Councils and the public can be fully briefed on its existence and thus who they should contact for any drainage queries.

In addition the Government initiated the Pitt Report following the summer floods of 2007. The report gives 92 recommendations and central Government published their response to them on 17 December. The Pitt recommendations show that the Local Authorities would lead on 25 actions with a further 12 recommendations to be actioned through the Local resilience Forums. The County Council is studying the Government response and will report back sometime in March or April.

### **Remaining Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2009**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2009  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009  
No Meeting in August  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009

Annual Report to Parishioners



## Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Mark Harrison, Steven Bashforth, Eddie Proctor, Cherry Martin, Councillor D Baxter, 3 parishioners and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** Councillor Jonathan Savory

**Declarations of Interest :** Mark Harrison declared an interest in item 5:1 regarding planning application for Highsands Creek Camp Site

### 1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009 were read, approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman

### 2 Matters Arising

**Wells Town Council** - Joint Meeting of Parish Councils at Binham Memorial Hall – the Clerk gave a brief report on this meeting. 13 out of 14 Councils had been represented. Issues raised covered the speed gun which has been purchased by Wells Town Council and will be used in the adjoining villages. The lack of attendance by the Community Police Liaison Officers at Parish Council Meetings was also raised by many of the Councils represented and the lack of their powers (they are unable to issue parking tickets) regarding unauthorised parking. A second meeting will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> June

**NNDC - Reduction in verge cutting** At the last meeting the Councillors had been informed that the amenity verge cutting, which in the past has been cut 10 times per year, to the area of land at Camping Hill and the verge approaching Church Street would no longer be financed by the NNDC. They would continue to cut the verge 5 times per year as a highway safety measure. The cost for the amenity cutting had been estimated at £194.23 per year. A private house owner at Camping Hill informed the Councillors that a contribution of £27.00 per year is paid to Victory Housing towards the cost of the verge cutting, but was unsure if everyone at Camping Hill was required to pay a similar contribution. The clerk will investigate.

### 3 Correspondence

#### **NNDC:**

Annual Environmental Awards – inviting nominations for Councils who can demonstrate how those involved have improved their local environment.

Town and Parish Standards Board – to be circulated.

Notification about Local Government Review - Notification was due in February but has delayed until no later than 15<sup>th</sup> June 2009.

Booklet on the Norfolk Local Area Agreement.

North Norfolk 'simply outstanding show' – two day tourist event 26/3/2009 to be held at Gresham School.

Fieldwork CPRE booklet

The Playing Field – newsletter.



#### 4 Finance

The following expenditure was approved.

**E-on Energy** – Monthly street lighting energy charge cost £48.60.

**Support for Local Lynx** - £25 donation approved.

#### 5 Planning Application

**5:1** Highsands Creek Camp Site, Greenway – Erection of single storey extension to toilet block to provide laundry room and disabled facilities – The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

**5:2 Notice of Decision** – Erection of single-storey extension and installation of replacement roof covering at Curlews, Greenway – Permission for development

**6 Parish Plan** Steven Bashforth informed the Councillors that following clarification by Councillor Jonathan Savory the wording of the questionnaire has been amended to be in line with the current housing policy and would now be distributed to everyone in the village.

#### 7 A O B

**Tree on the Knoll** It appears the Cherry Tree on the Knoll has died and it was suggested that it should be replaced with a species of tree that is native to the area. A Red May or a Sweet Chestnut were put forward for consideration. It was also suggested that the soil may need to be tested to find out why the tree had died.

**Village Sign** Further discussion took place regarding the state of the village sign and the Councillors agreed that the village sign was now beyond repair. Mark Harrison offered to contact George Huggins from Fakenham to enquire if he would be able to quote for a new village sign at an acceptable price. It was agreed by the Councillors that they would like the new sign to be of a similar design to the old one.

**Street Lights** - The Clerk informed the Council that the street light on the Knoll which is very dull, and the street lights at Bridge Street and on Wells Road have been reported to the street lighting maintenance contractor.

#### 8 P Q T

**Road Surface** The Clerk will inform the Highways Department that a hole in the road has appeared opposite the bus shelter.

**Hedge Trimming** The Chairman wished to record a vote of thanks to Mark Harrison for his work on the strimming of the hedges through the village.

**Bus Stop** - Following a request from a parishioner the Clerk will investigate the cost of a bus shelter to be located at Camping Hill for eastbound traffic.

**Village Hall Report** The Chairman agreed to contact the Village Hall Committee to enquire if it would be possible for a report on the Village Hall to be provided to the Parish Council.

8 P Q T - Continued

**Bottle Bank** In response to a query raised by a parishioner the Chairman explained that if an alternative site could be located in the village an additional bottle bank could be provided, although it was noted that due to the recession there is very little money to be raised through recycling at the moment.

**Report from Councillor Derek Baxter**

**The market for recycled materials**

The Waste & Resources Action Programme (WRAP) are fairly confident that, while market conditions are difficult, the great majority of material collected for recycling is finding a market. Reports of extensive stockpiling are not justified by the facts. There has been a significant reduction in the prices paid for recycled materials - as there has for virgin materials - which will have implications for local authority finances but even here there is evidence that prices are starting to stabilise.

Paper has borne the brunt of the downturn, however demand does still exist for newspapers and magazines, glass, organic waste and plastic bottles. WRAP are concerned by the risk that media reports will persuade significant numbers of people to stop participating in recycling services and indeed may make it difficult for local authorities to introduce necessary service improvements. This would inevitably increase the volume, and associated cost to the council tax payers, of waste sent to landfill.

**Invitation to the launch of the Norfolk Climate Change Strategy**

Norfolk people are responsible for significantly more CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per head than the national average, according to Norfolk Climate Change Strategy - Tomorrow's Norfolk, Today's Challenge - which will be launched on Friday 6 February in Norwich.

As a low-lying county with a growing population, Norfolk is particularly vulnerable to the effects of a warming climate - including sea level rises, storms, heat waves and drought. Yet the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> produced per person in Norfolk is 8.00 tonnes a year, well above the national average of 7.4 tonnes.

'Tomorrow's Norfolk, Today's Challenge' outlines the implications of climate change for Norfolk, identifies priorities for action to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and the need to adapt to unavoidable global warming. It also recognises that there may be opportunities from the development of low-carbon industries, as well as for tourism and new crops if summers are hotter and growing seasons longer.

The strategy is a key element of 'Norfolk Ambition', the county's Sustainable Community Strategy, which has set a target of an 11% reduction in carbon emissions by 2011. As major service providers, purchasers and energy users, local authorities can lead by example, and at the same time provide better value for money for tax payers. But the strategy is also aimed at the wider community, covering travel and transport, business and the economy, development and housing, and energy.

**Update on refreshment of the Drainage Protocol**

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Norfolk County Council has added the Drainage Protocol to its website and have ensured the Customer Service Centre is aware of its existence and understands its contents. Planning & Transportation Area Managers have refreshed the protocol amongst their operational staff to ensure members, Parish Councils and the public can be fully briefed on its existence and thus who they should contact for any drainage queries.

In addition the Government initiated the Pitt Report following the summer floods of 2007. The report gives 92 recommendations and central Government published their response to them on 17 December. The Pitt recommendations show that the Local Authorities would lead on 25 actions with a further 12 recommendations to be actioned through the Local resilience Forums. The County Council is studying the Government response and will report back sometime in March or April.

**Remaining Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2009**

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## Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2009

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Mark Harrison, Steven Bashforth, Eddie Proctor, Councillor D Baxter, 6 parishioners and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** Cherry Martin and Councillor Jonathan Savory

### 1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2009 were read, approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman

### 2 Matters Arising

**NNDC - Reduction in verge cutting** At the last meeting the Councillors had been informed that the amenity verge cutting, which in the past has been cut 10 times per year, to the area of land at Camping Hill and the verge approaching Church Street would no longer be financed by the NNDC.

They would continue to cut the verge 5 times per year as a highway safety measure. However a private house owner at Camping Hill had informed the Councillors that a contribution of £27.00 per year is paid to Victory Housing towards the cost of the verge cutting, but was unsure if everyone at Camping Hill was required to pay a similar contribution. In order for the Clerk to investigate this matter further, the parishioner agreed to provide the Clerk with the invoice for this charge.

### 3 Correspondence

**NCC - Local List Valuation – Consultation**

**Norfolk County Services** – Advising that they are to be rebranded to Norse Commercial Services.

**The Boundary Commission** - Further draft proposals for the Structural Review of Norfolk – Summary of their report.

**NNDC Local Development Framework** – details of dates for the Exhibition Drop In Centre. The Exhibition for this area will be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July from 3.00pm to 7.00pm at Holt Community Centre.

**Norfolk Parishes Training Partnership** – Details of a Planning Portal which takes place on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April 7.00 – 9.00pm.

**CPRE** Information regarding the organization of a 'Litter Pick'

### 4 Finance

**The following expenditure was approved.**

**E-on Energy** – Monthly street lighting energy charge cost £48.60.

**5 Planning Application**

**5:1 Land Off Binham Road, Warham** – Erection of kiosk in connection with gauging station – The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

**5:2 Stiffkey Old Hall** - Installation of paneling, bookcases, replacement roof structure to North East Tower and installation of flagpole to North East Tower Road – Application Withdrawn

**5:3 Notice of Decision**

**82 Wells Road** – Change of use of extension to separate holiday cottage

**6 Parish Plan**

Steven Bashforth informed the Councillors that the questionnaire has now been distributed. The completed questionnaires will be collected in due course. A Parishioner queried if the results of the questionnaire could be abused by those analysing the answers contained in the questionnaire? Steven Bashforth stressed that the questionnaire was purely a process used for information gathering to enable a Parish Plan to be produced. The Parish Plan is being produced by a working group made up of entirely independent representatives from the village.

**7 A O B**

**Tree on the Knoll** It was suggested that the tree on the Knoll which appears to have died should be replaced with either a Field Maple, a Red May or a Cherry Tree in the autumn.

**Village Sign** At the last meeting the state of the village sign had been discussed and the Councillors had agreed that the village sign was now beyond repair.

The Chairman and Allan <sup>Curtis</sup> ~~Tuck~~ had been to inspect a fiberglass village sign at Fring which had been made by a contact at Litcham who was known to Mr <sup>Curtis</sup> ~~Tuck~~. The price quoted for a new fiberglass sign was £300 but it was unclear if this price was just for the mould as it was thought that the painting of the sign would likely cost as much as this again if not more.

Eddy Proctor informed the Council that he had also been making some enquiries and had obtained a quote for a fiberglass village sign at a cost of £750 with an additional cost of £130 for the roof and fittings from a firm at Barton Mills, Suffolk. The only other additional cost would be the purchase of a post.

It was agreed that formal quotes would be obtained from both suppliers.

**Bus Stop** - Following a request from a parishioner the Clerk is investigating the cost of a bus shelter to be located at Camping Hill for eastbound traffic. To encourage people to use public transport grants are now available towards the provision of bus shelter and these would be investigated.

**Adoption of Phone Box** - Janey Sugden presented the Councillors with a petition requesting the Parish Council to adopt the phone box. Janey Sugden had investigated the possible costs involved and confirmed that the disconnection of the electrical supply would cost £433 plus vat. BT will make a charge of £1 <sup>per</sup> ~~per~~ <sup>in total</sup> week. If the Parish Council adopts the phone box and takes over the current electrical supply it will only cost £25 per year and there will be no standing charge.

7 **Adoption of Phone Box – Continued**

If the Parish Council agrees to adopt the phone box and is required at a later date to find the disconnection cost of £433 donations have been offered by parishioners to meet this cost.

The adoption of the phone box was formally approved by the Parish Council.

It was suggested that once the adoption has taken place the light bulb could be removed to ensure no unnecessary electricity charges are incurred.

8 **P Q T**

**Reinstatement of White Line** The Clerk will contact the Highways Department to request that the white line at the entrance to the Greenway is reinstated following the improvements to the road surface..

**Village Hall Report** The Chairman informed the Parish Council that a Village Hall Meeting is due to be held within the next month.

9 **Report**

**Report from Councillor Derek Baxter**

**Views sought from young people with diabetes in Norfolk**

The views of young people with diabetes and their families are being sought by a working group set up to look into services for children with the condition.

The Norfolk health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is made up of 15 county and district councillors from across Norfolk. It acts as a watchdog to safeguard and promote the interests of people in the county who use health services.

The committee has set up a working group which is looking into diabetes services for young people in Norfolk. As part of their work they would like to hear about the experiences of children and young people in Norfolk who are diabetic and their families and carers.

In particular, they would like to hear people's thoughts on:-

The treatment and support offered by the Children's Diabetes Clinics at acute hospitals.

Support offered by schools.

Support available in the community, for example home visits from specialist nurses.

The effect of diabetes on family life.

Improvements that could be made to existing arrangements and services that would have the most positive impact on lives. Responses need to be received by the end of May 2009 and there are a number of ways people can make their views known. Written responses should be addressed to Keith Cogdell, Scrutiny Support Team, 4th Floor, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich NR1 2DW. Alternatively people can email: [keith.cogdell@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:keith.cogdell@norfolk.gov.uk) or call: 01603 222785.



## **All change for Norfolk County Services**

Spring is here and its all change at one of the UK's leading facilities management, contract services and strategic partnership companies.

This year looks set to be something of a momentous time in the 21 year history of Norfolk County Services as it changes its name to Norse Commercial Services, and moves to a new five and a half acre site in Fifers Lane, Norwich.

As part of the Norse Group - a dynamic holding company that also includes NPS Property Consultants Ltd and waste processing and management operator NEWS - Norse Commercial Services is a private trading arm of Norfolk County Council and returns a percentage of profits to the council under a unique public/private initiative.

In recent years, Norse Commercial Services has picked up a number of new contracts, and pioneered a winning concept in public and private partnerships across East Anglia.

It is currently delivering services to local authorities including North Norfolk District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Waveney District Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council.

Norse Commercial Services is expected to record a record turnover of £95 million in 2009/10 and employs 4,500 people across Norfolk and Suffolk, making nit one of the largest employers in the county.

## **Road surface dressing programme underway in Norfolk**

Norfolk County Council's road surface dressing program for 2009 began mid-April with work starting in the Hopton area, around Ludham and to the east of Acle.

The £6.5 million surface dressing programme, carried out for the Council by May Gurney, will last for about 5 months. This work takes place every year while the weather is warmer, with the holiday areas and the main roads treated first. Where possible, work is planned away from busy main roads during peak periods, but because it is fast-moving and may be suspended during bad weather, it is hard to give motorists early warning of where the crews will be working.

Surface dressing involves laying a thin layer of bitumen and chippings on to the road to improve skid resistance for safety reasons, but also helps keep water from getting to the road structure below, which can lead to the road breaking up more quickly.

The surface dressing programme involves firstly the main A roads in Norfolk for completion by the end of June, and other routes are then completed by the end of the summer in August/September.

## **Spring into washable nappies and make real savings**

Parents in Norfolk will be reminded that there is a real choice when it comes to nappies, with a series of talks and demonstrations to ante-natal and post-natal groups throughout April. Norfolk County Council's waste reduction team will be dispelling some myths and emphasising that using modern washable nappies can help parents save money and reduce their carbon footprint.

In Norfolk, we estimate that we are burying around one tonne of disposable nappies in landfill sites for each child, at a cost of £40 per tonne just in landfill tax. When the waste collection and disposal costs are added, it runs into hundreds of thousands of pounds per annum.

Parents are spending thousands of pounds each year buying disposable nappies - with an estimated £1000 bill to use disposable nappies for just one child, compared to up to £500 for using washable nappies.

To help parents offset the initial set-up costs, Norfolk County Council offers £30 cash back for parents who have spent £45 or more on washable nappies, wraps, liners or training pants. Call 0844 800 8004 or visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk/nappies](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/nappies) to find out more.

### **Expenditure in the East of England**

A report commissioned by county councils in the East of England have found that not only is it that local authorities have less per head expenditure, but it cuts right across all public services.

Key findings include:-

The East of England is a successful region which make a net contribution to the Exchequer but receives significantly lower levels of public expenditure than the England average.

These low levels of public spending are found across all parts of the public sector in the region, including services provided by central government, local authorities, police, schools and the health services.

Between 2002/03 and 2007/08 the East of England received around 87% of the average spending per head for England.

For 4 of those 6 years, the East of England had the lowest level of public spending per head of any region in England.

### **Remaining Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2009**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009  
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Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009



## Minutes of Stiffkey Annual Report to Parishioners held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2008

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Steven Bashforth, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Eddy Proctor, Cherry Martin and Mark Harrison

**In attendance:** Councillor Jonathan Savory, Councillor Derek Baxter, 2 parishioner and the Clerk

### 1 Chairman's Annual Report

Mr L Jordan Chairman of the Parish Council thanked the Councillors for their support during the past year. The Chairman hoped Andy Nolan and Stephen Bashforth had enjoyed their first year on the Parish Council. The Chairman also expressed his thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to Councillor Jonathan Savory, Councillor Derek Baxter and the Clerk. Under the guidance of Steven Bashforth and Cherry Martin a Parish Plan is being progressed with the formation of the Working Group and Consultation Meetings with the residents of Stiffkey.

During the past year the Councillors have dealt with 5 planning applications and had held 10 meetings.

The Chairman was sorry to report that the NNDC had at last informed the parish council that the surplus land will in the fullness of time will be sold to the highest bidder for possible building land. The NNDCV was not prepared to allow the Parish Council to acquire it for minimum cost for allotment land or amenity land, due to the requirement to obtain best value for their assets.

The Chairman wished to record a particular vote of thanks to Mr Alan Curtis and Mr Eddie Procter for their help in the village.

Following the change of ownership the Shop and Post Office continue to be a tremendous asset to the village and deserves everyone's support. Many villages along the coast are not so lucky.

The Village Hall and Playing Field Committees had been run in their usual very efficient manner under the guidance of Stanley Sutton and the Village Hall Committee.

46 Wells Road Despite eventual planning permission going through, progress on the development has not progressed and it would now appear that the site is for sale by auction.

Mr John Everitt had very generously produced a new notice board to replace the very old dilapidated notice board at the top of the Greenway, he did not wish to have an inscription or plaque put on the notice board, but wished to dedicate the notice board in memory of his father who had served as a Stiffkey Parish Councillor between 1921 and 1928.

A new village seat donated by Mr John Harcourt has with assistance from Eddy Proctor with the provision of a concrete base been sited in Bridge Street

The Greenway The Chairman was pleased to report that the severe problems to the road surface had after discussions with the Highways Department been repaired.

### 2 Presentation of the Account

The Clerk presented the financial accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 which were approved by the Councillors.

The Chairman formally closed the Annual Report to Parishioners.

**Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 following the Annual Report to Parishioners.**

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Mark Harrison, Steven Bashforth, Eddie Proctor, Councillor D Baxter, 7 parishioners and the Clerk.

**Apologies:**

**1 Minutes**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 6th April 2009 were read, approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman once the following amendment had been made:

*Village Sign* At the last meeting the state of the village sign had been discussed and the Councillors had agreed that the village sign was now beyond repair. The Chairman and Allan Curtis had been to inspect a fiberglass village sign at Fring which had been made by a contact at Litcham who was known to Mr Cutrtis. The price quoted for a new fiberglass sign was £300 but it was unclear if this price was just for the mould as it was thought that the painting of the sign would likely cost as much as this again if not more.

Eddy Proctor confirmed that he had obtained a quote for a fiberglass village sign at a cost of £750 with an additional cost of £130 for the roof and fittings from a firm at Barton Mills, Suffolk. The only other additional cost would be the purchase of a post.

Mr ~~Tuck~~ <sup>Curtis</sup> agreed to provide the Clerk with the contact details to obtain a confirmed quote from the supplier at Fring.

The W.I. has expressed a wish to make a donation towards the cost of the village sign and suggested a donation box should be made available to enable other organisations and parishioners to make a donation towards the cost of a new sign.

**2 Election of Officers**

Laurence Jordan was unanimously elected Chairman of Stiffkey Parish Council.

Mark Harrison was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman of Stiffkey Parish Council.

**3 Matters Arising**

**NNDC - Reduction in verge cutting** The Councillors confirmed that so far the verge cutting at Camping Hill has not been reduced. A parishioner also confirmed that a contribution for the grass cutting is charged by the Victory Housing tenants at Camping Hill.

The Councillors agreed that they would not make a contribution towards the cost of the verge cutting, it had become clear that these costs should be met by either the NCC and Victory Housing.

**Seat on Little Hill** Mark Harrison confirmed that the new seat will be installed as soon as time allowed. It needs to be fixed permanently to a concrete base

**Road Surface** Repairs to the road surface adjacent to the bus stop at Camping Hill has been carried out.

*L. Jordan*

#### 4 Correspondence

**Cherry Martin** The Clerk read out an email from Cherry Martin who due to poor health has tendered her resignation as a Councillors. The Councillors were very sorry to hear this news. Everyone was in agreement that Cherry's considerable involvement in village life and the tremendous amount of work she has carried out on before of the village will be greatly missed.

**Mr and Mrs M Jordan** confirming their resignation from the Village Hall Committee.

**N N D C** – North Norfolk District Agenda

**NCC – Norfolk Matters** – Copies distributed to Councillors.

#### 5 Finance

**The following expenditure was approved.**

**E-on Energy** – Monthly street lighting energy charge cost £48.60.

**Allianze Insurance** - Annual renewal £348.28

#### 6 Planning Application

**6:1** Stiffkey Old Hall, Church Street – Internal Alterations to North Wing- The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

#### 7 Parish Plan

Steven Bashforth informed the Councillors that the questionnaires have been completed by parishioners There has been a slightly delay in the distribution of a few of the questionnaires but the Committee is confident that every parishioner has now received a copy.

Over 100 questionnaires have been collected so far. Once received the questionnaires are opened in the presence of two people.

Feedback will be provided once all the questionnaires have been received and analysed and public Consultation will take place.

#### 8 A O B

**Adoption of Phone Box** - The Clerk confirmed the phone box has been formally adopted by the Parish Council. BT will make a nominal charge of £1 and The Parish Council has taken over the current electrical supply.

It is anticipated that the electricity charge will be approximately £25 per year, there will be no standing charge.

It has been suggested that NOW the adoption has taken place the light bulb could be removed to ensure no unnecessary electricity charges are incurred and electricity usage will be monitored.





## 9 P Q T

**Village Hall Report** The Chairman informed the Parish Council that a village hall meeting is due to be held within the next week but the date has not been confirmed. The Parish Councillors felt that this was not sufficient notice and agreed that the date of the next meeting must be advertised to ensure all the organisations in the village are aware the meeting is taking place. It was agreed that a date for the next Parish Council should be considered and agreed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

John Pearson informed the meeting that no accounts have been submitted to the Charity Commission for the village hall. The contact details for the Charity Commission is the Clerk's name and previous address. The Clerk confirmed that she had moved from her previous address 6 years ago. Due to the minimal income and expenditure incurred for the village hall, the submission to the Charity Commission would be minimal and submitted by the Treasurer or Secretary of the Village Hall Committee.

**Old Bridge (Freddies Bridge)** Concerns were raised that some children are trying to gain access across this very old bridge by placing some planks on top of the remaining structure. It was unanimously agreed that the old bridge is unsafe and therefore will be removed as soon as possible. Mark Harrison agreed to action the removal of the bridge.

## 10 Report

### Report from Councillor Derek Baxter

#### Views sought from young people with diabetes in Norfolk

The views of young people with diabetes and their families are being sought by a working group set up to look into services for children with the condition.

The Norfolk health Overview and Scrutiny Committee is made up of 15 county and district councillors from across Norfolk. It acts as a watchdog to safeguard and promote the interests of people in the county who use health services.

The committee has set up a working group which is looking into diabetes services for young people in Norfolk. As part of their work they would like to hear about the experiences of children and young people in Norfolk who are diabetic and their families and carers.


In particular, they would like to hear people's thoughts on:-

The treatment and support offered by the Children's Diabetes Clinics at acute hospitals.

Support offered by schools.

Support available in the community, for example home visits from specialist nurses. The effect of diabetes on family life.

Improvements that could be made to existing arrangements and services that would have the most positive impact on lives. Responses need to be received by the end of May 2009 and there are a number of ways people can make their views known. Written responses should be addressed to Keith Cogdell, Scrutiny Support Team, 4th Floor, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich NR1 2DW. Alternatively people can email: [keith.cogdell@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:keith.cogdell@norfolk.gov.uk) or call: 01603 222785.



### **All change for Norfolk County Services**

Spring is here and its all change at one of the UK's leading facilities management, contract services and strategic partnership companies.

This year looks set to be something of a momentous time in the 21 year history of Norfolk County Services as it changes its name to Norse Commercial Services, and moves to a new five and a half acre site in Fifers Lane, Norwich.

As part of the Norse Group - a dynamic holding company that also includes NPS Property Consultants Ltd and waste processing and management operator NEWS - Norse Commercial Services is a private trading arm of Norfolk County Council and returns a percentage of profits to the council under a unique public/private initiative.

In recent years, Norse Commercial Services has picked up a number of new contracts, and pioneered a winning concept in public and private partnerships across East Anglia.

It is currently delivering services to local authorities including North Norfolk District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Waveney District Council and Suffolk Coastal District Council.

Norse Commercial Services is expected to record a record turnover of £95 million in 2009/10 and employs 4,500 people across Norfolk and Suffolk, making nit one of the largest employers in the county.

### **Road surface dressing programme underway in Norfolk**

Norfolk County Council's road surface dressing program for 2009 began mid-April with work starting in the Hopton area, around Ludham and to the east of Acle.

The £6.5 million surface dressing programme, carried out for the Council by May Gurney, will last for about 5 months. This work takes place every year while the weather is warmer, with the holiday areas and the main roads treated first. Where possible, work is planned away from busy main roads during peak periods, but because it is fast-moving and may be suspended during bad weather, it is hard to give motorists early warning of where the crews will be working.

Surface dressing involves laying a thin layer of bitumen and chippings on to the road to improve skid resistance for safety reasons, but also helps keep water from getting to the road structure below, which can lead to the road breaking up more quickly.

The surface dressing programme involves firstly the main A roads in Norfolk for completion by the end of June, and other routes are then completed by the end of the summer in August/September.

### **Spring into washable nappies and make real savings**

Parents in Norfolk will be reminded that there is a real choice when it comes to nappies, with a series of talks and demonstrations to ante-natal and post-natal groups throughout April. Norfolk County Council's waste reduction team will be dispelling some myths and emphasising that using modern washable nappies can help parents save money and reduce their carbon footprint.

In Norfolk, we estimate that we are burying around one tonne of disposable nappies in landfill sites for each child, at a cost of £40 per tonne just in landfill tax. When the waste collection and disposal costs are added, it runs into hundreds of thousands of pounds per annum. Parents are spending thousands of pounds each year buying disposable nappies - with an estimated £1000 bill to use disposable nappies for just one child, compared to up to £500 for using washable nappies.

To help parents offset the initial set-up costs, Norfolk County Council offers £30 cash back for parents who have spent £45 or more on washable nappies, wraps, liners or training pants. Call 0844 800 8004 or visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk/nappies](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/nappies) to find out more.

### **Expenditure in the East of England**

A report commissioned by county councils in the East of England have found that not only is it that local authorities have less per head expenditure, but it cuts right across all public services.

Key findings include:-

The East of England is a successful region which make a net contribution to the Exchequer but receives significantly lower levels of public expenditure than the England average.

These low levels of public spending are found across all parts of the public sector in the region, including services provided by central government, local authorities, police, schools and the health services.

Between 2002/03 and 2007/08 the East of England received around 87% of the average spending per head for England.

For 4 of those 6 years, the East of England had the lowest level of public spending per head of any region in England.

### **Remaining Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2009**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009  
No Meeting in August  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009



**Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009.**

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Mark Harrison, Eddie Proctor, 4 parishioners and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** S Bashforth

**1 Minutes**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2009 were read, approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

**2 Matters Arising**

**NNDC - Reduction in verge cutting** The Clerk informed the Parish Councillors that notification had been received from the County Council that due to safety issues there would not be a reduction in verge cutting. It was also confirmed that Victory Housing did contribute to the verge cutting at Camping Hill.

**Seat on Little Hill** Mark Harrison confirmed that the new seat which needs to be fixed permanently to a concrete base will be actioned as soon as possible.

**3 Correspondence**

Helen Leach, Secretary St John the Baptist Church – Letter of appreciation for the considerable amount of work being carried out by volunteers for the provision of a Village Plan.

Norfolk County Council - Providing details of the candidates for the County and European Elections

North Norfolk District Council – Agenda

North Norfolk District Council – Local Development Framework – Policy Review

Voluntary Forum – Volunteers Fair 6<sup>th</sup> June

**4 Finance**

**The following expenditure was approved.**

**E-on Energy** – Monthly street lighting energy charge cost £48.60.

**5 Parish Vacancy**

The Clerk informed the Parish Councillors that the NNDC has been informed of the vacancy.

**6 Planning Application – Notice of Decision**

Stiffkey Old Hall, Church Street – Internal Alterations to North Wing- Permission for development.

**7 Parish Plan**

Over 176 questionnaires have been returned and it is hoped that within the next 4 weeks all the questionnaires will have been processed.

## 8 P Q T

**Village Sign** A parishioner suggested that the Parish Council should provide a different village sign instead of considering replacing the current village sign with an identical fiberglass one. The Parishioner suggested that a number of residents did not like the current village sign and would like to see the wording 'Stukey' removed.

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council had investigated further repairs to the village sign but this had not been possible. The cost of a new wooden village sign had also been considered but this would be very expensive. The Councillors were in favour of keeping the original design and had felt that the parishioners would also like to keep the original design of the sign including the wording 'Stukey.'

**Bill Aldiss Memorial** The Chairman volunteered to cut back the vegetation around the small building at the end of the Greenway which had been erected as a memorial to Bill Aldiss.

**Village Hall Meeting** Following further concerns raising regarding the lack of a Village Hall Committee meeting the Parish Councillors agreed as Trustees of the village hall that a meeting would be held at 7.00pm on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July before the commencement of the Parish Council Meeting. The meeting would be advertised on the notice boards and hopefully representatives from the different village organizations would attend.

## 9 Report

### Report from Councillor Derek Baxter

#### Launch of a new Norfolk County Council initiative to survive the credit crunch

Norfolk County Council has launched a new initiative to help people and businesses survive the credit crunch.

The launch of Manage Your Finances - the Norfolk County Council Guide to Beating the Recession, May 6, is the latest in a number of projects aimed at helping residents struggling to make ends meet in the financial crisis. This handy reference guide follows the launch of the website [www.norfolk.gov.uk/managingyourfinances](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/managingyourfinances), another new council information package to help those in financial difficulties.

David Collinson, Norfolk County Council's Head of Trading Standards, said "In response to the recent economic downturn, we wanted to help residents and businesses in Norfolk looking for debt advice and support by gathering all the information together in one place so it was easier for them to access that support as soon as possible. The website and leaflet will also be a valuable tool in helping frontline workers support people by helping them to direct enquiries to the most appropriate agency or organisation without delay."

The Manage Your Finances information guide features all the useful information that is available on the website, including listings of organisations at both local and national level that provides debt advice as well as details of where people can seek housing support, legal advice and information about credit unions and how they operate.

The Manage Your Finances information guide is available at libraries across Norfolk and at Norfolk County Council Information Centres. Alternatively, telephone Norfolk County Council's Customer Service Centre on 0844 800 8020.



**You decide who decides as Norfolk goes to the polls on June 4**

Norfolk County Council has launched a campaign aimed at boosting turnout at next month's County Council elections.

With turnout among voters nationally declining in recent years, the campaign - Norfolk County Council elections June 4 2009 - You Decide, Who Decides, is designed to encourage people of all ages to cast their vote at the ballot box.

David White, Chief Executive of Norfolk County Council said: "I would urge every resident of Norfolk to take the time and trouble to vote in the County Council elections. "In the 1993 local election, which was the last election that didn't coincide with a general election, only 39.3% of the population voted so we are very keen to encourage as many people as possible to exercise their right to have their say and vote.

"The council spends around £1.5 billion a year on delivering a number of critical services that affect all our lives. That is why it's absolutely essential that people make their feelings known, and take this opportunity to shape their county council and the choices it makes for the next four years."

The campaign is supported by an extensive marketing campaign that includes prominent advertising on Norfolk's buses, at Park & Ride sites as well as in doctor's surgeries, libraries and bus stations across the county.

The County Council is made up of 84 elected members who represent an electoral division of up to 10,000 voters each.

All 84 seats are being contested - the same day as the European Parliamentary Elections.

Voters last went to the polls for the County Council elections in May 2005, however turnout has been declining in recent years.

In the 2005 County Council election 62.86% of the Norfolk electorate voted, compared to 63.36% in the 2001 County Council election and 73.43% in 1997.

**And finally....**

This will be my last monthly report as I will be standing down from being a County Councillor on June 8. My thanks to all Town and Parish Councillors and especially all Clerks for the support and guidance that you have given me over the last 8 years. It has been a pleasure and a privilege working with you. I wish you all the best for the future and likewise to my successor whatever party he/she represents.

**Remaining Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2009**

- No Meeting in August
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009



**Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009.**

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Mark Harrison, Eddie Proctor, Steven Bashforth, 5 parishioners and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** Councillor Jonathan Savory and Councillor Marie Strong

**1 Minutes**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2009 were read, approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

**2 Matters Arising**

**NNDC - Reduction in verge cutting** The Clerk informed the Parish Councillors that notification had been received confirming Victory Housing will pay for the verge cutting at Camping Hill.

**Village Sign** The Councillors agreed Eddy Procter should investigate if the original quotation he had obtained for the provision of the new village sign was still valid. A box for people to make a donation towards the cost of the new village sign will also be placed in the village store for the summer months.

**3 Correspondence**

**Safer Neighbourhoods** – Poster advertising the local Police team.

**CPRE** - Fieldwork May issue

**NNDC:**

- North Norfolk Local Development Framework Policy Review – Re-use of rural buildings as dwellings.
- Norfolk Planning Conference
- Retention of street names and numbering. The Parish must be fully aware of the responsibility this entails

**NALC** – Norfolk Link

**Norfolk Association of Local Councils (NALC)** – Norfolk summer events and local news  
Re-use of local buildings and dwellings

**N C C** - Change to local mobile library service.

**4 Finance**

**The following expenditure was approved.**

**E-on Energy** – Monthly street lighting energy charge cost £48.60.

**5 Parish Vacancy**

The Clerk informed the Parish Councillors that the formal notification of the vacancy has been advertised. If no election is requested the Parish Councillors will be allowed to fill the vacancy by co-option.

## 6 Parish Plan

Steven Bashforth informed the Councillors that all the returned questionnaires have been processed and the results will now be analysed. It has been evident from the completed questionnaires that traffic is a major problem and that the views on the village hall were positive, 98 to 99% of parishioners wish to retain a village hall.

A feedback meeting will be arranged and an action plan agreed.

Steven Bashforth wished to record a vote of thanks to everyone who had helped with this project which had involved a considerable amount of work.

## 7 P Q T

**Appreciation** Mr John Adnit wished to formally express the gratitude of the Parochial Church Council to Steven Bashforth and his team of volunteers for the work involved in the provision of a future Parish Plan.

**Footpath Parking** Concerns were expressed regarding the constant parking of vehicles on the footpaths through the village and It was agreed the road surface tended to encourage vehicles to park on the footpaths. The CPSO will be invited to attend the next meeting to enable the parking concerns to be highlighted and to request that speeding traffic and inconsiderate parking is addressed

**Notice Boards** Concerns were expressed that village notices in the notice boards were being covered up with commercial notices/advertising and it was agreed that the village notice boards were to be used for village notices only.

**Traffic Issues** John Pearson asked Steven Bashforth to provide him with the results of the questionnaire relating to traffic issues which he would convey at the next KIW Meeting which is organised by Wells Police. John Pearson clarified that he had been invited to attend the KIW Meetings as an individual and not as a representative of the Parish Council.

**Parking for Village Fete** Mark Harrison advised the Councillors that there may be a problem for the village fete committee if the field which is normally used to access the area used for parking has already been drilled which tends to happen earlier and earlier each year.

## 9 Report

### Report from Councillor Marie Strong:

No cold calling zones -50 now operational in Norfolk.

Planning ahead as Norfolk grows older – A new strategy has been developed. The 80 page document “Living Longer Living Well –Next Steps 2009-11” can be viewed at [www.norfolkambition.gov.uk](http://www.norfolkambition.gov.uk) or by calling Age Concern (01603 787111).

Potholes - £380,000 has been budgeted in 2009 to resurface an extra 28 miles of road.

Changes to Norfolk’s ‘Pay as you throw’ household DIY waste scheme

Composting – promotion/training.





Launch of Norfolk Singing Histories – national project to bring local songs and traditions behind them to life. Low cost, low carbon travel: Norfolk's first car club has just started operating.

Largest online community for foster carers launched by NCC-access to support groups

Sirens – it has always been a cross party decision to support sirens, but at a recent vote it has been decided to cut this service from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010. Warnings after that date would be by telephone, mobiles, text or internet. It is possible that the Sustainable Communities Act could be used to contest this decision.

### **Report from Councillor Jonathan Savory**

NNDC are consulting on their Site Specific Proposals Draft Plan which identifies land for development in the District over the next 15 years. The draft plan is ready for consultation with the public until 31st July 2009 and can be viewed online, Wells Library or at NNDC offices at Cromer or Fakenham.

The Hunstanton to Kelling Shoreline Management Plan is available for public consultation from 20th July to 16th October 2009 as above.

### **Remaining Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2009**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009  
Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009



**Notes of a Meeting between Stiffkey Parish Council as Trustees of the Village Hall, Village Hall Committee Members and representatives from the village organisation held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009.**

In addition to the Parish Councillors, the Village Hall Treasurer Karen Pickles and the following organisations were represented at the meeting:

Cricket Club	Keep Fit	Playing field Committee
W.I.	Monday Mardlers	Book Club
Billiards	Historical Society	Parochial Church Council

The Treasurer Karen Pickles gave a detailed report of the Village Hall finances which included the following:

Income for 2006	£1,041	Expenditure 2006	£2,191
Income for 2007	£884.00	Expenditure 2007	£1,615
Income for 2008	£1,759	Expenditure 2008	£1,759

Income to date for 2009	£567
Expenditure to date for 2009	£1093

Bank Balances as at April 2009:

Credit Account	£500
Instant Access Saving Account	£4,733.19

The Treasurer informed the meeting that throughout the time she has been Treasurer there have been no withdrawals from the instant access savings account.

A payment of £225 has just been received for the hire of the village hall for the European Elections and this enabled the half yearly rates invoice to be paid.

New signatories are required for the Instant Access Savings Account. Although there have been no withdrawals for a considerable time, due to the low balance of the current account it may be necessary to transfer some of the funds in the future.

The Treasurer informed the meeting that due to the small amount of annual income (under £2,500) the Charity Commission does not require accounts to be submitted.

The Treasurer informed the meeting that the accounts have not been audited which could incur a considerable charge but as all cash received is paid directly into the bank account by Stiffkey Stores an audit has not been deemed necessary.

It was agreed that the next Village Hall Committee A G M will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July at 7.00pm. Alison Lawrence is the elected Chairman, but a Secretary and Booking Clerk were needed. A review of the hall hire charges also need to be undertaken.

If there is insufficient interest from representatives of the village organisations to form a Management Committee the management of the village hall may revert to the Parish Councillors as Trustees.

A vote of thanks was formally recorded to the Treasurer for all her tremendous hard work and support of the village hall.

## Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009.

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Mark Harrison, Eddie Proctor, Steven Bashforth, Councillor Joanthan Savory, 4 parishioners and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** Councillor Marie Strong

### 1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009 were read, approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

### 2 Co-option of Parish Councillor

Following the resignation of Cherry Martin from the Parish Council no election had been requested, therefore the vacancy to be filled by co-option had been advertised. The Parish Council had received one letter of interest and therefore the Councillors formally co-opted Mary Ger<sup>ard</sup> onto the Parish Council

### 2 Matters Arising

**Village Sign** The Parish Councillors formally confirmed the purchase of the village sign. The box for donations to be made towards the cost of the new village sign will remain in the village store for a few more months. It may be possible to apply for a £250 grant from the Wells Area Partnership. The WI members are considering making a donation but do have some concerns regarding the new sign which may affect their decision.

**Village Hall Meeting** A village hall meeting took place on the 13<sup>th</sup> July, however nothing was resolved. Invitations were distributed to all organizations in the village inviting them to attend a further meeting which has been arranged for 28<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm

### 4 Correspondence

**M Downes, Treasurer of Stiffkey Fete** – Enclosing a cheque for £300 towards the cost of the new village sign.

**CPRE** - Fieldwork August issue

#### **NNDC:**

- Annual Parish and Town Council Conference 2009 – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2009 in Cromer Parish Hall from 6.30pm-9.00pm
- Local Government Review of Norfolk
- News Release Coastal Changes Policy – How we can adapt – Pathfinder bids
- Your Choice Your Home – North Norfolk – Applicants will have to ‘bid’ (express an interest) in available properties.

**NALC** – Norfolk Link

**Norfolk Association of Local Councils (NALC)** – Special Offer for compost bins £10 off. Prices start from £12 plus £5 delivery for a 220 litre bin

*1. [Signature]*

#### 4 Correspondence – Continued

N C C :

- Mineral Waste Consultation Document – Frequently asked questions
- North Norfolk Shoreline Management Plan – Announcing the Public Consultation Launch.

**Wells-Town-Council Priory Parishes Meeting** – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 7.30pm at Binham Memorial Hall

**CAB** – Annual Report 2009

#### 5 Finance

**The following expenditure was approved.**

**E-on Energy** – Monthly street lighting energy charge cost £48.60.

#### 6 Parish Plan

Steven Bashforth informed the Councillors that there was very little progress to report during the summer, there have been problems with the software which will hopefully soon be resolved.

Steven Bashforth also clarified the previous minutes and explained that it has been evident from the completed questionnaires that the views on the need for a village hall were positive, 98 to 99% of parishioners wish to retain a village hall.

#### 7 P Q T

Mark Harrison expressed his regret that the overhanging hedge along Church Street has still not been cut back despite numerous requests. It was agreed that yet another request is made in the strongest possible terms that this is cut back.

#### Signage

**Unadopted Road** The unadopted road sign on the Greenway has been removed.

**'No Alcohol Signage'** A parishioner requested clarification of a sign which has been put up in the Pavilion saying that 'No alcohol can be consumed without a license' Should this read 'No alcohol can be sold without a license.'

Stanley Sutton explained that the signage was required under the terms of the insurance for the Pavilion and the wording was considered to be correct.

**KIN Meeting** John Pearson informed the meeting that the next KIN Meeting has been deferred for 3 weeks.

**Seat on Little Hill** Mark Harrison kindly agreed to organise a coat of varnish to be applied to the new seat on Little Hill to protect it from the weather.



## 8 Report

### **Report received from Councillor Marie Strong:**

Unfortunately I have again to tender my apologies - which I did in conversation with Mr Jordan yesterday.

I am required at Barsham and then Wells but do sincerely apologise.

Shoreline Management Plan Consultations are taking place as follows:

Maltings, Wells Thursday 10 September 2-7

Harbour Room, Blakeney Saturday 12 September 9.30-1.30

I am attending various meetings at County Hall regarding the Plan and should the Parish Council have any concerns I should be happy to take them forward. I am sure you will let me know if there are any such concerns - or if I can assist in any other way.

Finally the Parish Council may be interested to know that the next Hazardous Waste Amnesty days at Hempton are 3/4 October 8am-4pm. ([www.norfolk.gov.uk/hazardouswaste](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/hazardouswaste) for more information.

### **Report from Councillor Jonathan Savory**

NNDC are consulting on their Site Specific Proposals Draft Plan which identifies land for development in the District over the next 15 years. The draft plan is ready for consultation with the public until 31st July 2009 and can be viewed online, Wells Library or at NNDC offices at Cromer or Fakenham.

The Hunstanton to Kelling Shoreline Management Plan is available for public consultation from 20th July to 16th October 2009 as above.

### **Remaining Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2009**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009



**Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009.**

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Mark Harrison, Eddie Proctor, Mary Gerrard, Councillor Marie Strong, Councillor Jonathan Savory, 6 parishioners and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** Steve Bashforth

Before the commencement of the Parish Council meeting the Chairman welcomed Mary Gerrard following her recent co-option to the Parish Council.

**1 Minutes**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009 were read, approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

Eddie Procter declared an interest in item 6.3 Planning Application for 9 Bridge Street.  
Laurence Jordan declared an interest in 6.2 planning application for Harbour House, The Greenway

**3 Matters Arising**

**Village Sign** The box for donations to be made towards the cost of the new village sign has been collected from the village store and will be counted after the Parish Council meeting. An application for a £250 grant from the Wells Area Partnership is being prepared.

**Village Hall Meeting** Following a village hall meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> September which was attended by 28 parishioners and was a very positive meeting the Chairman was pleased report that a new management committee is now in place. The date of the next meeting 28<sup>th</sup> October.

**4 Correspondence**

**N C C**

- Road Closure – details of alternative route - Notification that the A149 Warham Stiffkey Road surfacing will be carried out from or soon after the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010 for 4 weeks.

**N N D C**

- Local Government Review of Norfolk

**Env. Agency** North Norfolk Shoreline Management Plan – Public Consultation Extension to Public Consultation

**Wells Area Partnership** AGM – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2009

**5 Finance**

The following expenditure was approved.

**E-on Energy** – Monthly street lighting energy charge cost £48.60.

**Stiffkey Village Hall** Room Hire - £132 for 2008 and £165 for 2009



## 6 Planning

**6:1 Stiffkey Old Hall, Church Street** - Alterations to two internal doorways in north wing – The Parish Councillors had no objection to this application.

**6:2 Harbour House, 1 Greenway:** Conversion of Barn to dwelling - Alterations to Barn to facilitate conversion to dwelling – The Parish Councillors had no objection to this application.

**6:3 9 Bridge Street :** Erection of one and a half storey side extension - Erection of side extension – This is a resubmission of an original planning application that was approved in 2006

## 7 Parish Plan

Steve Bashforth was unable to attend the meeting but provided the following report:

**Parish Plan** - we are still collating the information from the questionnaire and consulting with relevant organisations re answers to the questionnaire. The section in the questionnaire relating to the Parish Council will be distributed and placed on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting

Steve Bashforth wished to record a welcome, congratulate and wish every success to those people who have volunteered to serve on the new Village Hall Management Committee

## 8 P Q T

## 9 A O B

### **Insurance Provision for Trustees**

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council insurance provision which is compulsory does provide cover for Councillors in their role as trustees.

### **North West Corner of Camping Hill**

Mark Harrison informed the Councillors that the bottles will be buried and this area tidied up.

### **Speeding**

Following further concerns raised regarding the continuing speed of traffic through the village the Chairman proposed that a public meeting should be requested with Norman Lamb MP, the Police and the Highways Department in attendance. It was also felt that a request for a flashing speed reduction sign should also be requested. A further visit by the 'Smiley' speed indicating should also be requested.

Some of the speed signs are being obscured by vegetation and this needs to be cut back

### **KIN Meeting**

John Pearson read out the Minutes of the last KIN meeting held at Wells.



## 10 Report

Report received from Councillor Marie Strong:

### Shoreline Management Plan

The consultation period has been extended until 13 November 2009. There will also be an opportunity to view the plan at:

The Maltings, Staithe St, Wells from 2.00 - 8.00pm on Tuesday 20 October. Additionally at 3.00pm, 5.00pm and 7.00pm there will be a short presentation, information as to changes made to the plan and an opportunity to ask questions. If you are submitting any comments to the Environment Agency I would appreciate a copy for the next meeting regarding the SMP at County Hall.

### Flood Sirens

Parishes with a siren have been asked if they wish to retain the siren. It would be advisable for Parishes to request more detailed information and to meet with County Council officials to discover the detailed implications.

### Smoke Alarms

Fit a working smoke alarm or risk drowning in toxic smoke is the stark message being delivered by fire and rescue services across the east of England today. It takes just two to three breaths of toxic smoke in a house fire to render you unconscious. Fit a smoke alarm, test it weekly, plan an escape route in the event of a fire. You can get a free home fire risk check from your local fire and rescue service.

### Community Composting Scheme

The County Council is encouraging composting as a way to reduce waste. One advantage of the scheme is the availability of recycling credits. A 'brochure' giving full details is with the Clerk.

### Electric Blankets

County Council Trading Standards Service strongly recommends electric blankets are tested. Last year more than half the blankets tested failed safety checks. Sometimes it is the age of the blanket, sometimes the way it has been stored – be safe and have the blankets checked.

### Green Travel Week

Of interest to parents and grandparents during the coming week 5-9 October Pupils are being asked to imagine a world without a car. Ask the youngsters if they are involved in 'Travel Trumps' or 'Steppers Safari'.





## **Report from Councillor Jonathan Savory**

### **Land at Camping Hill**

This area will be cleared during the next few weeks.

### **Building Plot**

No further progress to report.

### **Grays Arcade Wells**

Following conversations with Mr Geoff Lyon I forward this update. Mr Lyon has been in discussion with Mr Chris Isaac the owner of the western half of the burnt out buildings for many months, Mr Isaac has put forward proposals which are at this moment in time deficient and require amendment before full officer support could be given. Mr Isaacs is keen to move forward however the uncertainty with the adjoining site is effectively halting progress. Compulsory purchase has been mooted however Mr Lyon considers all market led regeneration options should be exhausted, the current economic climate may thwart such an approach unless there was significant political support. Mr Lyon will continue to monitor and liaise with colleagues to get a positive result for this site.

### **Full Council Meeting 23 Sept 09**

Some of the items discussed as follows

North Norfolk Railway gave a presentation on their plans for a new level crossing between their station and the main line station. This would allow popular locomotives to visit the Poppy Line giving a boost to the wider area. NNR are looking for around £10k to complete funding on the crossing.

### **Local Government Review - no further updates at this time**

**Civil Parking Enforcement-** work is beginning but is in early stages and will be explored further.

### **Green Build Event at Felbrigg Hall**

A big success attracting around 7000 visitors over the weekend around a third of the budget cost was met from the operators of the forthcoming offshore windfarm.

### **Christmas Parking**

Two hours free parking on the four Saturdays leading up to Christmas to support local business'.

### **Local Development Framework**

Conversion and reuse of rural buildings as dwellings draft policy is under review and the public consultation period is 2 Oct to 13 Nov. If adopted this policy will be used to assess planning applications up until 2021. The proposed policy can be viewed at the Library, NNDC offices or [www.northnorfolk.org/ldf](http://www.northnorfolk.org/ldf)

### **Remaining Parish Council Meeting Date for 2009**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009



**Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009.**

**Present:** Laurence Jordan, Stanley Sutton, Andy Nolan, Steve Bashforth, Eddie Proctor, Mary Gerrard, Councillor Marie Strong, Councillor Jonathan Savory, 4 parishioners and the Clerk.

**Apologies:** Mark Harrison

**1 Minutes**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009 were read, approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

**2 Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest

**3 Matters Arising**

**3:1 Village Sign** Eddy Proctor confirmed that the work for the provision of the replacement of village sign is progressing.

**3:2 Adoption of BT Phone Box** The Clerk was pleased to report that at long last the signed contract from BT had now been received.

**3:3 Website for Stiffkey** - The Clerk had researched some website providers, but most of these would incur considerable costs. A parishioner generously offered to provide a mockup website for consideration at the next meeting.

**4 Correspondence**

**N N D C**

- Local Government Review of Norfolk
- Norfolk Coast Pathfinder

**N C C**

- Norfolk Matters
- Norfolk Gritting Routes

**Bacton and Edingthorpe Parish Council** – Re flood sirens

**Wells Area Partnership** – detailing the recipients of the grants. Stiffkey Local History Group had received £230.00

**5 Finance**

**The following expenditure was approved.**

**E-on Energy** – Monthly street lighting energy charge cost £48.60.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that an application to the Wells Area Partnership for a grant of £250 towards the cost of the village sign had not been successful.



## 5 Finance - Continued

### Precept

Following discussions at the last meeting and confirmation from the Clerk of the current precept, the Chairman confirmed that following his casting vote the Parish Council precept for the financial year 2010 - 2011 should remain at £4,000.

## 6 No planning issues outstanding

## 7 Parish Plan

**Parish Plan** The team are still collating the information from the questionnaire and consulting with relevant organisations re answers to the questionnaire.

## 8 A O B

**8:1 Tree on the Knoll** The replacement tree is to be a Field Maple which will be very kindly purchased by the W.I. The previous tree had been affected by Honey Fungus and concerns were raised that unless the ground was sufficiently treated with Jays Fluid, the provision of some fresh soil and perhaps the site for the tree to be moved a few feet the new tree could also become affected.

**8:2 Village Hall Key** Eddy Proctor felt that as Trustees of the village hall, the Parish Council should have a spare key available to them to gain access to the village hall. It was clarified that only 4 keys had been provided with the new lock and the holders of the keys had been agreed at the last Village Hall Committee meeting. It had been agreed that anyone wishing to gain access to the village hall who did not have a key would need to pick one up from the village store. It was confirmed that if the Parish Council wished to have a key this would need to be approved at the next village hall meeting.

The 2010 dates for the Parish Council meetings were provided for the village hall diary.

**8:3 Land at Camping Hill** Councillor Jonathan Savory informed the Parish Councillors that it now appears the NNDC will not now be trying to sell this area of land for development and that it may be possible for the Parish Council to express an interest to purchase this small piece of land for use as an allotment amenity for the village

## 9 Report

### Report from Councillors Jonathan Savory

#### Planning Committee

Those of you familiar with procedure at Planning Committee meetings will know that following a planning officer outlining an application objecting or supporting members of the public are entitled to three minutes speaking time to air their views.

A new arrangement has been agreed whereby members can now ask questions back to the public speakers, a useful exercise in helping members gain the full facts prior to forming an opinion on any application.

From January 2010 for a trial period the East and West planning committees will sit together to hear planning applications.

This is partially due to increase powers of delegation to officers and a decrease in applications due to the economic climate.



### **War Memorial Institute**

The Licensing Sub Committee will sit on Weds 9 December 2009 to consider and determine an application to vary their premises certificate. The sub committee made up of a Chairman and two Councillors will consider this application will regard to NNDC Licensing Policy and the Licensing Act 2003.

The sub committee may:

1. Grant the application
2. Grant the application subject to conditions.
3. Refuse the application.

There is a right of appeal to the decision of the sub committee to the Magistrates Court within 21 days.

### **Shellfish Handling Facility**

The new shellfish building on the Quay will be officially opened on Friday 11 December 2009.

### **Report from Councillor Marie Strong**

**Recycling Centres** Wells Centre is to close on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Traffic will be re-directed to Hempton on these days. Hempton is now designated as a re-use Centre.

**Credit Union Bank** NCC has co-operated with the Norfolk Credit Union and as promised a current account can now be accessed. Loan Sharks - Continued warnings regarding loan sharks.

**Post 16 Transport** NCC has done a welcome u-turn Post 16 transport will continue to be subsidised. This is for travel to colleges and sixth-forms.

**Coastal Access** Following the Royal Assent Norfolk is to lead on developing new coastal footpaths. The Act gives authority to Natural England to create a long distance path around the coast of England.

### **Remaining Parish Council Meeting dates for 2010**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> July

No Meeting in August

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December

Annual Report to Parishioners

