

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd June 2003 at 7.00pm

Present: Lawrence Jordan (Chairman), Stanley Sutton, Mark Harrison, Cherry Martin, Mary Gerrard, Karen Pickles and Michael Jordan

In attendance: Councillor Jonathan Savoury, 2 Parishioners and the Clerk

Apologies: Mary Gerrard and Councillor Derek Baxter

There were no declarations of interest.

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 12th May 2003 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

2 Co-option of Parish Councillors Following an advertisement on the notice boards in the village and there being no other nominations, Cherry Martin and Karen Pickles were duly co-opted onto the Parish Council. The acceptance of the Code of Conduct, declarations of other and financial interest were duly signed by both new Councillors.

3 Matters Arising

Reclassification Order 1999 - Public Inquiry - It has been proposed that the Public Inquiry will now take place on 23rd and 24th September. Details to be confirmed by Denise Bales in the Legal Department at County Hall.

Church Street In spite of a site meeting between the Clerk and the owner of the property regarding the dangerous condition of the vegetation encroaching over the walls in the Street this has still not been cut back, a further approach will be made to Mr White and if this fails, representation will be made to the Highways Department to request that they cut the vegetation back and Mr White could be required to meet the cost.

Fly Tipping Following the action taken by the Parish Council in recent months and the notices delivered to properties with access to Bangay Lane, there appears to be a considerable improvement.

4 Correspondence

Norfolk County Council

- **Bus Hotline** A new service has been introduced which will enable people who wish to make a complaint about the performance and reliability of the bus services they use.
- **Norfolk Matters** Issue Number 8 May / June 2003
- **Local Transport Plan (LTP)** Annual Transport Forums

North Norfolk District Council

- West Area Committee Meeting will be held on 17th June 2003
- Agenda Council Meetings

L. J. L.

5 Finance

The following direct debits has been paid:

TXU Energi £28.19 Eastern Contracting £13.14

The following invoice was approved for payment:

Stiffkey Village Hall - Hire of Village Hall for Meetings

The bank statement was available for inspection

6 Planning

Stiffkey Old Hall, Church Street for Dr and Mrs Bell - Erection of Stiffkey Old Hall, conversion of outbuildings to form extension to annexe, erection of summerhouse and garages. At a previous meeting the Parish Council had no objection to the planning application.

The N N D C Planning Committee held a site meeting at 2.30pm on Tuesday 15th April to ensure everyone had a clear understanding of the application. Parish Councillors were in attendance.

A reported dated 17th April 2003 from Development Control Committee (West) 17th April 2003 has recommended approval subject to conditions

The following retrospective planning application has been received:

Pip Cottage, Bridge Street - Retention of replacement window and rear door. The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

The following Notice of Decision has been received:

144 Camping Hill, Stiffkey - Erection of Conservatory - permission for development.

6 A O B

The formal part of the meeting closed to enable the following report provided by Councillor Jonathan Savoury:

NNDC will in April 2004 introduce a more efficient refuse collection and recycling service but before it can make a decision on what service is best for the district it needs to carry out more research.

NNDC is aware that if a wheeled bin collection is launched (and this has not yet been agreed) there are many homes such as flats where wheeled bins cannot be used. In addition some people because of age or disability may not be able to use the bins.

If residents think they should be exempt from a wheeled bin collection or are unable to use a wheeled bin they may apply for a property exemption or apply for an assisted collection. Forms are soon to be widely available in libraries CABs and NNDC area offices.

A decision on the chosen service will not be made until October 2003.



The following report was kindly provided by Councillor Bernard Crowe:

Election Turnout

Readers may be interested in the voter turnout statistics across Norfolk in the recent elections which were as follows:

Breckland	33.5%
Broadland	33.0%
Great Yarmouth	30.3%
North Norfolk	43.4%
Norwich	35.7%
South Norfolk	38.5%
Kings Lynn & West Norfolk	47.6% (Total Postal Voting)
District Average	37.4%

The Glaven Valley Ward was 50.5%

Local Governance

At the first meeting of the Executive Committee since the elections of 1 May 2003, it was agreed to set up a working party to consider whether there should be changes in the structure of the Executive Committee in the light of the Council's new political balance. The terms of reference are:

- To consider the alternatives to the current make up of the Executive Committee and to make recommendations as to a preferred way forward.
- To consider whether any consequential amendments to the Constitution need to be recommended as a result of any recommendation made above.
- To consider whether any other necessary amendments can be conveniently recommended at the same time.

I am a member of the working party. I have some doubts about the intentions of the majority party. In the forward to the report on the Comprehensive Performance Assessment the following has been added: 'It is expected that the make-up of the Executive Committee will now change, and it will become a Cabinet of solely Liberal Democrat members'. I will let you know whether this consultation exercise is genuine or a charade.

Forward Planning

It is normal for an incoming majority group to brief the Chief Executive and Service Heads on the programme for the next four years so that the officers can undertake forward planning based upon political guidance. This is usually done in the first week after the District Council elections which were held on 1 May. The majority group has not yet decided their programme and priorities so we are currently operating in a limbo. At the meetings of the Policy Development and Consultation Committee on 4 June and at the Executive Committee on 9 June, the majority group declined to put forward ideas under a standard item, 'Work Programme: to consider developing a work programme for the forthcoming year and to identify the issues that should be added to such a programme'. We understand that all will become clear after an 'Away Day' consultation to be held by the majority group on 28 June. So by 1 July 2002, it is hoped that members and the public will be briefed on the direction North Norfolk District Council is taking.



Council Tax

In my earlier reports, I have drawn attention to the need for involving the public in setting priorities and in budget choices. This ensures that we are in touch with people and that our services are focused on the citizen. Members will use the information to help them make judgments in budget priorities and council tax levels.

We are using Citizens Panel Survey (Number 8) to provide a strategic view of public opinion in relation to how much council tax they would be willing to pay, what savings they would like to make, and what additional charges they would find acceptable. The Survey will be carried out by MORI. 1000 'demographically representative' residents have been invited to participate. The results will be available in August 2003.

Waste

I have advised previously that the Council is to consider other options for waste disposal. In my recent discussions with officers, I have obtained the important assurance that *'we are not assuming that the Council will agree to a wheeled bin scheme'*.

Having made that point, we are committed to investigating the impact of a wheeled bin solution, and the potential costs associated with assisted and exempt collections which I describe below.

In April 2004, the council will be introducing a more efficient refuse collection and recycling service to help meet the Government's new targets for recycling. The Council is presently considering what sort of new collection service to introduce, and, although no final decision has yet been made, the use of wheeled bins is one possible option. NNDC is aware that if a wheeled bin collection service is launched, there are many homes, such as flats, where wheeled bins cannot be used. In addition, some people, because of age or disability, would not be able to wheel the bins out to the curtilage (or edge) of their property, where the rubbish is to be collected.

Consequently, before a wheeled bin service can be considered fully, the Council needs to know how many homes in North Norfolk are likely to be exempted from the scheme, and how many residents might need help to put their bins out; i.e. an assisted collection.

If you think your home should be exempt from a wheeled bin collection, or if you and the other residents in your household are physically incapable of wheeling the bins to the collection point at the edge of your property, then you may ask for a property exemption or for an assisted collection. I am arranging for Parish Clerks to have copies of the appropriate forms. Alternatively, you can write to the Council to explain why you think your home should be exempted or why you would need an assisted collection. Please send your letter to The Contracts Division, North Norfolk District Council, Holt Road, Cromer, Norfolk, NR27 9EN.



STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr Lawrence Jordan

Clerk's Address:

Wildfowlers Cottage

High Street

Cley

NR25 7AP

Tel: 01263 740843

e-mail:

tcrowe@morstonassets.com

1st July 2003

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **MONDAY 15th July 2003** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm**. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 ~~Co-option of Parish Councillors~~
- 4 Minutes of the June Meeting
- 5 Matters Arising
- 6 Correspondence
- 7 Finance
- 8 Planning
- 9 Any Other Business
- 10 Parishioners Question Time

Date of Next Meeting: **Monday 18th August 2003**

Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th July 2003 at 7.00pm

Present: Lawrence Jordan (Chairman), Stanley Sutton, Cherry Martin, Mary Gerrard, Karen Pickles and Michael Jordan

In attendance: The Clerk

Apologies: Mark Harrison, Councillor Jonathan Savoury and Councillor Derek Baxter

There were no declarations of interest.

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 2nd June 2003 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

2 Matters Arising

Signage The Chairman has had a meeting with the representative from the County Council regarding the signs which have been removed at various locations in the village. The Chairman received an assurance that these will be replaced.

Reclassification Order 1999 - Public Inquiry - It has now been confirmed that the Public Inquiry will take place on 23rd and 24th September. Mary Gerrard kindly agreed to be the contact person from the 1st- 19th September should any queries arise during the Clerk's absence.

4 Correspondence

Norfolk County Council

- Public Inquiry – Confirmation of the arrangements
- Route Hierarchy - Signing Review
- Wells-next-the-sea Walking and Cycling Study
- Rural Bus Subsidy Grant services

A M Street Lighting - Structural Integrity of Street Lighting Columns

North Norfolk District Council

- Consultation documents – Proposed new refuse and recycling collection service – Exemption /Assisted Collection forms. The Clerk has obtained additional copies which will be available in the Post Office for those adversely affected by the proposed scheme.
- North Norfolk Joint Area Committee East Area Meeting 16th July 2003

Norfolk County Association Parish and Town Councils - sundry publicans

DEFRA Publication of the Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme



4 Correspondence - Continued

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister - Publication of a consultation paper on the nature of the power to be conferred on relevant authorities under s.101 of the Local Government Act 2000

Councillor J Savoury - Informing the Parish Council that he will be unable to attend future Stiffkey Parish Council meeting following his co-option on to the Town Council at Wells because the meeting for Stiffkey and Wells were held on the same evenings. He would however be pleased to assist the Parish Council in any matters connected with the NNDC. - The Parish Council expressed their concern that no representatives from the District Council would be in attendance at their meetings and asked the Clerk to convey their concerns to the District Council.

5 Finance

The following direct debits has been paid:

TXU Energi £28.19 Eastern Contracting £13.14

The following invoice was approved for payment:

A Curtis - Strimmer Cord - £3.35

The bank statement was available for inspection

6 A O B

Village Sign on the Knoll Following concerns raised regarding the village sign Karen Pickering offered to speak to a contact regarding an appropriate replacement for the village sign on the Knoll which is in a very poor condition, replacement of the post will also be included in this project.

Vegetation Concerns were raised once again about vegetation on the footpath in the street and along Bangay Lane and it was agreed that Karen and her husband could tackle this problem.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.20pm.



STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL
Chairman: Mr Lawrence Jordan

Clerk's Address:

Wildfowlers Cottage

High Street

Cley

NR25 7AP

Tel: 01263 740843

e-mail:

tcrowe@morstonassets.com

11th August 2003

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **MONDAY 18th AUGUST 2003** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm.** All parishioners are welcome to attend.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Minutes of the July Meeting
- 4 Matters Arising
- 5 Correspondence
- 6 Finance
- 7 Planning
- 8 Any Other Business
- 9 Parishioners Question Time

Date of Next Meeting: **MONDAY 6th OCTOBER 2003**

Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 18th August 2003 at 7.00pm

Present: Lawrence Jordan (Chairman), Stanley Sutton, Cherry Martin, Mark Harrison, Karen Pickles and Michael Jordan

In attendance: The Clerk

Apologies: Councillor Jonathan Savoury and Councillor Derek Baxter, *M. Gerard*

There were no declarations of interest.

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 17th July 2003 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

2 Matters Arising

Public Inquiry 23rd and 24th September The arrangements are now all in hand and advertising notices have gone up in appropriate locations. Security arrangements have been finalised with Eva Gambrell and Denise Bales has been informed that Mary Gerard will be the named liaison person during the Clerk's absence from 31st August to 21st September. The Parish Council discussed the issue relating to the Public Inquiry at length and Mark Harrison urged everyone to attend if at all possible and ensure the Inspector is made aware of the opinions of the parishioners.

3 Correspondence

E-mail Janice Baker - Re Bottle Bank.

North Norfolk District Council:

- Updating of Development Control Committee with Parish and Town Council Comments
- Parish Newsletter Issue 65
- Best Value Performance Plan 2003

Norfolk County Council:

- Draft Mapping of Open Country and Registered Commons
- Household Waste in Norfolk - Consultation on Options
- Periodic Electoral Review
- Bus Service Changes

DSEF Report on a noise insulation grant scheme survey at RAF Coltishall August 2001

Norfolk Land Mines Clearance Memorial Committee - Mines Clearance Memorial

Norfolk Playing Field Association - Publication

4 Finance

The following invoice was approved for payment:

- N N D C – Election Costs £30.94

The following direct debits have been paid:

Alfred McAlpine - Lighting Maintenance £13.14
TXU Energi - Energy Charge £28.19

5 Planning

The following applications have been received:

Warborough House, 2 Wells Road, Stiffkey - Alteration to outbuildings and extension to form swimming pool building, glazed canopy link, garages, re-siting of stables and erection of tennis court fencing.

Warborough House, 2 Wells Road, Stiffkey - Erection of swimming pool building, glazed canopy link, garages, re-siting of stables and erection of tennis court fencing.

River House, 1 Bridge Street - Demolition of outbuilding and side porch and alterations to facilitate erection of single-storey extension and outbuilding

River House, 1 Bridge Street - Demolition of outbuilding and side porch and erection of single-storey extension and outbuilding

The above applications were to be passed round the Councillors for their comments. The responses would be sent to the NNDC if they could not be returned to the Clerk before the 30th August.

The following Notice of Decision has been received:

Pip Cottage, Bridge Street Retention of replacement windows and rear door-
Refusal of listed building consent

6 A O B


E-mail from Councillor Jonathan Savoury

NNDC will in April 2004 introduce a more efficient refuse collection and recycling service but before it can make a decision on what service is best for the district it needs to carry out more research.

NNDC is aware that if a wheeled bin collection is launched (and this has not yet been agreed) there are many homes such as flats where wheeled bins cannot be used. In addition some people because of age or disability may not be able to use the bins. If residents think they should be exempt from a wheeled bin collection or are unable to use a wheeled bin they may apply for a property exemption or apply for an assisted collection. Forms are soon to be widely available in libraries CABs and NNDC area offices. A decision on the chosen service will not be made until October 2003.



6 **A O B – Continued**

~~The Chairman expressed his growing concern at the state of the caravan site. There is a considerable amount of rubbish laying around and the whole areas has an air of neglect about it.~~ 

He is also expressed his concern at the amount of vegetation in the village, he felt that this was the worst he had seen it for many years and urged everyone to take responsibility for the banks and verges adjacent to their properties.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.10pm



STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL
Chairman: Mr Lawrence Jordan

Clerk's Address:
Wildfowlers Cottage
High Street
Cley
NR25 7AP
Tel: 01263 740843

e-mail: tcrowe@morstonassets.com

1st October 2003

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **MONDAY 6th OCTOBER 2003** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL** at **7.00pm**. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Minutes of the August Meeting
- 4 Matters Arising
- 5 Correspondence
- 6 Finance
- 7 Planning
- 8 Any Other Business
- 9 Parishioners Question Time

Date of Next Meeting: **MONDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2003**

Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th October 2003 at 7.00pm

Present: Lawrence Jordan (Chairman), Stanley Sutton, Cherry Martin, Mark Harrison, Karen Pickles, Mary Gerrard and Michael Jordan

In attendance: The Clerk, Councillor Derek Baxter and 3 parishioners

Apologies: Councillor Jonathan Savoury

There were no declarations of interest.

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 18th August 2003 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

2 Matters Arising

Correction to the Minutes – Caravan Site The Chairman informed the Councillors that the Minutes of the last meeting were incorrect regarding the caravan site. He wished to place on record that the caravan site had never looked so neat and tidy as it does now and is a credit to the village - The Minutes were also duly amended.

Public Inquiry held on the 23rd/24th September The Chairman was pleased to report that all the arrangements to facilitate the Public Inquiry had gone well. A decision from the Inspector is now awaited.

Appeal The Clerk was asked to ascertain if there is a right of appeal against any decision the Inspector may make, and if so, how long would an appeal take to be heard.

Verge Clearance The Councillors wished to place on record their appreciation to Karen Pickles for her tremendous effort in clearing the vegetation in the street.

3 Correspondence

Mrs E Gambrill - To put forward for discussion the proposal that the village relocates the village hall to the playing field. She appreciated that there would be lots of hurdles to cross but felt until everyone is given the opportunity to express an opinion on this suggestion, there seems little point of looking into the actual legalities.

After some initial discussion it was agreed that the Village Hall Committee should put this suggestion on an agenda for a Public Meeting for everyone in the village. Once the feelings of the parishioners were known, it would then be an appropriate time for the Parish Councillors to discuss it further. Eva Gambrill agreed to arrange a public meeting to give everyone the opportunity to express their views on this proposal.

Edward N Bangay (His family ancestors came from this area) Regarding the Bangay Green Way. In the 1900's it was referred to as 'General's Drift Path' and Mr Bangay asked if the Parish Council could let him know, (or advise him where he might find out) the date of the change of name of this path, and also after which particular Bangay person it was eventually named - The Councillors were unable to provide the information requested by Mr Bangay.

Handwritten signature

3 Correspondence - Continued

North Norfolk District Council:

- **Highway Matters - Excessive verge vegetation in Church Street** - Enclosing a copy letter from Mr A Curtis - The Councillors agreed the Clerk should write to Mr and Mrs Bennett, The Blacksmith Cottage, Church Street, Stiffkey and formally request that they cut back the vegetation overhanging their property into the Street.
- **Norfolk Matters** - Issue Number 9

Norfolk County Council:

- **Extended Services - Wells-next-the-sea** - The Benefits and Council Tax surgery has now been relocated to the Public Library and will be held on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 10.15am to 12.15pm
- **Agenda** Council Meeting

4 Finance

Expenditure:

There were no invoices due for payment

The following direct debits have been paid:

TXU Energi – Monthly Energy Charge (August) - £28.19
TXU Energi – Monthly Energy Charge (September) - £28.19

Alfred McAlpine – Public Lighting Maintenance - £13.14

Income:

Precept – The second instalment of £1,325.00

5 Planning

The following planning application has been received:

Pip Cottage, Bridge Street - Installation of replacement windows - The Parish Council had no objection to this application.

The following Notice of Decision has been received:

Old Hall, Church Street - Internal and external alterations and demolition of outbuildings - Listed Building Consent.

Old Hall, Church Street - Erection of extensions, conversion of outbuildings to form extension to annexe, erection of summerhouse and garages. - Permission for development

6 A O B

Finger Posts - Michael Jordan expressed his concern regarding the disappearance of the finger posts. The Chairman explained that he had held a site meeting with the Highways Department and the removal of the signs appears to be problem throughout the area and they will be replaced as soon as funds allow

Speeding Traffic - Concerns were once again expressed regarding the speed of traffic through the village and it was agreed the Clerk would draft a letter to the Police Constable to ask why despite raising their concerns with the local Police on numerous occasions and all the traffic calming measures introduced through the village, nothing appears to have any effect and to ask what can be done to encourage/force drivers to slow down.

Reports

The Clerk read out the following report from Councillor J Savoury. Once again concerns were expressed by the Councillors that there was no representative at Stiffkey Parish Council Meetings.

North Norfolk District Council Licensing Committee

NNDC will take over the responsibilities of Magistrates for licensing under the Licensing Act 2003. The first task is to produce the Councils Licensing Policy. In addition licensing activities for the provision of alcohol and the regulation of entertainment will be taken over by this committee. NNDC will be required to take on additional staff and purchase specialist IT software.

Councillors will be required to adjudicate on cases where objections to licences are raised and go to appeal.

These changes come from central government without any funding. The cost will fall on our council taxes.

Parish Review

NNDC are going to review parish boundaries and parish council electoral arrangements. In future present parishes may be amalgamated, abolished or have their boundaries altered. This review will involve full consultation, any suggestions are welcome at this stage.

Cromer Hospital

A public exhibition on the 3rd and 4th of October by North Norfolk Primary Care Trust outlined the proposals for the new Cromer Hospital.

Services are expected to include day surgery and outpatient care, minor injuries service, renal dialysis, a relocated doctors surgery and community mental health services. A suitable site in Cromer has yet to be identified.

Report from Councillor Derek Baxter

Recycling Centre - Councillor Baxter was pleased to give a detailed report, which included a plan of the extended layout, for new recycling centre at Wells. The new facilities would provide a greatly improved service for waste recycling and would also include improvement to the entrance to the site due to the limited visibility at the moment.

Attendance at meetings Councillor Baxter explained to the Council that he represented a large number of Parish Councils and would therefore not be able to attend all Stiffkey Parish Council Meetings and appreciated the concerns raised by the Councillors, but would do his best to attend as many as possible.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm



STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr Lawrence Jordan

Clerk's Address:

Wildfowlers Cottage

High Street

Cley

NR25 7AP

Tel: 01263 740843

e-mail: tcrowe@morstonassets.com

30th October 2003

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **MONDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2003** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm.** All parishioners are welcome to attend.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Minutes of the October Meeting
- 4 Matters Arising
- 5 Correspondence
- 6 Finance
- 7 Planning
- 8 Any Other Business
- 9 Parishioners Question Time

Date of Next Meeting: **MONDAY 1st DECEMBER 2003**

Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd November 2003 at 7.00pm

Present: Lawrence Jordan (Chairman), Stanley Sutton, Cherry Martin, Mark Harrison, and Michael Jordan

In attendance: The Clerk and Councillor Jonathan Savoury

Apologies: Mary Gerrard and Karen Pickles

There were no declarations of interest.

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 6th October 2003 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

2 Matters Arising

Public Inquiry

The Inspector's decision following the Public Inquiry could take anything from two months to a year before it is made public.

If the Inspector confirms the order (that means he agrees with everything that is in the order) then you can challenge his decision in the High Court. It will cost in the region of £30,000 to challenge his decision i.e. either an individual or the Parish Council would have to find these costs.

The appeal has to be lodged within a six-week period and there will be a six-week calculation

If the Inspector confirms an Order that alters something, he has to publish his intentions to alter the order. This also has a requirement of a 6-week notification period.

Anyone can object to this which will not cost anything and not need to go to the High Court but the objector will have to have justifiable evidence to support the objection to modify the order – substantive evidence would be needed to object.

Overhanging Hedge, Church Street - The Clerk has sent the following formal request to Mr and Mrs Bennett at the Blacksmith's Cottage and to Dr Norman, Apple Tree Cottage, Bridge Street to request that they cut back their hedges which are encroaching into the road. These have been copied to Mr Bushell at the Highways Department for their information:

Overhanging Hedge

At a recent Parish Council meeting concerns were once again raised regarding the overhanging hedge growing from your property into the street. Not only has your hedge become an eyesore it has also become a danger to cyclists and people walking through the village who have to walk around the overhanging branches into the path of traffic.

The Parish Council has also received notification from the County Highways Department informing them that they have also received a complaint regarding your hedge and they are prepared to take the necessary action to get the hedge cut back if that is the wish of the Parish Council. I understand that if it does become necessary for the Highways Department to carry out this work you would be liable for the costs that this work would incur.



The Parish Council is anxious to get this situation resolved as quickly as possible. They would not wish you to incur the costs for the hedge to be cut back by the Highways Department if it can possibly be avoided and therefore hope that you will take the necessary action to get the hedge cut back to your boundary as soon as possible.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Traffic Speeding The Clerk has prepared the following draft correspondence which was approved by the Councillors to be sent to the Chief Constable of Norfolk Police following the ongoing concerns raised about the speed of traffic through the village:

Traffic Issues within the village of Stiffkey

I would like to take this opportunity to draw to your attention the concerns raised at Stiffkey Parish Council regarding the speed of traffic through their village.

The Parish Council has expressed their considerable concern on numerous occasions to the local Police Liaison Officer and the Councillors had been assured that once the officers had received the appropriate training to enable them to use the recently acquired speed gun this would be used in the village of Stiffkey if an appropriate site could be located.

As part of the A149 improvements Stiffkey also had speed restrictions signs put up throughout the village and also introduced the coloured road surface indicating a reduced speed limit warning but this appears not to have any effect whatsoever.

Initially Stiffkey Parish Council had requested the provision of flashing warning signs as part of the A149 initiative but was informed that the introduction of these signs at the entrance to the east and west side of the village could not be justified.

The main street of Stiffkey is very narrow and a majority of it has no footpath at all which makes the speed of traffic even more relevant. Day in and day out parishioners are having to get out of the way of traffic that is travelling through the village far too quickly, do we have to wait until there is a serious accident or fatality before someone will take any notice?

The Councillors appreciate that funding is limited but could you please tell us what is being done to discourage persistent offenders from breaking the speed limit in a village such as ours.

Suggested re-siting of village hall - A Public Meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th December at 7.30pm in the village hall.

3 Correspondence

North Norfolk District Council:

- East Area Committee Meeting 13th November
- Parish on the Web
- European Parliamentary Elections – 10th June 2004 - Use of Village Hall for a Polling Station
- Re Bottle Banks with a request to provide a bottle bank in every village
- Agenda 22nd October 2003

Norfolk County Council:

- Norwich Area Transportation Strategy – Public Consultation
- Norfolk Matters



3 Correspondence - continued

The Playing Field Association - Newsletter

Norfolk Police Authority:

- Norfolk Police Authority – Open Style Consultation Event Fakenham Sector – Bridge Street Car Park, Fakenham on Thursday 13th November 10.00am to 12.00noon.
- Fakenham Community Consultation Forum - The Gresham Suite, The Feathers Hotel, 6 Market Place, Holt on Tuesday 18th November at 7.30pm

4 Finance

Expenditure:

T Temple-Crowe - Clerks salary and expenses £480.95

5 Planning

The following Notices of Decision have been received:

River House, 1 Bridge Street, Stiffkey - Demolition of outbuilding and side porch and alterations to facilitate erection of single-storey extension and outbuildings. - Listed Building Consent.

River House, 1 Bridge Street, Stiffkey - Demolition of outbuilding and side porch and alterations to facilitate erection of single-storey extension and outbuildings. - Permission for Development

Warborough House, 2 Wells Road, Stiffkey Erection of swimming pool building, glazed canopy link, garages, re-siting of stables and erection of tennis court fencing - Permission for Development.

Warborough House. 2 Wells Road, Stiffkey Extension to form swimming pool building and glazed canopy link - Listed Building Consent

6 A O B

Street Lighting Mark Harrison reported that the light in Bridge Street is on all day and off all night - The Clerk will contact the street lighting engineer to arrange an inspection.

It was also suggested that an additional light is needed between light 1 and 2 on Wells Road near Mary Gerrard's. There is an electricity pole already in that location - This will also be discussed with the street lighting engineer.

There being no further business the meeting closed

Councillor Jonathan Savoury gave a report (enclosed in the Minute Book) to the Councillors at the commencement of the meeting to enable him to leave the meeting at 7.25pm to attend Wells Parish Council meeting.



STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL

PROPOSED MEETINGS

FOR 2004

Monday 5th January

Monday 2nd February

Monday 1st March

Monday 5th April

Monday 10th May

Monday 7th June

Monday 5th July

Monday 6th September

Monday 4th October

Monday 1st November

Monday 6th December

STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL
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Clerk's Address:

Wildfowlers Cottage

High Street

Cley

NR25 7AP

Tel: 01263 740843

e-mail: tcrowe@morstonassets.com

26th November 2003

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **MONDAY 1st DECEMBER 2003** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm.** All parishioners are welcome to attend.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Minutes of the November Meeting
- 4 Matters Arising
- 5 Correspondence
- 6 Finance
- 7 Planning
- 8 Any Other Business
- 9 Parishioners Question Time

Date of Next Meeting: **MONDAY 5th JANUARY 2004**

Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 1st December 2003 at 7.00pm

Present: Lawrence Jordan (Chairman), Stanley Sutton, Cherry Martin, Mark Harrison, Mary Gerrard, Karen Pickles and Michael Jordan

In attendance: The Clerk and Councillor Derek Baxter

Apologies: Councillor Jonathan Savory

Mary Gerrard declared an interest regarding the provision of an additional street light on Wells Road.

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 3rd November 2003 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

2 Matters Arising

Suggested re-siting of village hall - A Public Meeting will be held on Wednesday 10th December at 7.30pm in the village hall.

3 Matters Arising

Chairman's Meeting - Report by the Chairman – copies of the meeting were distributed to the Councillors.

Quality Parish Council's /Training evening - Notification of a training evening for all Parish Councillors and Clerk's to be held on Thursday 4th December at 7.00pm in the Parish Office, Blakeney. Mary Gerrard will be in attendance.

Signage The Clerk has contacted the NNDC regarding the removal of road signs and an inspection will be carried out with the Chairman and representative from the County Council

Additional Street Lighting - Mary Gerrard expressed concern at the provision of an additional street light adjacent to her property. It was agreed that a final decision regarding the provision of an additional light would be made following a site meeting by the street lighting engineer.

Meeting Dates for 2004

Monday 5th January

Monday 2nd February

Monday 1st March

Monday 5th April

Monday 10th May

Monday 7th June

Monday 5th July

Monday 6th September

Monday 4th October

Monday 1st November

Monday 6th December



4 Correspondence

North Norfolk District Council:

- Re Licensing Act 2003 – Draft Licensing Policy
- Parish Review

Norfolk County Council

- Notification of the Norfolk Fire Authority Draft Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) beginning of the associated consultation process
- Responses to the Norfolk Structure Plan Review – Issues Report – Looking Towards 2025
- Re Claimant Kenneth Gregory – Request for a copy of Minutes from January 2001 to date in connection with Mr Gregory's claim against the Highways Department

Norfolk County Association of Parish and Town Councils - Norfolk Link

The Chairman left the meeting due to ill health and the remainder of the meeting was chaired by the vice Chairman Mark Harrison.

5 Finance

Expenditure:

The following direct debit have been paid:

TXU Energi Monthly Energi Charge for November	£28.19
Public Lighting Maintenance	£13.14

Precept - The Councillors unanimously agreed that the precept for 2004 – 2005 would remain at £2,650.

6 Planning

The following Notices of Decision have been received:

Installation of replacement windows at Pip Cottage, Bridge Street, Stiffkey – Listed Building Consent

Removal of Buttresses to North wall at Stiffkey Old Hall, Church Street, Stiffkey - Listed Building Consent

There being no further business the Vice Chairman closed the meeting.



Report from Councillor Derek Baxter

Norwich Bus Station

Proposals for alternative bus stops during the £4.1 million reconstruction of Norwich Bus Station have been agreed by County and City Councils, taxi operators and First Bus.

If planning consent is granted, the existing Bus Station will close in late January to allow Norfolk County Council to start demolition and total reconstruction to provide a brand new 12-bay bus station.

Additional on-street bus stops and lay-over facilities will be needed until the new Bus Station is ready, but the original proposals brought objections to the loss of disabled parking spaces and taxi ranks, especially on St. Stephens.

The new proposals, accepted by the objectors, means there will be no loss of disabled bays or taxi ranks on St. Stephens Street and no loss of disabled parking on Surrey Street. A new bus stop will be created on the west side of Surrey Street, but the disabled bays will move to the opposite side of the road replacing two 60-minute parking spaces.

The new Bus Station will be a dramatic improvement on the current Surrey Street site and will have spaces for 12 bus and three 'layover' spaces for resting drivers to use, a new travel office with seating, toilets and vending facilities, covered racks for cyclists and improved access for pedestrians.

The new station will also cur bus journey times through the city centre because buses will be able to enter and leave it from Surrey Street and from Queen's Road rather than the one-way system used at present.

It is hoped the new Bus Station will be open by March 2005.

Council Tax - First News

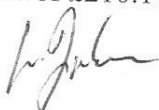
The outcome of last year's settlement was by no means satisfactory with Norfolk losing a considerable amount of funding due to 'Resource Equalisation', as funding was transferred from authorities like Norfolk to authorities in the North. This was part of the reason for the increase in Council Tax of 15.9% in 2003-2004.

The current settlement is against a backdrop of the continuing review of the balance of funding being undertaken by the Government, where high 'gearing' results in high increases in Council Tax.

It is the Government's intention for there to be no major changes to the grant system methodology in the three years following the 2003-2004 settlement, other than for changes in data (e.g. changes in client numbers) and changes due to transfers of services in or out of local government control, or between formula grant and specific grant funding.

The provisional RSG (Revenue Support Grant) was announced by the Secretary of State on 19th November 2003.

The Provisional Settlement shows that the County Council should receive next year, RSG of £261.887M and Business Rate Income of £210.172M.



Having made necessary adjustments, RSG and Business Rate Income (together known as 'Formula Grant') show an increase for 2004-2005 of £24.553M (5.5%) compared with the adjusted figures for the current year of 2003-2004.

Norfolk's increase in Formula Grant compares with the average for Shire Counties (with Fire Services) of 5.6%.

There will be further updates in due course.

Northern Distributor Road Consultation

North Norfolk people were encouraged to have their say on proposals for a 'Northern Distributor Road' to the north of Norwich.

Exhibitions were held in Fakenham, Holt, Aylsham, Cromer, North Walsham and Hoveton/Wroxham during November plus consultation documents have gone to all Town and Parish Councils in North Norfolk.

People are currently trying to avoid Norwich, but they are using unsuitable minor roads through villages such as Taverham, Costessey, Ringland and Long Weston. Also some 19,000 vehicles go through the city centre without stopping, adding to congestion and pollution.

Some local news

Hindringham high street is currently closed due to drainage works. This has been long awaited scheme as water continuously runs down to the dip in the street from North and South even in dry weather. The Parish Council and County Councillor have worked together to get the scheme started.

Planning permission for a new infant/junior school to be built at Stibbard was granted on 14th November. The new school will replace existing schools in Stibbard and Great Ryburgh and will cut down the number of cars using the dangerous junction on the A1067 between the villages. The junction will also be radically improved as soon as possible.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Baker', written in a cursive style.

STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL
Chairman: Mr Lawrence Jordan

Clerk's Address:
Wildfowlers Cottage
High Street
Cley
NR25 7AP
Tel: 01263 740843
e-mail: tcrowe@morstonassets.com

28th December 2003

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **MONDAY 5th JANUARY 2004** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL** at 7.00pm. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

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Date of Next Meeting: **MONDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2004**

Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council