

STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr L Jordan

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

25th June 2001

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **MONDAY 2nd JULY 2001** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL**. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of June Meeting
- 3 Matters Arising
- 4 Correspondence
- 5 Finance
- 6 Planning
- 7 Any Other Business
- 8 Parishioners Question Time
- 10 Date of Next Meeting: **Monday 3rd September 2001**

25th June 2001

*Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council*

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd July 2001 at 7.00pm.

Present: L Jordan (Chairman), M Harrison, J Pearson, S Sutton and R Rogers.

In attendance: Cllr. Bernard Crowe, Mr E Procter and the Clerk

Apologies: M Gerrard

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 4th June 2001 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

2 Matters Arising

Purchase or Rent of Amenity Land at Camping Hill. Following the last meeting, the Clerk had arranged a meeting with Mr Bowls at the North Norfolk District Council, Cllr. Bernard Crowe and representatives from the Parish Council which had taken place earlier in the day. However on the same day as the meeting with the Parish Council, Mr Bowles had received an offer for the land for which an outline planning permission application will be submitted. This would of course put a completely different value on the land than that which had been anticipated if it was to be sold as amenity land. Should outline planning permission be granted this would increase the value of the land to between £30,000 and £50,000 instead of approximately £3,500.

The outline planning permission would also require vehicle access and therefore the Highways Department will have to decide if the outline planning application would cause a traffic issue.

All the Parish Council could do at the moment was to register their interest in the land, which they had done. Cllr Crowe reminded the Council that North Norfolk District Council was required to obtain the best possible income from the sale of the land.

Vacancy for Parish Councillor

The Clerk explained that the formal procedures had been completed and no election had been requested, therefore the Parish Council would be allowed to fill the vacancy through co-option.

At this juncture in the meeting the Chairman Mr L Jordan declared an interest and took no further part in the discussion of a new Councillor.

The Clerk had already received correspondence expressing an interest in the vacancy. However the Council felt that the position must be fully advertised to ensure that everyone in the village had the opportunity to declare their interest before the Council elected a new Councillor by cop-option. The Clerk would advertise the vacancy in the village notice boards for 3 weeks before the next Parish Council Meeting took place on the 3rd September.

L. Jordan

2 Matters Arising – Continued

Report from Cllr Bernard Crowe Due to a clash of meeting Cllr Crowe gave his report (a copy is attached in the Minute Book) and had to leave the meeting to attend another meeting in Blakeney.

3 Correspondence

North Norfolk County Council:

- Notice to advertise the vacancy of Parish Councillor
- Notification that no election has been requested, therefore the vacancy can be filled through the Parish Council by co-option.
- General and County Elections 7th June – Use of the Village Hall as a Polling Station – invoice requested.
- Agenda for Council Meeting held on 13th June 2001

Norfolk County Council

- Changes at Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Street Lighting Service
- Unauthorised Camping by Travellers : County Conference 6th July 2001
- North Norfolk Area Committee – cancellation of meeting.

Norfolk County Association of Parish and Town Councils:

- Norfolk Link Issue No. 125
- NALC the benefits of belonging
- Norfolk Playing Fields Association – subscription
- AGM Resolutions and details of Annual General Meeting
- Buckingham Palace Garden Party Invitation to the Chairman

4 Finance

The following invoices were approved for payment:

Norfolk County Association of Parish and Town Councils	£64.80
Clerk Salary and Expenses	£270.72
Eastern Electricity Energy Charge d/d	£28.10

The Clerk was pleased to report the audit had taken place and the accounts had been approved. The matters arising were discussed by the Council and Clerk and the 'Matters Arising Memorandum' was duly signed by the Chairman as required by the Auditors.

The Bank Statements were made available for inspection.

Mr R Rogers Internal Auditor



5 Planning

The Clerk has received the following Planning Application:

Erection of garage at 133 Camping Hill, Stiffkey - *The Parish Council had no objection to this planning application.*

6 A O B

Highways Issues The Clerk would contact the Highways Department to request a 'Bus Stop' sign at Camping Hill and to relocate the 'Bus Stop' sign on the corner of Wells Road (which is considered to be in a very dangerous place to) a few yards up to the Council Houses where there is a much more accessible area for passengers and traffic, this would be a suitable place for both westbound and eastbound bus routes.

The Clerk reminded the Council that the next meeting would be held on Monday 3rd September at 7.00pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15pm.



STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr L Jordan

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Wildfowlers Cottage
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10th August 2001

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **MONDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2001** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm.** All parishioners are welcome to attend.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of July Meeting
- 3 Matters Arising
Co-option of Parish Councillor
- 4 Correspondence
- 5 Finance
- 6 Planning
- 7 Any Other Business
- 8 Parishioners Question Time
- 10 Date of Next Meeting: **Monday 1st October 2001**

*Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council*

10th August 2001

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd September 2001 at 7.00pm.

Present: Lawrence Jordan (Chairman), Mary Gerrard, John Pearson, Stanley Sutton and Michael Jordan.

In attendance: Cllr. Derek Baxter, Mr E Procter and the Clerk

Apologies: Mark Harrison, Roy Rogers and Councillor Bernard Crowe

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 9th 2001 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

2 Matters Arising

Co-option of Parish Councillor

Following the receipt of letters of interest from Mrs A Barnes and Mr M J R Jordan the Chairman declared an interest and left the meeting while this issues was discussed. The Parish Council expressed their appreciation to Mrs Barnes and Mr M Jordan for their interest and co-opted Mr M Jordan to the Parish Council.

Bus Stop Signs

Following correspondence between the Highways Department and the Parish Clerk a site meeting has been requested to hopefully obtain agreement for the relocation of the bus stop signs and an additional one to be situated at Camping Hill.

Purchase of Amenity Land

As there had been no further developments, the Clerk would contact to Mr Bowles to ascertain what the present situation is and to enquire why the Council had not received his promised report.

3 Correspondence

Lord Buxton - Enclosing a copy of a letter he has been sent to Mr S Jeavons, The Environment Agency regarding the high level of the river Stiffkey.

Mrs L Jarvis - Wells Primary and Nursery School, Vacancy for Additional Co-opted (Minor Authority) governor - *No expressions of interest were declared by any of the Councillors.*

Joint Emergency Planning Unit Re Annual Flood Wardens Meeting on 12th September at The Lighthouse, Walcott.

Local Government Commission for England - Re. Periodic Electoral Review of the Norfolk Districts - *The Council agreed they would prefer to stay in their present ward if possible.*



3 Correspondence

Norfolk Rural Community Council - Signpost Issue No. 62

Norfolk Police Authority Police Consultation Forum – Fakenham Sector to be held on 25th September in Wells Youth and Community Centre, Polka Road, Wells at 7.30pm.

North Norfolk District Council

- Apologies from Bernard Crowe, he is unable to attend this meeting.
- Periodic Review, North Norfolk
- North Norfolk Joint area Committees – East Area Committee Meeting 11th September 2001.
- Coastal Matters
- {Parish Newsletter Issue Number 59

Norfolk Coast Partnership

- Letter of introduction from Tim Venes sent on behalf of Cllr. Bernard Crowe.
- Children's Fund Local Network - £176,000 for projects in Norfolk

Norfolk County Council

- **Legal Services** Provision of legal services for Parish Councils within the County Council.
- **Planning and Transportation** Local Bus Service Variation for Service No. 24
- **Chief Executive** Review of Norfolk County Council Area Committees. Written Consultation.
- **Planning and Transportation** Exploring the Potential of Voluntary and community Transport in Norfolk. A Strategy for the Future – Consultation

Mr and Mrs Gambrill Re damage to the road surface at the entrance of their property entrance

4 Finance

Expenditure:

The Clerk has received the following invoice:

Ernest Doe and Sons Limited	£17.57	(purchase of visor)
Cley Parish Council	£100.00	

(contribution towards the computer/printer purchased by Cley Parish Council which is being shared by the Parish Councils).

Income:

Donation of £25 which had been raised in the village shop by Mr and Mrs E Gambrill towards the cost of the restoration of the seat on the Knoll.

Precept.

The Precept request has been received for the financial year beginning 1st April 2002.



5 Planning

Notice of Decision:

Erection of Garage at 133 Camping Hill, Stiffkey – *Permission for Development*

6 A O B

Report from Councillor Baxter

Travellers Conference at N.C.C. The aim of the conference was try to find 20 temporary stopping sites in Norfolk for the travellers. Two possible sites have been highlighted, one in the Cromer area and one in the Fakenham area. A charge of £5 per week per caravan would be imposed and a deposit of £50 would also be required.

Waste Disposal This issue is being reviewed and a new waste executive will be formed and they will have the following main objectives:

- Better value and improved services to Norfolk residents
- Achieve increased waste awareness and significant waste recycling and composting and to decrease the amount taken to landfill sites.
- To be aware of all statutory waste legislation
- Obtain maximum funding from Government sources

The Area Committee Meetings are developing into meaningful discussions.

Ward Boundaries Discussion Paper – It has been proposed that Stiffkey should be moved to the Wells ward. The re-warding has become necessary due to the imbalance of population within the different wards.

The Chairman raised the following concerns with Mr Baxter:

Visitors continue to park their caravans in area of the village that are not designated for overnight parking. They even use the facilities in the designated area and argue that they cannot be removed unless the legal procedures have been followed.

Following heavy rain shingle and sand gets washed onto the road and causes a safety issue at the entrances to the village. In the past the Highways Department would clear this away, but now this appears to not be the case. The Clerk will contact Mr Bushell to ensure he is aware of this continuing problem.

River Stiffkey concerns were again raised regarding the high water level. Michael Jordan reminded the Council that the River Stiffkey is a tidal river and therefore should not have any obstructions, but in recent years it would appear Lord Buxton has put in 8 groins. The Clerk will raise the concerns with Mr Jeavons.



6 **A O B - Continued**

Seat on the Knoll The Clerk reported the recent severe damage to the seat on the Knoll and explained that unfortunately the Parish Council insurance for the three seats only amounted to £405 for all three. Therefore it would only be possible to claim £130 towards the cost of a new seat and added to which there was also a £50 excess which meant the amount to be claimed would be only £80 towards a new seat which would cost at least £350 - £400 minimum.

It was suggested that perhaps it would be possible to request a new seat from the proceeds of the recent Fete, the proceeds of which went to charities and organisation – Stanley Sutton offered to apply to the Village Fete organisers.

The Chairman also recalled that some time ago Mr Fielden had indicated a seat would be donated to the village – It was agreed Mr Fielden would be approached.

Reintroduction of Footpath across land at Muckledyke Cottage, Wells Road Michael Jordan asked what had happened about the reintroduction of the footpath across the owners of Muckledyke Cottage land who had indicated a willingness of the footpath to be reinstated.. It had been suggested that English Heritage would provide a bridge to allow access to Big Hill. It was agreed Norfolk County Council would be approached to see if they would be prepared to put a bridge back.

Dog Fouling Michael Jordan asked for some 'Dog Fouling Maximum Fine' signs to be requested from Norfolk County Council.

Civil Protection (Joint Emergency Planning Unit - Following receipt of an application for John Pearson to join the scheme – the Clerk would make enquiries to ascertain what it is and how it works.

7 **P Q T**

War Memorial – Eddie Procter indicated a willingness to look after this area if this met with approval from the Parish Council – *this was unanimously approved and the Council and expressed their thanks to Eddie* for his help.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm



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tcrowe@morstonassets.com

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **MONDAY 1st OCTOBER 2001** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm.** All parishioners are welcome to attend.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of September Meeting
- 3 Matters Arising
- 4 Correspondence
- 5 Finance
Precept 2002-2003
- 6 Planning
- 7 Any Other Business
Refuse Collections
- 8 Parishioners Question Time
- 9 Date of Next Meeting: **Monday 5th November 2001**

*Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council*

28th September 2001

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 1st October 2001 at 7.00pm.

Present: Lawrence Jordan (Chairman), Mary Gerrard, John Pearson, Stanley Sutton
Mark Harrison, Roy Rogers and Michael Jordan

In attendance: The Clerk and 6 parishioners

Apologies: Cllr Derek Baxter and Councillor Bernard Crowe

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 3rd September 2001 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman after clarification of the following issue:

War Memorial Maintenance Mr Allan Curtis had maintained the war memorial for 10 years and will continue to do so, Eddie Procter had kindly offered to assist. The Clerk apologised to Mr Curtis for the misunderstanding and the Council wished to place on record their appreciation to Mr Curtis for his care of the war memorial for so many years.

2 Matters Arising

Bus Stop Relocation Following the last meeting correspondence was sent to Mr T Bushell of the Highways Department, he then passed this onto the Passenger Transport Unit at County Hall. As no response has been received from Norfolk County Council the Clerk has again been in touch with Mr Bushell and Norfolk County Council – hopefully a site meeting will now take place this week between the Clerk and Mr Peter Cudby the Infrastructure Manager to resolve this issue.

Amenity Land - Following the last meeting the Clerk has been to see Mr Bowles at North Norfolk District Council. He does not have a report for the Council. He is waiting for a decision from the Housing Department as to what they are going to do with the land i.e. sell it for amenity purposes or to sell it as a building plot with outline planning permission. Mr Bowles has assured the Clerk that when he has something positive to report he will do so – The Clerk has again been in touch with him in the last few days – but still no decision has been taken.

River Stiffkey - The Clerk has invited Mr Jeavons to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss the concerns raised about the high water level in the River Stiffkey and he has been given the dates of the next two Council Meetings and hopefully he will be able to attend one of them – the Clerk has rung his office today to get a firm date but he is on leave. A notice will be put up on the notice boards as soon as a date is confirmation.

Dog Fouling Notice The Clerk has sent a request for more notices, they are temporarily out of stock but hopefully some should arrive within the next few weeks.



2 Matters Arising – Continued

Reintroduction of Footpath at Muckledyke Cottage - Following discussions at the last meeting the owner of the Cottage attended the October meeting to explain that it had never been her intention to reinstate the footpath across her property she had in fact offered to allow a path to be created along the edge of her property.

Road Surface Damage at Meadow Cottage - In response to correspondence received from Mr and Mrs Gambrell, the Highways Department has been informed of the problem to the road surface at the entrance to their property and the clerk was pleased to report the repairs have already been carried out.

3 Correspondence

Norfolk County Council Planning and Transportation

- In response to the Clerk's discussions regarding the location of the bus stop signs
- Norfolk Mineral Local Plan Review, Revised Deposit Proposed Alterations July 2001

North Norfolk District Council

- Clerks correspondence re response to the consultation document regarding re-warding
- Agenda Council Meeting 26th September 2001 and 25th July 2001

Mr and Mrs Christopher Jarvis - requesting continuation of permission to allow them vehicular access to their garden over the Village Hall Car Park and adjoining land – *agreed*.

TXU Energi - Notification that Eastern Energy will now be called TXU Energi.

Norfolk Coast Project - Norfolk Coast AONB Community Conference – Transport – Going Somewhere on Tuesday 30th October 17.25 and 21.00 at the Auden Theatre, Gresham's School Holt.

Norfolk Police Authority - Annual Reports of the Police Authority and the Chief Constable of Norfolk

4 Finance

Expenditure

Clerks salary and Expenses	£370.42
Holt and District Citizens Advice Bureau	£25.00

Income

Precept 2 nd instalment	£1,200.00
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The clerk has received a cheque for £75 from Waste Recycling environmental Limited following the Council's success in the WREN competition. Bank Statements were available for inspection.

After careful consideration of the income and expenditure over the past three years the Parish Council approved the 2002 – 2003 precept at £2,650.

5 Planning

The following planning applications have been received:

Mrs C Martin. 27 Wells Road, Stiffkey - Installation of replacement doors and windows
- The Council had no objection to this application.

3C Investments, Cottages adjacent to Red Lion, Wells Road, Stiffkey - Demolition of Outbuildings – The Council had no objection to this application.

3C Investments, Two Cottages adjacent to Red Lion, Wells Road, Stiffkey - **Alterations to Cottages and Improvements to Access** – The Council had no objection to this application.

6 A O B

Refuse Collections – Roy Rogers reported he and his neighbour had experienced some problems regarding the collection of their household waste on the 23rd August and despite telephone calls and correspondence this had not yet been satisfactorily resolved.

Police Consultative Meeting – The Police will now have high profile vehicles which will act as a mobile police office which should help to increase a Police presence in rural areas. Random speed check will also be increased with the help of hand-held radar system.

Michael Jordan reported he had been asked by the Church Warden who actually owns the Knoll – The Church would be able to obtain this information if the land had been registered at the Land Registry Office in Hull.

The street light outside No. 2 - No 4 Boatman's Row was not working and the lighting contractors would be notified

The Figure post for Wells at the 'T' Junction has disappeared and needs to be replaced.



STIFFKEY PRECEPT 2002 – 2003

	1999 / 2000 Actual	2000 / 2001 Actual	2001/2000 Estimated
Income			
Precept	£1,700.00	£2,400.00	£2,400.00
Sundries	<u>£ 98.00</u>	<u>£ 150.00</u>	<u>£ 350.00</u>
Total	£1,798.00	£2,550.00	£2,750.00
Expenditure			
Open Spaces	£ 105.44	£ 827.00	£ 150.00
General Administration	£ 666.91	£1298.11	£1,300.00
Miscellaneous	£ 95.00	£ 279.52	£ 300.00
Public Lighting	£ 456.36	£ 494.79	£ 500.00
VAT	<u>£ 73.86</u>	<u>£ 200.94</u>	<u>£ 200.00</u>
	£1397.27	£3,100.36	£2,450.00
Income over Expenditure	£ 400.37	£ 550.00	£ 300.00

Bank Balance Carried Forward at 1st April 2001 £1,261.56

Estimated for 2002/03

<u>Income</u>	
Precept	£2,400.00
Sundries	<u>£ 350.00</u>
	<u>£2,750.00</u>
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Open Spaces	£ 200.00
General Administration	£1,300.00
Miscellaneous	£ 300.00
Public lighting	£ 500.00
VAT	<u>£ 200.00</u>
	<u>£2,500.00</u>

h.c. Johnson

5/11/01

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The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **MONDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2001** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm.** All parishioners are welcome to attend.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies
- 2 Minutes of October Meeting
- 3 Matters Arising
- 4 Correspondence
- 5 Finance
- 6 Planning
- 7 Any Other Business
- 8 Parishioners Question Time
- 9 Date of Next Meeting: **Monday 3rd December 2001**

*Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council*

1st November 2001

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 5th November 2001 at 7.00pm.

Present: Lawrence Jordan (Chairman), Mary Gerrard, John Pearson, Stanley Sutton
Mark Harrison and Michael Jordan

In attendance: Cllr Derek Baxter, The Clerk and 2 parishioners

Apologies: Mr Roy Rogers and Councillor Bernard Crowe

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 1st October 2001 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman after clarification of the following issue:

2 Matters Arising

Bus Stop Relocation Following a site meeting with Mr Cudby from the Passenger Transport Unit with the Chairman and the Clerk it has been agreed that additional signs will be put up at Camping Hill to indicate a 'bus stop' for both sides of the road.

Due to the safety issues raised regarding the bus stop at Boatman's Row it has been agreed by Mr Cudby that this will be relocated on the Wells Road opposite the Chairman's house and hopefully an appropriate bus stop lay-by will also be provided.

Amenity Land Camping Hill - Still nothing to report

River Stiffkey - Despite frequent telephone calls to the Environment Agency Mr Jeavons has never returned any of the Clerk calls or been in the office to receive calls. Therefore a formal letter has been sent to Mr Jeavons inviting him to attend a Parish Council Meeting to discuss the concerns raised regarding the high water level in the river.

Dog Fouling Notice The Clerk has obtain some notices which were distributed to the Councillors to put up in appropriate places within the village.

The Finger post for Wells at the 'T' Junction has disappeared and needs to be replaced - The Clerk will contact Mr Bushell.

Permission for Parking Mr Eddie Procter was given permission by the Councillors as Trustees of the Village Hall to use the village hall entrance to enable access onto his property.

3 Correspondence

Royal Mint - Details of the official celebration medal for the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

The Norfolk Housing Trust - Affordable Village Housing Seminar on 14th November 2001 10.00am to 3.00pm at the Village Hall, Hempnall



3 Correspondence - Continued

East Norfolk Rural Transport Partnership – Enclosing a copy of the ‘Great ways to go’ which is a Countryside Agency publication.

North Norfolk District Council:

- Chain of Office – Etiquette
- North Norfolk Joint Area Committee – West Area Committee Meeting on 13th November 2001
- Periodic Electoral Review (PER)

Norfolk County Council:

- Local Bus Service Variations - Winter service to be introduced on the 4th November for bus route No. 36
- Highways the road ahead - Your Views Questionnaire

N A L C - National Training strategy for Parish and Town Councils – An update.

4 Finance

Expenditure

The following direct debit and bankers order have been paid:

TXU Energi (monthly energy)	£28.19
Eastern Contracting (lighting maintenance)	£13.14
Poppy Appeal Donation	£25.00

The Bank Statements were available for inspection

5 Planning

The following planning application has been received:

Mr and Mrs Neale, 80 / 82 Wells Road, Stiffkey – Erection of two-storey side extension
- The Parish Council had no objection to this application.



6 Reports

Cllr Bernard Crowe was unable to attend the meeting but provided the following reports:

1. Periodic Electoral Review

The Commissioner's proposals will be put to further public consultation in the New Year and are due for finalisation by April 2002 for implementation in May 2003.

The two changes which the Blakeney and Cley Wards proposed have been accepted. Morston will remain within the Blakeney Ward for ease of Harbour management. Cley will not now move to the Blakeney Ward. Management of the Cley/Salthouse Bank project will be coordinated via a single District Councillor; again for ease of management.

In order to balance the number of voters in the two Wards resulting from the above changes, Cley will take on High Kelling, and Blakeney will take on villages South of the A148 along the Glaven Valley. It will probably be designated the 'Glaven Valley' Ward.

The Glaven Valley Ward will comprise:

Blakeney, Morston, Wiveton, Letheringsett with Glandford, Field Dalling with Saxlingham, Thornage, Brinton and Stody/Hunworth.

The number of residents projected to 2006 is 1901 which is 8.7% above the average but within the permitted 10% variation. It makes the Ward one of the largest within NNDC.

2. Periodic Electoral Review

It also swings its orientation from East-West to North-South. It will be represented by one Councillor.

The Wells Ward will now comprise Holkham, Wells-next-the-Sea, Warham, Stiffkey, Binham, Langham, and Hindringham; and will be represented by two Councillors serving 3661 residents overall. This is 4.7% above the average.

The Cley Ward will now comprise Cley-next-the-Sea, Salthouse, Kelling, High Kelling and Weybourne represented by one Councillor serving 1788 residents. This is 2.2 % above the average.

The number of Councillors will be increased from 46 to 48 in order to achieve approximate parity within Wards.

Finally, we propose to retain the existing electoral cycle whereby the whole Council is elected every fourth year.

3. Quality Councils

I attended the AGM of the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) on Saturday 13 October 2001. NALC represents 10,000 town, parish and community councils across



England and Wales. It works with Government to develop real community involvement in local government, and works in partnership with the voluntary, business and public sectors.

3. Quality Councils - Continued

I thought the theme which would interests our residents is the opportunity to gain funding for village projects by becoming Quality Councils. This is relatively simple and can draw down, initially, up to £10,000 for community projects. What we have to do is:

- Have fully elected Parish Councils. We do need people to allow their names to come forward for the next elections in May 2003. It would be advantageous too if the younger residents would consider becoming a Councillor. Residents over the age of 21 can apply.
- Run at least six Parish Council meetings per year. The majority of our Councils already do so.
- Employ skilled and competent Parish Clerks. We are fortunate in having Patricia Temple-Crowe, June Wise and Tracey Bayfield looking after the Parish Councils in this Ward, and this requirement is met.
- Produce an Annual Report describing the overall strategy, the performance plans, a review of the last year, and an action plan for the future. A minority of Councils does so.
- Produce audited accounts. All Councils do so.

The assessment is also helped when villages produce Village Design Statements (VDS). Blakeney and Wiveton have done so; Morston has produced its first draft; Langham plans to commence shortly.

The real contribution to a successful bid is the production of a Village Appraisal. This draws together all the 'stakeholder' interests and, after wide consultation, delivers an action plan for the Parish Council to convert to a Business Plan. This is implemented on behalf of the community.

Parish Councils should not be put off by the scope of the task. Achievement of 'Quality Council' status can be gained by meeting the basic criteria I have set above. Nevertheless, the production of Village Design Statements and Village Appraisals will assist considerably. The decision on granting Quality Parish status will be made via the District Auditor based upon a system of self-certification by the individual Parishes. Within this Ward we are fortunate in having expert advice from both Councillors and other residents who can help us to win in the self-certification process.

A Quality Council can apply for a £10,000 award towards fulfilling its action plan. Moreover, it can apply for funding from Central Government towards the implementation of its strategic planning. For example, there is £10,000 available for transport projects. If this Ward teamed up to manage a suitable project, we could apply for £50,000 on behalf of



the five future Quality Councils. We could apply for funding from the £M2 set aside for training of clerks and Councillors. We would also be allowed access to devolution of funding from the County Council and District Council tiers of Government.

Quality Councils – Continued

These Councils are required to undertake Best Value Reviews which must consider whether Parish or Town Councils could better undertake the provision of selected services. Quality Councils will also be given the right, and funding, to strengthen consultation so that the Community is given the opportunity to express its views.

In summary, it appears that our fears that the Government intended to abolish Parish Councils are now removed. The price we have to pay for the retention of this tier of local government is measurable improvement in way we deliver services. NALC suggests that we should recognise the new role for Parish Councils, review our achievements, build for the future, and develop partnerships supported by all.

The downside is that Quality Councils will receive rewards, non-Quality Councils will be overtaken.

I will be drawing the attention of Parish Councils to this opportunity.

Report from Cllr Derek Baxter

Park and Ride Norwich The charges have been increased from £1.70 to £2.00 and from £2.20 to £2.50.

Area Committee Meeting will be held on 13th November at Fakenham FMC – Excellent topics are being discussed and Cllr Baxter urged the Parish Councillors to attend.

Private Financial Initiatives - The County Council is looking at funding for major projects.

7 A O B

A 149 Road Accident Following yet another accident (this is the 5th accident in the past 18 months) on the Wells Road at the bend as you enter the village, the Parish Council asked if it would be possible to get a 40 m.p.h. speed limit introduced for this section of the A 149 or if not a speed limit, would it be possible to get a warning hazard sign regarding the approaching bend. The Clerk agreed to contact Mr Bushell to request a site meeting. The concerns of the Parish Council would also be conveyed to the Police Authority.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55pm

Date of next meeting: Monday 3rd December at 7.00pm



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A G E N D A

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- 5 Finance
- 6 Planning
- 7 Any Other Business
- 8 Parishioners Question Time
- 9 Date of Next Meeting: **MONDAY 7th JANUARY 2002**

Patricia Temple-Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council

27th November 2001

Minutes of Stiffkey Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 3rd December 2001 at 7.00pm.

Present: Lawrence Jordan (Chairman), Mary Gerrard, John Pearson, Stanley Sutton, Roy Rogers and Michael Jordan

In attendance: The Clerk and 2 parishioners

Apologies: Mark Harrison, Councillor Derek Baxter and Councillor Bernard Crowe

1 Minutes

The Minutes of the last meeting held on Monday 5th November 2001 were read approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman after clarification of the following issue:

2 Matters Arising

A 149 Traffic Concerns Following the concerns raised at the last meeting the Clerk has held a site meeting with Mr Reilly from the Highways Department.

Mr Reilly was most helpful and suggested that some 'slow' road markings and hazards bend signs on both approaches would alleviate some of the problems incurred by drivers.

However, he did state that it would not be possible to get a reduction in the speed limit which is 60 m p h on that stretch of road.

He would also have discussion with Mr Bushell to ascertain if it would be possible to get the road surface leveled because it is obvious from the inspection that the camber of the road is quite severe and does need attention. Unfortunately there will be no funds available until the next financial year at the earliest.

Environment Agency - nothing to report, tried again to contact Mr Jeavons, he was not in the office last week or today. It is hoped that something will be finalised for the February or March meeting.

3 Correspondence

North Norfolk District Council:

- **Register of Electors**

The Golden Jubilee Summer Party : Monday 3rd June 2002 Information literature

Norfolk County Council:

Highways

- Winter driving in Norfolk



3 Correspondence - Continued

Social Services

Joint Mental Health Strategy for Norfolk

Alecto Historical Editions : Domesday County Edition

Norfolk Magistrates Courthouse : Closure of Fakenham Courthouse

E D P Norfolk : Village and town of the Year 2002

Parish and Town Councils : Norfolk Link Issue No. 128

The Countryside Agency : A Guide to the National Training Strategy for Town and Parish Councils in England

The Standards Board for England : Model Code of Conduct for local Councillors comes into effect on 6th November – Introductory Leaflet

Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs – Quality Parish and Town Councils – A Consultation Paper.

4 Finance

The Clerk has received the following invoice which is due for payment:

Eastern Contracting - £13.14

TXU Energi direct debit £28.19 (monthly energy charge)

The Bank Statements were available for inspection

5 Planning

The Clerk has received the following planning application:

Mr and Mrs J Cox – Conversion of Former Butchers Shop to Holiday Dwelling – The Parish Council fully supported this application and it is understood that it will go before the Planning Committee on 20th December.

The following Notice of Decision has been received:

Erection of two-storey side extension at 80/82 Wells Road, Stiffkey – *Permission for development.*



6 Report from Cllr Bernard Crowe

Dumped Car Menace

A 'get tough' policy on cars abandoned on Norfolk roadsides is to be introduced by police and local authorities.

The initiative is designed to clear up any confusion over whose responsibility it is to remove stolen or other dumped vehicles and to ensure they are towed away quickly.

Abandoned cars have become a scourge to Norfolk due to theft and the declining value of scrap. The storage of dumped vehicles is now costing the County Council about £75,000 a year because so few cars are reclaimed. Under the proposed agreement, an abandoned car incident will be dealt with by the agency which first receives the report. Each authority will identify an officer responsible for abandoned vehicles but the police will be given the first opportunity to attend the scene.

Norfolk Police will ensure the removal of any vehicle parked or broken down in a dangerous place and which is causing an obstruction, or has been dumped alongside an A-class road and is deemed to be a safety hazard. The owner, another person in charge of the car, or the Police will do this.

District Councils will be responsible for the removal of other vehicles, including those that have been burnt-out after being abandoned. Councils will place a seven-day notice on the vehicle and will not remove it before that time has elapsed. If a Council receives a report from a member of the public, it will notify the Police in case the vehicle has been involved in a crime. It will then try to identify the owner if not known.

Norfolk County Council will record the details provided by the local Council and provide a receipt from its compound contractor. If the owner cannot be traced, the compound will dispose of the vehicle. If the owner is found, the County Council will recover its costs from that owner.

To put this into effect, a Memorandum of Understanding on Abandoned Vehicles is to be signed by the Norfolk County Council, Norfolk Constabulary, Breckland, Broadland, South Norfolk District Councils, and the Boroughs of Great Yarmouth and Kings Lynn & West Norfolk, and Norwich City Council.

In due course, the Government will issue a consultation paper on the implementation of the European end-of-life vehicle directive. This requires vehicle manufacturers to meet all or most of the costs involved in operating a vehicle disposal system under which the last owners may dispose of their vehicles free of charge.

The Daily Telegraph ran an article on this subject on the 1st November and indicated that 'abandoned cars could be removed from streets within 24 hours under proposals considered so popular that Ministers jostled to announce them yesterday'. We hope that legislation will be introduced to achieve this change from seven days to 24 hours. However, it is not available today and the proposed Memorandum of Understanding on Abandoned Vehicles is the nearest we can get!



6 Cllr. Bernard Crowe's Report - Continued

In my role in NNDC as Chairman of the Joint Management Board on e-Government, I will be pressing for both parties in the future sale of vehicles to be responsible for registering the transfer, and for details of the registered keepers to be available to Local Authorities on the Internet. This would enable us to identify the owners of abandoned vehicles quickly and to deter offenders.

Strategic Partnership for Local Service Delivery

In the last Newsletter, I discussed the advantages to Parish Councils in becoming 'Quality Councils'. The outcome is access to greater funding from central government to Parish Councils for the good of their local communities. This report discusses how District Councils can benefit by adopting strategic partnerships for local service delivery.

Strategic Partnerships are about working with an external organisation, whether public, private or voluntary to deliver outcomes that relate to the wider goals of the organisation. The Partnership achieves these through a relationship that seeks to innovate and improve, is less adversarial, and shares risk and a common set of goals.

Government accepts that Best Value has squeezed out the obvious and easy savings. The requirement to achieve annual efficiency savings of 2% will continue to squeeze on the margin. But that is not what Central Government requires. It is moving us towards a step change and favours strategic partnerships as the way ahead. The concept of Best Value remains but the approach towards its achievement now differs. Adoption of a policy of gradual improvement will score low marks. High marks and the consequent additional funding will go to Councils who accept the prescriptive model, bite the bullet, and take the strategic partnership approach.

A Partnership solution by NNDC for implementing Project Reach Out has secured funding which would not have been available without it.

Central Govt (DTLR)	£220,000
East of England Development Agency	£185,000
Norfolk County Council	£20,000
North Norfolk District Council	£50,000
Total Funding	£475,000

By putting together a good proposal, and working in partnership, NNDC has secured £425,000 matched funding for an outlay of £50,000 .

Strategic Partnerships are not simply about e-Government. They are about partnering to deliver outcomes across the board and could apply to every activity a Council undertakes. It is clearly necessary to have access to competitive markets to get the best deal. It is most important to have adequate strength on the Council side, (members and officers), to manage the Partnership. We should recognise that the Partner must make a profit but match funding can achieve a profit for a Council greater than an 'in-house' solution.



6 Cllr. Bernard Crowe's Report - Continued

Strategic Partnerships offer:

- Enhanced performance management
- Innovation and challenging tradition
- Releasing resources for priorities
- Access to funding by partner and from government
- Sharing expertise and experience.

Partnership is not CCT or privatisation; the Council remains in control:

- Representing community and customers
- Shaping services and setting standards
- Monitoring and scrutinising performance
- Partnership changing to meet changing needs
- Being accountable to the citizen

Your District Council will examine this approach more closely over the next few months.

7 A O B

Footpath/PavementVegetation Stanley Sutton expressed concern regarding the vegetation growing on the footpath outside the property of Mr Dennis Lotus 1 Riverbank, Wells road, Stiffkey - The Clerk would contact Mr Lotus to the vegetation is cut back.

Wooden Marker Post The wooden post on Wells Road, at Greenway Corner near the Parish Council Notice Board needs to be repositioned – the clerk will contact Mr Bushell to request this is carried out.

Unsociable Parking The Chairman expressed his concern after hearing that a lorry driver had received a considerable amount of abuse from a resident of the Greenway when the lorry driver asked the resident to move his vehicle from the entrance to the Greenway to enable the lorry access.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.00pm.



STIFFKEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr L Jordan

Clerk's Address:

Wildfowlers Cottage

High Street

Cley

NR25 7AP

Tel: 01263 740843

e-mail: triciatc@lineone.net

1st January 2001

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on **Monday 8th January 2001** in **STIFFKEY VILLAGE HALL at 7.00pm.** All parishioners are welcome to attend.

A G E N D A

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Minutes of December Meeting**
- 3 Matters Arising**
- 4 Correspondence**
- 5 Finance**
- 6 Planning**
- 7 Village Hall Report**
- 8 Any Other Business**
Report from Cllr. Crowe
Report from Cllr Ashworth
Report from PC Durrant (if duty allows)
- 9 Parishioners Question Time**
- 10 Date of Next Meeting: Monday 5th February 2001**

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Patricia Crowe
Clerk to the Parish Council

1st January 2001