

Stow Maries Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON MONDAY 25th November 2024

in The Smythe Hall, Church Lane, Stow Maries at 7.30 p.m.

Cllr Matt Cooper welcomed all those present.

COUNCILLOR ATTENDEES AND OTHER ATTENDEES

Councillors:- Matt Cooper Neil Gilmore, David Hopping, Debbie Driver & Adam Brown

District: No one in attendance

Essex CC Cllr Jane Fleming arrived at 7.40 p.m.

In attendance: Parish Clerk

Members of Public: 3

24-5/096 APOLOGIES

District Cllr Lisa Whiffen & District Cllr Sue White.

24-5/097 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- a) Cllr Debbie Driver made a declaration of interest in regard to Agenda item 24/5-102 a)i. No other declarations of interest were made at this point in the meeting.

24-5/098 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

- a) The minutes of the meeting of 21st October 2024 were approved subject to correction of some small typing errors and signed by the Chairman Cllr Matt Cooper as a true and accurate record.

24-5/099 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

- a) No report was available.

24-5/100 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

- a) County Cllr Fleming had previously sent a report which has been published on the website and circulated to members of Stow Maries Parish Council. The following was highlighted at the meeting from that report:-
- £85m has been set aside for the member led project to get highway repairs achieved locally, which has been working well and white-lining, pot hole repairs etc has definitely improved. Cllr Fleming stated that there is one final tranche to put in January (possible deadline date being 20th Jan 25) The road sign missing the letters "S" & "D" have been reported.
 - ECC in the National Press in relation to the devolution of powers and labour want to devolve and reorganise into Unitary Council which was considered to be a shame as ECC has achieved good things, especially in the social care sector.
 - Cllr Fleming stated that if Stow Maries wished to call in an application the Cllr Whiffen would be first port of call.
 - Cllr Fleming requested that in order to get the Community 360 bus service up and running from North Fambridge to Hatfield Peverel that the Parish Councils who will be part of the route should make a contribution in the region of £1,000 or whatever the precept/budget can afford. The hope is

Signed by the Chairman.....
Cllr Matthew Cooper

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that once the service is well established that it will run itself without the need for funding. Stow Maries members to consider this and discuss a survey to ascertain how many residents would benefit from this service.

24-5/101 QUESTIONS FROM THE PRESS AND PUBLIC -An opportunity for members of the public to speak and raise issues.

One of the applicant's for Agenda item 24/25/102 a) i - answered questions from the members pertaining to the application. e.g. Was there availability of mains drainage to which the answer was yes, there is a pumping station by The Prince of Wales PH.

It was stated that the land was in fact a natural end leading up to the railway line and the plans are in keeping with the surrounding dwellings. The plans at Stow Hall enhanced the site. At some point you have to expand the village and this application would not be detrimental.

There had been two previous applications on the site both refused in the 60's/70's and these were recorded on the basis that the land was situated outside the village settlement.

It was pointed out that the land was outside the village settlement area and as recent applications had been refused on this basis, there is a need to be consistent.

Access was also discussed and it was mentioned that at the point of access that Church Lane narrows at this point and additional vehicles could cause more problems. However, ECC Highways has approved the access.

24-5/102 PLANNING MATTERS

Planning Applications:-

- a) i) **Application No: 24/00822/OUT PP-13009130**
Proposal: Outline Planning Application seeking determination of access and layout for development comprising three chalet bungalows with associated private amenity space; vehicular parking; landscaping; and Biodiversity Net Gain enhancements. All other matters reserved. Location: Land Adjacent Treboeth Church Lane Stow Maries Essex. Members discussed this application at length and having heard from several residents who were not in support of this application and that the application was against planning policy in that it sits just outside the settlement area of permitted planning they decided to refuse the application on these grounds. **Clerk to send** refusal to MDC Planning.
- b) **Planning correspondence** received over the course of the month and circulated via e-mail:
 - i) Planning application listings were noted
 - ii) Planning decisions and appeals were noted
 - iii) Planning Decisions:- none at the time of writing.

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c) MALDON DISTRICT COUNCIL - LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

i) No information at this time.

d) BRADWELL B

i) No information at this time.

e) STOW MARIES GREAT WAR AERODROME

i) No meeting has been held recently. Chair asked Cllr Gilmore that if he could not attend the next meeting to inform him so that he could attend

24-5/103 HIGHWAY & PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES

- a) The vegetation from Honeypot Lane to the Three Rivers Golf Club, is on the list to be done by ECC through the member led scheme that Cllr Fleming has been dealing with.
- b) Clerk has received information relating to all ECC owned land in Stow Maries and has printed off maps and descriptions to add to the Parish records for future reference. **Clerk to check** these pieces of land against the land that is currently maintained by the Parish to ensure that the Parish Council is not cutting areas that should be maintained by ECC and will report back to next meeting.

Reminder from Councillor Gilmore regarding the village sign requiring a repaint. **Clerk to see** if she can contact local artist known to carry out this kind of work.

24-5/104 FINANCE

- a) Members approved the payments and receipts for the November 2024 meeting.
- b) Members approved the bank reconciliation to the end of October 2024.
- c) Members noted the changes to the Employers National Insurance did not impact Stow Maries at this time.
- d) Members reviewed the budget/precept in great depth and decided not to go ahead with the CCTV project, but look into an alternative idea that was mentioned. £500 was added to the budget subject to feed back from the residents to contribute to get the Community 360 bus up and running. It was resolved to increase the budget/precept for 2025/26 by 9% which in real terms for residents living in a Band D property in the village would be a request to Maldon District Council for £7651.80 precept divided by 87.5 equals £87.44 per year and £1.68 per Band D household per week, which is only 6p per week increase on last year. **Clerk to send** request to Maldon District Council before 7th January 2025.
- e) Members agreed that the contribution to the PCC would remain at £150.00 which had been budgeted for within the year.

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Nov-24	DATE	CHEQUE NO	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	TOTAL
030/24-25	25/11/2024		Sue Lees	Domain cost	£30.00		£30.00
031/24-25	25/11/2024		Church PCC	Donation to help with Maintenance of Church Yard	£150.00		£150.00
032/24-25	25/11/2024		Sarah Sayer	Salary	£302.39		£302.39
033/24-25	25/11/2024		Sarah Sayer	Expenses	£46.83		£46.83
034/24-25	25/11/2024		HMRC	Tax	£10.60		£10.60
					£539.82		£539.82

24-5/105 WEBSITE

- a) No update available.

24-25/106 COMMUNITY SAFETY INITIATIVES FUND

- a) Clerk had informed members via email that the application did not meet the criteria of the fund and were looking into another possibility.

24-5/107 INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Cllr Cooper to attend the meeting on 11th December relating to The Smythe Hall.

24-5/108 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING – Monday 20th January 2025 at 7.30 p.m.

24-5/109 ALL BUSINESS HAVING BEEN TRANSACTED THE CHAIR THANKS EVERYONE FOR ATTENDING & CLOSES THE MEETING at 9.10 p.m.

Signed by the Chairman.....
Cllr Matthew Cooper

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