

**Minutes of the Meeting of Stradbroke Parish Council
held at the Old Courthouse, Stradbroke
Monday, 3rd July 2017**

Present: Jim Baker, Carrie Barnes, George Chaplin, Chris Edwards, Maureen John, Velda Lummis, Nick Stones, Ellie Wharton

In Attendance: Odile Wladon (Clerk).

		Action
17.1	<p>The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting and reminded those present that the meeting would be recorded.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that future Parish Council recordings will be used for minuting purposes only and will not be published.</p> <p>3 Councillors have resigned since the last Parish Council meeting. The formal process to replace them has commenced. A co-option process will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.</p>	Clerk
17.2	Apologies for Absence: Lynsey Smith and Jo Baber	
17.3	Declarations of Interest: There were none.	
17.4	Dispensations: None were requested.	
17.5	<p>Public Forum. A member of the public asked whether information could be shared on the reasons for the recent resignations. The Chairman advised that it was the choice of the 3 Councillors and members of the public were free to ask them for their reasons.</p> <p>The member of the public also raised concerns about the closed sessions the Parish Council have recently had. The Chairman assured all that the items for discussion necessitated closed sessions but that the Clerk had minuted as much information as possible.</p> <p>The Chairman used this opportunity to express her thanks to the 3 councillors that have recently resigned. Stuart Gemmill has been a Parish Councillor for 30 years and has contributed much to Stradbroke both as a Parish Councillor and as his time as a District Councillor. Both Oliver Last and Don Darling have used their time on the Parish Council to do good work.</p> <p>MJ stated that all should respect their decisions to resign.</p>	
17.6	<p>Minutes of the meetings:</p> <p>The minutes from the 10th June were approved by majority vote with 1 abstention.</p>	
17.7	<p>Policies/Procedures:</p> <p>Councillors voted unanimously to adopt the Grievance and Disciplinary Policy.</p>	
17.8	Committee Structure:	
17.8.1	Councillors voted to form a new Personnel Committee, it was agreed that membership of all committees would be reviewed once the 3 vacancies were filled.	
17.8.2	Councillors voted that a working party of CE/CB/EW/MJ would meet to review terms of reference for all committees and these would be added to the agenda for the next meeting.	
17.9	<p>Councillors voted that the Parish Council website would now be the official conduit of Parish Council information. They noted that the Parish Council website contains links to other websites within the village and noted the following statement contained on the website:</p> <p><i>“All links are external to Stradbroke Parish Council and the council takes no responsibility for, nor offers any endorsement of, information on these sites.”</i></p> <p>The Clerk will now contact the editors of Stradbrokeonline.org.uk and ask them to remove the words “endorsed by the Parish Council” from their website.</p>	Clerk

17.10	Clerks report:	
17.10.1	The Clerk raised concerns made to her about the closure of Parish Council meetings to the public. Councillors noted that unfortunately there had been cause over recent months to close meetings. Going forward a full explanation as to why it is felt the meeting should be closed and a formal resolution will be passed before the public are excluded.	
17.10.2	The Clerks has received an email about a possible wasps nest in the cemetery. It was noted by councillors that there is little that can be done to prevent this but it would be monitored.	
17.10.3	Essex & Suffolk water apologised for the invoice that was issued and have noted on their database that the postcode is for a cemetery. The Clerk used the opportunity to inform them of the yellow marker on Bishops Way that has fallen over.	
17.10.4	The Clerk had been asked to find out the ownership of land previously used as allotments in Grove End – NS confirmed that this land is owned by MSDC.	
	Matters for inclusion in the Agenda of meeting: 10th July 2017 at 7.30pm Committee terms of reference Tree Policy	

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.00hrs.

Carrie Barnes

Signed: _____
Chairman

10th July 2017