

# STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2010

Present: Councillor : Mr Des Salmon (Chairman)  
Councillors: Mr Tony Gatehouse, Mrs Andrea Maxted,  
Mrs Chrys Smith and Mr Geoff Shute

In attendance: Central Bedfordshire Councillor : Mrs Marion Mustoe. (Part meeting)  
Mrs Carol Stephenson (Clerk)

Absent : Cllr. Ken Janes  
No members of the public were present

ACTION

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

1.1 Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Mrs. Harris. Councillors expressed concern over the absence of Cllr. Janes from the last 3 meetings.

### 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (personal and/or prejudicial) (Parish Councils Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001

2.1 No members had any declaration of interests in any of the items under consideration at this meeting of the Parish Council.

### 3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

3.1 No members of the public were present.

### 4. MATTERS FOR THE CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS

4.1 Cllr Mrs Mustoe also expressed concern over Cllr. Janes absence from parish council meetings.

4.2 She was appraised of the fact that the Longyard planning application had been supported by the Parish Council.

4.3 Cllr Maxted asked Cllr Mrs Mustoe for clarification over the starting age for the senior citizen bus pass. Cllr Mustoe agreed to investigate. **MM**

4.4 Cllr Mrs Mustoe briefly reported on her meeting for Chairmen and Representatives in the South West Beds Ward on 13<sup>th</sup> March and highlighted Dog Wardens, Village websites. She informed Councillors that the Parish Partnerships initiative has been withdrawn for 2010.

5 **POLICE MATTERS**

- 5.1 Cllr Gatehouse reported numerous sightings of an unkempt man riding a bicycle around the village, apparently studying houses. The police are making enquiries and residents have been asked to be vigilant.

6 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- 6.1 It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2010 were a correct record and were signed by Cllr. Salmon.

7 **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES** (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)

- 7.1 Item 4. It was noted that a letter outlining the proposed use of use land at Longyard had been sent to neighbouring residents via the Studham Residents Group.

- 7.2 Item 5. The matter was in hand and the memorials should soon be removed.

- 7.3 Item 7 Snow clearance/Salt bins. Cllr. Mrs Smith reported that no progress had yet been made nor was any likely until all the budgets had been clarified. The matter is therefore still in hand.

8 **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN**

- 8.1 Cllr Salmon briefly reported on the Cllr. Mrs Mustoe's Parish Council Chairmen and Representatives' Ward meeting and in particular the desire of a number of councils to opt out of the Central Beds grass cutting contract. It was noted that this was made difficult by the division of responsibility between different Central Beds departments.

- 8.2 Cllr. Salmon had also attended the Beds Association of Twon and Parish Councils (BATPC) General and Financial Purposes Committee.

- 8.3 Cllr. Salmon thanked the members of the Parish Council for their work during the year.

- 8.4 The Council's attention was drawn to the fact that the vacancy on the Parish Council would have to be filled before the 2011 parish council elections. It was agreed that an advert to fill the vacancy should be placed **DS/CLS** in the next Parish Link.

9 **REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES OF OUTSIDE BODIES**

- 9.1 Highways  
9.1.(i) Cllr. Mrs. Smith had received a list of Studham footpaths and proposed works from Michelle Flynn, Rights of Way Officer and a meeting had been arranged to take this further.

9.1 (ii) Work had been carried out on potholes in Dunstable and Valley Road within the constraints of the very restricted funds available. Repairs were planned for a further number of potholes.

9.1 (iii) Replacement of a leaning lamppost ( R2, midway between Red Lion & Bell) had been scheduled for the first quarter of the new financial year.

9.1 (iv) Cllr Mrs Smith had received the annual maintenance survey which she offered to complete on the Parish Council's behalf.

**CS**

9.2 Special Projects

9.2 (i) It was agreed that a letter of thanks should be sent to Nigel Caller for putting up Smartwater signs around the village.

**CLS/DS**

9.3 Road safety sub-committee

9.3 (i) There was no report.

9.4 Studham Common

9.4 (i) Cllr Shute reported that the last work party had been postponed due to adverse weather but had nevertheless managed to plant new gorse on the East Common Car Park.

9.4 (ii) Cllr Shute had placed a number of signs on the car park explaining its closure during the surface improvement works. He reported that there had still been damage at one corner caused by horses. He had requested that Central Bedfordshire Council close this corner of the Car Park to prevent further entry and damage. It was noted however that there was only one bridle path.

9.5 Playing Fields

9.5 (i) A recent meeting had been held and a report was outstanding.

9.6 Village Hall

9.6(i) Cllr Salmon reported that the Lottery application had been successful - a grant of £5,233 towards rewiring and external weatherproofing. The two earlier applications to Central Bedfordshire Council and London Luton Airport would not now be used. These two sources would continue to be available for future applications.

9.6 (ii) The Studham Village Hall AGM, to which everyone is welcome, will be held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June.

10 **CORRESPONDENCE**

10.1 The Correspondence was handed to the Chairman.

10.2 The Rights of Way Officer, Michelle Flynn had asked the Parish Council to help confirm the ownership of land adjoining Public Footpath no.2. This would allow discussions with the landowners to facilitate updating of stiles

and inserting a kissing gate. Councillors agreed to study the maps once circulated by the Clerk. **CLS**

11 **WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT**

11.1 The website team had sent in a report. (Currently being circulated amongst the Parish Councillors)

11.2 Cllr Gatehouse reported that the new website had so far been favourably received with very positive responses from as far afield as Cambridge.

11.3 Cllr. Mrs Smith reported that arrangements were underway for Studham history to be recorded for the site.

12 **REPAIR OF THE FLAGPOLE**

12.1 Cllr. Gatehouse explained that an inspection revealed that the flagpole had become frozen and stuck during the very cold weather, but was confirmed to now be operational. The paintwork which may need to be refreshed, is being inspected. **AG**

13 **COMMON ROAD NOTICE BOARD**

13.1 Although a report had been received that the notice board was in need of repair, a few independent inspections had been made and remedial work was not considered necessary.

14 **BUS PARKING**

14.1 Cllr. Mrs Maxted reported that she has emailed the bus company with regard to buses parking and ripping up the grass on the layby in Common Road. She had not yet received a response.

15 **PLANNING**

Notice of Planning Application (Town and County Planning Act 1990)

15.1 It was reported that :

(a) the application to vary condition 8 of permission SB/06/00059, Bell Farm, Studham, LU6 2QG had been withdrawn.

(b) The Studham planning committee had objected to the following applications:

(i) CB/10/00839/Full

Valley View, Hemel Hempstead Road, Dagnall, Berkhamsted, HP4 1QR

Erection of stables and hay store. (Revised application  
CB/09/06840/Full)

(ii) CB/10/00328/Full

Gade View, Hemel Hempstead Road, Dagnall, Berkhamsted, HP4 1QR

Demolition of existing commercial premises and erection of two detached dwellings with detached garages. Conversion of existing dwellings to form one dwelling with alterations, extensions and detached garage.

(c) The Studham planning committee had approved the following applications:

(i) CB/10/00783/Full

Long Yard, Dunstable Road, Studham, LU6 2QL

Continued use of part of barn as agricultural workers dwelling in connection with existing agricultural enterprise

(ii) CB/10/00931/VOC

Bell Farm, 15 Dunstable Road, Studham, Bedfordshire, LU6 2QG

Variation of Conditions 7 & 8 of planning consent SB/TP/09/00059 to allow 24 events per calendar year, that continue beyond 9pm (revised application CB/09/05763/VOC)

(iii) CB/10/01042/VOC

Bury Farm, Common Road, Studham, Dunstable, LU6 2NQ

Replacement of two existing Colinear antennas with three sector antennas and install one Flex cabinet.

16 **MATTERS OUTSTANDING**

16.1 It was agreed that no changes were necessary.

17 **ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

17.1 The following accounts were submitted and approved for payment:

12/04/2010	Village Hall Hire 23/2/10-26/3/10	71.50
12/04/2010	BATPC/POWB training	80.00
12/04/2010	B Lavery (Bus Shelter Cleaning - 6 weeks, 31/1/ - 12/3/10)	36.00
12/04/2010	Clerk's Salary	507.75
12/04/2010	G I Shute Travel costs to training course	26.50
		<b>£721.25</b>

18        **BUDGET STATEMENT PERIOD 12**

18.1      The Income and Expenditure statement for the Parish Council for the period ending March 2010 (period 12) was presented.

19        **ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE “PARISH LINK”**

19.1      It was agreed that “Date of next PC meeting” should be included in the MayAM “Parish Link”.

20        **REPORT OF THE CLERK**

20.1      The Clerk suggested that the value of items in the Assets register should be reviewed for Insurance purposes. It was agreed that this should be completed before the next renewal in June 2010.        **CLS**

21        **ITEMS OF AN URGENT NATURE OR FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

21.1      It was agreed that the following items should form part of the Agenda for the next meeting:

- (i) The Parish Report
- (ii) Good Neighbour scheme.

22        **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

22.1      The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 7.00p.m. in Studham Village Hall.

22.2      The following Parish Council meeting will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2010 in Studham Village Hall.

The Meeting ended at 7.57pm