

# TOSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the full Council  
held on 10 September 2024 at 7.30pm in Tostock Village Hall  
(Approved 12.11.24; minute 24.11.03 refers)**

**Present:** Cllr Jane Storey (Chair), Cllr Michael Bauly, Cllr David Blundell  
Cllr Paul Callow, Cllr Sarah Cobbold, Cllr Roger Cross,  
Cllr Julian Kearsley and Cllr Andrew Sharkey.

**In Attendance:** County Cllr Andrew Mellen; and  
Three members of the public.

**24.09.01 Apologies for Absence**

Accepted from Cllr Glenn Lebbon who was unwell and the Parish Clerk who was on leave.

**24.09.02 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

**09.1 Interests:** None.

**09.2 Dispensation Requests:** None.

**09.3 Dispensation Decisions:** None.

**24.09.03 Minutes of the Last Parish Council Meeting**

It was resolved that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council, held on 16 July, be signed as a true record.

**24.09.04 County and District Councillors' Reports**

**04.1 County Councillor:** Cllr Mellen presented his report. He was pressed by the Council, on behalf of residents, about concerns over potholes following work to the A14 which had resulted in substantially increased traffic through the village. He indicated that he would continue to press Suffolk Highways for recompense from Highways England.

**04.2 District Councillors:** Cllr Bradbury had sent apologies. Cllr Davies had resigned since the last meeting and an election for his replacement was imminent.

**24.09.05 Public Comment and Questions**

A resident addressed the Council to voice concerns over the current planning application regarding 2 Wood Close (DC/24/03825) stating that the proposed extension included windows enabling direct sight into a child's bedroom. Councillors were not unsympathetic and advised contact with the relevant planning officer at Mid Suffolk District Council.

**24.09.06 Correspondence**

Cllr Storey reported on items both sent to and received by the Council. She noted the following in particular:

◆ Given on-going concerns about the state of roads in different parts of the village, there had been an update from the local highways engineer who had visited sites and marked some areas for repair. The problems particularly involved haunching which meant that the roadside verge had been eroded. The Highways Maintenance Operations Plan (available on

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the Suffolk Highways website) states that repairs are only applicable where the problem is over five metres in length. Residents were encouraged to be vigilant and also to report matters themselves using the Highways Reporting Tool (also available on the Suffolk Highways website).

- ◆ The Tennis Club had indicated that the surface of the courts was to be cleaned and was given permission fill the edges of the Village Green with the dirt that was removed.

- ◆ Further to previous discussions a resident, Moira Diaper, had kindly agreed to monitor the condition of the defibrillator.

- ◆ With no immediate volunteer to take on the role of Village Recorder, Cllr Storey indicated that she would assume the task on an interim basis.

## 24.09.07 Finance

**07.1 Responsible Financial Officer:** It was noted that the NatWest current account stood at £1,596.64 and the reserve account at £59,313.22 further to which it was resolved that the reconciliation be approved.

**07.2 Payments and Income:** It was resolved that the schedule of payments be approved. The schedule comprised the following:

- ◆ Gipping Press Ltd: "Tostock Chronicle" (August/September) - £315.00;
- ◆ HMRC: PAYE (August) - £83.20;
- ◆ Clear Insurance: mower insurance - £223.02;
- ◆ Mr O Holland: litter-picking - £56.25;
- ◆ Suffolk Cloud: website domain name renewal - £30.00; and
- ◆ Mr A Jones: reimbursement of mower diesel - £35.15.

Income received was duly noted as follows:

- ◆ NatWest: reserve (deposit) account interest - £77.56;
- ◆ NatWest: reserve (deposit) account interest - £70.60;
- ◆ "Tostock Chronicle": advertising - £15.00; and
- ◆ Mid Suffolk District Council: cleansing grant (2024-2025) - £1,189.76.

**07.3 Community Infrastructure Levy:** The funding total remained at £55,713.87 with further income of £3,417.12 due in October.

## 24.09.08 Insurance Review

Following work by the Clerk to identify options for the renewal of the Council insurance and for gaining clarification on outstanding queries on the 2023-2024 policy cover, councillors reviewed the offers available and agreed the recommendation to stay with the present provider for 2024-2025, Business Services at CAS Ltd, at a cost of £500.51.

## 24.09.09 "Tostock Chronicle"

The Council reviewed the current situation further to its decision at its March meeting to limit editions to 16 pages, thereby reducing the cost and saving much-needed finance. With issues still covering 20 pages, it was decided that Cllr Storey would contact some of the contributors to ask that, in future, they limit their input.

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## 24.09.10 Ongoing Matters

**10.1 Wayleave (The Green):** Cllr Kearsley updated the Council on work with Clarke and Simpson and hoped to offer a further report at the next meeting in November.

**10.2 Land Registry Tribunal:** Cllr Storey confirmed that the legal process was continuing but that, currently, there was no further news.

## 24.09.11 Planning

### 11.1 New Applications:

DC/24/03825 2 Wood Close - erection of single storey rear extension and construction of rear dormer extension in conjunction with loft conversion (following removal of conservatory). Councillors acknowledged the concerns of neighbours. While there was, in principle, NO OBJECTION to the application it was felt that the current plan could be modified to provide the privacy requested by the objector with a change of window location and alternative lighting suggested.

**11.2 Decisions:** The following application results were noted:

DC/24/03242 Old Rectory, Norton Road - Listed Building Consent - replace previously approved sliding door with folding door between kitchen and orangery. GRANTED.

### 11.3 Applications Awaiting Decision:

DC/24/03753 Oak Cottage, The Green - erection of single garage. The Council had NO OBJECTION.

## 24.07.12 Matters for the Attention of the Council

◆ Further to reports that there were several locations where overhanging hedges and vegetation were obstructing pavements, it was agreed that the matter would be highlighted to residents through the "Tostock Chronicle".

◆ Concerns were expressed about parents attending The Gardeners' Arms who allowed their children to play on the edge of the Village Green. Councillors would speak with the landlords to see if mitigation measures could be applied.

## 24.07.13 Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Council would be held on Tuesday 12 November at 7.30pm in Tostock Village Hall.

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.27pm.**