



## Long Stratton Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 21st May 2018

6.30pm

Long Stratton Methodist Church

- 1) Welcome by the Chairman of the Parish Council – Steve Adcock welcomed all to the meeting.
- 2) Approval of Minutes from the last meeting – These were proposed and approved and would be made available on the website.
- 3) Apologies for absence – these had been received from Councillors Andrew Thomas, James McCrea, Georgina Race, Kevin Worsley & Caroline Francis and member of the public, Barbara Adams
- 4) To receive reports

a. County Councillor, Alison Thomas Reported.

NDR is now open, Hempnall crossroad is now progressing to be submitted for planning permission, it is anticipated in the Autumn. The construction will be carried out slightly off site to allow the traffic to continue to flow. Hopefully this will reduce the volume of accidents that occur.

Long Stratton bypass is still being consulted on by the County Councillor as the Flood Authority and Highway Authority as well as public education board. The application deadline will be extended. Comments will can be still given to SNDC as the application progresses.

Charging for DIY, previously you can take 1 bag for free or 1 piece of material aka plaster board, reverted to charging to allow for reduced costs in the operation of the recycle centre.

Children services are outside of Special Measures and are up for an award around the fostering programme that Norfolk run. The programme allows children to be placed with potential adopters under the fostering regulations to minimise disruption and give children their forever family from the beginning.

The digital committee has done a lot of work on the mobile service by challenging the providers which has provided a better service regionally. Norfolk County Council will work with the service providers moving forward.

The 'In good company campaign' which combats loneliness was well received and well attended on both a personal level and social level. Thursday they are opening a residential enablement service for those that come out of hospital that require additional help at home. The programme is being rolled out in Cromer and allows patients to move home with the support that they need. The programme is called inhouse re-enablement.

Councillor Lansdell asked 'the improvement to the A140 Newton Flotman junction, when is this likely to occur, Councillor Thomas responded 'the understanding is that is a part of the Long Stratton bypass'.

b. District Councillor, Des Fulcher

Planning applications – South Norfolk District Council briefing session which all Parish Councillors have been invited to on the 21<sup>st</sup> June at 6pm, to have questions answered regarding the large application for 1800+ homes and a bypass. Councillor Fulcher would like to thank Councillors in the past year for the work that has been put in. A lot of work has been done toward Christmas event within Long Stratton, an application has been made to the CAF fund and also the member ward grant fund can be used to enhance Stratton at Christmas.

SN dementia launch this morning, very positive. Forget me not seeds represent dementia and free seeds are available. South Norfolk on Show Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018, please turn up.

c. Steve Adcock, Chairman of Long Stratton Parish Council

It's amazing that the year has gone so quickly. Last May I stood down as Chairman and we elected District Councillor Kevin Worsley to fill the role and I agreed to take on the role of Vice-Chairman. As many of you will know Kevin underwent a major operation last month and is now recovering at home. He is making good progress and we wish him a speedy recovery and return to Parish council duties. As Vice-chair I have taken on his duties and as such make this report this evening.

The year has been busy and to many the functions of the Parish Council are hidden and not too obvious. Staff changes in the year have been the resignation of Bobby Bennett and the appointment of Becky Buck. Becky has settled in very well and is guiding us in the right direction (or so she tells me!). Over the year we have also had Colin Williams retire and Rob Welch leave so we now have a full-time grounds man being Tom Thomson and Derek Chestney our litter picker. Because of how staffing works LSPC has also taken on a part-time Admin person to work of the Neighbourhood plan. Her name is Jess Lawton.

Apart from the run of the mill jobs like attending to street light problems, poo bins that fall off, keeping the playing field functional and other little jobs there have been a few more visible jobs. The one I would like to highlight is the tidying up of the traffic calming measure (aka round-a-bout) on Churchfields. This was becoming an eyesore and needed some attention. Thanks to County Councillor Alison Thomas and her grant we were able to get it cleared and re-stocked with manageable plants. Residents have noticed and well done to all concerned. It seems strange on a warm May evening to talk of Christmas but we saw an improvement on the Christmas lights this year and well done again to those involved and there are plans to keep improving year on year.

The pavilion project continues to roll along. Progress is slow but we are heading in the right direction and we want to see the old building replaced before the next twelve months is out. The myth that it will just be for the football club I hope is being dispelled and we want it to be for the whole community. Used for mother and toddlers, yoga, mobility classes for the less able and many other functions and sports as well as for the very successful Long Stratton Football Club.

The Neighbourhood Plan continues to be formed. We have had public consultations but we still need to get more views and comments on what people want and don't want to see in the growing Long Stratton. We are having another two days in the Junior School on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of June. We went into the High School last week to get the views of student there. It was a very successful day. We are hoping to have a plan to put to the public by the end of the year.

Another area where there has been great interest this year has been in planning. There have been many and various small amendments to houses but there have been two major applications submitted and the decisions are still awaited. They are the Orbit Homes application for St Mary's Road, now amended down to 56 houses and of course the Norfolk Holmes/Norfolk Land application for the 1800 houses plus the by-pass. We as a Parish Council are but one consultee so hopefully the views of many of the residents were submitted individually and will be considered for the final decision.

My thanks goes to all Councilors who have attended many and various full council meetings and smaller committee meetings. Also thanks to County Councilor Alison Thomas and District Councilors Kevin Worsley and Des Fulcher. Finally thanks to LSPC staff Becky Jess Tom and Derek for their grand efforts.

Steve Adcock

Chairman

- 5) To receive information from
- a. Emma Brookes – SNDC

Dementia launch has seen a South Norfolk Dementia action alliance, like-minded people doing cafés and coffee mornings, the goal is to create a dementia friendly South Norfolk. If anyone knows of somewhere that can hold an event then please get in contact.

- b. Bonnie Wade – Footpaths

Ms Wade was unable to attend so the Clerk informed the Parish Council and parishioners of her last report. The footpath running from Hempnall roundabouts to St Michaels church had seen some damage by the wet weather and farm machinery. The relevant farmer had been contacted and the damage put right.

- c. Reverend Heather

### **St. Mary's and St. Michaels church reports**

#### **St. Mary's**

Services have continued in St. Mary's on a weekly basis at 11am every Sunday for the past year, with additional services for festivals.

On the odd occasions there are 5 Sundays in the month, we have a united service which alternates around one of the 8 churches. In addition to regular Sunday services, Morning Prayer is said in the church every Monday and Wednesday, and Messy Church meets on the last Saturday of each month, normally in the Junior school, but in the church for Christmas and Easter.

Throughout the year we have had several visits from Manor Field infant School, the junior school and Beavers, for educational visits and services.

Remembrance Day is our biggest annual 'Civic' event, and we can always be sure the church will be full.

Over the past year, our electoral roll has grown, and we continue to strive to reach out into the community. Members of the church along with members of the Village Hall committee have been involved in organising various community events over the past year as usual, the Mayday fete, despite the weather was once again well supported, although this year the decision has been made to have a community fun day later in the year with the hope the weather may be kinder (best not mention the fact Mayday was of course the hottest one on record this month!)

The annual fireworks display, in 2017 was held on the playing fields, with the event being free, thanks to sponsorship. We are grateful to the parish council for their support.

The Christmas shopping event, which began a few years ago as simply singing carols round the Christmas tree before lighting the tree, was again well supported this year, and we are grateful for the support for this from Judith Baker, Barbara Adams and many others. Money this year raised from the Christmas event, went to the Fireman's charity and Harker House.

The PCC meets every two months to discuss the business of the church and to look at how the church can better serve the community. Over the next few years, we do need to repair the roof of the church and this will require grant funding, which may enable us to look at reordering the church, to make it a more flexible/useable community space. We hope to be able to begin looking for people's thoughts on our ideas around about July, when the church will be holding a Flower festival.

Following recent flower/Christmas tree festivals, we have also started a weekly 'Let's Chat' group in the church on a Tuesday morning, this is proving very popular, the church is always buzzing on a Tuesday morning.

Painting has been an ongoing project in the church for the last few years, good progress has been made in recent months on painting the south aisle, thanks to a marvellous team of volunteers, and as we seek to

improve disabled access, we finally have faculty permission to remove the step from the nave into the chancel, which will certainly help many people when they visit for flower festivals, and also in services, for those wishing to get to the alter rail.

The churchyard continues to be well maintained, and we are grateful to the parish council for the grant they provide to keep the churchyard well kept

### **St. Michaels**

St. Michaels church doesn't have services quite so often; however, they have services every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, and every three months an additional service on a 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Additional services also take place for festivals

The PCC meets just 4 times a year to discuss the business of the church and our main concern currently for St. Michaels relates to any impact that might be felt by the proposed bypass and accessing the church/increasing noise pollution.

St. Michaels often seems to remain a hidden gem, although the annual fete is popular, despite this year being held in the middle of a terrific thunderstorm, this did mean that those that arrived before the rain came, were a rather captive audience in church and they got through more tea/coffee and scones than ever before 😊 however fewer teddies braved the tower and parachute jumping.

St. Michael's church is in very good order and well maintained with a lot of work by the churchwardens.

Through a trust left to the church, the Church also leases out the allotments on Norwich road, which continue to be very popular, and a recent decision to rent out half plots has meant more have been available.

The churchyard continues to be well maintained with some major tree works completed early last year, and we are grateful to the parish council for their support with churchyard maintenance.

#### **d. Long Stratton Football Club**

There are 4 senior and 7 youth teams and they are now a hub for wilcats which is designed to encourage female football. They have had their best finish in the clubs history and grow year on year, they need better facilities. 90 % of players come from Stratton. In order to grow new facilities are needed especially as they are looking to double in size. Walking football will start in the season.

#### **e. Michelle Horne, Brownies and Guides**

Guides, 22 girls completed chocolate communication and outdoor cooking badges and attended camping at Keswick, a sleep over and went to the diss scouts pantomime. Norjam is this year which is an international event at Norfolk Show Ground 16 girls are going and they are very excited, funding is for new camp equipment for all future camps. 1 guide has completed the highest award badge available with another working towards it.

Brownies and rainbows, there are 16 girls attend Rainbows, there are 20 girls at Brownies, Brownies have a 5 day holiday which has various themes such as orienteering. Both groups work towards badges such as healthy living. There will be an Autumn sleepover at a village hall somewhere in the region, Brownies will also visit Norjam for the day to meet the guides and scouts that attend.

All the parents are volunteers.

#### **f. Any other group/ member of public that wishes to speak**

Family BBQ Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August with money going to the N&N to assist with dementia care. The event will be held at the Sugarbeet. All are welcome. Tickets are £5, there will be a live band and much more. All ticket sales will be given to the N&N dementia care team.

Stratton St Mary Nicholas Porter Charity, the accounts are as follows.

Balance b/f	£1,137.82
Rent Oct	<u>£75.00</u>
	£1,212.82

Represented by

Balance as per Bank Statement	£1,212.32
Petty Cash	<u>£0.50</u>
	£1,212.82

6) Any other business

No other business to discuss meeting was closed at 19:26