

## BURTON UPON STATHER PARISH COUNCIL

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### SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, TODDS LANE, BURTON UPON STATHER ON MONDAY 21 JANUARY 2013

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| <b>PRESENT:</b>   | <b>Parish Councillors:</b>             |  |
|                   | Cllr NF Thornes in the Chair           |  |
|                   | Cllr C Allison                         | Cllr Mrs A Bradley   |
|                   | Cllr C Brydges                         | Cllr Mrs AM Croft  |
|                   | Cllr AV Demaude                        | Cllr DJ Faulks   |
|                   | Cllr RW Harris                         | Cllr W Johnston  |
|                   | Cllr J Mitchell                        | Cllr M Peace   |
|                   | Cllr C Taylor                          | Cllr Mrs EM Whittaker  |
|                   | <b>North Lincolnshire Councillors:</b> | Ward Cllr R Ogg  |
|                   | <b>Parish Clerk:</b>                   | Mrs J Harrison   |
|                   | <b>North Lincolnshire Council:</b>     | Ms Naomi Boyd, Definitive Map Officer,<br>Environment Team, Places Directorate |
|                   | <b>Burton Stather Heritage Group:</b>  | Mrs H Brydges with 6 other members   |
|                   | <b>Normanby Estates Company Ltd:</b>   | Sir Reginald Sheffield   |
| <b>APOLOGIES:</b> | <b>Parish Councillors:</b>             |  |
|                   | Cllr PF Bell                           |  |
|                   | <b>Ward Councillors:</b>               |  |
|                   | Ward Cllr Mrs E Marper                 | Ward Cllr Ms H Rowson  |

The Chairman, Cllr Thornes, opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance. He advised a request had been received from the Burton Stather Heritage Group to support their application to North Lincolnshire Council to re-open the footpath adjacent to the River Trent and Villa Farm, known locally as the Villa Farm Footpath. He explained the purpose of the meeting was to bring clarity to the request as continued attempts had occurred in the last fifty years and this meeting was to bring this to a conclusion. Extra time would be allowed as required for discussion.

The Chairman introduced Ms Naomi Boyd. Ms Boyd explained the history of the footpath, answered questions and provided comment on information supporting the re-opening of the footpath. Ms Boyd explained that, although it would appear the footpath was shown on a 1908 OS map, it was not included in the Definitive Map published in 1968 and further evidence was needed to obtain a Definitive Map Modification Order. At the present time there was insufficient evidence to support an application by North Lincolnshire Council in court. The meeting was also advised that to-date there had been no statutory declaration lodged by a landowner. Ms Boyd explained that the support of the Parish Council would not influence the re-opening of the footpath.

On behalf of the Burton Stather Heritage Group Mrs Brydges explained the background to the application and why an application had been lodged with North Lincolnshire Council in the summer of 2012. She advised the footpath would lead to the tank ramp which had been used in the trials for amphibious tanks during the WWII. The ramp was reputedly of local and national importance. The footpath would provide easier and safer access to the site to enable it to be used in the forthcoming centenary war celebrations.

Sir Reginald Sheffield advised the meeting of his concerns to the re-opening of the footpath as this crosses land belonging to Normanby Estates Company Limited and the owners of Villa Farm. He stated his objection was on Health and Safety grounds. He also advised that the Burton Stather Heritage Group land was leased from Normanby Estates Company Limited and the lease, with approximately 3 years remaining, would not be renewed.

The meeting continued with the Chairman reading an email from Sir Reginald to the Parish Council objecting to the re-opening of the path. He also read an email from the owners of Villa Farm objecting to the re-opening of the footpath.

Upon cessation of questions, the Chairman opened the meeting.

Councillors C Allison, C Brydges, W Johnston and J Mitchell left the meeting.

**156. Apologies for absence were received.**

**157. Declaration of Interest – Code of Conduct adopted by this Council**

(a) To record declarations of interest by any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below. Members declaring interests should identify the agenda item and type of interest being declared.

(b) To note dispensations given to any member of the council in respect of the agenda items listed below.

Personal and Prejudicial Interests as a member of the Burton Stather Heritage Group:  
Cllr C Allison, Cllr C Brydges, Cllr W Johnston, Cllr J Mitchell.

**158. Villa Farm Footpath**

To consider whether councillors wish to support Burton Stather Heritage Group in their application to North Lincolnshire Council to have the footpath adjacent to Villa Farm re-opened.

After a detailed discussion a vote was taken. Eight councillors voted to support the application, one councillor abstained.

**RESOLVED:** That the Parish Council would support the application by Burton Stather Heritage Group to re-open the footpath.