

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Stockton Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Stockton, at 7.15pm on 15th October 2018

Those present: -

Parish Councillors: Cllrs.: J.Emberton, H.Kittendorf, W.Rumsey, and T.Warner

District Councillor:

County Councillor: Cllr.A.Crump

Public: 2 members of the public

Item 1. Election of Chairman In the absence of Cllr.H.Collerson it was proposed by Cllr.Kittendorf and Seconded by Cllr.Warner that Cllr.Emberton be elected Chairman for the meeting - This motion was unanimously agreed.

Item 2. Acceptance of Office Cllr.Emberton then signed the Acceptance of Office declaration.

Item 3. Open Forum A member of the public asked the Parish Council to write to the County Council regarding the lack of communication to the village when High Street was closed to traffic on the 9th, 10, and 11th of this month. All the communication was a notice on the bus shelter seat pointing out that buses will not be entering the village, but would stop on the A426 adjacent to the crossroads. This was effectively forcing the villagers who wished to travel to any of the adjacent towns to walk up the 1 in 10 hill entering or leaving the village despite the weather to access a bus, this level of non-communication is appalling but in view of the past performances it is a commonplace occurrence and it should not be the norm. We as residents of Warwickshire have the right to expect our County Council to keep us informed in a timely fashion about traffic changes. Cllr.Emberton noted that he is not surprised about this lack of communication given that he attended an HS2 meeting in Southam, where representatives of the three main contractors states blithely that they will have to liaise with each other and the County Council about road closures that could last for around six months in the Harbury area. There was no clear idea that came across as to how this liaison would occur and who will be the responsible party/parties in disseminating this information, in Cllr.Emberton's view it does not bode well for the residents of this area, given that simple three-day closure in a local village cannot be handled effectively, never mind a major closure during the HS2 process. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council will write to the joint Managing Directors of the County Council complaining about the road closure in Stockton, the lack of communication, and the decision to stop buses at the crossroads on the A426.

There were no further issues under Open Forum

Item 4. Apologies for Absence Parish

Cllrs. Cllr.H.Collerson, Cllr.C.Millidge

District Cllr:

County Cllr:

Item 5. Acceptance of Apologies from Parish Councillors It was proposed by Cllr.Warner and seconded by Cllr.Kittendorf that these apologies for absence be accepted - This motion was unanimously agreed.

Item 6. Declarations of Interest There were no Declarations of Interest

At this point the Chairman brought forward agenda item 20 County Council issues to accommodate County Cllr Crump who has another meeting to attend

Item 20 County Council Issues

Southam Fire Station: Cllr.Crump noted that the fire station in Southam is likely to stay in its current position with a new training centre being built at the Tesco industrial site

Winter gritting: these routes will be the same as last year.

Southam Police station: Cllr.Crump noted that the station is now up for sale.

County Council budget: Cllr.Crump noted that unlike some other authorities the County Council budget on track with no major surprises.

Dropped kerbs: Cllr.Crump will keep on pressing for some more in Stockton

County Cllr.grants: Cllr.Crump noted that the three organisations in Stockton will receive the funds soon.

Combined police force: Cllr.Crump noted that the decision of the West Mids force to come away from the partnership with the Warwickshire force will not impact upon the county in the short term, although the break up could cost the West Mids. Force substantially.

There being no further County Council issues the Chairman thanked Cllr.Crump for his attendance and Cllr.Crump. left the meeting.

Item 7. Minutes of the annual meeting held on the 17th September 2018 These minutes having been previously circulated, it was proposed by Cllr. Kittendorf and seconded by Cllr. Warner that they be accepted as a true record - This motion was unanimously agreed.

Item 8. Matters arising from the minutes of the 17th September 2018 There were no matters arising

Item 9. Planning Matters:

a. New Planning applications There were no planning matters

b. Planning Decisions by District Council or County Council

Item 10. Financial Matters It was proposed by Cllr. Kittendorf and seconded by Cllr.Rumsey that all invoices shown in the October 2018 Agenda Appendix 1 be paid - This motion was unanimously agreed.

Item 11. Correspondence and Reports

WALC AGM: The Clerk and Chairman will attend

HMRC: This notice is regarding the VAT repayments and the Clerk will implement at the appropriate time.

Item 12. Finance & Strategy Group There were no items for consideration

Item 13. Amenity Group

Playing Field: The Clerk will ask D.Cooper when he will trim the hedges.

Item 14. Correspondence not passed to Action Groups There were no items for discussion

Item 15. Ongoing References

Community Forum: Cllr.Emberton noted that the forum meeting in Stockton was better attended by parishioners than the other meetings he has attended.

Memorial Field: The Clerk pointed out that the memorial seat from Ogilvie Engineering cost £655 plus VAT and after discussion it was proposed by Cllr Kittendorf and seconded by Cllr.Rumsey that a seat be purchased – this motion was unanimously agreed

Cemetery extension: The Clerk presented a quote from R.Cooper for hardstanding for a hearse and one other vehicle at the cemetery extension. After discussion it was determined that the Clerk seek another two quotes to conform to the Parish Council Financial Regulations

Item 16. Removal and Additions to Ongoing References. There was no addition or removals of items.

Item 17. Parish Council Calendar Actions

Monthly budget monitoring: The budget monitoring spreadsheet was previously sent to Cllrs with no outstanding issues and approved Review insurance cover: This was determined to be adequate to the Parish Council needs

Review cemetery fees: These were determined to be adequate but will be reviewed to see whether there should be other costs that are not met.

Publicity for the Villager of the Year: This was put back until the November meeting

Safety Audit of cemetery and playing field: This will be carried out in November.

Item 18. Training and Meetings

HS2: Cllr.Emberton noted that he sent the minutes of this meeting in Southam to all Cllrs. As he indicated at the discussion earlier the representatives of the contractors have not detailed how the necessary liaisons will happen, and tellingly with no certainty of how they will work. People who attended the meeting were not filled with confidence that the necessary liaisons will work.

Item 19. District Council issues There were no issues for consideration

Item 20. County Council issues

Issues by County Cllr.Crump were brought forward after agenda item 6.

Other Issues for information only

Barley Mow: The light on the wall in Post Office Lane is not functioning, the Clerk will contact E.ON to have it repaired, it was also noted the bins for the flats are constantly being left on the pavement.

Village Green: It was noted that the green adjacent to the school has a Fortem lorry (contractor for Orbit housing association), the Clerk will write to Orbit when Fortem have finished repairs asking for reclamation work to be carried out on the green.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm.