

Minute Number 10 (23 - 24)

**Minutes of the December Monthly Meeting of Stockton Parish Council
Held in Stockton Village Hall at 7.15pm on 15th January 2024.**

Those present: -

Parish Councillors: Cllrs., H.Collerson, H.Kittendorf, C.Millidge, and W.Rumsey.

District Councillor: Cllr.A.Crump

County Councillor: Cllr.A.Crump

Public: No members of the public.

The Chair welcomed all to the monthly meeting of Stockton Parish Council

Item 1 Open Forum

There were no items brought forward during open forum

The Chair brought agenda items 15 &16 Forward to accommodate the principal authority member present.

Items 15 & 16.

County and District Cllr. Crump noted that with regard to the refusal of planning permission for the Crown application he will support the Parish Council in how it wishes to act with regard to any decision by the Crown regarding an appeal. Cllr. Crump noted that the waste bin calendar for one street in Stockton is causing problems and he is attempting to rectify the situation.

Cllr.Crump noted that the District Council will fuel their vehicles with waste vegetable oil on a three year trial basis with a potential saving of £250K per annum.

Cllr.Crump that only 110 parking permits in Stratford for senior citizens have been issued.

Cllr Crump noted that the District Council council tax has been increased by 2.99%

Cllr.Crump noted that under the WFRS proposals the Southam Fire station will be continuously manned during the day.

Cllr.Crump noted that within the Upper Lighthorne development there are problems with the community and medical facilities that were supposed to be available.

Within the County issues Cllr.Crump that the budget will rise by 4.99% for the forthcoming year.

Cllr.Crump asked that all those concerned with the future of the fire and rescue service to respond to the WFRS consultation by the end March 2024.

Cllr.Crump noted that inflation has had an effect on the CC budget especially in child and adult social car.

This completed Cllr.Crump's presentation and after being thanked by the Chair left the meeting.

Item 2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr.Emberton and Cllr.Rumsey

Item 3 Acceptance of Apologies

It was proposed by Cllr. Millidge and seconded by Cllr.Warner that these apologies for absence be accepted – **this motion was unanimously carried.**

Item 4 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest declared.

Item 5. Minutes of the meeting held on the 18th December 2023

These minutes having been previously circulated, It was proposed by Cllr. Kittendorf and seconded by Cllr. Millidge that the minutes be accepted as a true record - **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

Item 6. Matters arising from the minutes of the 18th December 2023.

There were no matter arising from those minutes

Item 7. Planning Matters:**a. New Planning applications**

There were no new planning applications

Planning Decisions by District Council or County Council

23/02911/FUL, The Crown Inn: New glass retractable canopy to the existing external seating area. Alterations to existing smokers shelter – **Permission refused**

Item 8. Financial matters

It was proposed by Cllr. Millidge and seconded by Cllr. Kittendorf that all invoices identified on the January 2024 agenda appendix 1 be paid – **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

December 2023 Invoices

Payee	Amount	Cheque Number
Edge IT Systems Ltd	£842.40	001677
Mid. Sign & Lighting	£624.00	001678
S.S.E.	£171.94	001679
Mid. Sign & Lighting	£210.00	001680
F. Mann Farmers	£330.00	001681

Comment [de1]:

Item 9. Correspondence

There were no items for discussion

Item 10. Ongoing References

Cemetery: The Clerk will instruct the gravedigger to remove the soil around the Christmas tree in the cemetery.

Item 11. Removal and addition to ongoing references

There were no additions or removals from ongoing references

Item 12. WFRS Consultation

After discussion it was unanimously agreed to support the proposal from WFRS

Item 13. Parish Council calendar actions

Budget monitoring: The budget monitoring spreadsheet was sent previously to all and agreed.

Playing Field audit. The Clerk will obtain costs for an external safety audit of the playing field.

Item 14. Training and meetings

The Chairman will attend a Chairs and Clerks meeting on Zoom on Thursday 18th January 2024.

Item 15. District Council Issues.

See following Item 1.

Item 16. County Council Issues

See following Item 1.

Item 17. Exclusion of Public and Press from Agenda

After discussion it was proposed by Cllr. Collerson and seconded by Cllr. Millidge it was unanimously agreed that the public and press be excluded from agenda item 18.

Item 18. Parish Council mowing.

After discussion it was unanimously agreed that the village mowing contract, and the cemetery and the cemetery extension mowing contract, for the next three years would be awarded to F.Mann Farmers.

The Clerk will write to all contractors who quoted for the contract informing them of this decision.

Other Issues for information only

Voluntary Driver scheme: Cllr.Warner noted that this scheme is very good, and noted that others from the village use it.

Grit bins: Cllr.Warner noted that the village grit bins for use on village roads have been used on private drives.

Welshman's Barn: Cllr.Warner noted that now that the trees in hedge have been cut back the barn can be seen from the road and is a part of village history. The Chairman will bring this to the attention of Cemex.

The Stone: Cllr Millidge noted that the fencing around the stone in High Street is looking shabby, the Chairman will look it as he passes.

Community Orchards: The Chairman had an email from the County Council about the formation of a community orchard and that Parish Council's can apply for funding, however the Parish Council owns no land for an orchard.

Solar Farm: The Chairman asked the County Council about re-instating their proposal for this but was informed that it was not self-funding, and that there are problems with connection to the national grid.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

