

## **Minutes of the Stockton Parish Council monthly Meeting held in the Village Hall, Stockton, at 7.15pm on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

### **Those present: -**

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

District Councillor:

County Councillor:

Public: Mr.S.Kittendorf,

### **Open Forum**

There were no issues brought forward under Open Forum.

### **Apologies for Absence**

Parish Cllrs. J.Emberton, P.Banham

District Cllr.:

County Cllr.:

### **Acceptance of Apologies from Parish Councillors**

It was proposed by Cllr.Millidge and seconded by Cllr.Warner that these apologies be accepted – **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

### **Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **Minutes of the meetings held on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016**

These minutes being previously circulated, it was proposed by Cllr. Millidge and seconded by Cllr.Rumsey that they be accepted as true records - **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

### **Matters arising from the minutes of the 21st November 2016**

*Defibrillator:* The Clerk noted that a letter has been received from the ambulance service indicating that a defibrillator in the village will not affect ambulance response times.

*Cemex quarry:* The Chairman noted that there is a liaison group meeting in the new year and he will bring the matter of wild flowers on the embankment to the attention of the group.

*Dog fouling:* It was noted that the incidence of dog fouling is on the increase, and the Clerk will ask Shipston on Stour Town Council about the effectiveness of highlighting the mess with paint.

### **Planning Matters: -**

#### **a. *New Planning Applications***

16/03065/S106A, Pound House, Post Office Lane: Application to discharge a S.106 agreement (planning permission 05/03550/FUL) – **No Representation**

#### **b. *Planning Decisions by District Council or County Council***

### **Financial Matters**

It was proposed by Cllr.Millidge and seconded by Cllr.Warner that all invoices shown in the November 2016 Agenda Appendix 1 be paid - This motion was unanimously agreed.

### **Finance Software Package**

After discussion about the effectiveness of finance packages to produce the comprehensive reports that the Parish Council needs to accurately fulfil its financial obligations it was agreed that the Edge Designs software package would be purchased – the clerk will facilitate this.

### **Budget for the financial year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018**

The Clerk brought to the attention of the notification from Stratford on Avon District Council that the council tax support grant will be reduced for the 2017-2018 financial year from £800 to £590, and the effect that this could have on the precept.

After discussion of the draft budget proposals which were previously circulated were discussed and the support grant reduction, it was unanimously agreed that this would be the basis for the 2017-2018 precept, which would be set as last year at £20,903.

### **Correspondence and Reports**

There were no items for consideration

### **Finance & Strategy Group**

The Finance and Strategy Group having previously circulated a number of policies for Council approval and inclusion on the website, and it was unanimously agreed that the following Parish Council Policies were approved:-

- Health and safety Policy
- Purchasing Policy
- Training Policy
- Risk Assessment Policy.
- Model Publication Policy.

### **Amenity Group**

It was agreed that Cllrs. Millidge, Rumsey and Kittendorf will serve on the group and that there will be an Amenity Group meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

### **Correspondence not passed to Action Group**

There were no items for consideration

### **Ongoing References**

*Community Forum:* The Chair and Vice Chair attended the forum meeting and there is a report on the Parish Council website.

*Street Lighting:* The Clerk is to invite S. Townson to look at the overall street lighting and report on which could be changed to the new white light.

*Cemetery extension wayleave:* It was agreed that this would be removed for the ongoing references.

*Parish Office:* It was agreed that this would be removed for the ongoing references.

*Village Green:* It was agreed that this would be removed for the ongoing references.

### **Additions and Removals to Ongoing References**

As above

### **Parish Council Calendar Actions**

*Monthly budget monitoring:* This was shown and found to be in line with the budget.

*Precept:* See Financial matters.

*Review Donations:* It was agreed that there will be no change to the donations policy.

### **Training and Meetings**

The Clerk gave a review of the seminar attended and in the light of this review, it was agreed that the Council will look at the insurance implications regarding the use of volunteers and small contractors.

### **District Council issues**

There were no issues for consideration

### **County Council issues**

The Chair noted that the Chief Executive of the County Council is leaving and will not be replaced, but his duties will be shared by two other senior officers until the elections in May 17.

### **Other Issues**

*Christmas Tree:* Cllr.Rumsey asked whether we could have a Christmas tree in the village next year, and it was agreed that this proposal could be added to the Amenity Group functions for study. The Clerk will ask the Long Itchington Clerk how they arrange the tree there.

*Village Clean up day:* It was determined that this will take place on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and the Chairman will obtain the grabbers and tabards, meeting outside the Post Office.

*Street Cleaning:* It was noted that the streets need cleaning with the area outside the school as a safety hazard.

*Stockton School:* the Chair noted that the school has been rated by OFSTED as Good/Outstanding in parts.

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