

Minutes of the Stockton Parish Council monthly Meeting held in the Village Hall, Stockton, at 7.15pm on 20th March 2017

Those present: -

Parish Councillors: Cllrs. H.Collerson, P.Banham, J.Emberton, H.Kittendorf, C.Millidge, and W.Rumsey.

District Councillor:

County Councillor:

Public: Mr.B.Legg.

Open Forum

The Chairman Cllr.H.Collerson welcomed all present to the meeting, and asked whether there were any items from the public during the open forum.

Mr.Legg pointed out that there were various places in the village (e.g. Post Office Lane) where overhanging vegetation was impeding progress along the pavements; the Chairman in reply noted that this was the season when gardening commenced and that an article will be placed in Stockton's News encouraging all gardeners to trim back hedges where they are overhanging the pavements.

There were no further items under open forum.

Apologies for Absence

Parish Cllrs. T.Warner

District Cllr.:

County Cllr.:

Acceptance of Apologies from Parish Councillors

It was proposed by Cllr.Millidge and seconded by Cllr.Banham that the apology be accepted – **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

Declarations of Interest

The Chairman declared an interest in cheque number 001175 as listed in Agenda Appendix 1 and also an interest planning application 17/00219/LDP as listed on item 7 b on the agenda, and will take no part in any discussions or vote.

Minutes of the meetings held on the 20th February 2017

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

Matters arising from the minutes of the 20th February 2017

Village Mowing: Mr.D.Stanley will continue with the village mowing for the forthcoming year

Memorial Field: It was resolved that Mr.R.Mingins will be employed to continue the work of seeding, feeding, weeding and mowing the field as necessary during the forthcoming year

Cllr.Profiles: Cllr.Emberton noted that he has not received any photographs or biographies of Cllrs for adding to the website, each individual Cllr indicated that this will be done by the next meeting.

Planning Matters: -

a. New Planning Applications

None

b. Planning Decisions by District Council or County Council

17/00219/LDP, 16 Earles Close: proposed ground floor rear extension considered to comply with Part1 Class A of Schedule 2 Town and Country Planning Act (General permitted development). Planning permission is therefore not required

Planning Appeal

16/00596/COUO, Stockton Hall Court: Change of use from Class B3 (a) to class C5 5 dwellings – **Appeal dismissed**

Financial Matters

It was proposed by Cllr.Millidge and seconded by Cllr.Kittendorf that all invoices shown in the March 2017 Agenda Appendix 1 be paid - **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

Correspondence and Reports

Toddlersaurs: After discussion it was unanimously agreed that the sum of £400 would be granted to this organisation for the purchase and erection of a new shed.

Stockton's News: A request was received from Stockton's News for permission to place a seat on the green space outside the village hall. After discussion it was agreed that this was a matter for the village hall committee rather than the Parish Council and the Chairman will take the letter to that committee.

Finance & Strategy Group

Nothing to report

Amenity Group

Amenity Group meeting: Cllr.Millidge gave a copy of the notes taken during that meeting on 14th March, with the main points being :-

Mowing (the amenity group have provided a coloured map of the mowing areas).

Cemetery (a new list of charges and regulations has been drawn up for consideration and the meeting indicated some changes that Cllr.Millidge will add to the document.

Playing Field (it was agreed that the inspection of the playing field will be carried out by two members of the group using the details gained from the safety course attended by Cllr.Millidge and the Clerk on 1st March 2017).

Street lighting: After consideration the amenity group meeting considered that when the light issue at the top of the hill and the Barley Mow has been resolved there will be no requirement for further lighting in the village.

Roads and Pavement Audit: This audit will be completed by the Parish Council meeting in April.

Public Footpaths: The footpath signpost by Number 1 St.Michael's Crescent is not clearly visible, and the Chairman indicated that he is happy to undertake the annual walk of village footpaths as in previous years

This concluded the Amenity Group report and the Chairman congratulated the group members for a thorough report.

Litter bins: It was noted that the current litter bins at on the village green and at the children's play area are too small; the Clerk was instructed to order two larger bins.

Dog bins: It was noted that there are no dog bins on Station Road, and the Clerk was instructed to purchase an extra bin to be situated by the kissing gate on Station Road.

Drains: It was noted that the drains opposite the barley Mow in Post Office Lane flooded the road at lunchtime today (20th March 2017), and the same happened to the drain opposite Glebe Close (the drain has also sunk), the Clerk is to bring this to the attention of the highways department.

School entrance: It was noted that cars are parking on the green at the school entrance; the Clerk is to contact M.Childs and have him put two wooden posts at each side of the verge to stop this happening.

Correspondence not passed to Action Group

There were no items for consideration

Ongoing References

Community Forum: Cllr Banham gave a report on the meeting noting that packs can be obtained from the new dog warden, and the Council should report consistent issues of dog fouling to the warden.

Housing development: The Chairman met with a representative of Taylor Wimpey and brought up the issues of kerbing the road to Station Road, hedges drains and ditches. The Chairman also noted that the original plan detailed that a management company would take responsibility for all upkeep of open spaces on the development, and has asked the planning officer for a copy of that agreement.

Memorial Field: The Clerk will contact the arboriculture officer at the District Council to enquire if a report on the horse chestnuts on the memorial and jubilee fields (which are also memorials).

Additions and Removals to Ongoing References

There were no additions or removals from ongoing references

Stockton Toddlersaurs

This item was considered and discussed under Correspondence and it was agreed to grant £400.

Parish Council Calendar Actions

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

Audit of village roads and pavements: Cllr.Millidge indicated that this will be carried out before the Parish Council meeting in April.

Villager of the Year – It was unanimously agreed that Val Legg be given the Village of the Year award

Training and Meetings

Cllr.Millidge gave a report on the play inspection course that she and the Clerk attended; pointing out that the Council must meet with all relevant safety legislation.

District Council issues

There were no issues for consideration

County Council issues

There were no issues for consideration

Other Issues

Dog fouling: This was discussed during the Amenity Group report with an extra bin to be ordered Cllr.Emberton gave his apologies for the next meeting when he will be absent.

Garages at St.Michael's Crescent: It was noted that there appears to be a fly tipping problem at this area, the Clerk is to contact Orbit Housing or the company to whom they have passed responsibility for garages, to have it cleared.

LGA Award Scheme: The Clerk is to start the process for the foundation award.

April 2017 Parish Council meeting: Cllr. Collerson reminded all members that the next meeting of the Parish Council will be one week earlier than normal on the 10th April.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.55pm.