

STAPLETON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th December 2020 VIA ZOOM

Present:-

Mrs C. Scatcherd (CS) Chair
Mrs M. Edwards (ME) (Vice- Chairman)
Mr S. Weaver (SW)
Mr Paul Segrott (PS)
Mrs. Myra Chilman (MC)
Cllr C. Gandy (CG) (Herefordshire Council)
Mr. S. Lewis (SL) (Clerk)

1/ APOLOGIES:-

None Noted

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:-

None Noted

3/ MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING 28th September 2020:-

The minutes of the meeting were agreed as a correct record.

- The minutes will be uploaded to the website - (SL)
- Published on relevant notice boards. - (CS)

4/ COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT (CG):-

A report from CG was circulated for review before this meeting.
Work at Coomb bridge was completed and is under review later on in the season
The traffic speed along Coombe Moor just after leaving the hamlet is still being evaluated.
Re Covid. CG has forwarded information re grants available from the local authority and about the testing centre in the car park at Broad St, Leominster.
Avian flu has been reported in an area just outside Leominster.
CG stated there is to be a council budget setting meeting by zoom and urged at least one of the parish councillors to attend as they are wildly overspent on the Children and young persons service. CG wants the councillors to ensure that rural communities are represented.

5/ CLERKS REPORT - FINANCES / CORRESPONDENCE (SL) :-

A report had been issued to all prior to the meeting.
In the bank the balance at the start of the year was showing as £7,446.
Spend to date is £5,111 inclusive of cheques pending (listed below).
This leaves a current balance of £11,735
Need to agree budget for next year and apply for precept. (Added to Agenda)
Cheques for signing to date:-
£375 – Clerk 3rd qrtr. salary.

Main items of correspondence, email, letters received:-

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- Copy of letter from local resident to Carole G. ref drainage issues. (Copied to all)
- 2 Expressions of interest from local residents for Councillor vacancy. (Added to agenda)
- Planning application 203756 (Added to agenda)

6 – CURRENT VACANCY STATUS (All):-

2 local residents had expressed an interest in the current vacancy. Mr Jonathan Rogers was proposed by SW which was seconded by PS. There was a majority vote in favour for the nomination resulting in Mr Rogers being co-opted onto the council.

SL will issue the relevant forms and Code of Conduct for review and signing which will then be forwarded to Herefordshire Council. - (SL/JR)

7 – CLERK SALARY REVIEW (CS)

A discussion between councillors and agreement that the Clerk salary should be increased to £11.22 / hr based on 3 hrs per week, ie £1,750.22 for budget planning purposes.

- (ref)

8 – REVIEW BUDGET FOR NEXT YEAR AND AGREE PRECEPT (ALL)

It was agreed that the Parish would request the same precept as last year, ie £9,400.

The budget was reviewed and it was agreed to maintain a similar budget to this year and include costs for connecting mains electric to the telephone kiosk for a heated defib. Cabinet, and money to replace some of the Parish notice-boards. SL and CS will draw up a revised budget for next year and circulate for approval. - (SL/CS)

9 – PLANNING (ALL):-

One new application received, ref , 203756 (New build at Coombe).

There had not been any objections raised regarding this proposal and the Council were happy to support this application. (Comments already submitted to the Herefordshire Planning Website) - (ref)

10 – TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT STATUS:-

SID status for Coombe

Awaiting SID location confirmation and equipment loan from Border Group, (original contact has now left post). - (onging)

TRO for speed limit reduction through Kinsham:-

CG confirmed that this is still on the list (No 41), and has confirmed it is still needed.

- (ref)

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AOB

ROADS:-

CG commented on Stonewall Hill being re-surfaced leading to a diversion. - (ref)
SW had been advised by local residents as to the poor condition of the Road to Byton Church. Although some residents had been advised that this road is un-adopted, it has since been confirmed that it is an adopted Road.

SL will take some photos and contact the relevant department at BB. - (SL)

ME also commented on the condition of the ditches on the Kinsham to Byton Rd.

SL to contact Lengthsman and ask him to check the ditches - (SL)

PS also mention the pot holes near the top of this Rd. CG to take some photo's and report to council. - (CS)

BROAD BAND STATUS (CS):-

CS had been contacted by a local resident regarding poor broadband service. CG confirmed she had been in contact with M. Smith who had confirmed that they would be installing "Air Band" (aerial based system) during January. - (ref)

SW also confirmed broadband problems in the Letchmoor Lane (LD8 2LP) area.

CG would check but thought this would also benefit from the installation of "Airband" - (CG)

STILES AND FOOTPATHS (CS):-

Mortimer Trail:-

SL Discussed with MM at HC Rights of Way. SL To check the path and photograph and specific problems and report back to MM - (SL)

Pending:-

Parish Notice boards (SW) – Agreed to "park" until face to face meeting. Money to be allocated in next year's budget

Neighbourhood Watch scheme (CS) – To be discussed when face to face meetings can be re-established.

Telephone Kiosk and DeFib (SW) – awaiting further work. Money to be allocated in next years budget ref electrics/de-fib box.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING:-

The next meeting date was proposed as Monday 15th March at 8:00pm (ZOOM?).

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