

Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council

Chairman: Mrs Sharon Henley

Clerk: Miss Heidi Carascon
7 Muscott Close
Flore
NN7 4NP
Tel: 07885 405867

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18th December 2017

Present: Sharon Henley (Chairman), Heidi Carascon (Clerk), David Lane (Vice Chairman), John Hillyard, Angela Brodie, Tony Teague, Tony Sanderson.
Councillor Johnnie Amos.
5 Parishioners

Minutes:

1157. Apologies for absence.
None.

1158. Declarations of interest for items on the agenda.
None.

1159. Resolution to sign and approve minutes of ordinary meeting dated 6th November 2017.
Resolved – Signed by S Henley.

1160. Matters arising from previous minutes for update only – phone box painting, VDS responses received from DDC & Councillors.
Resolved – to thank the volunteers who painted the phone box in Church Stowe. Volunteers in hand to paint the one in Upper Stowe, work will take place in spring.

Tony S Provided an update from DDC meeting attended.

1161. Appointments.
To welcome and appoint new Councillor Aly Taylor.
Resolved – to appoint Aly Taylor, declaration of acceptance of office completed and the Good Councillors guide issued.

To accept the resignation of the current clerk, Heidi Carascon.
Resolved – to accept resignation.

To appoint Julie Francies as a temporary replacement and to agree a period of handover and effective start date.
Resolved - to appoint replacement.

1162. Planning approvals – Review of past planning applications.

- i. DA/2017/0460 Variation of Condition 4 of planning permission – refusal.
To discuss email received from Adam Kite requesting evidence of Highway Safety that has been affected as a result of business activity.
Resolved – to respond to Adam Kite's email after the 31st Dec to convey that it is our understanding that the use of the premises as an air bnb has currently ceased and as a result there has been no highway issue.

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1163. Current planning applications.

None.

1164. Statement of accounts/ accounts for payment.

- i. Clerk salary - to agree to pay amount owed to H Carascon in monthly instalments instead of quarterly.

Resolved – in response to a request from H Carascon to change the frequency of payments made by the Council for the remainder of her time as Parish Clerk, it was agreed to pay all remaining salary (a total of £1020.50) monthly over a 6 month period, with the first payment of £170.10 paid on the 18th December, with a further 5 payments of £170.08 at monthly intervals thereafter.

- ii. Notification of external auditor appointments for the 2017-2018 financial year – to receive and note the information provided by SAAA regarding the appointment of new external auditor.

Resolved – to note the new external auditor.

1165. NCC.

None.

1166. DDC.

- i. Rural business hub grants for village halls – to note the information from DDC and to resolve to pass on the information to the trustees of the school rooms.

Resolved – to pass information regarding the grants to the trustees of the Old School Rooms.

- ii. Settlement and Countryside plan part 2. Response to village designation.

Resolved – to respond to the consultation, giving reasons Church Stowe classification is incorrect; the main reason being that the classification of the School Rooms as a village hall, is incorrect.

AP: Clerk to respond to DDC policy department by the consultation due date.

1167. Footpath report – to receive and note the email from Christ Ripper stating no further reports will be received until the Spring unless any concerns or problems arise.

Resolved - to note report, no other issues reported.

1168. Neighbourhood planning/village design statements/Parish annex.

- i. Tony Teague – to provide overview of the VDS day.

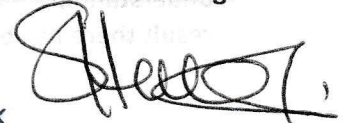
- ii. To approve plans to form a working party that will formulate a draft Village Design Statement which will then be presented to the Parish Council for approval.

Tony Teague provided a detailed report of the day and the resulting research findings.

Resolved – to form the working party to produce a draft for the VDS for approval by the PC.

Resolved – to contact all volunteers directly and put something in the newsletter about developing a working party.

Resolved – to Invite Maggs Howe from DDC to attend a Parish Council meeting.



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AP: TT to draft invitation to volunteers to an event to clarify subsections for the working party.

1169. Broadband – An email response from NCLAC Chief Executive, Danny Moody has been received following a question asked on our behalf at the Superfast Northamptonshire Project Board Meeting regarding the achievability of project completion by the end of 2018. The email explains that a 'Tier 1' contractor has been appointed to significantly boost Gigaclear's capacity to meet targets. The Superfast Northampton project board was assured that as things stand, the roll out is still on track and that the 2018 deadline will be met.

Resolved – to accept the response and review issue in 6 months.

1170. Highways England update on A5 works.
An email received from Highways regarding the progress of the work on the A5 was received and shared at the meeting.

Resolved - to post the details of the progress on the Parish Council website.

1171. Radar Memorial –J Amos to report on the meeting with DDC and Dr Judkins.
J Amos provided information regarding the presentation of Dr Judkins regarding the addition of a brown sign on the A5 for the Radar memorial; the suggestion is that there needs to be more there than there is at present to justify the brown sign. There would need to be a larger layby, some mechanism for counting visitors, and something to be seen apart from the memorial at the site. This might take the form of a simple visitor centre building with a display of the history of radar; more elaborate arrangements could incorporate toilets, café etc.

Resolved – to write to Dr Judkins to thank him for his time etc. It was agreed to discuss the matter at the next Parish Council meeting.

AP: HC to write a letter of thanks to Dr Judkins

1172. Financial Support to your local Citizens Advice – to make a decision regarding a donation to our local CAB service.

Resolved – not to make a donation to the CAB.

1173. Village sign decoration – to discuss whether this falls within the remit of the Parish Council. Following representations from the floor and in response to a number of telephone calls from parishioners regarding the matter, it was agreed to seek clarification from NCC Highways

Resolved – that it is not Parish Council land, because it is Highways Land and therefore not in the Parish Council remit, however informal enquiries will be made to Highways regarding the issue.

AP: SH to seek advice from DCC on this matter.


1174. Budget discussion.
A detailed discussion, led by Cllr Teague, took place to finalise the budgetary requirements for 2018/2019. It was agreed that whilst over the previous two years judicious use of historic reserves had enabled the council to keep the precept requests at relatively low levels, this year a significant increase was required to bring the reserves back to a more realistic level. It was agreed to request a sum of £4500 from DDC as the precept for 2018/2019.

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Resolved - to accept the budget at an increase of £4500

AP: Clerk to request precept form from DDC and clerk and Chair to sign once received and return by due date.

1175. The meeting closed. Next meeting 29th January 2018

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