

STOKE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Stoke Parish Council was held in The Hall Annexe at Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath on the 1st July 2019.

Present: Councillors Peter Williams (Chairman), John Ellis (Vice Chairman), Sue Abel, Alan Bayliss, Diane Brown, Jean Jackson, Alyson Jewson and Liz Miller.

In attendance: D/Cllr Harrison Rone-Clarke, Neil Gulliver (Parish Clerk), Stan Petrovic (Assistant Clerk) and 5 members of the public.

093/19 Apologies

Apologies were received from Jill Howe, Chris Jewson, Keith Shakespeare and Chris Cooke (Parish Lengthsman).

094/19 Declarations of Interest

095/19 Requests for Dispensation

None.

096/19 Adjournment of Meeting for Public Question Time

1) Members of the Public

A member of the public commented that he was pleased to see that action was being taken to resolve the flooding problem outside the Queens Head.

2) County Councillor Chris Bloore and District Councillors Malcolm Glass and Harrison Rone-Clarke

D/Cllr Harrison Rone-Clarke reported that efforts were being made to deal with the speeding issues along Austin Road, Wheatridge Road and Hanbury Road. At the recent District Council meeting, a motion was passed to support a community garden scheme and he was keen to work with the Parish Council on this.

Sue Abel commented on the need to reduce the speed limit along Stoke Pound Lane. It was agreed that he would raise this matter with C/Cllr Chris Bloore and D/Cllr Malcolm Glass.

Cty/Cllr Chris Bloore and D/Cllr Malcolm Glass were not present.

097/19 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 3 June 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3 June 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

098/19 Urgent Decisions taken since the Council's last meeting

The Chairman reported that he, together with Chris Cooke, had met with Richard Clewer from County Highways to discuss the problems with the gullies/drains across the parish not being cleared. Richard Clewer had given a commitment to get the problem sorted as quickly as possible. He added that Barratts had agreed to clear the gullies outside the Henbrook Gardens development.

With regard to Barratts, it was agreed to invite Richard Miller to the Council's meeting in September 2019.

099/19 Planning Applications

- 1) 19/00663/FUL – 1 & 2 Astwood Close, Stoke Prior – Change of Use from landscaped area to domestic & the creation of a new driveway to serve 1 & 2 Astwood Close, utilising existing highways access serving the adjacent car park.**

The Parish Council strongly supported this application. They believed that the proposed creation of a new driveway was a sensible approach and would provide a safer access to their vehicles for the residents on a busy road. The Parish Council were made aware that the planning officers were minded to oppose the application and suggested that the applicants should contact D/Cllr Malcolm Glass to get his support. The Clerk also agreed to contact Cllr Glass.

100/19 Finance

- (1) Invoices for Payment – June 2019**

It was unanimously agreed to approve the list of payments circulated at the meeting.

- (2) Financial Management Statement for June 2019**

This was noted.

101/19 Review of Stoke Heath's Relationship with Stoke Parish

Alan Bayliss stated that he intended to carry out a consultation with residents in Stoke Heath regarding whether they wished to remain part of Stoke Parish or to form their own Parish Council. The Chairman responded that he was perfectly entitled to go ahead with the consultation but pointed out that any decision regarding the proposal if it achieved sufficient support would be a matter for Bromsgrove District Council and/or the Boundary Commission. If necessary, the Parish Council would have the opportunity to comment on any proposal if required.

102/19 Smartwater Update

It was confirmed that arrangements would be made to distribute the Smartwater kits at the Film Night on the 31 August between 7pm and 9pm. A second session would be held at the Stoke Heath Recreation Area on Sunday 15 September. The kits would also be available via the Parish Office.

The Clerk added that he would liaise with Smartwater regarding the supply of the kits etc.

103/19 Salt Fest 2019

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had been invited to have a stand at the Salt Fest which would take place on the 7th & 8th September. The Parish Council agreed to have a stand this year but they would book a unit rather than using their own equipment. The Chairman, together with Sue Abel, John Ellis were all available to cover the Sunday. Keith Shakespeare had already confirmed that he and his family would be available for the Saturday.

104/19 Film Night – 31 August 2019

The Chairman confirmed that arrangements were continuing to be made to hold the film night on Saturday 31st August 2019. He added that the following points:-

- Banners and flyers were being printed.
- Councillors were asked to help with the leaflet drop around the parish.
- Church would be invited to either serve teas/coffees or have a bucket collection towards the Tower fund.
- Ice Cream concession would be on site.
- Suggestions needed for musical entertainment prior to the start of the film.
- Clerk to purchase 3 more large waste bins
- Clerk to check on terms of the contract in the event of inclement weather.

The Clerk was liaising with Bromsgrove School regarding parking as well as organising the mobile toilets and the first aid cover.

105/19 Diary Commitments

106/19 Correspondence

None.

107/19 Councillors' Points of Information and Items for Future Meetings

John Ellis reported that the Tia Chi classes had started and were proving to be very popular.

Sue Abel reported that visitors to the Shaw Lane Recreation Area were unable to park in the turning area due to local residents parking there. She asked that a sign be put up indicating that this area was part of the Recreation Area and belonged to the Parish Council. The Clerk agreed to arrange this. The Chairman added that there was an ongoing dispute over the rights to the access road which needed to be resolved.

Alyson Jewson asked that a waste bin be installed at the bottom of Austin Road.

Diane Brown commented on the amount of litter along Westonhall Road. The Chairman replied that the Lengthsman was clearing rubbish along this road on a regular basis.

The Chairman reported that Penny Power had resigned from the Parish Council for personal reasons. The vacancy was now being advertised and unless a bye-election is called, the Parish Council will look to co-opt to fill the vacancy.

Date of Next Meeting – The Parish Council's next meeting would be held on Monday 2 September 2019 commencing at 7.30pm at the Hall Annexe, Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Chairman