

STOKE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Stoke Parish Council was held in The Hall Annexe at Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath on the 2nd December 2019.

Present: Councillors John Ellis (Vice Chairman)(In the Chair), Sue Abel, Alan Bayliss, Jill Howe, Jean Jackson, Alyson Jewson, Chris Jewson and Liz Miller.

In attendance: Chris Cooke (Parish Lengthsman) and Ian Gerrard (Groundsman).

156/19 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Diane Brown, Liz Eden, Rory Shannon and Peter Williams, Cty/Cllr Kyle Daisley and D/Cllrs Malcolm Glass and Harrison Rone-Clarke.

157/19 Declarations of Interest

158/19 Requests for Dispensation

None.

159/19 Adjournment of Meeting for Public Question Time

1) Members of the Public

There were no members of the public present.

Chris Cooke (Parish Lengthsman) reported that he had removed the Verve Kick Boxing signs from the A38 but they had now returned. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to both the Avoncroft Arts Centre and the organisers of Verve to make them aware that this was regarded as fly posting and that the signs should be removed as soon as possible.

He added that the parish noticeboard in Sugarbrook Lane had not been kept up-to-date and offered to look after it in future.

2) County Councillor Kyle Daisley

3) District Councillors Malcolm Glass and Harrison Rone-Clarke

The Councillors were unable to be present due to other commitments. Cty/Cllr Daisley did provide a written report which was circulated at the meeting.

160/19 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 4 November 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on the 4 November 2019 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

161/19 Urgent Decisions taken since the Council's last meeting

None.

162/19 Planning Applications

1) 19/01490/FUL – 201 Shaw Lane, Stoke Prior – Conversion of detached garage to one bedroom holiday let.

The Parish Council had reservations about this application given that a caveat had been

attached to the original planning approval for the garage in 2000 had clearly stated that it should only be used for purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the 201 Shaw lane and for no commercial purposes whatsoever.

2) 19/015105/FUL – 103 Cloverdale, Stoke Prior – Single and two storey rear extension.

The Parish Council supported this application as a good extension to a family home.

163/19 Finance

(1) Invoices for Payment – November 2019

The new payments totalling £4,343.81 were agreed unanimously as follows:-

Cheques issued since last Parish Council Meeting

British Legion	chq 1075	£75.00
Clerk's expenses & other Parish Council Expenditure	chq 1076	£437.88

Direct Debits

Cartridge World	S/O	£23.79
Talk Talk	S/O	£32.34

Cheques to be signed at Parish Council Meeting

Clerk's net November salary	chq 1077	£XXXX
Asst Clerk's net November salary	chq 1078	£XXXX
HMRC	chq 1079	£536.85
Clerk's expenses & other Parish Council Expenditure	chq 1080	£418.32
Avoncroft Arts Centre	chq 1081	£30.00
Heron Press	chq 1082	£410.00
Parish Lengthsman	chq 1083	£657.78
IDG Garden Services	chq 1084	£398.00

(2) Financial Management Statement for November 2019

This was noted.

164/19 Smartwater Update

The Clerk reported that he had recently spoken to Tim Williams from West Mercia Police and it had been agreed that a meeting should be arranged for early in the New Year to discuss the options for distributing the remaining kits. Alyson and Chris Jewson agreed to be involved in that meeting. It was also agreed that a number of events should be set up both during the day and in the evening outside the Parish Office to help distribute the kits.

165/19 Purchase of Replacement Waymarkers for John Corbett Way

Chris Jewson explained the need to replenish the waymarkers, many of which has disappeared over the years. The cost of 200 waymarkers would be £198.00. Alyson Jewson, seconded by Sue Abel, moved and it was unanimously agreed to purchase the 20 waymarkers at a cost of £198.00.

166/19 Diary Commitments

The Clerk confirmed that the next Area CALC meeting would be on Wednesday 11 December 2019.

167/19 Correspondence

None.

168/19 Councillors' Points of Information and Items for Future Meetings

John Ellis commented that he had discussed the idea to make the John Corbett Trail more accessible to people with physical disabilities with Chris Jewson and he had agreed to carry out a survey of what was needed. He added that he would look at possible funding from the National Heritage Lottery Fund. Chris Jewson commented that it was possible that the County Council might fund the cost of kissing gates to replace the stiles. The Clerk would also look at funding options.

John Ellis reminded everyone about Carols in the Park on the 7th December starting at 5pm. Setting up would start at 3pm.

Jill Howe asked that the Parish Council look at the options for planting more trees across the parish. There were a number of options for getting free trees from organisations such as the Woodland Trust. It was agreed that the Clerk would investigate the options and report back to the Council.

Liz Miller reported that there had been a number of incidents with nails being placed in front of car tyres and asked everyone to be vigilant. John Ellis stated that he would report this to the police.

John Ellis reported that he was looking to set up a Neighbourhood Watch group in Stoke Prior but so far had not received any interest. He asked Councillors to spread the word across the parish.

Alan Bayliss stated that he had previously asked for weight restriction signs to be erected at each end of Littleton Avenue. The Clerk agreed to raise this with the County Council.

It was agreed that Alyson Jewson and Jean Jackson would judge the Christmas lights in the Stoke Heath area and Jill Howe and Liz Miller would do the Stoke Prior area.

The Clerk reported that together with Chris Cooke, he was still pursuing the problems with blocked gullies across the parish. He was now looking to work with Hanbury and Bentley Parish Councils and to put pressure on the County Council to either provide some funds to support the work or manpower to help the Lengthsman carry out urgently needed work.

Date of Next Meeting – The Parish Council's next meeting would be held on Monday 13th January 2020 commencing at 7.30pm at the Hall Annexe, Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

Chairman