

## **STOKE PARISH COUNCIL**

**A meeting of Stoke Parish Council was held in The Hall Annexe at Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020.**

**Present:** Councillors Peter Williams (Chairman), Sue Abel, Alan Bayliss, Liz Eden, John Ellis, Jill Howe, Jean Jackson, Alyson Jewson, Chris Jewson, Liz Miller and Rory Shannon.

**In attendance:** D/Cllr Harrison Rone-Clarke, Chris Cooke (Parish Lengthsman), Ian Gerard (Parish Council Contractor) and 5 members of the public.

### **016/20 Apologies**

An apology was received from Councillor Diane Brown.

### **017/20 Declarations of Interest**

### **018/20 Requests for Dispensation**

None.

### **019/20 Adjournment of Meeting for Public Question Time**

#### **1) Members of the Public**

The following issues were raised by member of the public:-

- Speeding along the B4095 - It was reported that this was a growing problem and the Parish Council were asked to provide any help to get speed cameras installed particularly along the stretch between the Navigation Inn and the Church. The Chairman agreed to raise the matter with the County Council again and also reported that he would discuss it with the newly appointed Police Officer for the parish. It was also agreed to make Cty/Cllr Daisley aware of the issue.
- Waste bins – A request was made for a waste bin to be installed at the junction of Fish House Lane and Sugarbrook Lane. This was a popular area for dog walkers and this facility was needed.
- Avoncroft Cricket Club – Concerns were expressed about the wording of signs on the gates to the cricket ground regarding the use of the site by dog walkers. There also appeared to be some dispute as to the line of the footpath crossing the ground. It was agreed that the Parish Council would liaise with the Cricket Club but urged all dog owners to be more vigilant in identifying those owners who did not look after their dogs properly whilst on the ground.
- Dog fouling near the school in Ryefields Road – Concerns were expressed about this growing problem which was unacceptable and a potential health issue for the young children attending that school. The matter had been taken up with the District Council who had agreed to install new signage warning dog owners to take responsibility for their dogs. A comment was made that there were insufficient dog bins around the area and the possible need to install dog bag dispensers. It was noted that there were a number of possible initiatives which might help to resolve the problem. Rory Shannon agreed to look into this and to report back to the Chairman.
- Parish Council Website – A member of the public asked for the Code of Conduct to be included on the website and a link to the Register of Interests held by the District Council. He also asked whether any further action had been taken over a memorial for the late George Verney.

## 2) County Councillor Kyle Daisley

Cty/Cllr Daisley was unable to attend the meeting.

## 3) District Councillors Malcolm Glass and Harrison Rone-Clarke

D/Cllr Rone-Clarke reported that the District Council were moving forward with their proposal to encourage more people to use electric cars. The District Council was also looking to introduce a consultation process to help resolve disputes over land ownership.

### 020/20 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13 January 2020

Liz Eden pointed out that under the first item under minute 015/20 'Greenway' should read 'Greenside'.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 13 January 2020 as amended were approved and signed by the Chairman.

### 021/20 Urgent Decisions taken since the Council's last meeting

#### 022/20 Planning Applications

None.

### 023/20 Film Night 2020

The Parish Council confirmed that the film night should go ahead on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2020. It was noted that consideration would need to be given to the choice of film.

### 024/20 Finance

#### (1) Invoices for Payment – January 2020

The new payments totalling £4,373.14 were agreed unanimously as follows:-

##### 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 January salary                          | chq 1097 | £XXXX   |
| Asst Clerk's net January salary                     | chq 1098 | £XXXX   |
| HMRC  | chq 1099 | £522.99 |
| Clerk's expenses & other Parish Council Expenditure | chq 1100 | £170.44 |
| Community Heartbeat Trust Ltd                       | chq 1101 | £324.00 |
| Bullivant Media                                     | chq 1102 | £60.00  |
| CPRE  | chq 1103 | £36.00  |
| SMIS Ltd  | chq 1104 | £70.80  |
| Avoncroft Arts Society                              | chq 1105 | £30.00  |
| A. Mir & Co Ltd                                     | chq 1106 | £138.00 |
| Eventures   | chq 1107 | £500.00 |
| Parish Lengthsman                                   | chq 1108 | £993.60 |
| IDG Garden Services                                 | chq 1109 | £198.00 |

#### (2) Financial Management Statement for January 2020

This was noted.

### **025/20 Renovation of Bus Shelters**

Chris Cooke gave an update on the proposed renovation of the bus shelters in Shaw Lane and reported that he was still seeking quotes for the rendering work required before the artwork could commence. Bromsgrove High School were still committed to carrying out the artwork although the type of paint to be used for the project had still to be agreed. The Parish Council reaffirmed their commitment to the project and asked Chris Cooke to continue with the quotes etc.

The Clerk confirmed that he would double check that the Parish Council still owned both shelters.

### **026/20 Review of Parish Council's Assets Register**

The Parish Council noted the Assets Register. The Clerk confirmed that he would update the register with replacement values against all the items listed.

### **027/20 Review of the Parish Council's Risk Management Register**

It was unanimously agreed to approve the updated Risk Management Register.

### **028/20 Action Summary**

After the Clerk had updated the Council on the progress on items included in the summary, it was agreed that it should be noted. It was also agreed that the Clerk should submit an updated Action Summary to the Parish Council every two months.

### **029/20 Diary Commitments**

Jill Howe confirmed that she would be attending the Village Hall Management Committee meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

### **030/20 Correspondence**

The Clerk pointed out that he had circulated to all Parish Councillors details of the sites within the parish which had been registered with the District Council as potential sites for future housing. He stressed that no decision had been made about any of the sites and that further updates would be issued by the District Council in the near future. He added that it would be important for the Parish Council to ensure that proper consultation takes place should any of the sites identified be put forward for development.

The Chairman then reported that the Rural Crime Event run on behalf of the Police and Crime Commissioner had been very successful and thanked Chris Cooke for his help on the night. He went on to say that during the evening he had a discussion with a resident from Wyche Cottages regarding the condition of the road outside their properties and the fact that they had offered to contribute towards any costs. During the ensuing discussion, it was noted that this road was also the access to the allotments, Network Rail and other utilities. The Clerk added that he had already started to look into this problem and advised the Parish Council, certainly at this point, not to commit to anything. He would bring the matter back to a future meeting.

### **031/20 Councillors' Points of Information and Items for Future Meetings**

Alyson Jewson questioned whether the Slimming World banners around the parish had been put up with permission. It was thought that they had but the situation should be monitored.

Alyson Jewson also commented on the need for more waste bins in Stoke Heath particularly in the vicinity of Wheatridge Road. The Clerk confirmed that he would be talking to the District Council's officers.

Rory Shannon asked whether the bus shelters in the parish had timetables. It was noted that some did but the responsibility for them rested with the bus companies.

Sue Abel expressed concern about the lack of stop signs and 30mph signs at the junction of Stoke Pound Lane and the B4095. It was agreed to take this up with Cty/Cllr Kyle Daisley.

Jill Howe reported on the meeting with Jane Taylor, Worcestershire Association of Carers, which had been very successful. There was a lot of information available about the services offered by the Association and it was planned to put up notices around the parish to spread the word. The Church was also holding a coffee morning at which Jane Taylor would be doing a talk.

**Date of Next Meeting** – The Parish Council's next meeting would be held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020 commencing at 7.30pm at the Hall Annexe, Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Chairman