

STOKE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Stoke Parish Council was held in The Hall Annexe at Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath on the 5th March 2018.

Present: Councillors Peter Williams (Chairman), John Ellis (Vice Chairman), Sue Abel, Diane Brown, Liz Eden, Jill Howe, Chris Jewson, Alyson Jewson, Liz Miller and Dean Smith.

In attendance: Neil Gulliver (Parish Clerk) and Ian Gerrard (Parish Council Contractor).

032/18 Apologies

Apologies were received from Keith Shakespeare and D/Cllr Mike Thompson.

033/18 Declarations of Interest

Alyson Jewson declared a personal interest in Agenda item 8.

034/18 Requests for Dispensation

None.

035/18 Adjournment of Meeting for Public Question Time:

1) Members of the Public

There were no issues raised by members of the public.

2) County Councillor Chris Bloore and District Councillors Malcolm Glass and Mike Thompson

There were no County or District Councillors present.

D/Cllr Mike Thompson did send a note stating that he understood a new boundary review was being proposed.

036/18 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5 February 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 February 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

037/18 Urgent Decisions since the Council's last Meeting

None.

038/18 Planning Applications

i) 18/00041/FUL – Land Adjacent Corbett Business Park, Shaw Lane, Stoke Prior – Erection of New Industrial Units.

The Parish Council had strong objections to this application. They had serious concerns about the continuing industrial development of Stoke Prior. Stoke Prior was a small village which was being overtaken by this type of development and would bring further increases in the volume of light and heavy traffic travelling along Shaw Lane and this was becoming a major issue for residents. This was being totally ignored by highways and planning officers. The village was already having to be prepared to deal with additional traffic created by the

new housing development. The increased traffic will make Shaw Lane more dangerous for pedestrians and negate the idea that families can walk safely to the local school. In addition they felt that no consideration had been given to the issue of air pollution caused by the number of heavy vehicles travelling through the area.

ii) 18/00123/FUL – 10 Foley Gardens, Stoke Prior – New Dwelling.

Sue Abel declared a personal interest as a local resident.

The Parish Council considered this application and unanimously agreed to object to it on the grounds of further over development of a already congested road. In addition they felt that the proposed development was not in keeping with the local area.

iii) 17/00065 & 17/00066/FUL – Moors Farm, Whitford Bridge Road, Stoke Prior – Construction of Livestock Building & General Purpose Building.

The Parish Council had no objections to this application.

039/18 Finance

(1) Invoices for Payment – February 2018

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

(2) Financial Management Statement for February 2018

This was noted.

040/18 Review of Financial Regulations

The Council fully endorsed the revised Financial Regulations which had been circulated prior to the meeting.

041/18 Provision of Shelving in Storage Container

The Clerk reported that he had received a quote from Bromsgrove Men in Sheds of £300 to carry out the shelving work at the storage container. He added that they had not included any labour costs but it is normal for a donation to be made in recognition of this work.

It was agreed to accept the quote from Men in Sheds subject to the Clerk confirming that the proposed shelving would be sufficient to hold the John Corbett model. The Parish Council would come back to the issue of a donation once the work had been completed.

042/18 Purchase of Plants/Bulbs for Planting around the Parish

Sue Abel reported that she could get 100 wild primrose plugs and cowslips from a local nursery at a cost of £75.00. She had also spoken to the Revd Wyn Beynon had suggested that it would be possible to split some clumps of snowdrops from the ones on the church bank. All these plants could then be planted on the bank opposite the church.

It was agreed to purchase the 100 plants at a cost of £75.00 and to ask Ian Gerard to organise the planting.

043/18 Project Updates

The following updates were provided:-

Film Night – The Chairman stated that the company providing the film equipment had been booked. John Ellis added that he had organised for a local mobile caterer to be onsite that night and he was looking to bring an ice cream outlet as well.

Defibrillator – The Clerk confirmed that the equipment had been installed outside the Parish Office and was not operational. He would now try to organise some Awareness Sessions for Councillors and local residents.

Churchyard Information Board – Jill Howe stated that she had now received a lot of information from the Wildlife Trust which could be included on the proposed boards in the churchyard. It had been proposed that the board should be double sided so that the other side could include information about the upkeep of the churchyard. The Chairman commented that any such project should be joint funded with the Parochial Church Council and this view was supported. It was agreed to ensure that all the necessary costs had been identified before progressing any further at this stage.

New Waste Bin – The Clerk reminded the Council that a new bin had been purchased for the Ryefields Road Recreation Area but this had had to be used to replace one of the bins at Stoke Heath Recreation Area which had become dangerous to use. The Council agreed to purchase another waste bin for the Ryefields Road site.

044/18 Diary Commitments

The Clerk reported that the next meeting of CALC would be held on the 14 March, 2018.

Jill Howe stated that the Village Hall Management Committee's AGM would be held on the 17 May 2018.

045/18 Correspondence

None.

046/18 Councillors' Points of Information and Items for Future Meetings

Jill Howe gave a report on the last meeting of the Village Hall Management Team highlighting the ongoing maintenance work and the current high use of the hall.

Dean Smith commented on the fact that the information on the website needed a lot of updating. It was recognised that the maintenance of the website would be one of the responsibilities of the Assistant Clerk but, in the meantime, it was agreed that the website should be closed and a message put out that it was due to maintenance work..

Sue Abel commented that she had been told by a local resident that the bank on the Salwarpe was eroding away. The Clerk and Chris Jewson replied that they had reported the problem to the County Council but it was unlikely that they would carry out any further remedial work.

047/18 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the next meeting would be held on Monday 9th April 2018 commencing at 7.30pm at the Hall Annexe, Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Chairman