

Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council

Minutes

A meeting of Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council was held in the village hall on 9 January 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

M19.01. Apologies

None

M19.02. Approval of minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved

M19.03. Matters arising

Portobello crossroads: Councillor Barker reported that no further progress had been seen on this as it was subject to internal 'juggling' at the moment. It is supposed to go out to tender at the end of January, a process that will take about 6 weeks. There had been some objection to the lighting of the crossroads, but this is unavoidable.

Harolds Orchard: An email had been received from Neil Gilliver: 'I am pleased to advise that Grevayne has backed off from including a buy back clause in the contract. Representation from both Stretton on Fosse Parish Council, Stratford on Avon Dc as well as ourselves were instrumental in this outcome. As far as the build is concerned, we were advised at our December site meeting that they are looking to complete the homes June/July this year. WRHA is celebrating our 30th anniversary this year. Harolds Orchard was WRHA's first ever development and we will be completing our 3rd phase in our 30th year of operation.

Our current WRHA Board Chair, Derrick Dyas is a founder member of WRHA and will be retiring from the Board in September this year after many years of valuable service to the Association. We thought it would be a very nice legacy for Derrick if we could name the 3rd phase after him 'Dyas Green' - is this something that the Parish would be willing to support in view of his tireless work over the years? We would like to hold an opening event and potential surprise unveiling of the name in early September 2019?.

The Council did not feel this was particularly appropriate as he has no connection to the village, although they were prepared to consider naming perhaps the allotments or orchard after him. They felt that naming it after Paul and Margaret Bellew who provided the land was more appropriate.

I was also talking to the builders concerning the allotment/orchard area that is to be transferred to the PC. Has the PC considered how the allotments are to be allocated? Is there any scope for us to involve our tenants?

Councillor Hazelwood wanted to know who would be paying the expenses of fencing, laying out the plots, etc.

Has the PC considered how it wants the allotments/orchard to be physically set up in terms of marking out plots, fencing, footpaths etc ? We would be willing to help the PC draw up plans and develop a community orchard/allotment as part of our community work? If this is something that you would like us to get involved with we could set up a separate meeting to discuss?

It was suggested that Councillor Longleather look into the setting up arrangements, in

conjunction with the gardening group.

Play area: Councillor Hazelwood reported that the fund now stood at £15988 , with more money promised.

Trees by footpath opposite Chapel Gardens: Councillor Hazelwood reported that she had double checked and no-one owned this land. The local footpath officer had viewed the site and it was his opinion that the trees on the right almost certainly part of the boundary of the 3 houses there, and therefore, their responsibility. Councillor Hazelwood had a quote for topping the top left hand block of trees for £125 and £135 for the righthand block. She proposed that the council go ahead with this and this was unanimously agreed. Rod Case who lives at the house adjacent to the RH block has declared he will pay for the RH block

Carer on the Ilmington School coach: Councillor Balchin reported that the carer would now remain in place until Sept 2019. It was suggested that the relevant parties meet to form a plan of action, although it also needed to be considered whether parents would continue to use the bus once it had to be paid for next September

M19.04. Finance

Expenditure since the last meeting was examined and approved

Setting of Parish precept for 2019/20: Councillor Long-Leather presented the figures he had prepared and a discussion ensued over the spending requirements for 2019. Councillor Long-Leather proposed that a retainer of £100 p.a. be paid to Mr Dawes , as his charges were very reasonable still and his income has been subject to the vagaries of the weather over the past 2 years, while his expenses have increased. Councillor Finlay thought it should perhaps be more than this. Councillor Long-Leather thought more of the councils money should go into a higher interest account and asked the clerk to arrange this. The clerk pointed out that this was the responsibility of the council and she did not have the authority to do this. Councillor Hazelwood asked Councillor Long-Leather if he could bring some information on possible accounts to the next meeting. Councillor barker suggested looking at bonds as well. Councillor Long-Leather proposed leaving the precept at £5460 this year, was seconded by Councillor Hazelwood and this was passed unanimously

Accounts upgrade: The clerk reported that she had not upgraded the accounts package yet as it would be easier at the end of the accounting year, so she was only dealing with one accounts package at a time.

The clerk requested and was approved payment for the anti-virus package (£45) plus cost of ink cartridges (£25).

M19.05. Planning applications

New

The Old Post Office Change of materials – no objection

Approved

18/02724/COUQ Conversion of barn to single dwelling. Barn Adjacent The Bungalow, Far Longdon, Tredington, for Mr A S B Knight

18/02730/COUQ Prior approval notification for the proposed change of use of one agricultural buildings to 1 dwelling house, and associated curtilage and building operations. Rectory Farmhouse, Stretton-on-Fosse, Moreton-in-Marsh, GL56 9RE, for Mr ASB Knight (approved 8/11/18)

On-going

17/0000/FUL Pitstop café: the clerk reported that the enforcement officer, Ron Goodyear, had updated her on the status of this. The owner has been served with an enforcement notice concerning the number of vehicles, but has appealed against both that and the refusal of his application to vary the conditions by increasing the number of vehicles. He has requested a public enquiry, although Ron did not think it was likely that this would be approved as it was not particularly appropriate in this case. He has informed the planning office that he intends to move back to Rugby and rent the site out.

18/01641/FUL, Portobello Farm (café)

M19.06. Correspondence

Clerks & Councils magazine

M19.07. Council reports

Councillor Barker reported that there was now progress on the children's centre, although still fraught with problems. The council are also examining the possibility of introducing a car-share scheme, using an app.

Councillor Longleather had attended the consultation on the relocation of the medical centre in Shipston and said he felt it had been a box-ticking exercise in order to say there had been a consultation. Councillor Barker agreed that the doctors seem to have decided that their preference was for attaching it to the Ellen Badger. All the sites came with their own problems it seemed.

M19.08. AOB:

Car Park drainage: Councillor Hazelwood reported that the drain from the car park had been unblocked, but no improvement was seen. Councillor Finlay agreed to go and look at the ditch and give his opinion.

Cemetery and adjacent verge: A meeting is to be arranged with Chris Goble and Simon Bayliss regarding the earthworks currently occurring at the cemetery. Councillor Hazelwood agreed to compile a list of complaints:

- Surplus earth to be removed.
- Councillor Longleather to arrange a working party to deal with the soil on the opposite verge if it is not removed in the next week
- Dealing with the hole by the steps.
- The bare earth bank needs seeding
- Councillor Finlay was of the opinion that this bank was too steep to be stable now as a maximum of 30 degrees is recommended. He also felt that the fence needed to be replaced and some hedging planted.

M19.09. Date of next meeting

As the council would have to stand for re-election in May it was decided to have a 'close of year' meeting on 3rd April and a meeting of the new Council and the AGM/APA on the 21st May.