

# Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council

## Draft Minutes

A meeting of Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council was held in the village hall on 18 January 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

### M18.01. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor White.

### M18.02. Approval of minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

### M18.03. Matters arising

Portobello crossroads: Councillor Finlay reported temporary traffic lights been in place and measurements being taken earlier this week. Councillor Barker reported that they were still trying to ascertain the owner of Portobello to arrange removal/trimming of trees there, although she had met with Andrew Knight and Lord Willoughby de Broke, who were both willing to permit land to be used if necessary. Councillor Hazelwood commented that she still felt there was a lack of communication with the council by Highways and Councillor Barker agreed to follow this up.

Harolds Orchard: There had been no further contact regarding this since last November. Councillor Hazelwood wondered if there were other avenues that could be explored to get the houses built. Councillor Barker said that some had been built in Long Compton (?) on a self-build basis, but it was felt that this was not appropriate here.

Emergency committee: Councillor Barker asked if there was a snow warden, but it was felt not to be necessary here as the village tended to pull together in these circumstances and local farmers helped clear the snow.

Parking: Councillor Hazelwood had received an anonymous letter regarding parking in Belcony, which had stated that it was illegal to park commercial vehicles in a conservation area. This is, in fact, not true. At the most it would be criminal obstruction, as there had been a problem with emergency vehicles gaining access. The owner of the commercial vehicle is not keen to use the overflow car park because of the danger of equipment being taken where it is not overlooked. It was agreed that all the residents would be leafleted asking them to be considerate about how they parked and if they have a driveway, could they please park there, rather than on the road. Councillor Hazelwood suggested using the bus stop parking in the gated road as busses no longer seem to use it.

Play area: Councillor Long-Leather proposed donating £1000 now to the fund, with the possibility of more later. Councillor Hazelwood reported that the Village Hall would donate £1800 and the Village milk and app juice fund had raised about £550. There has been a donation of £3000 from the Dumbreck charity. Councillor Barker invited the council to apply to here for funds later in the year. Councillor Hazelwood felt that a minimum of £15,000 would be required.

The clerk reported that, having reviewed the options, she had re-activated the HSBC treasurers account and transferred the £3000 grant into this account and it would now be used exclusively in connection with the play area funds

#### M18.04. Finance

Councillor Long-Leather presented a forecast that he had prepared and proposed a 2% increase on the precept (£104). Councillor Hazelwood felt that, in view of the fact that the precept had not been increased for several years and the expenses next year could increase substantially, due to higher grass cutting costs, as Stan will probably be retiring this year and he has been much cheaper than other quotes previously obtained, and the potential costs for the replacement of the play area, the increase should be 5% (£260). This was seconded by Councillor Finlay who felt that it was better to ask for a small increase now, rather than have to ask for a larger one in future years. It was agreed to ask for £5460, although Councillor Long-Leather asked for it to be minuted that he still felt that 2% would be sufficient.

The expenditure since the last meeting was reviewed and approved

#### M18.05. Planning applications

##### *On-going*

17/0000/FUL, Pitstop café, Change of use and groundworks. There was no further information on this, although Councillor Hazelwood had been informed that the enforcement officer was going to meet with Ian Gidley and Robin Guest on 13 January to review his compliance with the landscaping and other matters. Councillor Barker agreed to follow this up, as no further information had been forthcoming.

Ash tree, Glebe cottage This involves the cutting down of an ash tree in a hedge. Along the driveway of the Old Plough. It stands within a Leylandii hedge. The neighbour thought his retaining wall was being damaged, but after consulting a structural engineer it would appear that it is not a retaining wall and there is a beech hedge on top which may be causing the damage. An agreement had been reached to pollard the tree, but now the owner wants to widen his driveway. Councillor Hazelwood had ascertained that SDC has 6 weeks in which to apply a TPO and apparently Ruth Rose from planning was planning to visit on the 12<sup>th</sup> January. Councillor Hazelwood has written saying the council would prefer the tree to be retained and pollarded.

17/03796/tree, Glen Cottage, Cottage Farm Court – conservatory – no objection

#### M18.06. Correspondence

The clerk reported that most correspondence was now in email form and she had forwarded all relevant emails.

#### M18.07. Council reports.

Councillor Barker asked about the status of broadband and mobile phone reception in the village.

Superfast broadband was available in the village itself, but not the outlying houses. EE seemed to be the only service with full reception in the area. She suggested asking if the church would be interested in having a mast, which would attract a fee.

The possibility of forming a ‘Loneliness Group’ was discussed. Councillors Hazelwood and Longleather agreed to discuss this idea further.

#### M18.08. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was set for 9 May 2018 at 7.30, and would comprise the AGM, APA, and ordinary meeting