

Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council

Minutes

A meeting of Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council was held in the village hall on 20 August 2018 at 7.30 p.m.

M18.19. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Finlay

M18.20. Approval of minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved

Democratic 15 minutes

Lucy Cox and Lucy Curtis, attended the meeting in order to question Councillor Barker regarding the removal of the chaperones from the school buses for infant and junior pupils attending Ilmington School. Councillor Barker reported that the matter had been discussed in the CC meeting at the end of March, but that the meeting had concentrated on the distance from various schools, measured over somewhat inappropriate routes, but the meeting had glossed over removal of the chaperones. The parents had set up an online petition, which had reached the number requiring it to be discussed at the next CC meeting, although this will not be until after the new rules take effect (16 October, CC meeting, 19 September, new rules enacted). Councillor Barker asked if the parents were prepared to arrange a rota to act as chaperones. However, the parents pointed out that the following issues would cause problems: Logistics of picking up and dropping off chaperones; insurance; DBS checks; school children who were nervous of school, would worry about the change of drivers and inconsistency of service. The parents were also worried about the safety issues and gave Councillor Barker a copy of the letter that they had sent to the various council offices (attached). Councillor Barker admitted that the CC preferred option was for Stretton children to attend Shipston School, although there would be insufficient room, and because of council projection, there were no plans to enlarge it other than by portacabins in the playground. She agreed to approach the Education Department and Izzy Seccombe on behalf of the parents. They were also concerned that new parents from 2019 will have to pay £800 p.a. for the school bus, and this was felt to be another deterrent for parents to send their children to Ilmington. Councillor Hazelwood pointed out to Councillor Barker that when Stretton school closed, parents were assured that their children would be able to attend Ilmington. She also mentioned that she and the parents had filled in a survey regarding parents' wishes on school transport a year ago, but she had been unable to access the results of this survey. Councillor Barker agreed to try and access these for the council. Councillor Hazelwood asked if the new proposals could be delayed in order to review the matter, as parents had only been informed of the decision at the end of the summer term, although Councillor Longleather felt that, rather than an extension, he would prefer a complete withdrawal. Councillor Hazelwood agreed to write a letter in a similar vein to the CC.

M18.21. Matters arising

Portobello crossroads Councillor Barker reported that a new Engineer had taken on the job of

delivering the traffic lights. However, during the tenure of the previous engineer, the lighting for the crossroads had been negotiated out. The new engineer was not willing to proceed without lighting being re-instated. This meant that new plans had to be drawn up, then be put out to tender. Work was supposed to commence in August, but this seem highly unlikely to be achieved. Councillor Barker reported that she had allocated her road funding for the last two years to this project, but it had not yet been placed. The current engineers are Gary Palmer and Lee Williams. Councillor Longleather requested that both Councillors Hazelwood and barker write to the council asking for updates and that the council be kept up-to-date, as other councils and persons seemed to be given updates, while the PC was being by-passed.

Harolds Orchard Councillor Longleather reported that people had been seen there, but there had been no sign of work commencing. Councillor Hazelwood agreed to check with Neil Gilliver. A completion date of 31 May 2019 had been given, with a start date in September/October, although this was again looking unlikely. It was confirmed that the disabled bungalow would include a wet room now, to be paid for by WHRA.

Play area Councillor Barker reported that Council grants would be available from November, and Councillor Hazelwood said that, as well as this, she intended to apply for a lottery grant.

GDPR The clerk reported that the council had fulfilled all its obligations with respect to this, and Councillor Hazelwood said the PC mailing list now consisted of 137 addresses, down from 175.

M18.22. Finance

The council inspected and approved the expenditure since the last meeting.

M18.23. Planning applications

On-going

17/0000/FUL, Pitstop café — The clerk reported that Erin Merrivale, planning enforcement, had informed her that enforcement was in progress, but that, in view of the applicant using the letter of the law, rather than the spirit, it was felt that the enforcement notice should be put out to private review, to make sure there were no loopholes. Councillor Barker reported that the council were going for enforcement on 11 counts, including unapproved accommodation. She asked how the planners had become aware of the accommodation and the clerk informed her it was because the applicant had advertised the car lot for rent, to include living accommodation.

Received

18/01641/FUL, Portobello Farm (extension, new driveway, café)

Approved

Portobello driveway

Town Farm gates

M18.24. Correspondence

Clerks & Councils magazine

M18.25. Council reports

Councillor Barker reminded the council that the CC was compiling a list of the fallen, the dates they were killed, and where. Councillor Hazelwood said she had passed the email on to Donald Holdsworth, the village expert historian, but would remind him.

M18.26. AOB:

Trees by footpath opposite Chapel Gardens This is the ongoing problem with the trees near the public footpath near the Orbit housing. The trees here need some attention, but no-one seems to claim ownership of the land, and the PC cannot afford to take on maintenance of this area. Councillor Barker suggested approaching Orbit as the main effect was to their properties. It was agreed that the council should obtain a quote for the work and decide what to do after that.

Closures on the A429 Councillor Longleather expressed the opinion that the road work disruption on 28-31st August, might cause extra traffic through the village, and wondered if it would be necessary for the village to direct traffic. It was felt, from an insurance point of view, that a wait-and-see approach might be better.

M18.27. The airport is subject to a compulsory purchase by the DC, safeguarding the existing businesses there. Councillor Barker reported that there was still a strong lobby wanting to develop the land for housing.

M18.26. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was set for 7 November 2018, at 7.30 p.m.