

MINUTES OF THE STANTON DREW PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr. M Elsbury (Chair), Cllr. J Chubb-Whittle, Cllr. J Hudson, Cllr. M Naunton, Cllr. J Swift and one parishioner.

16/58 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr's G Roscoe, D Winstone and Ward Councillor K Warrington.

16/59 – CODE OF CONDUCT – DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received.

16/60 – URGENT BUSINESS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

It was agreed that Cllr. J Chubb-Whittle could provide a report on her recent visit to Somerset Heritage.

The main purpose of the visit was to try to ascertain information reference the War Memorial site, this will be reported later under the relevant minute. During the visit it was also ascertained that Somerset Heritage have a facility to archive past Parish Council documentation for safe keeping, such as minute books, official documents and agreements.

It was agreed that such documents, prior to the year 2000, would be considered for archiving.

16/61 – MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Draft Minutes, having been previously circulated to the parish councillors, were agreed and signed as a correct record.

16/62 – THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – UPDATE

Cllr. J Swift provided an update. It was reported that the Housing & Business questionnaire was delivered early in the summer and the results are being analysed. We are awaiting the finalising of the remaining groups' questionnaire & options document for release very soon this autumn. The results of the questionnaires will inform draft policies which will be offered to the village for consultation and the draft plan written later this autumn.

Two invoices for Neighbourhood Plan work had not yet been paid due to the non-receipt of a stage payment from 'Locality', to date. Grateful thanks are extended to a member of the Steering Group who had offered to pay the invoices in the interim.

16/63 – ACTIONS AND UPDATES FROM THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Play Area – It was reported that the frayed edge of the basket swing had been repaired. Further damage to the cladding/facia at the bridges/tunnels location and a loose post at the adventure trail area had been reported. It was agreed that an inspection would take place on 4th September 2016.

The blocked stile and PROW at Stanton Wick – No progress to date.

The War Memorial Site – Cllr. M Elsbury exhibited the model of the proposed redesigned memorial and reported on the comments received at the recent Flower Show which were mostly supportive. Cllr. J Chubb-Whittle reported on her investigations at Somerset Heritage. It was ascertained that the location site had been gifted to the village by the Carpenter family, who were the then incumbents of Rosedale, in 1964. A planning application for the memorial was then submitted on behalf of Stanton Drew Royal British Legion.

It was suggested that as the local branch of the British Legion no longer existed, initially, the British Legion based at Whitchurch, and the Parish Hall Trustees, should be asked if they are aware of any actual claim to ownership of the site. It was also agreed that the Parish Council should make an application to register land ownership, especially as they assumed maintenance responsibility over recent years.

The Ward Councillor's Grant – No update available.

The complaint of the intensity of the Parish Hall Carpark light – It was reported that the fitting of a deflector was still awaited.

Grass cutting/maintenance at The Village Seat Area – In response to council's letter to Mr S Budd, he had stated that he had now purchased a smaller mower which was adequate for the job, and thanked council for their offer of a contribution towards the fuel costs, but he wished to continue cutting the grass voluntarily as his contribution to the village. This minute would now be deleted.

The request for a mirror to assist vision at The Toll House junction – There had been no reply from B&NES Highways to date.

The request to inspect the road surface following accidents on the B3130 – There had been no reply from B&NES Highways to date.

16/64 – COUNCIL'S RISK ASSESSMENTS

The councillors were reminded that council's Risk Assessments Document required the inspection of council's named assets at specific times and the findings recorded. It was agreed that all councillors should carry out general inspections and report back at the next meeting.

16/65 – ITEMS FOR NEXT YEARS BUDGET

Councillors were requested to compile items for discussion at the next meeting.

16/66 – BROADBAND PROVISION - UPDATE

Cllr's M Elsbury and J Hudson reported on recent presentations given by 'Truespeed', a local company who are offering high speed fibre optic broadband connection, but require a definitive number of committed properties throughout Stanton Drew and Stanton Wick to sign up in order to make their installation costs viable.

They reported that, at the time of the presentations, 98 properties were required to commit but 27 more were still needed. General comments and observations were that households and businesses should be encouraged to support the 'Truespeed' initiative.

16/67 – PARISHIONERS COMMENTS AND VIEWING OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

A parishioner expressed his dissatisfaction in the B&NES Planning Department and in particular their inconsistency of decision making reference a barn conversion at Stanton Wick, where they had granted permission only to then stop the work when it had started with no changes to the original permission.

16/68 – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

16/03654/FUL – Mr & Mrs C Clutterbuck – Erection of two storey side extension at Church Lane Cottage – B&NES Council required council's comments before the date of this meeting, they are as follows: - Council support – Although this application is within the Conservation Area it is also within the Housing Development Boundary. The application is sensitive to materials already used. It contributes an interesting design and well thought out change in floor plan. The extension does not include any change of occupancy or vehicular usage/access.

The plan constitutes minimal harm or impact on the Green Belt as the lower floor is set at/below the garden level and there should be minimal impact on the Green belt with any altered view from the lane.

Complies with Planning Policies GN1, CP8, D2 and BH6.

16/69 – CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

B&NES Group of ALCA Meeting – 19th July 2016 – Chair and the Clerk attended. Presentations on Devolution and the Potential Devolution of Services.

Nominations invited for the Chairman of B&NES Community Awards 2016/2017, by 25th November 2016.

Grant Thornton, the external auditor, had reported a successful audit of council's accounts.

Clive Setter, the donator of the first defibrillator, had stated that the boxes, in general, were now in an untidy state and the stick on labels needed to be replaced. He would carry out the replacement at a charge of £150.00 per box. It was generally thought that this cost to replace three or four labels that would again wear out was too high. Mr Setter had been so advised, his reply was awaited.

The ALCA AGM will be held on 8th October 2016.

ALCA have advised that all recipients of the Transparency Grant have a responsibility to hold proof of the way the grant funding was spent, as towards the end of the financial year NALC and DCLG will follow up a sample of applications asking applicants to submit evidence on how the grant was spent.

16/70 – FINANCE REPORT AND CHEQUES FOR SIGNATURE

The Clerk/RFO reported that cheques had been paid between meetings to: -

Playsafety Ltd – The annual inspection of the play area equipment - £92.40

NALC – Booklets – 'Being a Good Employer' - £27.00

DPM Lucas – Grass cutting at the Play Area and the Allotment sites - £287.50

£63.50 had been received from the Surgery Coach Honesty Box and £55.00 had been received as Allotment Site rents.

Cheques for signature: -

J A Harvey	- Clerk's Salary (July – September)	- £ 1,246.40
HMRC	- Tax on clerk's salary (July – September)	- £ 311.60
Filer's Coaches	- Surgery Coach (July £100) & (Aug £125)	- £ 225.00
M Sherborne	- Half year Cemetery Maintenance	- £ 235.00
S Edwards	- Play Area Inspections (9 weeks)	- £ 108.00
S Edwards	- PROW Clearances	- £ 185.00
D Lucas	- Play Area Maintenance	- £ 187.50
Grant Thornton	- External Audit Fee	- £ 120.00
Gaming International	- Neighbourhood Plan stationery	- £ 55.50
S Whittle	- Computer Printer Cartridge	- £ 47.66

Proposed: Cllr. J Swift, seconded : Cllr. J Hudson, and agreed.

16/71 – DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

Parish Surgery – 6th October 2016 – 6.00 to 7.00 pm.

Parish Council – 3rd November 2016 – 7.30 pm.

_____ CHAIRMAN _____ DATE

