

MINUTES OF THE STANTON DREW PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE PARISH HALL ON MONDAY 5TH JANUARY 2015 AT 7.30 PM

PRESENT: Cllr. M Elsbury (Chair), Cllr. K Mountford, Cllr. J Swift, Cllr D Winstone, Ward Cllr. J Sparks and one parishioner.

15/01 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. J Chubb-Whittle, Cllr. M Naunton and Cllr. G Roscoe.

15/02 – CODE OF CONDUCT – DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations received.

15/03 – URGENT BUSINESS AS AGREED BY THE CHAIR

There was no urgent business items requested.

15/04 – MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2014

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

15/05 – NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Cllr. J Swift, chair of the team, reported that the draft questionnaire had been completed, it would now be printed and circulated throughout the parish. It was also reported that the official documentation was being prepared that would then enable the Neighbourhood Plan Team to draw down funding to cover on-going expenses incurred in the plan's preparation. It had been agreed that the funding would be held in the parish council's Community Account.

15/06 – ACTIONS FROM THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6TH NOVEMBER 2014

Re:14/19 – A Parish Broadband Survey – The survey was still awaited but it was reported that 'Wansdyke', the company who had offered to carry out the survey, would shortly be making a positive statement following internal reorganisations.

Re:05/54 – The Play Area – The replacement picnic table and the repairs to the facias at the tunnels/ bridges area are still awaited. Cllr. D Winstone had agreed to assess the comments made in the recent play area inspection and report back.

Re:09/21 – The blocked stile/footpath at Stanton Wick – The PROW Officer had stated that no further progress had been made to date.

Re:13/63 – A Defibrillator/First Aid training package – A suitable package was still being sought. AED had stated that they could provide defibrillator refresher training but it was agreed that they should be asked, again, if they could also provide the first aid refresher training.

Re:14/46 – The status of Featherbed Lane – There had been no further correspondence received. It was agreed that the clerk should ask, again, for an update.

Re: The request for a replacement Give Way sign at the Stanton Wick junction – The sign was still awaited.

Re: The Rural 20 mph speed limit consultation – B&NES Council had stated that they intended introducing the 20 mph speed limits within the parish, areas included Bromley Road through the village, The Drive, Highfields, Sandy Lane, Upper Stanton and a section of Stanton Wick Lane. They had invited any comments, and had placed the official Road Traffic Order. No installations had taken place to date.

Re: The Chairman of B&NES Council Community Awards 2014/2015 – Council's nominees had been notified of their nominations, by B&NES Council, and had been invited to the presentation evening to be held on 29th January 2015.

Re: The request to set up a Youth Forum – There was nothing new to report at this stage.

Re: The request/suggestions for improved vision at The Toll House junction – B&NES Highways had stated that they had visited the location, assessed council's suggestions, and would re-site some of the signage that impedes vision. No action to date.

Re:14/85(Parishioners Comments) – Anti-Slip material on wooden PROW footbridges – B&NES PROW Department had stated that they no longer fit, or recommend the fitting of, wire mesh on the bridges as it wears, becomes a trip hazard and increases their liability. They would also discourage the fitting of such materials by third parties. During subsequent discussion abrasive strips were suggested as an alternative, but it was stated that this option would be very expensive.

Re:14/86 (Correspondence) – Grit Bin – The preferred size and location site of the grit bin at Stanton Wick was agreed, the relevant bin would now be ordered. There had been no reply from B&NES Council reference council's request for them to provide bins at Stanton Wick and Highfields. Cllr. K Mountford agreed to investigate costs, etc, of other grit bin providers for comparison purposes.

Re:14/92 – The Housing Development Boundary & Neighbourhood Plan Team Review – Subsequent to the circulation of discussion documentation at the last meeting, the clerk reported that he had received no comments from councillors.

Planning decisions to date: -

11/05078/VAR – Filer's Coaches – To increase the number of parking spaces from 12 to 20 at The Coach Yard – Still no decision to date. Cllr. J Sparks stated that B&NES Planning Department were awaiting further information from the applicant.

14/02856/FUL – Mr T Smart – Change of use of land and buildings to a single dwelling, ancillary residential accommodation, employment space, garaging, spa and stables at The Old Colliery Site – No decision to date. B&NES Planning Department had stated that they were awaiting further information from the applicant.

14/02858/FUL – Mr T Smart – Conversion of industrial buildings to seven dwellings, garages and associated work at The Old Colliery Site – No decision to date. B&NES Planning Department had stated that they were awaiting further information from the applicant.

15/07 – NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

14/05018/FUL – Mrs K Mountford – Erection of a first floor rear extension at Glasshouse Cottage – Circulated and commented upon between meetings. The application is identical to the original application, council therefore reiterated their comments, i.e. – No objections ‘per say’ because the proposed development is in keeping in style with the original property and is not visible from the road. However council make several observations: - The percentage increase in volume of the proposed development may exceed the 33% of the original house. The next door property raise objection to potential loss of privacy from being overlooked and, although one does not have a right to a view, the proposed development may impinge on the view to the west from the first floor window of Orange Tree Cottage as the window is a protruding ‘V’ shape. – No notified decision to date but reported verbally as having been refused.

14/05342/FUL – Mr & Mrs E G Bond – Conversion of recreational building to dwelling and new garage (Renewal of application 04/01778/FUL) at Green Acres – This application was still in circulation so council made no comment at this stage.

15/08 – PARISHIONERS COMMENTS AND VIEWING OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The clerk reported on the content of an e mail received by Cllr. J Chubb-Whittle, between meetings, and the actions taken. A parishioner had requested council to resolve her complaint of aggressive dogs and their abusive owner, whilst passing the dog owners house, but in particular whilst walking in the play area. The alleged abuse had been received following her request to the owner of the dogs that her dogs should be kept on their leads whilst walking in the play area. The complainant had also inferred that she was considering reporting the incident to the Dog Warden and The Police. A decision had been taken to place notices on the entrance gates of the play area, on the local noticeboard, and in the Parish Magazine, which would hopefully remind dog owners to keep their dogs under control and to clean up after them whilst walking through the play area. Advice from the Dog warden had also been sought, but to date there had been no reply.

There were no other comments received.

15/09 – CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

B&NES Council had forwarded a copy of their Budget Proposals which had been circulated. B&NES Council had invited comment on the latest stages of their Placemaking Plan. Drop-In presentations had been arranged and the chair and the clerk had attended the presentation at Chew Magna on 10th December 2014.

A ‘Parish on Line’ presentation was held on 10th December 2014, the chair and the clerk had attended.

A meeting of ‘The Chew Valley Forum’ was held on 20th December 2014, the chair and the clerk had attended, relevant paperwork had been circulated. The next meeting of ‘The Forum’ will be held on 12th February 2015, members of the public are invited to attend.

B&NES Council had stated that council’s Precept Requirement should be requested by 4th February 2014.

NALC had advised that their booklet ‘Local Councils Explained’ was available for purchase at a cost of £14.99 + P&P. A decision had been taken to purchase a copy.

The Chairman of B&NES Council had forwarded a complimentary bag of daffodil bulbs, the chair had

offered to plant them at an agreed suitable location.

Circulars, Newsletters, Information, received and circulated included: - Curo Newsletter, LCR Newsletter, Police News- Sheet, Airport Newsletter and copies of Freshford's and Stowey-Sutton's Neighbourhood Plan.

15/10 – ALLOTMENT RENTS FOR 2016

The contractual agreement requires council to inform the plot holders of any change in rental charges twelve months in advance. As the plot holders had agreed, at a meeting held early in 2014, to maintain the access area between their plots and the boundary hedge, to help reduce the maintenance costs incurred by council, it was agreed that the rental charges for the plots would remain the same as for 2015 at £60.00 per plot.

A new/amended contract, to include the additional plot holders' responsibilities and council's statement of their maintenance responsibilities, will need to be produced and signed by the plot holders. It was suggested that, hopefully, this could be achieved in February when the reminder letters for the rent due for 2015 are issued.

15/11 – CONTRACT WORK FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL – 2015 TO 2016

It was agreed that tenders would be invited for Parish Council work to include: - Play Area Maintenance. Play Area Inspections. Allotment Site Maintenance. Cemetery Site Maintenance and Public Rights of Way Clearances. The closing date for the return of sealed tenders will be 28th February 2015.

It was agreed that the 'invites to tender' would be advertised in the Parish Magazine and existing contractors should be asked if they wished to re-tender.

15/12 – DRAFT BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUIREMENT FOR 2015/2016

Cllr. J Swift had produced draft proposals which had been previously circulated to the councillors. Following discussion it was agreed to adopt the draft budget and to apply for a total precept of £8,976.00, which is the same amount as for the previous financial year. Cllr. Swift was thanked for producing the draft presentation.

15/13 – ELECTIONS – MAY 2015

The Parish Council wished to remind parishioners that as well as a General Election there will also be elections taking place for a Ward Councillor and for Parish Councillors in May 2015. They would encourage anyone who meets the legal requirements and who has an interest in local affairs and the community to consider standing for the Parish Councillor elections. It was agreed that a prepared statement to this effect would be placed in the parish magazine.

15/14 – AN ADDITIONAL NOTICEBOARD

Council had received a suggestion that an additional noticeboard sited at Tarnwell could be beneficial to parishioners in that area. The suggestion was generally agreed and locations to site the board were discussed, permission and agreement would obviously have to be obtained initially. Council would welcome any additional parishioner's comments.

15/15 – RECYCLING BINS AND CONTAINERS

Council had received a complaint of refuse and recycling containers being made available for collection far too early, sometimes days in advance. The Local Authority request householders to make the containers available from 7.00 am on the due day of collection but not before 8.00 pm on the previous night. Council request that householders abide by the local authority's request. Placing the containers at the roadside too early leads to unsightly objects being on view for far too long and they are also prone to animal and weather damage.

15/16 – FINANCE REPORT AND CHEQUES FOR SIGNATURE

The clerk reported that £4,000.00 had been switched between accounts to balance and £137.72 had been received from the Surgery Coach Honesty Box, having been donated during the previous four months.

Cheques for signature: -

Filer's Coaches	- Surgery Coach (Nov £100), (Dec £125)	- £ 225.00
Stanton Drew Parish Hall	- Bookings for six meetings in 2015	- £ 90.00
F Croucher	- Allotment Site Rental for 2015	- £ 400.00
J A Harvey	- Clerk's Salary (Oct. to Dec.)	- £ 1,203.60
HMRC	- Tax on clerk's salary (Oct. to Dec.)	- £ 300.90
S Edwards	- Play Area Inspections (9 weeks Nov. & Dec.)	- £ 108.00
J A Harvey	- Petty Cash for the clerk	- £ 50.00

Proposed: Cllr. J Swift, seconded: Cllr. K Mountford and agreed.

15/17 – DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Parish Surgery - Thursday 5th February 2015 – 6.00 to 7.00 pm.
Parish Council - Thursday 5th March 2015 – 7.30 pm.

_____ CHAIRMAN _____ DATE

