

## **STOKE PARISH COUNCIL**

**A Meeting of Stoke Parish Council was held at The Forge, Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath on the 2nd October 2023.**

**Present:** Councillors Peter Williams (Chair), Sue Abel, Liz Eden, Paul Eden, Malcolm Gulliver, Jill Howe, Jean Jackson, Alyson Jewson, Chris Jewson, Liz Miller and Paul Pittaway.

**In attendance:** Neil Gulliver (Parish Clerk) and D/Cllr David Nicholl.

### **142/23 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Dan Bright and Chris Cooke (Parish Lengthsman).

### **143/23 Declarations of Interest**

#### **144/23 Requests for Dispensation**

None.

### **145/23 Adjournment of Meeting for Public Question Time**

#### **(1)Members of the Public**

No members of the public were present.

#### **(2)County Councillor Kyle Daisley**

#### **(3)District Councillors David Nicholl and Harrison Rone-Clarke**

D/Cllr Nicholls comments included under Minute 147/23 below.

### **146/23 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 4 September 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 4 September 2023 were approved and signed by the Chair.

### **147/23 Planning Applications**

#### **1) New Applications**

None.

#### **2) Planning Appeals**

##### **i) Land at Intall Fields Farm, South of Stoke Pound Lane, Stoke Prior**

The Chair commented that since the original planning application had been considered by the Parish Council there had been further accidents on the Hanbury Road and the number of HGVs using that road had increased.

Several Parish Councillors and D/Cllr David Nicholl commnetd about the importance of getting the message out to all parishioners the need to oppose this application and to submit their comments to the Planning Inspector by the 13 October.

The Chair proposed that the Parish Council should set up its own Facebook page and to use that to get the information out to the community. Liz Eden seconded the proposal and on being put to a vote was carried by 10 votes to 1. Liz Eden agreed to set up the Facebook page which would be monitored by members of the Parish Council.

It was also agreed that the Clerk should arrange for copes of the Notice of Appeal to be posted in the Parish Notice Boards and that he should write to the Planning Inspector emphasising the

increased traffic issues highlighted earlier.

## ii) Land at Sugarbrook Lane, Stoke Pound Lane, Stoke Prior (Application No. 23/00825)

The Parish Council considered this appeal but were unsure how it related to previous planning applications for Sugarbrook Nurseries. The Clerk agreed to contact the Planning Officers to get clarification on this issue and to inform Councillors accordingly.

### 148/23 Recreation Areas

The Chair reported that he would be meeting with local residents on Wednesday 11 October to discuss the final layout of the new play equipment at Shaw Lane Recreation Area. He asked other Councillors to join him at the meeting.

The Clerk confirmed that the S106 funds had now been paid into the Parish Council's bank account. He added that as the original £40,000 had been index linked the Parish Council had actually received £47,803.16.

### 149/23 Urgent Decisions taken since the Council's last meeting

None.

### 150/23 Finance

#### (1) Invoices for Payment for September 2023

The payments totalling £10,154.18 were unanimously agreed as follows:-

	Cost £	Method
<b>Direct Debits Payment</b>		
<i>Cartridge World – Copier Rental</i>	23.79	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>23.79</b>	-
<b>Payments made since the last Parish Council Meeting</b>		
ERCO Systems	474.14	Online
M. Baker	75.00,	"
Boston Seeds	190.99	"
Fence-Line Ltd	895.56	"
Eventures	397.20,	"
Clerk's net salary for September 2023	XXXX	"
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>3298.87</b>	-
<b>Cheques/Payments to be authorised at the Parish Council Meeting</b>		
HM Revenue & Customs – Tax/Ni on Clerks salary – September 2023	430.16	Chq No.1218
Clerk's Expenses & other Parish Council Expenditure for September 2023	84.50,	Online
Bromsgrove District Council	377.96	"
Westcotec	4854.00,	"
IDG Garden Services	736.00,	"
Chris Cooke	348.90,	-
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>6831.52</b>	-
<b>Total Value of Payments for September 2023</b>	<b>10154.18</b>	-

#### (2) Financial Management Statement for September 2023

The Parish Council noted the report.

### **151/23 Christmas Tree Festival 2023**

The Chairman confirmed that he would make the donation to the Church as part of their Christmas Tree Festival. It was therefore agreed that the Parish Council should have a tree at the Festival and the arrangements would be organised by Sue Abel.

### **152/23 Carols in the Park 2023**

The Chair confirmed that this year's Carols in the Park would be held on Saturday 9 December, 2023. He added that he would arrange for new banners to publicise the event.

### **153/23 Stoke Prior Village Hall Management Committee**

After discussion, it was agreed that Liz Eden would represent the Parish Council on the Management Committee.

### **154/23 Parish Lengthsman's Report**

The Chair commented that a complaint had been raised with Bromsgrove District Council at the end of August regarding the litter in the lay-by on Harbours Hill but no response had been received. D/Cllr asked for information about this complaint together with other fly tipping issues so that he could raise them with the appropriate officers.

### **155/23 Correspondence**

The Clerk reported that he had received an email from the Bursar at Bromsgrove School regarding the problem of local residents parking on the double yellow lines outside the School entrance. He had replied to the Bursar pointing out that there was little that the Parish Council could do but suggested that she contact the Local Policing Team who would be able to help.

### **156/23 Councillors Points of Information and Items for Future Meetings**

Christmas Lights Competition - it was agreed that Alyson Jewson and Jean Jackson would judge Stoke Heath and Jill Howe and Liz Miller would do Stoke Prior.

Sue Abel confirmed that the Remembrance Service would be held on Sunday 12 November - venue to be confirmed. She added that she would arrange a wreath and would be attending the service to represent the Parish Council. It was unanimously agreed to make a donation of £100 to the British Legion in recognition of Remembrance Day.

Sue Abel asked whether the Parish Council had written formally to Diane Brown to thank her for her long service as a Parish Councillor. The Clerk was asked to write on behalf of the Parish Council.

Jill Howe commented that she had received a request for street lighting in Cloverdale. The Chair replied that all street lighting in Stoke Prior was paid for by the Parish Council and did not have the financial resources to increase the number of current street lights.

### **157/23 Date of Next Meeting**

It was confirmed that the Parish Council's next meeting would be held on Monday 6 November 2023 commencing at 7.30pm at The Forge, Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Chairman