

STOKE PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual General Meeting of Stoke Parish Council was held at Stoke Prior Village Hall on the 3rd May 2017.

Present: Councillors Peter Williams (Chairman), John Ellis (Vice Chairman), Sue Abel, Diane Brown, Liz Eden, Paul Eden, Jill Howe, Chris Jewson, Alyson Jewson, Liz Miller, Keith Shakespeare and Dean Smith.

In attendance: Neil Gulliver (Parish Clerk), Chris Cooke (Parish Lengthsman) and 1 Member of the Public.

057/17 Election of Chairman

John Ellis, seconded by Alyson Jewson, moved and it was unanimously agreed that Peter Williams be elected as Chairman of Stoke Parish Council for the ensuing year.

058/17 Election of Vice Chairman

The Chairman, seconded by Jill Howe, moved and it was unanimously agreed that John Ellis be elected as Vice Chairman of Stoke Parish Council for the ensuing year.

059/17 Apologies

None.

060/17 Declarations of Interest

None.

061/17 Requests for Dispensation

None.

062/17 Public Question Time:

No issues were raised.

063/17 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 3 April 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on the 3 April 2017 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

064/17 Urgent Decisions since the Council's last Meeting

The Chairman reported that the booking of the Film Night had been confirmed with the organisers and the Clerk would now go ahead with the necessary arrangements including the provision of mobile toilets and first aid support.

The Chairman added that the Clerk had confirmed with the organisers of the Salt King 200 event that the Parish Council would be participating. He hoped that as many of the Parish Councillors as possible would be able to help with the Council's input either on the day or before. It was agreed that this should be included on the agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

065/17 Membership of Committees and Working Groups

In considering the list of committees and working groups etc, the following changes were agreed:-

Planning Committee – Liz Miller to replace Jill Howe.

Communications Committee – Liz Eden to join the Committee.

Delete the Fete Working Group.

Stoke Prior Village Hall Management Committee – Jill Howe to replace Keith Shakespeare.

Worcestershire CPRE – The Chairman to replace Dean Smith.

066/17 Finance

(1) Invoices for Payment

It was unanimously agreed to approve the payments as set out on the list circulated at the meeting.

(2) Financial Management Statement for April 2017

This was noted.

(3) Final Budget for 2017/18

The Clerk explained that there had been no change to the allocation of the funds to the individual budget heads. The only change related to the level of unallocated reserves which had been slightly amended as a result of the final end of year bank balance being confirmed. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to accept the revised budget.

(2) Summary of Receipts and Payments for 2016/17

The Parish Council approved the summary of receipts and payments for 2016/17 and agreed that they could be signed off by the Chairman.

067/17 Progress Reports by the Chairman and the Clerk

The Chairman stated that he had nothing to add to the matter raised under Minute 064/17 earlier.

068/17 Project Updates

The Clerk stated that there was nothing to report under this item.

069/17 Diary Commitments

It was noted that the public inquiry relating to the Intall Fields Farm site would be held on the 12 September 2017.

070/17 Correspondence

None.

071/17 Councillors' Points of Information and Items for Future Meetings

John Ellis stated that he was aware that the new round of bids for the New Homes Bonus Scheme monies would be starting soon. The Clerk agreed to follow this up.

Paul Eden stated that one of the trees along the A38 bordering the Stoke Heath Recreation Area was leaning over badly and required attention.

Alyson Jewson expressed her concern that a lot of the daffodils along the A38 had been mown down by the local council.

Jill Howe asked for an update on the enforcement work relating to the former Sugarbrook Nurseries site. The Clerk agreed to follow this up.

General comments were made about the need to understand how the various planning departments at the District Council. The Clerk suggested that it might be helpful if he were to invite the Enforcement Officer to a future meeting to explain how they work. This was agreed.

072/17 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the Parish Council's next meeting would be held on Monday 5th June 2017 commencing at 7.30pm at the Hall Annexe, Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath.

The meeting closed at 7.43pm

Chairman