

STOKE PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Stoke Parish Council was held in The Hall Annexe at Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath on the 2nd July 2018.

Present: Councillors Peter Williams (Chairman), Diane Brown, Jill Howe, Chris Jewson, Alyson Jewson, Liz Miller and Penny Power.

In attendance: Neil Gulliver (Parish Clerk) and Stan Petrovic (Assistant Clerk).

093/18 Apologies

Apologies were received from John Ellis and Keith Shakespeare.

094/18 Declarations of Interest

Alyson Jewson declared an interest in Agenda item 11.

095/18 Requests for Dispensation

None.

096/18 Adjournment of Meeting for Public Question Time

1) Members of the Public

2) County Councillor Chris Bloore and District Councillors Malcolm Glass and Mike Thompson

There were no members of the public or County and District Councillors present.

097/18 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 4 June 2018

It was noted that Chris Cooke had been recorded as being in attendance which was an error.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 16 May 2018 as amended were then approved and signed by the Chairman.

098/18 Urgent Decisions taken since the Council's last meeting

None.

099/18 Planning Applications

There were no applications to be considered.

100/18 Planning History

The Assistant Clerk presented his report setting out the planning history since January 2017. He added that this document would be maintained and brought to future meetings to keep Councillors informed.

101/18 Inspection of Children's Play Areas

The Assistant Clerk presented the report highlighted the issues raised following the recent

inspection by RoSPA. It was agreed that the 5 items highlighted as medium risk should be dealt with as soon as possible.

With regard to the damaged see-saw at Ryefields Road Recreation Area, it was agreed that it should be removed as soon as possible and the Clerk would arrange for a replacement to be installed.

102/18 Councillor Training

It was agreed that Penny Power should attend the CALC training courses on the 3rd and 17th July 2018.

With regard to the planning training to be provided by Bromsgrove District Council, the Clerk confirmed that he would be looking at possible dates in the second half of September 2018.

103/18 Provision of Second Defibrillator

The Clerk reported that he had met with officers from the Avoncroft Arts Society and they had agreed in principle to the second defibrillator being sited at their site. Details of the arrangement were still to be agreed but the Society seemed happy to provide the siting and electricity supply whilst the Parish Council met all other costs.

After discussion, it was unanimously agreed to go ahead and purchase the second defibrillator and the Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements as soon as possible.

104/18 Finance

(1) Invoices for Payment – June 2018

It was unanimously agreed to approve the list of payments circulated at the meeting.

(2) Financial Management Statement for June 2018

This was noted.

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council had now received notification that the grant of £500 from Cty Cllr Bloore towards the cost of the repairs to the VAS signs was on its way.

105/18 Approval of Annual Return and the Governance Statement

The Parish Council gave their unanimous approval to the Chairman and the Clerk being given authority to sign off the Annual Audit Return and approval was also given to the Annual Governance Statement contained therein.

106/18 Project Updates

The following updates were provided:-

Film Night – The Chairman confirmed that arrangements were continuing to be made to hold the film night on Saturday 1st September 2018. It was agreed that the preferred film would be The Greatest Showman. The Chairman added that he would arrange to get the banners and flyers printed. He proposed to display the event on an advertisement trailer which would be sited at different locations around the Parish and he asked Councillors to

help with the leaflet drop around the parish.

The Clerk would liaise with Bromsgrove School regarding parking as well as organising the mobile toilets and the first aid cover. A decision needed to be made as to which film would be shown.

Salt Fest 2018 – It was confirmed that this event would be taking place on the 8/9th September 2018. The Chairman confirmed that he would set up the gazebo and asked for volunteers to man the stand particularly on the first day. Diane Brown confirmed that she would attend on the Saturday afternoon and Jill Howe would attend on the Sunday morning. The Chairman added that he could attend all day on the Sunday but still needed additional helpers.

Conservation Board for Church – The Clerk stated that he had now received 1 quote for the new board at £1075 plus VAT. He would look to get further quotes in time for the next meeting.

Picnic Site – The Chairman asked the Clerk to pursue negotiations with the landowner for the retention of the picnic site at Stoke Wharf and to report back to the next meeting.

107/18 Action Summary

In reviewing the Action Summary prepared by the Clerk, it was agreed that he should continue to pursue the idea of installing CCTV at Stoke Heath Recreation Area.

108/18 Diary Commitments

109/18 Correspondence

None.

110/18 Councillors' Points of Information and Items for Future Meetings

Chris Jewson reported that he had looked further into the question of possible sites around the parish as roadside verge nature reserves and also spoken to Chris Cooke and Ian Gerrard. There did not appear to be any real opportunities within the Parish to establish any reserves.

It was noted that, following pressure from the Parish Council and Alyson Jewson, the County Council had finally reinstated the correct width footpath on the B4095 down Ship Hill from the Ewe & Lamb PH.

Diane Brown asked if consideration could be given to installing a bench at the site of the former bus shelter in Whitford Bridge Road.

111/18 Date of Next Meeting

It was noted that the Parish Council's next meeting would be held on Monday 3rd September 2018 commencing at 7.30pm at the Hall Annexe, Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Chairman