

## **STOKE PARISH COUNCIL**

**A meeting of Stoke Parish Council was held in The Hall Annexe at Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2018.**

**Present:** Councillors Peter Williams (Chairman), John Ellis (Vice Chairman), Sue Abel, Alyson Jewson, Chris Jewson, Penny Power and Dean Smith.

**In attendance:** Neil Gulliver (Parish Clerk), Stan Petrovic (Assistant Clerk), Chris Cooke (Parish Lengthsman) and 5 Members of the Public.

### **163/18 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Diane Brown, Jill Howe, Liz Miller and Keith Shakespeare.

### **164/18 Declarations of Interest**

### **165/18 Requests for Dispensation**

None.

### **166/18 Adjournment of Meeting for Public Question Time**

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

A member of the public commented on the continuing problem of speeding traffic along the Redditch Road and the fact that residents concerns were being totally ignored by the County Council.

Two members of the public asked the Parish Council to respond to the planning application in respect of Intall Farm and to challenge the design of the proposed project.

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

There were no County and District Councillors present.

### **167/18 Minutes of the Meeting held on the 5 November 2018**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 5 November 2018 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

### **168/18 Urgent Decisions taken since the Council's last meeting**

The Chairman reported that the Christmas Tree had been purchased and installed at Stoke Heath Recreation Area. The shed at Avoncroft Arts Centre had now been cleared and handed over to the Arts Society.

### **169/18 Planning Applications**

#### **1) 18/01383/CUPRIO – Intall Farm, Stoke Pound Lane, Stoke Prior – Notification for Prior Approval for a Proposed Change of Use of Existing Building to 5 Dwellings.**

After a lengthy discussion, the Parish Council agreed to respond to this application by questioning whether the design and external appearance of the proposed homes was appropriate for such a rural location, whether it was proposed to sell or rent the properties and why it was proposed to retain an agricultural building on the site. The Parish Council

was not prepared to give their support to this application.

**2) 18/01423/FUL - Top Lock Cottage, Stoke Pound Lane, Stoke Prior – Removal of conservatory and construction of single storey extension to rear of premises.**

**3) 18/01422/LBC – The Priory, Brickhouse Lane, Stoke Prior – Installation of Woo Burner Stoves**

The Parish Council supported both these applications.

#### **170/18 Finance**

##### **(1) Invoices for Payment – November 2018**

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

##### **(2) Financial Management Statement for October 2018**

This was noted.

#### **171/18 Dates of Meetings January 2019 to March 2021**

The programme of meetings was approved.

#### **172/18 Parish Council Elections 2019**

The briefing paper prepared by the Clerk was noted.

#### **172/18 Provision of Benches etc in the Parish**

The Parish Council supported the provision of four additional benches at sites across the parish which would be agreed at a later date. It was agreed that the benches should be manufactured from recycled plastics rather than timber. The Clerk was asked to contact local businesses to see if they would be prepared to sponsor the cost of a bench.

#### **173/18 Revised Standing Orders**

Dean Smith suggested that the wording of paragraph 3i should be amended so that speakers could be invited to identify themselves if they wished and to also remove the need to stand when speaking.

It was then unanimously agreed to adopt the revised Standing Orders as amended above.

#### **174/18 Action Summary**

After the Clerk had updated the Council on the progress on items included in the summary, it was agreed that it be noted.

#### **175/18 Diary Commitments**

It was noted that the next area meeting of CALC would be held on Wednesday 12 December 2018.

### **176/18 Correspondence**

The Clerk stated that the Parish Council had received an invitation to attend the Community Carol Service in Bromsgrove on the 12 December starting at 6.30pm. He added that the Annual Report by the Bromsgrove and Redditch Citizens Advice Bureau was now available.

### **177/18 Councillors' Points of Information and Items for Future Meetings**

The Assistant Clerk reported on the increased use of the website and the work ongoing to improve its content.

The Assistant Clerk stated that the defibrillator had now been installed. The question had been raised whether the kit should include pads suitable for use on children. He pointed that out pads were available at a cost of £78 per set. It was agreed that he should check with Community Heartbeat whether children's pads were required and if so a set should be purchased.

It was noted that the Awareness Session would be held in late January or February.

The Chairman reminded Councillors that Carols in the Park would be taking place this Saturday 8 December and any help and support would be appreciated

The Chairman stated that whilst clearing out the shed he had found a number of smartwater signs and it was agreed that they should be displayed across the parish by way of a crime prevention initiative.

### **178/18 Date of Next Meeting**

It was noted that the Parish Council's next meeting would be held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 commencing at 7.30pm at the Hall Annexe, Avoncroft Arts Centre, Stoke Heath.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Chairman