

Minutes of the Stockton Parish Council Monthly Meeting held in the Village Hall, Stockton, at 7.15pm on 15th June 2015

Those present: -

Parish Councillors: Cllrs. H.Collerson, P.Banham, J.Emberton, C.Millidge, J.Neal, and T.Warner.

District Councillor:

County Councillor:

Public: 5 members of the public, plus 2 officers from WRCC

Open Forum

The Chairman welcomed all present to the Parish Council June meeting, and introduced Sarah Brooke Taylor the rural housing enabler from the WRCC to the public and councillors. The Chairman then asked Ms.Brooke Taylor whether in the new Cemex development there could be a local connection added to any local affordable dwellings erected as part of the planning consent. In reply Ms.Brooke Taylor indicated that the Council will have to clarify the housing need through a new housing needs survey, and that where planning permission is already granted it would be difficult to alter the local affordable mix and criteria. The Parish Council can ask the developer to change the mix where there is a detailed housing needs survey as evidence, but this would be difficult to achieve. The Chairman noted that he has asked Ian Southcott of Cemex if anything can be done from their end, and he has agreed to look at the matter.

Ms.Brooke Taylor gave an overview of how housing needs survey works, and how WRCC produces the final report (at no cost to the Parish). Mr.Musson (an attendee) noted that the village has been surrounded by potential development, and asked whether a new housing needs survey could be an encouragement to other developers. Cllr.Neal also asked whether a new survey could be in the interests of Rosconn and the scout field development.

Ms.Brooke Taylor in answer to a question from an attendee gave a short explanation of her role and function.

After discussion it was determined that the Clerk will write to the Member Of Parliament asking how the new "Right to Buy" legislation will affect the new affordable houses recently built and occupied, and whether the legislation is in conflict with charity law.

An attendee noted that some young residents of the village could not afford to rent or part buy these new houses and asked why they were so high, in reply Ms.Brooke Taylor noted that she doesn't work for the housing association and therefore cannot answer, but noted that the question needs to be asked of the housing association

This concluded the presentation by Ms.Brooke Taylor and the Chairman thanked her and her colleague for attendance and they then left the meeting

Mr.Musson then brought up the incident on the sports field whereby an adult injured himself playing a ball game with his children, the adult was not a member of the club and as such had no right to be there, but this is an ongoing problem for the club as it is the only place where there are goalposts and nets and therefore children will want to play there. The Birmingham FA, under whose auspices the club functions, state that all under elevens need to be supervised, with CRB checks undertaken on the supervisors. This in the club's view is a beaurocracy that the club cannot afford in terms of finance and time; however the club will donate goals and nets for erection at the playing field to give children another outlet to play football. The Parish Council agreed to discuss this matter at the meeting

This concluded the Open Forum, and the Parish Council meeting began formally.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from:-

Parish Council: Cllr.S.Bennett, (Cllr.Warner apologised for his late arrival)

Acceptance of Apologies from Parish Councillors

It was proposed by Cllr.Banham and seconded by Cllr.Millidge that the apologies be accepted - This motion was unanimously agreed.

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2015

These minutes being previously circulated, it was proposed by Cllr.Neal and seconded by Cllr. Warner that they be accepted as a true record - This motion was unanimously agreed.

Matters arising from the minutes of the 18th May 2015 meeting

Village Green verge: The Clerk stated that letter to six contractors have been sent with a final date for submission of quotes of 13th July 2015.

Planning Matters: -

a. New Planning Applications

There were no new planning applications

b. Planning Decisions by District Council or County Council

There were no new planning decisions.

Financial Matters

It was proposed by Cllr.Millidge and seconded by Cllr.Neal that all invoices shown in the June 2015 Agenda Appendix 1 be paid - This motion was unanimously agreed.

Correspondence and Reports

There were no items for consideration

Finance & Strategy Group

There were no issues for consideration

Amenity Group

There were no issues for consideration

Correspondence not passed to Action Groups

The Old Football Field development (Scout field): The Clerk read a letter from Mr.Sharples regarding the latest potential developments on the field (reduction of dwellings to 9, and how they have written to the scouts to discuss their position and how they may be able to accommodate them in relation to the latest proposals, and their intentions regarding the playing field. After discussion the Parish Council has no view on the mix of housing, that is a matter for the developer and the planning authority, however the holding objection will remain until the status of the playing field can be determined

Ongoing References

Parish paths partnership: The Chairman walked some of the village footpaths (to Southam), and noted that parts of the footpath will go through the new quarry when it commences either later this year or

next, and he has contacted Ian Southcott of Cemex asking whether the footpaths have been legally diverted from the new quarry area.

Village Mowing: It was noted that there will be a requirement next year to review the current mowing contracts, and add the new areas to them.

Website: Cllr.Emberton noted that he needs to be informed if any content needs to be added.

Housing development: the formal opening ceremony has been deferred until August, and the Parish Council has been asked for ideas regarding the opening ceremony with a local connection.

Playing Field: Cllr.Millidge noted that the wet pour on the children's play area has shrunk with a gap between the edging and the soft surface giving a potential trip hazard, it was determined that the Clerk contact Wicksteed to investigate the problem. It was noted that the shackles above the swing seats need to be checked; Cllr.Millidge will change the seats and talk to M.Childs regarding the shackles.

Goal Posts and nets: After discussion the parish Council concluded that the offer from the FC-CC was a good one, and Cllr.Neal will arrange for them to be transported to the playing field.

Cemetery reservations: the parish Council unanimously agreed that an exception to its rule regarding only one reservation being allowed, and that the parents of A.Spraggett be allowed to reserve two (one either side).

Cemetery extension: The Clerk will obtain the deeds for the extension from the solicitors (Brindley, Twist, Tafft, and James)

Memorial Field: the Chairman indicated that he will arrange for the weeds to be controlled prior to the seeding in the Autumn

Additions and Removals to Ongoing References

There were no additions or removals.

Parish Council Policies

All policies were previously circulated and the Parish Council unanimously approved their adoption

Parish Council Calendar Actions

Review Financial regulations and appoint Internal Auditor: These regulations were formally approved (see Parish Council Policies above) and the internal auditor appointed at the last Parish Council meeting.

Review Standing Orders: These orders were formally approved (see Parish Council Policies above)

Audit of parish paths: the Chairman has commenced with the path to Southam

Training and Meetings

There were no training events or meetings for comment. Cllr.Warner will attend the Parish Council Induction day on October 10th at Corley village hall.

District Council issues

The Chairman read a letter from District Cllr.Riches apologising for his absence, and indicating the latest situation regarding the Core Strategy. The proposals will be put to a District Council meeting in June to adopt a large part of the strategy but cannot formally be adopted until the Secretary of State approves. Clarity on housing numbers should be available by July.

County Council issues

There were no issues for consideration.

Other Issues

Fly posting: Cllr.Neal noted that circus Ginnette has fly posted all across the village, and they never seem to take them down.

Beer festival: Cllr.Neal noted that during the festival the FC-CC had a family afternoon at the sports field, and will attempt to have a further family day later in the summer, and asked about the state of

repair of the swing boats. The Chairman indicated that some repairs have been carried out, but will need further inspection.

Cllr.Millidge indicated that *cars were parking on the village green*, and that she will inform PC Cramp

Street markings: It was noted that all street markings have been renewed

PCC: It was noted that an email from Karen Ellis the ambassador for the PCC has been received in which she offered to attend a Parish Council meeting

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.45pm.