

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Stockton Parish Council held in the Village Hall, Stockton,
at 7.15pm on 17th December 2018**

Those present: -

Parish Councillors: Cllrs.: H.Collerson, J.Emberton, C.Millidge, W.Rumsey, T.Warner, and H.Kittendorf

District Councillor:

County Councillor: Cllr.A.Crump

Public: 2 members of the public

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance. The Chairman then brought agenda items 21, and 19, forward to facilitate County Cllr. A.Crump. and then agenda item 20 will be brought forward for discussion

Item 19. County Council Issues

Cllr.Crump noted that the PCC is entering a consultation regarding a potential increase in funding available to the police from the Council Tax. The range of increase will be either £12, £18, or £24 to pay for an increase in police officers (it was noted by the Chairman that the government allows PCC to increase funding by up to £24. Cllr. Crump also noted that from the Council Tax 11% goes to the police with 8% going to the District Council.

A petition was received from residents in Stratford asking the District Council to lobby central government for another referendum on leaving the EU.

Item 18. A426 crossroads consultant's report

The main points raised by the report were identified as:-

Automatic sign should be working not inoperative

Road signs should be simplified

Junction should be changed from "Give Way" to "Stop"

Junction should be single lane rather than double lane

Speed should revert to national standard

In reply to this report which was sent to the traffic and highways the following was received from a traffic engineer at the County Council

The vertical profile from Long Itchington should be raised to a level platform which will cost approximately £6000 with the total costs for all measures is approximately £18,000

It was agreed that this response is totally unacceptable as it doesn't address any of the issues raised in the report, the Chairman will respond and a meeting hopefully arranged between the Parish Council and the County highways to discuss the report and the CC response.

There being no further County Council issues the Chairman thanked Cllr.Crump for his attendance and Cllr.Crump. left the meeting.

Item 20. Request for a grave space in Stockton cemetery

The Clerk noted a request from a recent resident of Stockton that her daughter in law (who was married in Stockton) has died and her son wanted to bring her to be buried in the village cemetery. A detailed discussion followed and it was with regret that the Parish Council decided that it could not grant permission for that burial to take place in Stockton, noting that to allow it would set a precedent that would not be in the best interests of Stockton.

It was agreed however that a space for cremated remains would be allowed.
The Clerk is to pass this information to the recent resident.

Item 1. Open Forum

A member of the public wished the Parish best wishes for Christmas and the New Year and noted that the traffic at Kings House is causing chaos at the top of the hill. In reply the Chairman noted that he has raised the issue of damage to the verges at the crossroads with the highways department and what liability contractors must replace and repair any damage.

A member of the public noted that her family bought two small Christmas trees in pots and together with some small decorations placed them on the grave of a loved one, shortly afterwards both pots were stolen and associated decorations causing some grief to the family who placed them there. However, a tree provider Crockets from Napton have offered to plant a bare root replacement tree in the cemetery for other people to use for the purpose of remembering loved ones at Christmas, and this tree will be planted in January to allow time for it to root before the next Christmas season. The member of the public asked the Parish Council for permission to have this tree placed in the cemetery, and after discussion it was agreed that it could be placed at the top right part of the cemetery.

There were no further issues under Open Forum

Item 2. Apologies for Absence

Parish Cllrs. All Cllrs present
District Cllr:
County Cllr:

Item 3. Acceptance of Apologies from Parish Councillors

As all Cllrs were present no apologies for absence were necessary.

Item 4. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

Item 5. Minutes of the annual meeting held on the 15th October 2018

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

Item 6. Matters arising from the minutes of the 15th October 2018

Playing Field: The Clerk will ask Darren Cooper when he is going to trim the hedges on the playing field.

Memorial Field: The Clerk was instructed to contact Shipston On Stour Town Council to find out how they funded the named bricks at their memorial stone.

Playing Field: The Clerk was instructed to commence registering the playing field as an asset of community value.

Item 7. Planning Matters:

a. New Planning applications

18/03942/TPO, Kings House: To fell 10 trees and remove 1 hanging branch. – **No representation.**

b. Planning Decisions by District Council or County Council

Item 8. Financial Matters

It was proposed by Cllr. Millidge and seconded by Cllr. Emberton that all invoices shown in the December 2018 Agenda Appendix 1 be paid - **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

Item 9. Precept 2019-202

Precept: After detailed discussion of the budget for 2019 – 2020 and the spending plans for that year, it was unanimously decided that the precept should be set at £25,000

Item 10. Correspondence

SLCC Practitioner Conference: It was unanimously agreed that the Clerk will attend this conference

Item 11. Finance and Strategy Group report

There were no issues to report

Item 12. Amenity Group report

There were no issues to report

Item 13. Correspondence not passed to Action Groups

There were no items for discussion

Item 14. Ongoing References

Street Lighting: After discussion it was agreed that the list of lighting to be changed was altered and will proceed in the next financial year

Memorial Field: It was noted that the WWI Memorial bench has arrived and the Chairman will talk to our parish council contractor to determine if he physically can fit the bench and associated slabs or whether we should ask Noralle for help. Cllr. Emberton noted that some of the painted wreaths have stained the stone and the Chairman will take some cleaning fluid and clear the stains.

Cemetery extension: The Chairman has planted the two WI trees either side of the gate entrance.

Item 15. Removal and Additions to Ongoing References.

There was no addition or removals of items.

Item 16. Parish Council Calendar Actions

Monthly budget monitoring: The budget monitoring spreadsheet was previously sent to Cllrs with no outstanding issues and approved.

Audit of street lights: All lights functioning

Check grit bins: This was noted and it was pointed out that the grit was for the roads and not parishioners' driveways.

Item 17. Training and meetings

There were no issues to report

Item 18. District Council issues

There were no issues for consideration

Item 19. A426 crossroads consultant's report

Brought forward to start of the agenda. See page 5

Item 20. A426 Stockton cemetery

Brought forward to start of the agenda. See page 5

Item 21 County Council issues

Issues by County Cllr. Crump were brought forward to start of the agenda. See page 5.

Other Issues for information only

Village green: It was noted that some large bags full of grit are left on the village green, the Clerk is to write asking that they be removed

St. Michael's Crescent: It was noted that the developer of the land at the garages has left the road and pavement in a very muddy state, the Chairman will contact the developer to get it cleaned up.

Mount Pleasant pavement: Cllr. Warner has been asked what is going to happen to the pavement once the development has finished, Cllr. Warner will look at the original planning permissions to see what was agreed as conditions.

Hedge at Post Office Lane: It was noted that this hedge needs to be trimmed back.

Street cleaning: Cllr. Millidge noted that the street needs to be swept from leaves, Clerk will talk to street scene.

Pavement from Nelson Club: Cllr. Emberton noted that the pavement from the Nelson Club to the football club is in a bad state, and the Chairman noted that as part of the planning conditions all roads and pavements must be made up to the acceptable standard by Taylor Wimpey.

Trees on the hill: It was noted that some trees are at an alarming angle in the hedge, the Chairman will bring this to the attention of the highways department.

Broadband: It was agreed that the Clerk make an expression of interest.

2nd Memorial bench: Other types were seen and an interest in a WW2 bench was made.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm.