

Minute Number 08 (24 - 25)

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Stockton Parish Council
Held in Stockton Village Hall at 7.15pm on 18th November 2024.**

Those present: -

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

District Councillor: District Cllr.A.Crump

County Councillor: County Cllr.A.Crump

Public: 8 members of the public.

The Chair welcomed all to the monthly meeting of Stockton Parish Council

The Chair brought agenda items 13.3 and 13.5 forward for discussion and determination

Item 13.3. Playing Field and Sports Field.

The Chairman gave an overview of the situation regarding the sports field, and the legal requirements needed for a new lease to be granted. The Chairman pointed out that any new lease had to be between Cemex and the Parish Council given that a lease could not be granted to the sports club for legal reasons, and he and the Clerk recommended that the Parish Council surrender the existing lease and enter into a new lease for the sports field with Cemex.

After discussion by the Parish Council, it was proposed by Cllr.Millidge and seconded by Cllr. Emberton that the Parish Council enter into a new lease with Cemex for the sports ground - **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

Item 13.5. A426 Stockton Crossroads.

A member of the public asked that whether in the light of the recent accident anything could be done to alleviate the situation at the crossroads (she also indicated that she would be willing to help in any way that is necessary). The Chairman asked whether she has considered setting up a small action group to lobby the County Council for improvements.

Cllr.A.Crump indicated that he will lobby the road safety partnership group at the County Council to improve safety at the crossroads (e.g. a stop sign on the Long Itchington side of the crossroads: the speed light made to work: and temporary signs on the Ruby side of the crossroads).

The Chairman will put these thoughts together and circulate to all Cllrs before the Clerk sends a letter to the County Council again about the crossroads.

The Chairman also noted to the members of the public present that should they wish to set up a group to look at this issue the Parish Council has a small grant funding policy.

The Chair then brought agenda item 11 forward for discussion and determination

Item 11 Village Hall Broadband and Heaters

The Chairman noted that the Village Hall Committee preference is to replace the heaters given that they have been in situ for a long time and repairs probably would not be an economical choice. The VH Committee has sent a list of replacement cost to all Parish Cllrs, and the Chairman noted that in its last budget the Parish Council increased its budget requirement to take account of potential energy costs increases that didn't occur to the level that was first thought.

The Chairman therefore proposed that a sum of of £1,000 be paid to the Village Hall Committee to support the replacement cost on new heaters – **this motion was unanimously agreed**

It was noted that a broadband arrangement has been agreed between Stockton's News and the Village Hall Committee whereby Stockton's News will cover the costs of the physical introduction of broadband (Connection fee £150, Power sockets £96, Cabling £312) and the Village Hall Committee are asking the Parish Council to cover the monthly costs of the supplier provision.
After discussion the Parish Council agreed in principle to fund the monthly contract fee or part of it.

Items 17.& 18 District and County Council Issues

Cllr.Crump sent his report to the meeting to all Cllrs prior to the meeting and he noted the emergency works, carried out by National Grid that resulted in the closure of Post Office Lane and noted that they can be carried out with little or no prior notification and that he will try to see that all road closures have the proper notification.

Cllr.Crump noted that the Cemex Trustees grant funding is coming to an end next year.

Cllr.Crump noted that he will talk to the Road Safety Partnership regarding the collisions at the A426 Stockton crossroads.

Cllr.Crump note that WFRS is making progress with consultation with all representative bodies, and the fire training facility in Rugby is now complete. The fleet replacement programme continues. Although SDC indicates that all refuse vehicles now use HVO fuel but not all vehicles across the district use this.

Cllr.Crump noted that some key message regarding the use of e scooters and bikes have been published and he hopes that all users read them.

Cllr. Crump noted that Warwickshire County Council despite the national pressures on finances, has stabilised its in year financial position.

Cllr.Crump noted that WCC is committed to supporting victims of domestic abuse access to secure and safe accommodation.

Item 1. Open Forum

There were no items for consideration.

Item 2. Apologies for absence

All members were present no apologies for absence were required.

Item 3. Acceptance of Apologies

No Acceptance of Apologies were required.

Item 4. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

Item 5 Dispensations

No Dispensations were required

Item 6. Minutes of the 21st October 2024 Parish Council meeting.

These minutes having been previously circulated, It was proposed by Cllr. Kittendorf and seconded by Cllr. Millidge that the minutes of the 21st October 2024 be accepted as a true record - **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

Item 7. Matters arising from the minutes of the 21st October 2024 Parish Council meeting.

There were no matters arising

Item 8. Planning Matters:

a. New Planning applications

There were no planning applications received.

Planning Decisions by District Council or County Council

The Chairman noted that he and the Clerk met with representative of Noralle to look at their resubmission of the planning application for a closed area outside the pub. After discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council will study the application when it is resubmitted.

Item 9. Financial matters

It was proposed by Cllr.Kittendorf and seconded by Cllr. Millidge that all invoices identified on the November 2024 agenda appendix 1 be paid – **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

November 2024 Invoices

Payee	Amount	Cheque Number
Brindley Twist T&J	£900.00	001739
SSE	£172.35	001740
H.Collerson	£83.98	001741

Item 10. Budget and Precept for the financial year 2025-2026

After detailed discussion it was agreed in principle that the precept will be the same for the financial year 2025 – 2026 as it was in 2024 – 2025 (£31, 000), however should the financial circumstances of the Parish Council materially changes this level may be changed prior to the precept demand being made on Stratford on Avon District Council in January 2025.

Item 11. Village Hall Broadband and Heaters.

See discussion at start of minutes

Item 12. Correspondence

There were no items for discussion.

Item 13. Ongoing References

Cemex: The Chairman noted that there was a Cemex liaison committee meeting at which it was indicated that a new planning application will be submitted for the Rugby site for a new process and an extension to existing projects. There will be an application for an extension to dates for the Priors Farm site, and it was noted that new haulage contractor lorries will be seen.

Item 14. Removal and addition to ongoing references

There were no additions to or removals from ongoing references

Item 14. Parish Council calendar actions

Budget monitoring: The budget monitoring spreadsheet was sent previously to all and agreed.

Cemetery and Playing Field safety audit. An external safety audit has now been carried out by an external company, and a cemetery safety inspection will be made as circumstances permit.

Item 15.Parish Council Calendar Actions

Budget Monitoring: The Clerk will send the spreadsheet to all Cllrs.

Safety Audit of cemetery and Playing Field: The audit of the cemetery will be carried out as soon as practicable, and the Playing Field has been externally audited.

Item 16. Training and Meetings

The Chairman noted that he and the Clerk attended the WALC conference and gave a short report on the proceedings.

The Chairman noted that he attended a Bio diversity net gain explanatory meeting, and pointed out that it is still unclear how the whole process will work with a 10% uplift required for planning applications.

Cllr.Emberton attended a SND quarterly meeting which in his view was useful. It was noted that e scooters are illegal in South Warwickshire however they are allowed in Warwick. There was a discussion regarding parking at schools, with some places having parking attendees (lollipop people) and are supported by the police. To start this process it is necessary to get it on to a SNT priority list – it was noted that Stockton is a calm village, but issues must be reported to the SNT (e.g. suspicious vehicles)

Item 17. District Council Issues.

See prior to Item 1.

Item 18. County Council Issues

See prior to Item 1.

Other Issues for information only

It was noted that the dog bin at the Football Club is in a dangerous condition- the Clerk will attend to the matter

It was noted that the dog bin outside the school gate in Becks Lane has fallen over- the Clerk will attend to the matter

Cars parking outside the Village Hall are causing traffic problems especially with buses accessing Post Office Lane.

The Chairman gives his apologies for the next meeting

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

