

Minute Number 09 (23 - 24)

**Minutes of the December Monthly Meeting of Stockton Parish Council
Held in Stockton Village Hall at 7.30pm on 18th December 2023.**

Those present: -

Parish Councillors: Cllrs., H.Collerson, H.Kittendorf, C.Millidge, and W.Rumsey.

District Councillor: Cllr.A.Crump

County Councillor: Cllr.A.Crump

Public: 2 members of the public.

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

Item 1 Open Forum

There were no items brought forward during open forum

Item 2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr.Emberton and Cllr.Warner

Item 3 Acceptance of Apologies

It was proposed by Cllr. Millidge and seconded by Cllr.Kittendorf that these apologies for absence be accepted – **this motion was unanimously carried.**

The Chair brought agenda items 15 &16 Forward to accommodate the principal authority member present.

Items 15 & 16.

County and District Cllr. Crump noted that the WFRS consultation document is now available for comment (and will conclude on 10 March 2024), and that there will be a public meeting in the Grange on 27th February.

Cllr,Crump noted that one option is for Southam Fire Station to be fully staffed from 8.00am to 10.00pm, and that no current stations are being closed, but also noted that residents of the area should respond to this consultation.

Cllr.Crump noted that the station could be staffed part time from 6.00pm to 10.00pm and this may encourage other people to become part time fire fighters.

Cllr.Crump also noted a proposal for a 20mph limit in Southam from the Coventry Road to Oxford Street (perhaps by March 2024) with some on street parking in Oxford Street.

Cllr.Crump has also been asked whether there is/will be some extra support for rural public houses.

The Chairman thanked Cllr.Crump for his funding contribution to the works in George Street.

This completed Cllr.Crump's presentation and after being thanked by the Chair left the meeting.

Item 64 Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest declared.

Item 5. Minutes of the meeting held on the 20th November 2023

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

Item 6. Matters arising from the minutes of the 20th November 2023.

There were no matter arising from those minutes

Item 7. Planning Matters:**a. New Planning applications**

There were no new planning applications

Planning Decisions by District Council or County Council

23/02743/TPO, Stockton House: Arboricultural works as listed on identified trees – **Permission granted**

Item 8. Financial matters

It was proposed by Cllr.Kittendorf and seconded by Cllr.Millidge that all invoices identified on the December 2023 agenda appendix 1 be paid – **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

December 2023 Invoices

Payee	Amount	Cheque Number
SSE	£166.18	001673
R.Stephenson	£15.00	001674
Stratford on Avon DC	£100.00	001675
Cemex UK Ops.	£350.00	001676

Item 9. Correspondence

There were no items for discussion

Item 10. Stockton Parish Council Budget and Precept 2023-24

After detailed discussion of a draft budget provided by the Chairman and the Clerk it **was unanimously agreed** that due to the likely increase in energy fees for street lighting and the certain increase in mowing fees for the cemetery and extension, that the precept for the financial year 2024-2025 be set at £31,000, and that any shortfall will be lawfully taken from the Parish Council reserves.

Item 11. Ongoing References

Village Mowing: Cllr.Millidge noted that contract tender documents have now been sent out and some received we are still awaiting a response from G.Farmer. The tender period closes on 31st December, and Cllr.Millidge will chase these up. The final decision can be made at the January 2024 meeting. Power has been delegated to the Clerk (in consultation with Cllr. Millidge) to try and get an interim cemetery cut.

Playing Field: The Clerk will find a safety audit company for the playing field and send to Cllr.Millidge.

Item 12. Removal and addition to ongoing references

There were no further items for removal and addition.

Item 13. Parish Council calendar actions

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

Playing Field audit. The Clerk will obtain costs for an external safety audit of the playing field.

Item 14. Training and meetings

There was no training undertaken or meetings attended

Item 15. District Council Issues.

See following Item 3.

Item 16. County Council Issues

See following Item 3.

Other Issues for information only

Street cleaning: The Clerk is to ascertain when the next street cleaning will occur so that leaves can be removed,

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 8.50pm

