

STOKE LODGE AND THE COMMON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING ON 12 MARCH 2020

7.00PM AT THE PAVILION, THE COMMON, STOKE LODGE

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Andrew Alsop, Andrew Dyer, Bryan Hopkins, Rebecca Strong, Jon Butler and Brenda Stokes.

Minute Agenda Item

1/9 Welcome and Apologies for absence

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Councillor Tracey Harrison-Ashe, Councillor John Blight and Councillor John Bowyer.

Parish Clerk duties were carried out by an interim clerk due to previous clerk ending his employment.

2/9 Declarations of Interest

None

3/9 Public Speaking Session

No members of the public were present.

4/9 Minutes of Meeting held on 13th February 2020

Councillor Bryan Hopkins proposed and Councillor Andrew Dyer seconded; and upon being put to a vote it was unanimously **resolved** to:

Approve the minutes as an accurate record.

Matters Arising

Damaged grass verges – Parish are looking at carrying out some works on these in the near future when contractors have availability.

Pavements are currently on hold due to the availability of contractors.

Removal of tree works in Sandhurst Close has been opposed by a local resident. Chair has met with tree surgeon and Parish Council are looking to increase the number of trees in the area (probably 8/9 trees) – looking at planting those that have big canopies so that they have the maximum effect on climate change in the area. Councillor Jon Butler asked if we could plant trees along The Common if we can determine ownership. This task will be passed to the new Parish Clerk when recruited.

Bus Shelter is now being installed w/c 30th March 2020.

Planning application for Chelford Grove change of use from retail to home has also been approved subject to conditions. This will mean a loss of retail unit and potentially affect parking in the area.

Play area may need an update in the next 12 months and so Councillors will consider this later in the year.

5/9 Coronavirus Contingency Planning

Once guidance has been issued by Government/ALCA then we will most likely not hold April's meeting. Councillors could then work electronically.

6/9 Flooding Risks in the Parish

Chair has been in contact with contractor and has a job number but is waiting to hear further about this. Chair will chase this up 13/3/20.

Parish Council are unaware of any other flooding risks within the Parish especially in the areas of Maisemore Avenue.

7/9 Recruitment of new Parish Clerk

There have been 3 applications forms completed and submitted and a potential further application. Chair is also meeting another candidate 13/3 to discuss the role. It appears that the increase in hours and salary has attracted more candidates.

Advert will be closing 24 March 2020. Interviews are likely to be held in April and the post to start in May.

8/9 Parish Council Finance Update

- Payments over £500

Advanced Security Systems Ltd £550.80 for annual servicing for fire alarm

Councillor Jon Butler proposed and Councillor Brenda Stokes seconded; and upon being put to a vote it was unanimously **resolved** to:

Approve payment of these invoices

- Councillors were given a copy of all the transactions from April 1st 2019 to date. Councillors requested a copy of the bank statements from April 1st 2019 to date so that they can scrutinize – interim Clerk to download and send around to all Councillors.

9/9 Any items the Chair considers urgent

Roller shutter door service – contractors are booked in to do service next week at a cost of £270 per year.

Councillor R Strong commented that planning applications are continuing to be approved despite Parish Council objections.

I confirm that the minutes are a correct record of the meeting.

Signed:

Date: