

STOKE LODGE AND THE COMMON PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING ON 14th JANUARY 2021

7.00PM VIRTUAL MEETING OVER ZOOM

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Andrew Alsop, Tracey Harrison-Ashe, Andrew Dyer, Rebecca Strong, Jon Butler, Brenda Stokes, John Blight, Bryan Hopkins (part) and Ward Member Franklin Owusu-Antwi

Minute Agenda Item

01.21.1 Welcome and Apologies for absence

Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Councillor John Bowyer sent his apologies. Ward member Sarah Pomfret did not attend.

01.21.2 Declarations of Interest

None

01.21.3 Public Speaking Session

No members of the public attended this meeting.

01.21.4 Ward Members Session

Ward Member Franklin Owusu-Antwi advised that there is some grant money (£450) remaining from this year's budget if any local businesses need some assistance.

A community COVID testing centre is to be set up in Bradley Stoke next week.

01.21.5 Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising from Meeting on 10th December 2020

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

Approve the minutes as an accurate record.

01.21.6 Update on Previous Matters

New Equipment for The Common The picnic bench has arrived and is being stored inside until the COVID threat has passed. No date has yet been received for delivery of the youth shelter or benches. The play area was closed over Christmas due to it being water-logged as well as antisocial behaviour. The area has now been checked, cleaned and reopened.

AP Alsop

11.2.21.

Real time bus timetables delay These arrived broken and have been returned to the manufacturer for replacement. We are awaiting a new date for the installation.

Four Town Transport Councillor Andy Alsop has contacted them for further information in view of the high levels of reserves they hold.

The Hut. It is currently closed. There has been no further communication or developments. We will not be assuming responsibility until the legalities are sorted out.

Payment for Pavements Councillor Andy Alsop has spoken to the council yet again and they have promised to issue a revised invoice urgently.

Signs audit/replacement Councillor Tracey Harrison-Ashe advised that large vehicles are still causing an issue in Maisemore Avenue – A large no through road sign is needed at the entrance to the road. – **Action – full audit and repair of faulty signs to be arranged once COVID restrictions are lifted.**

01.21.7 **Mis-use of Facebook**

There is a facebook page in the name of North Bradley Stoke and Stoke Lodge and The Common. It is sometimes used for political statements but is in no way affiliated to the Parish Council and this needs to be made clear. **Clerk to contact Owners of the site to request that it is stated that it is not connected to the parish council.**

01.21.8 **Queries from Councillor Rebecca Strong:**

Christmas Trees for Recycling on Bourton Avenue

Councillor Andy Alsop has put some signs up advising that this is no longer a tree collection area and the trees which had been placed there have now been removed.

Antisocial Behaviour including failure to wear masks

Councillor Andy Alsop has spoken to the shop owner at Chelford Grove and they have put up additional signage requesting the use of masks. The local PCOs will add the area to their patrols.

Antisocial behaviour in the area of the Pavilion has been an issue and the Police have been called by the public twice to our knowledge. This is highlighting the need for the lightpoles & CCTV to be installed asap – **Action - Councillor Andy Alsop/Clerk to get some additional quotes once the current lockdown is finished.**

The amount of dog mess in the area has increased dramatically – often in bags. There are a lack of bins around Pond Farm and Standish Avenue where it seems to be a particular problem. **Action - identify where bins are most needed.**

Andy Alsop

11.2.21.

Update on Gypsy Patch Bridge

There is a further meeting scheduled for 25th January which will provide us with more information. They are currently still digging out to lower the level of the road.

01.21.9 Use of Titles when commenting on Planning Applications – Councillor Tracey Harrison-Ashe

Councillor Tracey Harrison-Ashe suggested it is a good idea to use the title of Councillor when submitting planning objections or approvals. This give some weight to the application as well as clarity as to the individual views of the Councillors who may not agree with the majority when submissions are made on behalf of the council. There are, of course, situations when this may not be appropriate.

01.21.10 Requests for support/offers of services

- **Play lists for life – supporting people with dementia** – a charity supporting people living with dementia by providing them with music – **Action - Clerk to resend email to all for approval.**
- **CPRE** – the countryside charity – **Action - Clerk to resend email to all for approval.**
- **My Neighbourhood Plan** – all agreed that a neighbourhood plan is needed to try to protect the area – **Action - Clerk to request a quote from this company.**

01.21.11 Parish Council Finance Update

- Invoices over £500 – none
- Bank statements

Councillors were provided with bank statements for the accounts.

Councillor Jon Butler proposed and Councillor Brenda Stokes seconded; and upon being put to a vote it was unanimously resolved to: Approve the bank statements.

- Bank Reconciliation

Councillors were provided with copies of the Bank Reconciliation.

OP/Ashe 11.2.21.

Councillor Bryan Hopkins proposed and Councillor Brenda Stokes seconded; and upon being put to a vote it was unanimously resolved to:

Approve the bank reconciliation for this month.

01.21.12 Planning Applications

3 Chelford Grove – change from retail to residential – this appears to be a retrospective application.

12.20.13 Date of Next Meeting

11th February 2021

At present all future meetings will be held online for those Councillors who can use it.

12.20.14 Any other items the chair considers to be urgent.

None

12.20.15 2021-22 Budget Approval

Present - Councillors Andrew Alsop, Andrew Dyer, Rebecca Strong, Jon Butler, Brenda Stokes, John Blight, Bryan Hopkins

Apologies -Councillor John Bowyer and Councillor Tracey Harrison-Ashe

The proposed budget (see appendix 1 attached) was sent to the full council for their perusal in advance of the meeting. The budget was presented and explained to the Councillors. Some questions were raised and answered during the meeting. A full show of hands confirmed approval from those present. Councillor Tracey Harrison-Ashe confirmed her approval by email.

Upon being put to a vote it was unanimously agreed to: approve the budget for 2021/22.

The amount to be funded by precept is £58,970 this equates to £83.17 per band D equivalent property which is an increase of £0.60 per property from 2020-21. The band D equivalent properties have increased by 1 from 708 to 709.

Action – Clerk to send precept request to South Gloucestershire Council for the sum of £58,970.

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

Signed



Date:

11-2-21