

STOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Stoughton Parish Council held on Monday 8th January 2018 at the Walderton Pumping Station, Walderton

Present: Mr Andrew Elms (Chairman), Mr Michael Gauntlett (Vice Chair), Mr Alun Alesbury, Mr Charles Langmead, Mr Graham Hockley, Mr John Stilwell

Absent: Mrs Sarah Foxall, Mr Robert Sadler, Mrs Mary Williams, PCSO Booker

Residents: 5

1) Apologies for absence

Mrs Sarah Foxall, Mr Robert Sadler, Mrs Mary Williams, PCSO Booker

2) Declarations of Interest by Councillors in Matters on the Agenda

None raised

3) Approval of minutes held on Monday 3rd October to be signed as a true and accurate record

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

4) Matters arising from the Minutes

- a. Stoughton Green; the Clerk informed the Council that she had contacted West Sussex County Council who had confirmed that the area of land in Stoughton known as 'Stoughton Green' was indeed Common Land and not registered Village Green. The Clerk has all the necessary information; she will forward this to Councillor's for them to read, an item will be added to the March Agenda where the Council can take a formal decision as to whether an application should be made by the Parish Council to register the land as Village Green.
- b. Precept; the Clerk confirmed that the Council's request for £9000 precept had been received by Chichester District Council

5) Update on Affordable Housing

In Mrs Williams absence Mr Elms read out the following update from Mrs Williams.

'With regard to the Affordable Housing I have spoken to a fellow councillor from Compton, from the group, and the latest position is they are overcoming some of the Legal Difficulties, and are hoping that in two years it will be completed, in order for this, they are looking for co-operation from the South Downs Committee'

6) Report from WSCC Cllr Viral Parikh

Mr Elms welcomed Cllr Parikh to the meeting and invited him to present his update. Cllr Parikh brought the following to the Council's attention;

Cllr Parikh wished everyone a Happy New Year and brought the following to the Council's attention;

- Operation Bluebottle; a pilot campaign being run by West Sussex County Council, in partnership with Sussex Police, Chichester District Council and West Sussex Fire and Rescue, to tackle the issue of flytipping within the district.
- The small grants fund which looks to support community projects, £1000 and under can be authorised by Cllr Parikh, application over £1000 will go to the North Chichester CLC meeting for a joint decision.

- WSCC have awarded the A27 contract to SISTRA, they are to act as the consultants for the County Council and have been tasked to come up with options in respect of the Chichester bypass.

Mr Elms did ask if something would happen, Cllr Parikh confirmed that something would definitely happen otherwise the money would be lost. There is a A27 meeting taking place on 29th January 2018 Cllr Parikh will feedback and update on proceedings at the next Parish meeting.

A resident asked if Cllr Parikh had any update on the Number 54 bus service. Cllr Parikh had heard nothing about the running of the service but will have a look into it and feed back at the next meeting.

7) Report from PCSO Booker

Mr Elms read out the following update from PCSO Booker:

- On 20th November 2017 there was a report of Pheasant poaching in land belonging to Sindles Farm. It is believed catapults were being used.
- Overnight between 23rd/24th November 2017 a garden shed was broken into in Dean Lane End. Two bicycles were stolen.
- Overnight between 13th/14th December 2017 a metal container was broken into on farmland in Dean Lane End. Two motorbikes/dirt bikes were stolen
- There were also a few reports of fly tipping at various locations across the area.

8) Markwells Wood Update

Mr Elms invited Michael Harbour to update the Council on the latest proceedings regarding Marwells Wood. Mr Harbour informed the Council that the South Downs National Park have not received any application from UKOG regarding the continuation of work at Markwells Wood. The planning department is currently discussing how best to enforce restoration of Markwells Wood – the original restoration was due in September 2016.

A discussion took place regarding the site. Mr Hockley suggested that the Parish Council should write to the SDNPA to ask about the restoration of the site, this was agreed by all present. The Clerk will contact the South Downs National Park on behalf of the Parish Council.

9) Correspondence

A list has been circulated; the Clerk brought the following to the Councils attention;

- A letter was read out from Mrs J Thirwell, who has written to West Sussex County Council to request various speed limit changes throughout the Parish. The Council acknowledged the letter and will wait to hear how they may be able to support.
- Email from SSALC – informing the Parish Council that the new External Auditor will be Moore Stephens.

10) Planning

A list had been circulated prior to the meeting; Mr Alesbury updated the Parish Council on recent planning activity, whilst there have been a few applications there are none which the Parish have felt warrant any objection.

11) Cheques Paid and received

None received.

Mr Elms and Mr Gauntlett signed the cheques.

Chq 436 – HMRC (PAYE Dec) – £91.60

Chq 437 – HMRC (PAYE Jan) – £91.80

Chq 438 – Clerk Wage (Dec £366.95, Jan £367.15 & Home Allowance £60) - £794.10

Chq 439 – SSALC Legal & Finance Day - £108

12) Short opportunity for the public to raise questions Public opportunity

A resident asked if the Parish would write to Portsmouth Water to support a letter Mark Dunn had sent asking for some screening around the building. The Clerk will draft a letter and circulate it to the Council for their approval.

The sign at Racton Bridge has been knocked over, is there any chance this might be replaced with a priority sign? Mr Elms informed the Council that the bridge is due to be replaced. The Clerk will contact Highways and feedback at the next meeting.

A question was raised over the ownership of Walderton Green and who will continue the maintenance of the Green? Mr Elms confirmed that the green is owned by the Parish Council and if new maintenance arrangements are required they would be the responsibility of the of the Parish Council. The Clerk will confirm the boundary of the Green.

A question was asked over the ownership of the area of land at the junction of Breakneck Lane and Cooks Lane, it is believed that West Sussex County Council owns this, the Clerk will confirm.

It was brought to the Councils attention that the drain by Walderton Green is blocked.

13) Any Other Business

Mr Stilwell informed that the Horse riding sign has been knocked down at Dean Lane End,

Mr Hockley informed that there was some fly tipping at Dean Lane End

No other business was raised.

The meeting was closed at 8.23pm.

The next meeting will be on Monday 12th March 2018 at 7.30pm, at Walderton Pumping Station