

STOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Stoughton Parish Council Meeting

Held on: Monday 13th March 2017

At: The Barley Mow, Walderton – due to no one arriving at the Pumping station as advertised the location was moved to the Barley Mow

Present: Councillors:

Mr Michael Gauntlett (Vice Chair), Mrs Sarah Foxall, Mr Graham Hockley, Mr Robert Sadler, Mr John Stilwell,

Other:

Mrs F. Baker (Parish Clerk), WSCC Cllr Sandra James, 2 residents

Absent: Mr Andrew Elms, Mr Alun Alesbury, Mr Charles Langmead, Mrs Mary Williams, PCSO Booker, Julie Tassell (CDC),

1. Apologies for absence

Mr Andrew Elms, Mr Alun Alesbury, Mr Charles Langmead, Mrs Mary Williams, PCSO Booker

2. Declarations of Interest by Councillors in matters on the Agenda

None declared.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th January 2017

Agreed and signed as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

- a. Police and Crime Commissioner; the Clerk informed the Councillors that following the last meeting she had contacted the Police and Crime Commissioners office, regarding the concerns raised over the removal of PCSO Booker and the increase in crimes such as flytipping, poaching and coursing. The Police and Crime Commissioner has responded and confirmed that they will attend the May Annual meeting where they will present to the Councillors and take questions over concerns raised.

The Clerk has written to Caroline Taylor so that the attendance of the Commissioner can be advertised in both the April and May Octagon magazines, the attendance of the Police Crime Commissioner will also be advertised via the Farmers 'what's App' group. Mrs Foxall reminded the Clerk to get in touch with Guy Lockton who will be able to advertise via the Forestside Newsletter.

- b. Flytipping; the Clerk confirmed that she had written to Cllr Barling in response to his last email regarding the levels of flytipping within the Parish, as yet no response has been received.

Discussion took place about the closure of the Hambrook Waste site and the rise in flytipping. Cllr James asked the Parish Council if they would be supportive in principal to further investigation between local Parishes taking on the running costs of the waste site, a rough figure that has been provided is that the yearly cost of operating the site would be £45,000. Cllr Gauntlett put the proposal to all present, Cllr Hockley seconded it was agreed by all present that they would support Cllr James in discovering further information and details about the detailed costings of running the site, the next decision would be based on what Cllr James finds out. The Councillors also agreed to question the Police Crime Commissioner over the issue of flytipping when she visits the Parish at the May meeting.

5. Affordable Housing

No update has been provided. Carried forward to the next meeting.

6. Report from WSCC Cllr Sandra James

Cllr Gauntlett invited Cllr James to present her update to the Parish Council. Cllr James thanked Cllr Gauntlett and brought the following to the Council attention;

- The recent cancellation of the Chichester A27 improvements by Highways England
- There will be a 2% increase in the amount of Council Tax claimed by WSCC, Chichester District Council and Sussex Police have also raised their precept. This is partly in response to the removal of the Government Grant.
- Cllr James is continuing to investigate the process of duplicate payments within the council and paying for things twice, paying for duplicate invoices etc.
- Operation Watershed has been awarded a further £500,000 for the forthcoming financial year; 2017/18
- Markwells Wood; acidisation has been afforded the same definition as Fracking within the Minerals and Waster Plan.
- The County Council Elections will take place in May.

7. Report from PCSO Colin Booker

Cllr Gauntlett read the following update from PCSO Booker;

- On 20th January a vehicle was broken into by Inholmes Wood, nothing was stolen
- On 3rd February we had a report of Poaching/Coursing in the fields by Cooks Lane. Information has been sent to Hampshire Police for further enquiries. This also links with issues on land belonging to Locksash Farm
- On 4th February a vehicle was broken into in the lay-by close to Forestside Village Hall, nothing was stolen.
- Overnight between 7th and 8th February a set of steps was stolen from a field opposite the Barley Mow Public House.
- Between 3rd and 6th February some damage was caused to a vehicle parked in Stoughton. The bonnet and side of vehicle had a number of scratches.

- On 13th February a vehicle was broken into in Forestside. Nothing was stolen.
- On 15th February a vehicle was broken into in Stoughton Down car park. Nothing was stolen.

There were a number of vehicles broken into in rural areas towards the end of 2016 and end of February 2017. The investigation is still ongoing and two males were arrested and are currently in prison at present.

8. Markwells Wood update

Cllr Gauntlett invited Mr Michael Harbour to update the Council.

Mr Harbour thanked the Parish Council for the funding towards the Hydrogeological Study, carried out by DR Foley, who was an independent expert; Cllr Elms has been provided with a copy of the report produced.

The key findings in the report were as follows:

- a. The area around Markwells Wood is karstic
- b. The area should be dedicated source protection zone one as a result of the travel time to Bedhampton springs, by using the Edmunds method the water looks to travel from Markwells Wood to Bedhampton Springs in 10 days and not 50 which is what the current protection zone 2 infers.
- c. The vulnerability of the aquifer is highly vulnerable.

Markwells Wood Watch is planning to meet with the Environment Agency, and Portsmouth Water following the report.

UKOG have recently submitted the new information which they were asked to provide, the deadline for response is April 6th.

There will be a public meeting at Forestside Village Hall on Tuesday 27th March.

9. Correspondence

A list had been circulated prior to the meeting documenting all correspondence received since the last meeting, the Clerk brought the following to the Council's further consideration;

- a. Andrew Tyrie MP, had written to forward the response he had received from Cllr Goldsmith regarding the closure of the Hambrook waste site, and also a copy of the response he had received from Stephen Sanderson of UKOG regarding the proposed development at Markwells Wood. The UKOG response was very long, the Clerk will scan the copy and forward to all Councillors.
- b. Public Payphone removals; a letter had been received from Chichester District Council confirming the removal of the Public Payphone at Forestside.
- c. Kent, Surrey and Sussex; a letter had been received asking for a £250 donation, whilst the Council were minded to give a donation to the organisation, they have asked the Clerk to confirm the amount they are able to donate, and also to look at the Charity Commission to see how much the Charity have in reserve; the request

will be carried forward to the May meeting were a Full Council can consider the request, based on all information and develop a policy to deal with funding requests.

- d. Chichester and Arun Citizens Advice Bureau; request for £50 donation. The Council agreed to donate £50. More may be donated at a later date depending on the decisions made at the May meeting.
- e. Precept Payments; a letter from Chichester District Council has been received confirming the Precept request from the Parish. The first payment will be made on 13th April 2017.
- f. Community Forum 28th March 2017 – no Councillors are available to attend the Clerk will send apologies
- g. The All Parishes meeting 5th April; a reminder that the event is taking place

10. Planning Applications

A list was provided with all applications. No further comments were made.

It is expected that the earliest date at which the Markwells Wood application could go before the committee is the South Downs National Park May planning committee.

11. Cheques paid and received

None received.

Mr Gauntlet and Mr Elms signed the cheques (*Mr Elms signed cheques outside the meeting on Tuesday 14th March*)

Chq# 409 – HMRC (FEB PAYE) - £91.80

Chq# 410 – HMRC (March PAYE) - £91.80

Chq# 411 – Mrs Fiona Baker (Clerk Wage Feb- £366.95, March £366.95 & Home Allowance £60) – £793.90

Chq# 412 – PFK Littlejohn (External Auditor) - £120

Chq# 413 – Chichester and Arun Citizens Advice Bureau - £50

Chq# 414 – Comtegra (computer services) - £145

12. Short opportunity for the public to raise questions (to be discussed as agenda items at future meetings)

Caroline Taylor has contacted the Council to ask if they are happy for her to hold another Walderton Green tidy up on Saturday 13th May, the council all agreed that they were happy for Caroline to go ahead and organise this.

13. Any other business

No other business was raised.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.56pm

The next meeting will be the Annual General Meeting to be held on Monday 8th May 2017 at 7.30pm at Forestside and Stansted Village Hall