

Stanton-upon-Hine Heath Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Stanton-upon-Hine Heath Parish Council held on Tuesday, 1st July 2014 at 7.30 p.m. in the Stanton Village Hall, Booley Lane, Stanton.

PRESENT: Councillors Mrs Claire Crackett, Derek Fildes, Ms. Nuria Gray, Mrs Jackie Knight, Mrs Sharon McLaughlin and Chas Warren.

Also in attendance: Elizabeth Thain, Membership Development Officer (Fuel Buying Scheme) from Shropshire Council, Mike Cauchi from RAF Shawbury and the Parish Clerk.

In the Chair: Councillor Nuria Gray.

Action

072.14 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Simon Chapple (poorly), Ashley Orme (working away) and Shropshire Councillor Karen Calder (holiday).

073.14 **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

Resolved: to note that no Disclosable Pecuniary Interests were received on any item included on the agenda in accordance with Sections 50-52, Local Government Act 2000 and The Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) (England) Act 2001.

074.14 **Public Participation**

RESOLVED to note that with no members of the public present to question the Council on local issues, therefore the Council moved on to the next item of business at 7.31 p.m.

075.14 **Fuel Buying**

The Chairman welcomed Elizabeth Thain, Membership Development Officer (Fuel Buying Scheme) from Shropshire Council.

Elizabeth explained what Shropshire Rural Community Council (RCC) Fuel Buying Scheme was introduced for. It started some two years ago to help people in rural areas get a fair and better price for heating oil. They now have over 800 members registered. Each month there is a set date when members should place their order for fuel through their local co-ordinator. Each month they ask their members in their area whether they want to place an order. The minimum order is 500 litres. Shropshire RCC then get hold of their suppliers from a select list to get the best price at that time. Local co-ordinators advise their members who the supplier is, the price per litre and the approximate date of delivery.

Action

Members pay the company supplying the oil direct. On average members save about 3p per litre.

At present the nearest co-ordinator for this area is in Hodnet so they could do with one for our area. Posters were supplied for our notice boards.

The Chairman thanked Elizabeth for a very interesting and informative presentation. It was suggested that the PCC are informed of this scheme.

Cllr Claire
Crackett

076.14 Urgent Items

There were no urgent items that had been brought to the attention of the Chairman.

077.14 Minutes

Proposed: Councillor Chas Warren.

Seconded: Councillor Derek Fildes

Resolved: that the minutes of the meeting of the Full Council held on Tuesday 6th May 2014 having been previously circulated be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chairman.

Chairman

052.14 RAF Shawbury

Mike Cauchi from RAF Shawbury reported that they have now got a Facebook page at the camp. Members noted that family's day was on the 25th July starting at 9.00 am with an air display in the afternoon. The motor cycle track day planned over the weekend of the 2nd/3rd August 2014 has had to be cancelled due to operational difficulties.

053.14 Highway Matters

With regard to the flooding on the High Hatton Road and subsequent road closures, Victoria Doran, Highways Manager, Environmental Maintenance at Shropshire Council had stated that the situation remains as stated in her email of 28/02/14. However, there is potential at the moment for us to bid for some external funding and we have put High Hatton forward for consideration. There are no guarantees that they will secure this funding though. Agreed we also obtain a quote for a dig out to try and alleviate the problem.

The local technician had contacted Councillor Derek Fildes regarding his concerns over roadside drainage issues by Stone House Farm.

Action

Although the gully at the junction to the A53 at Yew Tree Villa had been emptied recently on two occasions, Victoria Doran had stated they are aware that the gully goes to a soakaway and the technician will continue to monitor and act accordingly. Members felt that this was totally unacceptable as no monitoring had taken place during recent flooding.

Parish Clerk

Members pointed out that this is only a soak-away and repeated flooding probably indicates that the soak-away has silted up and therefore needs proper attention.

With reference to the new kerbing around Hazel's corner, although this had been successful in preventing roadside erosion the new curve leads vehicles straight towards a deep pot hole at the end of this kerbing that needs urgent attention. The technician and traffic engineer have visited the site. A job has been raised to repair the pot hole. Following an assessment, the road is not considered to require 'road narrows' signs.

Although the parish council supported an extension to The Hazels Poultry Farm, following our concerns that the majority of HGV's going to this site off the A53 are using the narrow single track road past Manning's Farm, Shropshire Council have agreed to our request that 'Unsuitable for HGV's' signs are erected at either end of this road.

Finally in response to information requested on 'Quiet Lanes' schemes Victoria Doran had stated that she understands that some years ago there was an initiative set up through the Countryside Agency, which was also supported by the Department for Transport, whereby local Authorities could bid for funding for the introduction of "Quiet Lane" schemes on a trial basis on suitable roads in their area. The idea of the Quiet Lanes initiative was intended to help preserve country lanes and make them more attractive for cyclists, walkers and horse riders, whilst maintaining essential access by motor vehicles for local residents, essential services and businesses. There were a number of schemes implemented on a trial basis in Shropshire (e.g. Gravenhunger Lane at Woore, the Barkers Green/Aston/Lee Brockhurst near Wem. However the schemes resulted in little reduction in vehicular traffic speeds or measurable increases in the number of pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders using the lanes. On the basis that the development of such schemes is very resource-intensive and have delivered little in terms of tangible benefits, I understand that such schemes are considered to be a low priority and are unlikely to attract future funding.

In response to your email about the Harcourt Mill road, Victoria Doran is aware the road is designated as 'unsuitable for vehicles'. However, they will fill what they can along the tarmacked sections.

Action**Footpaths**

Councillor Chas Warren reported that further work has been completed on styles and finger posts.

He was due to talk to certain landowners where walkers were finding it difficult to find a path through their arable fields.

Cllr Chas
Warren

Rivers

Councillor Chas Warren reported that the river had been cleared on both sides from Stanton Bridge to Papermill. Now looking at other areas to clear. He also reported that he had cleared through our insurance company supervised people assisting with this work in the rivers and also using chain saws.

080.14 Police Matters

The last meeting of the Neighbourhood Watch had been cancelled.

Councillor Chas Warren added that the main concerns on crime now were internet and scam fraud.

081.14 Road Safety

There was nothing to report except that further marks were visible on the Stanton bridge and the coping stone, reported at the last meeting as being knocked off and lying by the river had still not been replaced.

Parish Clerk

082.14 Emergency Planning

Councillor Nuria Gray reported on plans for coordinating a local response to emergencies. These are mainly for flooding and power cuts.

083.14 Rural Broadband

Councillor Claire Crackett said everything had gone quiet. There was no news on match funding for Shropshire Council from the Government. However there was now a BT Fibre Optic Broadband Box at Butlers Bank but none in Shawbury as yet. Members were encouraged to go onto the BT Website and 'express an interest' in BT Infinity.

084.14 Parish Magazine

Concern was again expressed by a number of Members over the late issue of the last magazine.

Cllr Sharon
McLaughlin

Action

Councillor Derek Fildes felt there should be more village news in the magazine as at present it was full of adverts. Members suggested the local farmers could add some news on a regular basis. Councillor Sharon McLaughlin said the main problem each month was chasing people up for their reports.

Suggested items for the next issue including a report on Fuel Buying plus news from any local sporting events or clubs. Councillor Sharon McLaughlin said she was thinking of adding an 'Editors' page.

However a more pressing issue now was to find a new treasurer for the magazine following the resignation of Judith Pitts who had advised the Council of this decision some twelve months ago. Members were asked to enquire locally to see if anyone would be interested in this position as a matter of urgency. A number of Members of the parish council also need to meet urgently to find out the position on the accounts for this year including what invoices if any had gone out to the organisations who advertise in this magazine. Councillor Jackie Knight agreed to liaise on this.

Cllr Jackie Knight

085.14 Parish Council Website

The Parish Clerk reported that he had received training on this from Councillor Jackie Knight and was now able to load agendas and minutes to the site.

086.14 Finance

086.14.01 Accounts for payment

100006	Salaries	£281.38
100007	PAYE	£70.34
100008	Ian Wellings, Maintenance	£300.00
100009	Mrs K. Baker, Internal Audit	£25.00
100010	GPS Notice Board	£166.74

Proposed: Councillor Claire Crackett

Seconded: Councillor Jackie Knight

Resolved: that the above payments be authorized.

Parish Clerk

087.14 Planning

087.14.1 Current Planning Applications

There were none.

Action**087.14.2 Planning Applications considered since the last meeting**

These had already been reported.

087.14.3 Planning Decisions

There had been no decisions since the last meeting.

088.14 Shropshire Council Matters & Correspondence

With apologies from Shropshire Councillor Karen Calder for this meeting there was no report.

Correspondence received since the last meeting was noted.

089.14 ALC

Members noted correspondence received since the May meeting.

Councillor Mrs. Claire Crackett reported on the last area committee meeting when Members were informed that the present secretary has resigned due to moving away from the area.

090.14 Street Lighting

There were no reported faults to any of the street lights.

091.14 Defibrillators

Councillor Simon Chapple would be asked for a progress report on this scheme for the September meeting.

092.14 Play Area

The Parish Clerk reported that Shropshire Council are now carrying out routine inspections as agreed and forwarding monthly reports to him.

093.14 Communications/Correspondence

Members noted correspondence received since the May meeting.

094.14 Exchange of Information

Councillor Nuria Gray reported that following further investigation, it had been established that there was still 30 grave spaces left in the churchyard which at the current rate of burial would cover us for the next 25 years as most graves these days are double.

095.14 Date of Next Meeting

Date of next meeting – Tuesday 2nd September 2014.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.11 p.m.

Signed Date

Action

Chairman

DRAFT