

STANTON UPON HINE HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a special meeting held on Thursday 30th April 2020 via Zoom at 7.00pm.

PRESENT: Councillors D Dee (Chairman)
C Warren
C Crackett
N Gray
N Rushton
T Gurney

In Attendance: Katrina Baker (Clerk)

159.20C **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. This meeting had been arranged in order to 'trial' the opportunity to meet virtually in preparation for a time when an urgent meeting is necessary.

Public Session

The public had not been invited to this meeting.

160.20C **Apologies**

To receive and approve any apologies for absence, under Section 85 (i) of LGA 1972.

None

161.20C **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**

None

162.20C **Introduction**

Unfortunately, the original invitation to the meeting, which included the Agenda, had not reached all Councillors and the link was not successful for joining the meeting.

However, an email invitation was sent at 7.00pm and all Members were able to join the meeting.

The Clerk and Members were able to trial the system, which included the Clerk handing over the 'host' controls to the Chairman.

It was clear that there needed to be a protocol in place to ensure an effective meeting and this would be particularly important when the public are attending, too.

163.20C **The Use of Zoom for Parish Council meetings**

It is important to have a system in place to enable virtual meetings.

Although the Council's Scheme of Delegation is continuing to ensure that the Council is representing the community and undertaking its legal obligations, there may be decisions that can only be made at a Full Council Meeting.

Some Members had tried other systems, but it was agreed that Zoom was the most effective. There had been concerns regarding security and Members were reminded of the need to ensure that any emails were from the Clerk before accessing any links or offering any information.

The 'free' version enabled meetings up to 40 minutes, a Pro Plus version would enable full meetings to take place. This would cost no more than £12 per month, but it is hoped that a reduced price can be negotiated.

It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate this further, and sign up if necessary. Details would be confirmed as soon as available.

