

Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council

Chairman: Mrs Sharon Henley

Clerk: Mrs Julie Francies
Meadowcroft
Main Street
Church Stowe
Tel: 07747 690557

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 25th June 2018

Present: Chairman S Henley,
Cllr A Brodie, Cllr T Sanderson, Cllr T Teague, Cllr A Taylor,
Clerk & Proper Officer Mrs J Francies
Cllr J Amos
2 Parishioners

Minutes:

1276. Approval of apologies for absence.

- i. Cllr Lane - personal reasons.
- ii. Cllr Hillyard – work commitment.

Resolved: Approved Unanimously. It is noted that Cllrs object to being asked to vote on approval of absences.

AP. Clerk to speak to Cllr Lane to ask if an alternative meeting day would be more suitable.

1277. To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

None.

1278. To receive and approve the minutes:

- i. Of the Annual Meeting dated 21 May 2018
Proposer: Cllr Taylor. Seconded: Cllr Brodie.

- ii. Of the Interim Meeting dated 31 May 2018
Proposer: Cllr Sanderson. Seconded: Cllr Taylor.

Resolved: The Chairman signed both sets of minutes as a true and accurate record of the meetings.

1279. Matters arising from previous minutes for update only.

- i. Planting of the poppy seeds

Resolved: Poppy seeds have been planted at the War Memorial, both churchyards, in land to the rear of manor cottages and the remainder given for planting on the lake islands in Church Stowe. The Chairman would like to thank Mr Kirby for his help in planting the seeds at the War Memorial.

- ii. Clerks hours

Since January, in addition to her contract of 4.5 hours per week, she has worked 73 hours, which excludes the additional hours worked during her first four weeks in office. The Clerk is currently doing minimal work to keep under the contracted hours and to try and take back some of this time. She has suggested that we continually review the situation and wait until year end before requesting payment for the balance of hours worked.

SA
6 August 2018

Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council

1280. Planning applications received.

- i. DA/2018/0389 – Land to the rear of Bank House, Main Street, Church Stowe
Resolved: Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council has submitted a list of comments and concerns regarding this planning application to the planning office.

1281. Planning approvals.

- i. DA/2018/0286 – Lower Field off Main Street, Church Stowe
DDC has approved this application.

1282. Planning application update.

Cllrs reported some activity at the land where the Eco house is to be built in Upper Stowe.

1283. Village Design Statement.

- i. Progress report provided by Tony Teague
Cllr Teague advised that we are not much further ahead due to personal time restraints and he is also awaiting a response from DDC. Once maps have been received a meeting will be arranged for the original volunteer group to view the documents so far. Rebecca Brakewell will also be consulted.

1284. Finances.

- i. To receive the statement of account at Lloyds Bank
Clerk reported that the bank account balance is currently £2014.21.
- ii. To report the 2018/19 Budget vs Actual spend including income received
Clerk reported the following figures:
Budget £4500
Spend YTD £2349.22
Balance £2150.78
- iii. To provide an update on the VAT claim of £104.12
Clerk has submitted the VAT claim and dealt with subsequent queries. We are now awaiting a decision from HMRC.

1285. Compliance.

- i. To discuss the issue regarding website SSL Certification
Resolved: Clerk to request for relevant changes to be made to the parish website, provided that it is free of charge.

1286. Community Defibrillators.

- i. To receive an update on training received on 5th June.
Resolved: Feedback from the training was excellent and 11 parishioners had attended.
- ii. To query if the two defibs are marked or have a label attached to them saying who they belong to and who to contact in case of use.
Resolved: Confirmation received that the defibs are labelled.
The Chairman had also received notification of an issue with the batteries, which need to be replaced at a cost of £90 inc VAT. She had advised to order these at the end of July and the Parish Council would authorise payment in the August meeting. These will need to be replaced every two years and in addition, the main capacitor will need to be replaced every ten years.

AP: Clerk to obtain approx. costings for replacing the main capacitors and note this and costs of replacing the batteries in draft budgets for the next two years.


6 August 2018

Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council

1287. Radar memorial update.

Cllr Sanderson and Cllr Teague have been working together on further promotion of the Radar Memorial. Daventry Tourist Board have promised to promote it in future.

1288. Northants County Council.

1289. Daventry District Council.

- i. To receive an update from Cllr Sanderson on the Parish & Town Council's Meeting - 14 June 2018
Cllr Sanderson gave a summary of the meeting.

- ii. To discuss the pending Community Governance Review / Local Government reform
Community Governance Review:

Cllrs unanimously agreed that they do not wish to merge with any other Parish Councils and a small group of Cllrs would meet to discuss a response to the proposal.

Local Government reform:

Cllrs unanimously agreed that a unitary authority whereby Stowe Nine Churches fell within the same authority as Northampton would be detrimental to the parish as all financial and physical resources would be pulled towards Northampton. They felt that two authorities formed in 'doughnut' formation would be much better, so that Northampton had its own authority and all other towns and villages in the current borough would form a second authority or alternatively three unitary councils, that would give a more equal share of financial resources across the county.

It was agreed that Cllrs should meet separately to put together Stowe Nine Churches Parish Councils response to forthcoming Unitary Council proposals and Local Government Reforms.

AP. Cllrs to meet and put together responses to proposed changes to community governance and local government.

- iii. To discuss the changes to law regarding dogs
Cllrs disagreed with a majority of the proposed changes.

AP: Clerk to draft a response regarding proposed changes to dog laws.

- iv. To discuss Grants for disabled residents
Information posted in the Parish Council website.

AP. Clerk to put posters on the noticeboards.

1290. Police.

- i. To receive and discuss the Neighbourhood Police report
Resolved: Information circulated to Cllrs ahead of the meeting.

1291. Footpath Warden Report.

- i. Report provided by Mr C Ripper
Some footpaths had been tidied but many of the footpaths still overgrown.
AP: Cllrs to talk to land owners and ask that they attend to overgrowth on village footpaths.

1292. NCALC.

- i. To adopt the revised Records Retention Policy
Proposer: Cllr Henley. Seconded: Cllr Brodie

SH
6 August 2018

Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council

- ii. To receive an update on the Governance review
Discussed during point 1289.

1293. CPRE.

- i. To receive an update from Cllr Teague and Cllr Sanderson regarding the CPRE Planning Roadshow on 7th June 2018
Cllr Sanderson and Cllr Teague report that the meeting was useful and points were noted for the Parish Council to use in future.
- ii. To decide if a member of the council will attend the CPRE AGM
Resolved: Cllr Teague is hoping to attend the CPRE AGM.

1294. Civic Voice.

- i. To decide if a member of the council will attend the First World War Memorial Programme conference on 1st August 2018
Resolved: Due to the distances involved, it is not viable for cllrs to attend the conference.

1295. Complaints.

A complaint had been received regarding using a grass cutter to cut a hedge, which they felt should only be done after birds had fledged.
Resolved: Cllr Brodie confirmed that this can be done when the hedge is next to a gateway.

1296. Roads.

- i. To receive an update regarding A5 Accident prevention
Resolved: Cllrs agreed that they had exhausted all options and there wasn't anything more that could be done regarding this matter.
- ii. To discuss a request for a 30mph speed limit in Church Stowe
Resolved: Cllrs explained that the road through Church Stowe is a national speed limit and as there is no street lighting and no accidents reported, highways would not consider reducing the speed limit. The Parish Council had been unsuccessful in their request to reduce speed limit in the past and therefore feel that they had exhausted all options.

1297. Broadband.

Next update scheduled for the Autumn.

1298. Future meeting dates.

6 August, 17 September, 29 October, 10 December, 28 January, 11 March, 8 April, 13 May (AGM, Annual Parish Meeting & Ordinary Meeting)


6 August 2018