

Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council

Chairman Cllr S Henley

Clerk – Mrs L Carter

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday 26 April at 8.00pm in the Old School Rooms, Church Stowe

Present: Cllrs S Henley (Chair), A Brodie, S Callear, D Lane, and C Newitt,
Parish Clerk – L Carter
Cllr David Smith (WNC)
2 members of the public

1960. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Rupert Frost (WNC).

1961. Declarations of interest for items on the agenda

None made

1962. Minutes

Members APPROVED the minutes of the meeting of the Council dated 28th February 2021.

1963. Matters arising from previous minutes for update only.

None which did not appear elsewhere on the agenda.

1964. Vacancy

Following the last meeting, Cllr Tony Teague had submitted his resignation from the Council. Councillors accepted his resignation and asked the Clerk to inform West Northamptonshire Council of the vacancy.

1965. Unitary Councillors

Cllr Smith advised that the new Highways contract has been awarded and an announcement would be made shortly. WNC had delivered a balanced budget and improvements were being made but it was work in progress.

Cllr Smith was aware of the proposal that was on the agenda and asked the Council to consider holding off from any action for six months but asked that the Clerk send a strongly worded letter to him detailing the Council's concerns.

1966. Planning applications received.

New Applications

WND/2022/0288 Stowe Grange, Main Street, Upper Stowe, NN7 4SH – Single storey extension. – No objections

Previous Applications

WND/2021/0668 - Old Dairy Farm, Main Street, Upper Stowe, -Building for agricultural use with vehicular access and hardstanding (retrospective)

WND/2021/0059 Dairy Farm, Main Street, Upper Stowe – Refused – Appeal against enforcement has been submitted

WND/2021/0369 Land at Stowe Hill, - Siting of Caravans – no committee date as yet.

1967. Parish Council position on planning - PROPOSAL

The Council considered a proposal that due to the lack of support from West Northants Council Planning Department, particularly in relation to enforcement, and also the personal

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difficulties recently experienced by Councillors, the Parish Council would no longer submit comments on planning applications. Applications would continue to be noted on Council Agendas and listed on the website for residents, who would be encouraged to continue to make their personal responses which now carry the same weight as comments from the Parish Council.

After consideration of Cllr Smiths comments Councillors agreed to defer any action for six months but asked the Clerk to write to Cllr Smith with details of the Council's concerns. It was noted that ambiguities and inconsistencies in the way that the planning system was being applied were destroying community cohesion.

1968. Highways and Footpaths

The footpath warden had submitted a comprehensive report and had made a number of entries on the computer system and had reported a number of issues on the on-line system.

1969. Statement of accounts/accounts for payment.

- i. Members **received** the statement of account showing end of year balance of £4263.89
- ii. Members **noted** payment for Jubilee Beacon of £588.00
- iii. Members **noted** Income from NALC (Asset Mapping Grant) of £219.26
- iv. Members **noted** the submitted VAT claim for £186.20

1970. Community Defibrillators.

Nothing to report

1971. Historic Memorials

Nothing to report

1972. Village Benches

The new bench as a replacement, had been installed and commented upon.

1973. Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2022

- 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee' – a rowan tree was planted at the Old School Rooms after the Community Breakfast on 5th March. It had been recorded on the Queen's Green Canopy website – a plaque had been ordered at no cost to the Council.
- Beacon – had been ordered and would arrive before the event £50 was requested to cover the cost of gas for the Beacon - **APPROVED**
- A Grant for the Street Party of £48.08 for tableware and bunting for the Street party had been requested. **APPROVED**

1974. Community Breakfast

The Community breakfast on 5th March had raised £200 for Hearing Dogs for the Deaf and also provided a perfect opportunity to plant our tree for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

1975. Village Newsletter

Members agreed that the next village newsletter should be circulated in June.

1976. West Northamptonshire Council.

Comments from Cllr Smith had been noted.

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1977. NCALC.

The Asset Mapping Project grant had been received. The Clerk and Chairman had completed the spreadsheet mapping those services provided by WNC.

1978. CPRE

1979. Complaints

It was noted that the clerk had received complaint regarding plastic waste contained in compost that had been spread on local farmland. The Clerk had reported it to the Environment Agency who had advised that resident should report the matter personally and the more reports received, the more likely that the matter would receive action. The Incident hotline number was 0800 80 70 60

1980. Matters for information

The Village Litter Pick was planned for Saturday 30th April at 10.00am.

1981. Future Meeting dates

Proposed meeting dates for 2022 are: 30th May, 27th June, 8th August, 19th September, 31st October and 12th December.

Signed S Henley

Date 30th May 2022