

Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council

Chairman Cllr S Henley

Clerk – Mrs L Carter

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting

Held on Monday 22 May 2023 at 8.30pm in the Old School Rooms, Church Stowe

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

2132. To elect a Chairman of the Council.

Councillors nominated and approve Cllr Sharon Henley as Chair of the Parish Council

2133. To elect a Vice Chairman of the Council.

Councillors nominated and approved Cllr D Lane as Vice Chairman of the Parish Council

2134. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr S Callear and Cllr David Smith (WNC).

2135. Declarations of interest for items on the agenda

None made

2136. Minutes

Members APPROVED the minutes of the meeting of the Council dated 12th April 2023.

2137. To Approve the previously adopted Standing Orders

Councillors agreed to adopt the Standing Orders as previously approved.

2138. To Approve the previously adopted Financial Regulations

Councillors agreed to adopt the Financial Regulations as previously approved.

2139. To Receive the report of the Internal Auditor (if available)

Members received and accepted the report of the Internal Auditor

2140. To Approve the Exemption Certificate for the External Audit (2022/23).

Councillors agreed and approved the Exemption Certificate for External Audit.

2141. To Complete the Annual Governance Statement for 2022/23

Councillors considered and completed the Annual Governance Statement.

2142. To Receive and Approve the Accounting Statements for 2022/23

Councillors received and approved the Annual Accounting Statements.

2143. To Agree to Appoint Northants CALC as the Council's Data Protection Officer

Councillors agreed to appoint Northants CALC as the Council's Data Protection Officer and to continue to make use of the DPO service offered under GDPR and to adopt the NCALC recommended policies and procedures (including Document Retention).

2144. Planning applications received.

Previous Applications

WND/2023/0117 - Old Dairy Farm, Main Street, Upper Stowe, -Building for agricultural use with vehicular access and hardstanding (retrospective) - Resubmission

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

St Alnoth's Barn - no report as yet regarding enforcement action (matter has been pending since December 2022)

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2145. Highways and Footpaths

Sharon Mitchell-Hall had agreed to continue as Parish Footpath Warden and the Council recorded its thanks to her for her hard work and excellent reports over the past year.

2146. Statement of accounts/accounts for payment.

Councillors received and **APPROVED** the following:

- i. The statement of account at Lloyds Bank, which showed receipts of first precept payment (£2,950) and a balance at 30th April of £7143.74.
- ii. **Invoices** for payment:
 - a) HMRC - £172.00
 - b) Clerks Salary (Apr- June) - £686.55
 - c) NCALC Membership and Audit - £387.58

TOTAL £1246.23
- iii. The purchase of a new laptop for the clerk from Laptops Direct at a cost of £499.97 (£82.00 VAT reclaimable).
- iv. The 2022/23 Budget vs Actual spend including income received.
- v. The Asset Register for May 2023
- vi. The Risk Assessment and Management for May 2023.

2147. Community Defibrillators.

The Church Stowe defibrillator was working and being checked regularly. There was some question as to who was now checking the Upper Stowe defibrillator and the clerk was asked to make further enquiries.

2148. Historic Memorials

The Clerk was asked to speak to the handyman regarding weeding at the War memorial.

2149. Village Newsletter

The next newsletter would be available in early June.

2150. West Northamptonshire Council.

Cllr Frost was present and had given his report to the Annual Parish Meeting

2151. NCALC

2152. CPRE

2153. Complaints

2154. Matters for information

A query was raised regarding the need for Change of Use from field to garden and this was confirmed.

A new application for the land opposite the Old School Rooms was anticipated due to a change of ownership.

2155. Future Meeting dates

Proposed meeting dates for 2023/4 are: 11th September, 11th December and 11th March.

Signed

Date 11th September 2023