

STOWE NINE CHURCHES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 27th June 2016

Present: Sharon Henley (Chairman), Angela Brodie, Graham Yandell, Jon Hillyard. Keith Mason, David Lane
Daventry District Councillor Johnnie Amos
17 parishioners attended

947. Apologies for Absence: Daventry District Councillor Adam Brown

948. New Parish Council Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Mike Essery is retiring and it is proposed that he is replaced by Wanda Back effective 1st July 2016. Proposed by Keith Mason and second by David Lane and agreed unanimously.
The chairman expressed gratitude on behalf of the Parish Council to Mike Essery for his nine years service as Clerk.

949. Declarations of Interest for items on the Agenda

Angela Brodie declared an interest on 953 (ii) DA/2015/1164 Land adj. Sheepfold Grange, Main Street, Upper Stowe; however as this is an update only she was not required to leave the room.

950. Resolution to sign & approve minutes of regular meeting dated 16th May 2016 and Annual General Meeting dated 16th May 2016

These were signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record of the meetings.

951. Vacancy for Parish Councillor

The only application was from John Stanley and it was proposed by Sharon Henley that he will be co-opted, seconded by Keith Mason and agreed unanimously.

952. Matters Arising - from previous minutes for updates only

i) Item 930 i) Dog Control Problems

The Clerk circulated to parish councillors a draft letter to be hand delivered to all dog owners in the parish. The draft letter content was unanimously approved. Upper Stowe dog owners are not known to the Councillors so details for distribution are awaited from Upper Stowe residents. The Chairman will clarify this and also confirm responsibility for distribution of the letter in Church Stowe.

953. Planning Approvals – Review of past planning applications

i) DA/2015/0195 Land at Stowe Hill, Watling Street. Land for one Gypsy Pitch

The reply from DDC Monitoring Officer to the Parish Council's formal complaint was discussed and agreed to proceed with an escalation to level 2

ii) DA/2015/1164 Land adj. Sheepfold Grange, Main Street, Upper Stowe –update

The Clerk reported that the application has been recommended for approval by the Planning Officer and is expected to be considered by the DDC Planning Committee on 29th June 2016.

No Parish Councillors were available to speak against the application at the DDC planning committee due to the short notice of the meeting therefore Mr Tony Fielden agreed to speak on behalf of the Parish Council. The booking for Mr Fielden to speak is to be arranged by the Clerk. Two parishioners will arrange independently to speak, Mr

Sanderson on behalf of the Jesus Fellowship/ Sheepfold Grange and Mr Teague on behalf of Upper Stowe residents.

954. Statement of Accounts / Accounts for Payment

- i) The balance of account in the Nationwide Building Society was £3,010.58
- ii) Clerk's Salary April – June 2016 - £511.10
- iii) Clerk's Expense April – June 2016 - £96.41
- iv) HM Revenue & Customs PAYE April – June 2016 - £127.78
- v) NCALC – Purchase 10 copies The Good Councillor's Guide - £25.00

Proposed by Angela Brodie, seconded by David Lane and agreed unanimously that the above accounts should be passed for payment.

955. Planning Application Received

- i) DA/2016/0531 Knoll House, Francis Row, Upper Stowe
The Parish Council have no objection to this application.

956. Internal Audit Report – Y/E 31st March 2016

The Clerk reported that the Internal Auditor had signed off the Annual Return for Year Ended 31st March 2016 without any comment.

It was resolved that the Parish Council should accept and approve the Internal Audit Report.

Proposed by Sharon Henley, seconded by Keith Mason and approved unanimously.

957. Updated Financial Guidance (Circulated 3/5/16)

It was resolved that the Parish Council adopts the 2016 Financial Regulations including amendments made to the 2014 Regulations adopted by the Parish Council on 31st March 2014.

Proposed by Jon Hillyard, seconded by Angela Brodie and agreed unanimously to accept the updated financial guidance.

958. Community Defibrillator

Nothing to report.

959. Radar Memorial – Brown Tourist Sign

The response from Highways England was met with disappointment. It was agreed that the file will be reviewed and support should be sought from Eddie Izzard by the Chairman and a historian who can make a case for the significance of the Radar memorial in order that a strong reply can be made to Highways England.

960. Cheque Signatories

Councillor David Lane will become a new cheque signatory to replace Sue Stanley and that Wanda Back will replace Mike Essery as cheque signatory.

Proposed by Sharon Henley, seconded by Angela Brodie and agreed unanimously.

961. Road Closure Upper Stowe

An explanation, apology and offer to repair potholes in Church Stowe as recompense has been received from Northamptonshire Highways. It was agreed to accept this offer on condition that the 2 roads are not closed simultaneously, adequate notice of road closure is given and signage of the road closure is provided.

962. Fixed Penalty Notices for Fly-tipping

The Clerk provided an update received by DDC regarding the introduction of fixed penalty notices for fly-tipping. These new measures include instant fines of £400 issued by fixed penalty notice which means this issue can be dealt with more effectively avoiding the need to prosecute offenders through the courts.

963. Superfast Broadband Survey

An on line survey should be completed by parishioners to indicate the broadband speed and demand required.

964. Main Street Church Stowe Rubbish Problem

The redeveloped cottages have inadequate provision for rubbish bins but as these are located on private property this is not a Parish Council matter

965. Transparency Code

A domain name has been registered and the Clerk Wanda Back will progress website construction.

966. Footpath Warden and Highway Warden Reports

Steve Gilkes has resigned as footpath warden and highway warden as he is moving away from the parish. The Chairman thanked him for his involvement.

Steve Gilkes reported that the situation regarding no road sweeping since last September is still outstanding. This will be followed up with the District Council by the Clerk.

The Rights of Way Officer has been to the site of the badger set along the gravel path and will try to have the holes filled in by the end of June.

967. Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Next Meeting: 15th August 2016

Following Meetings: 19th September 2016; 31st October 2016; 12th December 2016.

All meetings will start at 8.00pm