

**MINUTES
STON EASTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 4 MAY 2021 AT 7.30 P.M. VIA ZOOM ONLINE**

Present	Tom Osborne (Chairman) Rob Winkworth Steve Huckle Tom Killen Ainslie Davies Julian Carver Pete King	TO RW SH TK AD JC PK
In attendance	Anthea Brooks, Clerk Rick Fitzsimmons Anne Huckle (part meeting)	AB RF AH

1 APOLOGIES ACTIONS

1.1 None

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS / REQUESTS FOR RECORDING

2.1 TO declared an interest in item 8 (Planning). RW will take the chair for that item. There were no other declarations of interest or dispensations.

3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 30 MARCH 2021

3.1 The minutes of 30 March were signed as a correct record. TO welcomed Pete King onto the Council.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

4.1 There were no issues raised.

5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MEETING HELD ON 30 MARCH 2021

5.1 **Fingerpost** – There is a broken finger post at the T junction where Zion Hill meets Langley's Lane on the edge of Clapton. The finger post with the broken base is the one at the junction of Greenditch Lane and Zion hill/Clapton Road, by the village hall. There is also a broken sign, which was caught when the hedges were cut and the roundel has been ripped off the stand, which is on Greenditch Lane, just past End House, on the right, and slightly further up from the turning into New Manor Farm on the left. Clerk to ask Somerset Forge to come out and view the work and provide a quotation. A Councillor will need to be present. The Clerk was asked to see if the insurance would cover the repairs.

Clerk

5.2 **Defibrillator** – a decision needs to be made on the replacement of the defibrillator at Ston Easton and whether it

- will be possible to obtain funding. AED Locator have quoted £2,099 which includes a stainless steel cabinet. The Clerk will make further enquiries to see if a replacement defibrillator could be purchased and utilising the cabinet which is still at Ston Easton. **Clerk**
- 5.5 **Telephone Box (Ston Easton)** – RF stated that there is general interest in getting the telephone box refurbished with a view to possibly using it for plants. RW reported that the paint is available and has cost between £200 and £300 – there should be enough for both boxes. A receipt for the paint will be required. RW to liaise with RF. **RW/RF**
- RW stated that he thought electricity was still being supplied to the boxes which would need to be made safe.
- 5.6 **Noticeboard – Emborough** – Clerk to send an order through for a new noticeboard. **Clerk**
- 6 HIGHWAYS**
- 6.1 **Safety issues for schoolchildren** – following the discussion at the last meeting RF reported that there are 5/6 primary and secondary school children who have to cross the A37 on a regular basis to gain access to their school transport. RF also reported this crossing point is used by children and adults accessing the Village Hall and Recreation Field. RF agreed to put some words together for the Clerk who will approach Highways. The Clerk is looking into the provision of flashing lights which can be displayed at the appropriate times and also other signage and possibly a pedestrian crossing. **RF**
Clerk
- 6.2 **Pavement clearance/general village tidying** – there is a requirement for the pavements alongside the A37 in Ston Easton to be cleared which is the responsibility of the MDC contractor. TK will chase this. **TK**
- 6.3 **Dog Bin** – The Clerk will check with MDC about collection of the contents. RF and TO will discuss the exact location at the entrance to the Village Hall and inform the Clerk **RF/TO**
- 6.4 **Village Signs** – RW reported that the signs had arrived. RW to speak to PK about installation. **RW/PK**
- 6.5 **Potholes** – TO stated that the potholes in Thickthorn Lane by the Piggery are as bad as ever again despite being recently dealt with. The Clerk agreed to report this on FixMyStreet. It was noted that there are some marks on the road which may indicate that work is about to start. **Clerk**
- 6.6 **Flooding in Clapton Lane** – AD had contacted MP again about this. TK will also speak to MP. **AD/TK**

- 6.7 **30mph limit in Ston Easton** – suggested that the limit needs to be moved so that 40mph goes back 100/200 yards along the A37 and the 30mph limit starts where the existing 40mph limit starts now. MP suggested contacting Sara Davis Somerset CC stating that a solution is required to slow traffic down as it enters the village and asking if Highways could come and assess the situation. The speed of vehicles through Clapton was also mentioned with a suggestion that the speed limit should be reduced to 20 mph. Further consideration to road markings and signage should be done by SCC. Mike Pullin is now dealing with this and the Clerk will contact him to see what progress has been made **Clerk**
- 6.8 **Strap Lane** – this was discussed. PK reported that stones and fencing have been placed at the edge of the area and are on the roadway causing a potential hazard. TO agreed to email Ian Glover at MDC, copying in MP, about this new development and ask for an update. It was felt that Highways would need to be informed about the stones/fencing issue. **TO**
- 6.9. **Greenditch Lane, Clapton** – SH reported that at least three lorries have got stuck in Greenditch Lane recently despite signage being in place to indicate that the Lane should not be used. He had spoken to Forticrete and their representative had offered to attend a future meeting to discuss this issue further. It was agreed to extend an invitation to the next meeting. **SH**

7 **DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

- 7.1 TK gave a brief report. Vaccinations continue and elections are due on the 6 May. The Unitary debate is gaining pace; the Government has done their consultation and a decision on whether One Somerset or Stronger Somerset is due around June/July. The District Councils have agreed to do a poll of residents in Somerset and this will take place in mid-May/June but may be too late to influence the process.

Planning: the Part II plan has gone to the Inspector.

8 **PLANNING**

- 8.1 **2021/0419/FUL Land South of Electricity Substation , Langleys Lane, Clapton**

TO left the meeting and RW assumed the Chair for this item Planning permission was previously granted to the substation and this application is just for repositioning. AD had sent information out to local Clapton residents. It was agreed unanimously to leave the decision to the Planning Officer.

9 FOOTPATHS

9.1 Ann Huckle joined the meeting for this item and gave a short update report. The bridge replacement is ongoing which will include a kissing gate and there are some signposts required which AH has asked Clare Haskins at MDC about. AH agreed to write something for the website and send to RF.

AH/RF

TO thanked AH for her work.

10 POLICY REVIEWS

10.1 The Clerk had sent out the Standing Orders for consideration. AD had various points to make and it was agreed that she would list these and send out by email to the Clerk. The Clerk will then update the Orders and redistribute to the Councillors for approval. The Clerk will also send out the Financial Regulations and the Code of Conduct for approval. The Clerk will also send a copy of the Complaints Procedure to PK.

**AD
Clerk**

11 FINANCIAL MATTERS

11.1 **Finance Statement** – the statement as at 04.05.21 was approved.

11.2 **Cheques for signature**
Clerks expenses - £126.56

Proposed for acceptance by SH, seconded AD. All agreed.

12 CORRESPONDENCE

12.1 Nothing to report

13 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

13.1 Annual Parish Council Meeting 25 May at 7.30 p.m. at Ston Easton.

POST MEETING NOTE: Meeting date rearranged to 27 May at 7.30 p.m.