

STON EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT STON EASTON VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 1st MARCH 2023 COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Tom Killen (Chair), Peter King, Julian Carver, Ainslie Davies and Rick Fitzsimmons; also in attendance Alan Butcher (Clerk)

23/03/1 - Apologies for absence. Cllr Anne Huckle and Cllrs Hobbs and Robbins.

23/03/2 – Co-option of councillors onto the Parish Council following the uncontested election.

Cllr Fitzsimmons advised he had been in contact with a possible candidate.

23/03/3 - Declarations of Interest: No declarations were made.

23/03/4 - Public Participation:

The Chairman will adjourn the meeting and allow a maximum of 15 minutes for public participation on matters included on the agenda only. Four members of the public were present including an independent parliamentary candidate who introduced herself to the council. No other matters were raised.

- i) Report from Cllr Robbins – this had been circulated. Clerk to re-circulate to those who may not have seen it.

23/03/5 - Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:

- i) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th January 2023. Cllr Huckle had raised a number of points which were noted. It was proposed Cllr King/seconded Cllr Davies that the minutes be agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

23/03/6 - Parish Council Response to Planning Applications

- i) Proposed Upgrade of existing radio base station at Home Farm, Rush Hill BS39 6TR. Clerk to write to applicant advising the councillors had no objections or comments.
- ii) 2023/0168/TEL | Application for prior approval of telecommunications development for the installation of radio equipment housing, generator, security fencing and ancillary development. | Electricity Sub Station Langleys Lane Clapton Radstock Somerset. Councillors had no objections to the application.
The matter of noise from the gas plant in Langleys Lane had been raised and Cllr Killen advised that the original planning report noted that noise would not be a problem. He would ask Mendip to monitor the noise emanating

from the site. Clerk to write to Farrington Gurney PC to ask if they were aware of any complaints about the noise.

iii) Notification of Tree Preservation Order adjacent to 18 Green St, Ston Easton. There were no objections to this order.

iv) Somer Valley Enterprise Zone. Cllr Huckle had advised the following form of words as a response: "Concern that there is no traffic flow metrics/ data for traffic coming from the direction of Langleys Lane and further concerns that there are no measures in place at either the proposed new roundabout nor road off Langleys Lane to prevent rat run/short cut behaviour along Langleys Lane to access the EZ and adjoining roads. Ston Easton Parish Council would like to see measures put in place that will prevent the single track Langleys Lane being used as a bypass/ short cut from both the B3139 Chilcompton/ Thickthorne Lane the and A37 Ston Easton/Haystreet to the proposed new roundabout and road at the bottom of Langleys Lane leading to the A362 and EZ and existing industrial and retail parks.

Ston Easton Parish Council requests that BANES continues to consult it and also inform it of any forthcoming public and/ or parish consultations"

Councillors agreed to submit this form of words to B&NES.

Correspondence from Stratton PC regarding 270 homes adjoining The White Post PH. Clerk to write to Stratton PC advising that Ston Easton PC sympathised with their comments but were unable to comment directly on the proposed development.

23/03/7 - Financial:

- i) Authorisation of payments for:
 - a) Alan Butcher – Clerks salary and expenses – January and February 2023. £498.34. Proposed Cllr King/seconded Cllr Carver that this be authorised; agreed unanimously.
 - b) HMRC Tax payment. £629.20 (April 2022 to February 2023). Proposed Cllr Fitzsimmons/seconded Cllr Davies that this be authorised, agreed unanimously.
 - c) Invoice from Blake Training for Strimmer Training £99.00. Proposed Cllr King/ seconded Cllr Fitzsimmons that this be authorised, agreed unanimously.
 - d) An invoice had been received for the Clapton Gateway sign from Arien Signs Ltd in the sum of £117.60. Proposed Cllr Fitzsimmons/seconded Cllr Davies that the be authorised, agreed unanimously.
- ii) Quote from Primrose Garden maintenance for grass cutting, etc. It was proposed Cllr Davies/seconded Cllr Carver that the quote be accepted, agreed unanimously.

- iii) Grant for Get Active. An amount had been included in the budget for this grant and it was proposed Cllr King/seconded Cllr Killen that a grant of £1000 be agreed. This was agreed unanimously. The clerk asked for confirmation of how the monies would be spent and to whom the payment should be made.

23/03/8 - Parish Council Matters.

- i) Matters arising from previous minutes:
 - a) 21/10/03ii) Village Signs – Clapton sign. The clerk confirmed that the sign had been made by a local company for £98.00 rather than the £200 plus as previously discussed. He would collect the sign the following day.
 - b) Strap Lane illegal occupation. No further information.
 - c) Greenditch Lane status and repairs. Some repairs had been carried out on a temporary basis.
 - d) Other Highway matters reported to Highways via Fix my Street after the last meeting. A number of these works were still outstanding.
 - e) Other Highway matters:

Cllr King advised that a boundary marker was displaced at the junction of Strap Lane. He would remove the marker to a safe place. It was suggested that the markers installed some years ago should be added to the Asset Register.

The church wall on the A37 at Ston Easton was in a state of disrepair with Herreris Fencing placed in front the wall; it had been established that the wall was the responsibility of highways. Clerk to report the matter.

A litter pick in various locations was planned for the end of March, equipment was already booked with Idverde for a Clapton litter pick.
- ii) Parish Traffic and Highways Advisory Group. A meeting was to be arranged to discuss options and councillors agreed to write a letter of support for grant funding for equipment when details are agreed. Cllr Killen to email Unitary councillors to invite them to the meeting.
- iii) Footpaths Report. No report but it was noted that new gates were being installed.
- iv) Ibstock Shearstone site. The information from Cllr Huckle was noted and councillors thanked Cllr Huckle for her work on this matter.
- v) Defibrillator purchase. The clerk advised that grants could be available for the purchase. Cllr Killen to organise electrical works to phone box and grant information to be circulated as soon as possible. It was hoped to have the machine in place by the annual meeting at the start of May.
- vi) Councillors reference books – Clerk to order via NALC at a cost of £132.00
- vii) Ston Easton Bus shelter. Cllr Fitzsimmons proposed that a notice board be placed inside the shelter; costs and other details to be agreed.
- viii) New Somerset Council matters.

Draft minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting

Ston Easton had been placed in an LCN with Shepton Mallet rather than Wells. Cllr Killen advised recent proposals regarding planning changes but noted that there was still a great deal to be agreed.

- ix) Date for Annual Parish Meeting – 2nd May 2023 before the Annual Parish Council meeting.

23/03/9 - Matters of Report:

- i) Cllr Fitzsimmons to activate new email addresses as previously discussed.

23/03/10 - Date of Next Meeting.

Annual Parish Council meeting - Tuesday 2nd May 2023 at Clapton Village Hall

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
12th March 2023
01749 870358;
ston.easton.clerk@gmail.com