

STON EASTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT STON EASTON VILLAGE HALL ON WEDNESDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2022 COMMENCING AT 7.30pm

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

22/11/1 - Apologies for absence. Cllr Julian Carver

22/11/2 – Co-option of councillors onto the Parish Council following the uncontested election.

The clerk advised that he had received an expression of interest in joining the council.

22/11/3 - Declarations of Interest:

Members are required to act in accordance with the Parish Council's Code of Conduct adopted on 6th September 2022.

Cllr Killen declared a personal interest in agenda item 22/11/6ii

22/11/4 - 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. Six members of the public were present.

i) Agenda matters and pAnneing.

It was noted that the notice board in the Ston Easton bus shelter was in need of replacement.

It was advised that the garden of 18 Green Street, Ston Easton which was the subject of a pAnneing application contained an ancient tree which should be protected.

A request was made to publish council minutes in the Parish Magazine.

Continuing concern was expressed about highway issues in Ston Easton; Cllr Killen to speak to Cllr Hobbs on the matter.

22/11/5 - Confirmation of the Minutes of previous meetings:

i) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 6th September 2022 - were agreed as a record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman with Cllr Davies name substituted for Cllr Huckle in minutes 22/09/3 and 6i. Amended minutes to be posted on the website.

22/11/6 - Parish Council Response to PAnneing Applications

- i) 2022/2089/HSE | Rear extension, raising of the boundary wall, and formation of new internal driveway and associated landscaping works. | Lower Lodge Bristol Road Ston Easton Radstock Somerset BA3 4DF. The applicant gave a short explanation of the proposals. Councillors raised a number of queries including the works to the boundary wall and whether it was possible to reinstate a safe footway. It was prop Cllr Davies, sec Cllr Fitzsimmons that the application be supported, this was agreed unanimously
- ii) 2022/2137/HSE | Two-storey rear extension, internal re-configuration and erection of ancillary garage with office space above. | 18 Green Street Ston Easton Wells Somerset BA3 4DB. It was proposed Cllr Fitzsimmons, sec Cllr King that the application be supported. This was agreed unanimously (Cllr Killen did not vote.). It was agreed to include a comment about the ancient tree in the response.
- iii) PAnneing Appeal Ref: APP/Q3305/W/21/3275308 Old Gore Wood, Old Gore Lane, Emborough BA3 4SJ. This was noted.
- iv) Further consultation on proposals for Pennys site at Ston Easton – suggested date 7th December 2022, 7pm at Ston Easton Village Hall.

22/11/7 - Financial:

- i) Changes to Banking arrangements, new account and transfer of funds. The clerk advised that the new account was now open and that the Natwest funds would be transferred on 3rd November 2022.
- ii) Update on current financial position. Clerk to circulate when transfer of funds is completed.
- iii) Authorisation of payments for:
 - a) Alan Butcher – Clerks salary and expenses – September and October £515.72. This was duly authorised.
 - b) Primrose Garden Maintenance Ltd (Clapton War Memorial) - £48.00. This was duly authorised.
- iv) Donation to Royal British Legion for wreaths. Councillors agreed a donation of £60.

22/11/8 - Parish Council Matters.

- i) Matters arising from previous minutes:
 - a) 21/10/03ii) Village Signs. The second sign had now been fixed. After discussion it was agreed that the unused gate section of the sign should be sited in Clapton with new signs fitted. It was felt that this would be a useful contribution to road safety. Type and style of signs and cost to be agreed at the next meeting.

- b) Strapstone Lane illegal occupation. Clerk to write to highways about the stones and fencing placed on the highway. Cllr Killen advised he had received no further communication from Mendip about the illegal occupation.
- c) Greenditch Lane status and repairs. The clerk had written Rights of Way and was awaiting a reply. Clerk to write to county councillors on the matter.
- ii) Other Highways matters:
 - It was noted that part of the carriageway in Strapstone Lane had collapsed.
 - Defective infilling of a trench was reported on the main road in Ston Easton.
 - There was a discussion about the introduction of SID's on the A37 to combat speeding and also the introduction of road narrowing signs following a recent serious accident. Speedwatch had reported excessive speeds and it was hoped that the police would mount more speed patrols. It was suggested that SID's could be supplied by the police if the Parish Council applied and the council could purchase devices themselves.
- iii) Parish Traffic and Highways Advisory Group. Awaiting the county council response; it was agreed to invite Cllrs Hobbs and Robbins to the next meeting.
- iv) Footpaths Report – Cllr Huckle gave the following report:
 - 1. Footpath CL5/10A off Greenditch Lane towards Chilcompton. Blocking, dumping of spoil, and excavation across the path to create what looks like a motorcross course has been reported to SCC Rights of Way Team (ROWT) and both SSC Environmental and pAnneing department. Dumping and Excavation has stopped but the gate and path remain blocked. SCC ROWT continue to investigate, I will continue liaise with them.
 - 2. Footpath. CL5/10 Clapton to Chilcompton and part of the Mendip Ring. SCC RWOT report that replacement of broken stiles by gates should take place shortly.
 - 3. CL19/21 Fingerpost between Highbury House and Ivy Cottage remains broken. SCC ROWT have been asked to replace/repair fingerpost.
 - 4. CL19/20 Still awaiting placement of stile so that New Manor Farm's yard can be safely bypassed, and subsequent application to permanently divert path.
 - 5. CL19/5/1 Lower Hay Street SCC ROWT to liaise with landowner on a more appropriate gate. SCC ROWT also asked to engage with land owner again on the comments made by members of the public on the Explore Somerset Site about the dangers of cattle straying onto this narrow path.
- v) Defibrillator purchase – awaiting completion of bank account change.
- vi) Councillors reference books– awaiting completion of bank account change.

Draft minutes subject to acceptance at the next meeting

- vii) Ston Easton Bus shelter – a quote for the works was awaited.
- viii) Asset Register information. The clerk circulated a draft register of assets. A number of additional assets and changes were made, register to be updated and circulated for agreement at the next meeting.
- ix) New Somerset Council matters. Cllr Killen advised on recent discussions amongst parishes and there was a general discussion about where Ston Easton should be placed in the LCN structure. It was generally agreed that Ston Easton should be Wells facing and aligned with Chewton Mendip and Litton. Clerk to send response along those lines.

22/11/9 - Matters of Report

- i) An update on the newsletter was requested, Cllr Killen advised it would be published before Christmas.
- ii) Cllr Fitzsimmons to proceed with councillors email addresses.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.40pm

22/11/10 - Date of Next Meeting.

10th January 2023 at Clapton Village Hall.

Alan Butcher,
Parish Clerk,
16th November 2022
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