



# Stroud Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Stroud Parish Council held at Steep Village Hall on Tuesday 3rd of March 2015 at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Cllr D McKinney, Cllr A Burges, Cllr F Rogers & Cllr D Paul.

**Also Present:** Mrs E Foulston (Clerk & RFO), District Cllr N Drew (arrived at 7.40pm) & County Cllr V Clarke.

**1.09.14 Apologies:** Cllr C Snow and Cllr J Edbrooke

**2.09.14 Declarations of Pecuniary Interests:** None

**3.09.14 Comments from the public or press.** None – no members of the public or press were present.

**4.09.14 To receive and approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2015.**

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2015 previously circulated were agreed and signed.

**5.09.14. Councillor Resignations/Elections.**

Cllr McKinney confirmed that Cllr Edbrooke had offered her resignation and would be leaving at the end of the current term of office. There was further discussion regarding the upcoming election and the process for councillor nominations. The Clerk confirmed the dates of the notice of elections and close of nominations and Cllr McKinney confirmed that there should be 6 councillors on the parish council. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would request nomination packs for current councillors, anyone else who expressed an interest in standing and packs to take to the Annual Parish Meeting.

**6.09.14 May Meeting Date**

After discussion **it was resolved** that due to the May meeting having to be between 4 and 14 days after the General Election, the date of the May meeting and AGM would be Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm.

**7.09.14 Petersfield Neighbourhood Plan Consultation**

After discussion, including whether there were any issues at the parish boundaries, **it was resolved** that Cllr Paul would look at the Neighbourhood Plan and draft a response. It is of particular interest in respect of the potential cycle path in the village.

**8.09.14 Alton Neighbourhood Plan Consultation** This was discussed and it was agreed that as Alton does not have adjoining boundaries with the parish, the Council would not respond to this consultation.

**9.09.14 Affordable Housing Update.** Cllr McKinney confirmed that an informal meeting was held yesterday between Council members, a local landowner, SDNPA and Action Hants. The landowner is keen to help with affordable housing in the village but the suggested site may not fit with SDNPA development rules. A site visit may take place within the next couple of months. The Council has also recently received communication from the developer concerned with the previous potential site but no response has been sent at this time as the landowners have previously written to the council withdrawing the offer of the land – this has been publicised on the website. Any future planning application will be dealt with in the standard way. The rural exception site rule still applies and there is currently no pressure for housing in the SDNPA area. **It was resolved** that the Clerk would contact SDNPA to request a copy of their response to the developer if possible.

**10.09.14 Cycle Path Update.** Cllr Rogers has spoken to SDNPA to ask for a representative to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to discuss the potential cycle path. The Clerk confirmed that no response has yet been received from the local landowner regarding the recent letter sent to them regarding the potential cycle path.

**11.09.14 Annual Parish Meeting.** The Clerk confirmed that she was in discussion with SusTrans and the Police about potential speakers at the meeting. Cllr Rogers is also in discussion with SDNPA about this. Cllr Paul suggested a potential speaker from the RAF. **It was resolved** that if there were no confirmed speakers by 10<sup>th</sup> March then the Clerk and the Chairman would review the situation. The Clerk would then also contact Cllr Drew for the contact details of the Countryside Watch Officer.

**12.09.14 Highways Update.** Cllr Rogers and Cllr Burges have both recently contacted HCC regarding the use of 4x4's on North Stroud Lane. It was also suggested that the Council might contact the Rights of Way officer, Alison Perry.

**13.09.14 Clerk/Councillor Training.** Cllr McKinney confirmed that he would be attending the HALC Annual Conference on 4<sup>th</sup> March along with Cllr Burges. The Clerk would like to request the following training: -

- Introduction to Local Council Administration (12 month online course)
- Localism training course

**It was resolved** that the Clerk would undertake the above training and that Cllr McKinney and Cllr Burges would attend the HALC Annual Conference. Training for new councillors following the election was discussed including potential planning training at EHDC.

**14.09.14 Village Litterpick.** Cllr Rogers confirmed that this had been planned for 11<sup>th</sup> April but following new litter collection rules, EHDC can no longer let the council have tabards and litterpickers. Following discussion **it was resolved** that the litterpick would be cancelled for this year and the reasons for this would be published on the website. The regulations are very new so **it was resolved** that the council would contact EHDC in the future to see if there was anything that could be done to reinstate the litterpick. Cllr McKinney has also contacted EHDC regarding the amount of litter from the local McDonalds on the roads in the village.

**15.09.14 Planning Application – SDNP/15/00564/LIS – Location:** Stroud Bridge Farm, 18 Ramsdean Road, Stroud GU32 3PH **Proposal:** Listed Building Consent – Internal alterations and replacement window to thatched studio, painting of fenestration to main dwelling. **It was resolved** that no objection would be made to the planning application.

**16.09.14 Report from District Councillor** – Cllr Drew reported on the following points:

- New regulations are now in place regarding the collection of litter at roadsides.
- Cllr Drew attended the informal Affordable Housing meeting that took place yesterday.

- The Council's application for a grant for the purchase of a computer has been received and is being processed.
- Cllr Drew recently presented at the East Hants Sports Awards held at Old Thorns but there were no representatives from Stroud. It was discussed whether there were any relevant sports clubs in the village who might be eligible for the awards in the future.
- A new quieter road surface is being laid on the A3 from south of Petersfield to the Ham Barn roundabout in the near future.
- Following a recent Citizenship session with year 6 pupils at Langrish School the children had the chance to raise issues and ideas about the local area.
- Any future requests for the Community Forums, of which there are 3 per year, should be sent via Cllr Drew and he will update us on these.

#### **17.09.14 Report from County Councillor – (See appendix a.)**

#### **18.09.14 Councillor's Reports –**

**a) Tree Warden** – No report. It was discussed that with the change to councillors following the May election, a review would be undertaken as to which councillor would undertake which role moving forward. Cllr Paul asked whether the Council should have a Highways role and a discussion followed regarding a sign being obscured by a tree which Cllr Paul is liaising with a local landowner over, a 20mph limit for Ramsdean Road and a potential Speedwatch group within the village which is due to be discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting. Cllr Clarke and Cllr Drew will support this group and it was also discussed whether a parish councillor should be a member of the group.

**b) Parish Plan** – Cllr McKinney confirmed that there was nothing significant to report at this time.

**c) Communications** – There is information regarding the Election on the parish council website but it was also discussed whether this information could be put on the village website. **It was resolved** that Cllr Paul would look into this and draft any wording necessary.

**d) Recreation Ground** – Cllr Burges is currently in the process of obtaining quotes for the new bench setting. Cllr Rogers raised the issue of the damaged turf in the goal mouth and **it was resolved** that the Clerk would submit an application for a grant for £300 for new artificial grass.

**e) Bus Shelters** – Cllr Burges confirmed that the 2 plastic bus shelters required painting and **it was resolved** that quotes for the paint only would be obtained. A possible replacement for the wooden bus shelter was also discussed.

**f) Footpaths** – Cllr Rogers said that footpath 703 was very waterlogged at the moment and that there was no further update at this time.

**19.09.14 Chairman's Report** – The Chairman did not have any additional items to report at this meeting.

#### **20.09.14 Financial Matters**

a) Financial Report:

Balance in accounts: Unity Trust Current account £3,519.89  
Unity Trust Savings account £6,457.95

Money In: None      Total £0.00

Money Out:

31/01/2015 300079 HM Revenue & Customs £48.20

01/02/2015 300080 HM Revenue & Customs £82.20

01/02/2015 300081 Mrs E Foulston £329.05

31/01/2015 300082 Mrs M Snow £411.25

25/02/2015 300083 Steep Village Hall £84.00

25/02/2015 300084 Springvale Landscaping £185.00  
25/02/2015 300085 Mrs M Snow £196.86  
25/02/2015 300086 Mrs M Snow £237.33  
01/03/2015 300087 Mrs E Foulston £322.29  
01/03/2015 300088 HM Revenue & Customs £80.60  
06/02/2015 BACS Mr C P Jenner (Meon Cleaning Services) £66.00  
06/02/2015 BACS HALC Ltd £156.00

Total Payments: £2,198.78

There were no electronic payments to be authorised or cheques signed

Total Payments authorised £2,198.78

Cllr McKinney queried whether any money should be transferred from the Current Account to the Savings account but it was agreed not to do this at this time.

The Chairman signed the bank statements for the period.

- b) Internal Audit Date – The Clerk confirmed that the date for the Internal Audit had been set for Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> June. The Clerk, Chairman and Vice-Chairman will review all documentation in advance of the audit.

#### 21.09.14 Correspondence

- a) **Draft Hampshire Countryside Access Plan – it was resolved** that Cllr Rogers would review this and draft a response to be forwarded to all Cllrs for their comments before being returned.
- b) **SDNPA – Dark Skies** – This was noted and **it was resolved** to support this by writing a letter to SDNPA.
- c) **HALC – Social Isolation Pilot** – This was noted and **it was resolved** that the information will be added to the parish council website.
- d) **HALC – Superfast Broadband Update** – As the village now has superfast broadband, it was agreed that the update and questionnaire were no longer relevant to the village.
- e) **HALC – Annual Update** – This was noted. Cllr McKinney and Cllr Burges will also provide an update at the next meeting from the HALC annual conference that they will be attending.

#### 22.09.14 Future Agenda Items. – Affordable housing and site visit

**Date of the next meeting** will be Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2015 at 7.30pm in Langrish School Hall.

Meeting Ended: 9.10pm

Signed

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Clerk – E Foulston