



Stroud Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Stroud Parish Council held at Langrish School Hall on Tuesday 8th of September 2015

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

Also Present: Mrs E Foulston (Clerk & RFO), County Cllr V Clarke (left the meeting at 8pm) District Cllr N Drew (arrived at the end of the meeting) & no members of the public.

1.05.15 Apologies for Absence. Apologies were noted from Cllr O Howe.

2.05.15 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

None.

3.05.15 Comments from the Public or Press.

No members of the public or press were present.

4.05.15 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Meeting on the 7th of July 2015.

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7th of July 2015 previously circulated were agreed and signed.

5.05.15. To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting on the 2nd of June 2015.

Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 2nd of June 2015 previously circulated were agreed and signed.

19.05.15 Report from County Councillor.

See attached appendix. Cllr Clarke also asked whether Stroud had any concerns regarding BOAT's within the village and Cllr Rogers confirmed that an issue had previously be raised with Hampshire County Council regarding Langrish BOAT 19. Cllr Clarke has also offered the Parish Council a grant towards repainting two of the bus shelters within the village.

6.05.15 To Discuss the June Questionnaire.

Cllr Foulston provided an update on the questionnaire that was handed out at the Stroud Revels in June. Of 28 responses the majority would like to see Village Hall (potentially with a shop attached) as a facility. There were also several requests for further equipment in the recreation ground such as a zipwire, seesaw, roundabout and two goalposts. 23 of the people who responded said they would say yes to an increased council tax charge for better facilities and 23 people also said yes to affordable housing within the village. It was overall a very positive response. The main concerns that residents had were with regard to speeding on the A272 and litter within the village. The road safety issue was discussed and **it was resolved** that Cllr Burges would send the updated School Travel Plan to County Cllr Clarke so that he could look into a school crossing patrol and any other suggestions.

7.05.15 To Discuss Assets of Community Value

Following previous discussions regarding Assets of Community Value, further information regarding the process has now been received. It was discussed that the pub is of great value to the community and **it was resolved** that the Parish Council would complete a Request to Nominate an Asset of Community Value form to EHDC. The Clerk will complete the form following clarification of how many times an asset can be nominated. The application will also be discussed with the management team at the pub.

8.05.15 To Approve the Protocol for Public and Press Reporting at Council Meetings

The new protocol was circulated prior to the meeting and there were no amendments so **it was resolved** to approve the protocol. A notice will be displayed at meetings moving forward and the Chairman will be able to refer to the protocol under agenda item 3 in future meetings.

9.05.15 Planning Application – SDNP/15/03202/HOUS Location: 10 Finchmead Lane, Stroud, Petersfield, Hampshire GU32 3PF **Proposal:** Single storey link extension and detached garage.

The Chairman and Vice Chairman had spoken to the homeowner to review the application. **It was resolved** that no objection would be made to the planning application.

10.05.15 Planning Application – SDNP/25/03606/HOUS Location: 8 Finchmead Lane, Stroud, Petersfield GU32 3PF **Proposal:** Two storey and first floor extensions to rear. **It was resolved** that no objection would be made to the planning application.

11.05.15 To Discuss The Lengthsman Scheme

Further information had been requested about the Scheme following a discussion at the last meeting and this has now been received. **It was resolved** that the Parish Council would add their name to the waiting list for the Scheme for next year along with other adjoining parishes. The Clerk will find out who assigns the Lengthsman and what sort of work they can do and also whether the amount allocated is an annual amount. Cllr Burges raised an issue regarding a bridge and stream within the village that has been blocked and a nearby stile that had become difficult to use in wet weather. Cllr Rogers will look into this and report back accordingly.

12.05.15 To Approve the Clerk's Training

It was resolved that the Clerk would attend a Clerk's Update course on 14th October. **It was also resolved** that Cllr Rogers and Cllr Burges would attend the Hampshire Association of Local Councils' AGM on 10th October. The Clerk handed out updated HALC Service Brochures to all Councillors.

13.05.15 To Approve Project Costs for Resurfacing of Footpath 703

Cllr Rogers has obtained grants from both Hampshire County Council and the Small Grants Scheme for resurfacing work on Footpath 703, with just a minor shortfall for part of the VAT costs. **It was resolved** that the Parish Council would cover the shortfall in project costs under the LGA Act 1972, sch 14 para.27.

14.05.15 To Discuss Automatic Enrolment and Choosing a Pension Scheme

Under Automatic Enrolment regulations the Parish Council is required to have a pension scheme in place by their staging date of 1 March 2016. They are also required to notify The Pensions Regulator of the pension scheme chosen by 1 November 2015. After discussion, **it was resolved** to apply to join the National Employment Savings Trust and the Clerk will set up this scheme and notify The Pensions Regulator as necessary.

17.05.15 To Discuss the Replacement of the Village Marquee

Cllr McKinney explained that the current Village Marquee, which had recouped the initial outlay on it several times over, was in need of replacement. A new marquee could be hired out and also loaned to other parish councils. The old marquee could be donated. **It was resolved** that Cllr McKinney would speak to the Village Hall Trustees to see if they would take care of a new marquee again. Funding for a new marquee and potentially an additional couple of gazebos would be researched.

15.05.15 To Discuss Work to be Completed on the Recreation Ground

The Clerk confirmed that the company who installed the Thumper Tower will be completing the works suggested in the Annual Inspection Report free of charge and a date is currently being awaited for this. The Clerk will also be meeting with a representative from the Hampshire Playing Fields Association regarding changes to the entrance to the recreation ground and also potential grants for the artificial grass and goalmouth improvements. The willow tunnel is due to be removed shortly. Cllr Foulston confirmed that materials for other small improvements suggested in the report along with a new sign regarding littering will cost up to £50 and **it was resolved** that these items would be purchased. There has also been some damage to a couple of attachments on the Thumper Tower and **it was resolved** to purchase replacements for these. Cllr Foulston also confirmed that the Seven Stars pub has kindly donated two picnic tables to the Parish Council for use in the recreation ground. Cllr Burges confirmed that the project to complete the installation of the WW1 Commemorative bench was reaching a conclusion and **it was resolved** that costs would be obtained and the work completed as soon as possible.

16.05.15 To Discuss Work to be Completed on the Bus Shelters

Cllr Clarke has offered a grant to repaint two of the bus shelters within the village and **it was resolved** that the Clerk would submit the application form for the grant. Cllr Burges has obtained quotes for the work and materials. It was discussed that it may be necessary in the near future to look into replacing the third bus shelter and sourcing funding for this.

18.05.15 Report from District Councillor

No report.

20.05.15 Chairman's Report

No report.

21.05.15 Financial Matters

a) Finance Report

Balance in accounts: Unity Trust Current account £5,273.56
Unity Trust Deposit account £6,461.15

Money in:

07/07/2015 EHDC £339.00
27/07/2015 EHDC £1,277.00
14/08/2015 Walks Around Stroud booklet £2.00
Total £1,618.00

Money out:

22/07/2015 300101 Steep PCC £10.00
04/08/2015 300102 Frank Mayell £179.00
03/08/2015 BACS HALC Ltd £42.00
03/08/2015 BACS Jonathan Street £191.00
03/08/2015 BACS HMRC £81.40
03/08/2015 BACS Mrs E Foulston £386.53
03/08/2015 BACS SLCC £103.00
02/09/2015 BACS HMRC £81.40
02/09/2015 BACS Mrs E Foulston £325.67

02/09/2015 BACS BDO LLP £120.00

Total payments authorised £1,520.00

The Chairman signed the bank statements for the period.

b) Conclusion of External Audit

The Clerk confirmed that the External Audit is now complete and **it was resolved** that this was approved by the Parish Council. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for all of her work on the successful completion of the audit.

22.05.15 Correspondence

a) SDNPA – Petersfield Neighbourhood Plan

This was noted.

b) SDNPA – South Downs Local Plan

Cllr McKinney and Cllr Foulston will be attending a meeting on the South Downs Local Plan and will provide an update at the next meeting.

c) NALC – Parish Councils' Bill E-Survey

This was discussed and **it was resolved** that the Parish Council would respond to the survey.

d) CPRE Hampshire – Updated Policy on the Rural Economy in Hampshire

This was noted and will be circulated to Councillors.

e) Jeremy Mitchell – Local History Day

This was noted and it was suggested that a local resident that helped with the Parish Plan may be able to help with items for the Local History Day stall.

23.05.15 Future Agenda Items

Working party for the Annual Parish Meeting.

South Downs Local Plan.

Date of the next meeting will be Tuesday the 3rd of November 2015 at 7.30pm in Langrish School Hall.

Meeting Ended: 9.10pm

Signed

Chairman: _____ Date: _____

Clerk – E Foulston