



# Stroud Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Stroud Parish Council held at Stroud Church on Tuesday 10th of May 2016 following the AGM.

**Present:** Cllr A Burges, Cllr F Rogers, Cllr O Howe, Cllr D Paul & Cllr C Foulston.

**Also Present:** Mrs E Foulston (Clerk & RFO) & District Cllr N Drew.

**1.02.16 Apologies for Absence.** Apologies were noted from Cllr D McKinney and County Cllr V Clarke.

**2.02.16 Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.**  
Cllr Rogers declared an interest in agenda item 15.02.16.

**3.02.16 Comments from the Public or Press.**  
None.

**4.02.16 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2016.**  
Minutes of the Meeting held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2016 previously circulated were agreed and signed.

**5.02.16 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2016.**  
Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2016 previously circulated were agreed and signed.

**6.02.16 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2016.**  
Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2016 previously circulated were agreed and signed.

**7.02.16. Matters Raised at the Annual Parish Meeting on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of April 2016.**  
The only matter arising from the meeting was an offer from a local resident to put up and maintain picket fencing at the entrances to the village on the A272 to discourage speeding. Hampshire County Council's Highways team have confirmed that this is outside of their jurisdiction as the fencing would be on private land. **It was resolved** to speak to the insurance company and also other Parish Councils for further advice before any decisions were made.

**8.02.16 EHAPTC Report.**

Cllr Rogers gave a report about a recent EHAPTC meeting attended by Cllr Rogers and the Clerk. The main speaker at the meeting was Dr J Cox from Portsmouth University who has started a Landscape Watch scheme and was looking for volunteers to sign up to the scheme and analyse aerial photos held by Hampshire County Council and identify changes that had happened between 2005 and 2013. Further discussion at the meeting concerned the recent devolution process. The Clerk will be sending out further information regarding devolution.

### **9.02.16 To Discuss the Grounds Maintenance Contract & Lengthsman Scheme**

As previously discussed a schedule of work for the new Lengthsman role is in the process of being drafted. There are several jobs to be completed around the village in addition to the current grass and hedge cutting at the recreation ground. The interviews for the Lengthsman are currently taking place with an aim to the job starting in June. **It was resolved** that as the work being scheduled for the Lengthsman may be in excess of the £1,000 allocated then the Grounds Maintenance contract covering the recreation ground work would still be put out to tender and the Lengthsman would complete the additional work.

### **10.02.16 To Review the Annual Insurance Renewal.**

Three insurance renewal quotations had been requested and two quotations have been received. **It was resolved** that both insurance companies would be asked about the matter arising from the Annual Parish Meeting and that, subject to further information being received, the slightly cheaper quotation would be accepted.

### **11.02.16 To Approve the Purchase of McAfee LiveSafe Subscription**

The annual renewal for the McAfee Livesafe Subscription for the laptop used by the Clerk is due this month and **it was resolved** that the Council would pay for the renewal of this subscription.

### **12.02.16 To Approve the Renewal of the Parish Online Mapping Service**

The annual renewal of the Parish Online Mapping Service which gives the Council access to Ordnance Survey maps is due this month and **it was resolved** that the Council would pay for the renewal of this service.

### **13.02.16 To Approve the NALC Levy and Annual Subscription from Hampshire ALC**

The Council pays on an annual basis for membership of the Hampshire Association of Local Councils. This year the Council has been asked to pay a separate charge relating to the National Association of Local Council's levy. **It was resolved** that the Council would pay both charges.

### **14.02.16 To Approve the Subscription Renewal for Hampshire Playing Fields Association**

The annual renewal for membership of the Hampshire Playing Fields Association is due this month and **it was resolved** that the Council would pay for this membership renewal.

### **15.02.16 Update on Footpaths.**

Cllr Rogers reported that there were ongoing discussions with the landowner regarding the waterlogged footpath 703 but at this time there were no changes that could be made other than possible wood chippings being laid down. Cllr Rogers and Cllr Howe would review this. Cllr Rogers is also in discussion with the landowner of footpath 4 regarding the high stiles.

### **16.02.16 To Discuss Sheepwatch UK**

The Clerk explained that this is a new scheme that was discussed at the recent EHAPTC meeting and the Parish Council has been sent a toolkit to set up a scheme within the village. **It was resolved** that Cllr Howe would look into a stand being set up at the upcoming Stroud revels in July to publicise the scheme and see if there was local interest. The scheme administrators and Damian Hinds MP would also be invited to attend.

### **17.02.16 Clerk's Holiday Dates**

**It was resolved** that the Clerk would take a week of annual leave from 11<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> July.

### **18.02.16 Update on the Village Marquee**

A grant for £500 has been received from Cllr Drew and this has been passed on to the Village Hall Trustees to purchase the new marquee.

### **19.02.16 Update on Village Green Stile Replacement**

The Clerk has been sent 2 quotations for installing the new kissing gate and **it was resolved** to accept the lower quote. The Clerk will also be applying for a further grant to cover the costs for this following an earlier grant received from Cllr Drew and **it was resolved** to order the new kissing gate and arrange for it to be installed.

### **20.02.16 Recreation Ground**

#### **a) Biffa bin contract**

The charge per bin collection has increased by £1.75 in the 2 years since the contract began. **It was resolved** to continue using Biffa for the next 12 months and then review the contract at that time possibly in conjunction with EHDC.

#### **b) New equipment**

Cllr Foulston confirmed that he had received a quote to replace the current goalpost with a new removable set of posts and was currently awaiting a quotation for installing these.

### **21.02.16 Report from District Councillor**

Cllr Drew reported the following: -

- It has now been decided that the Sheet level crossing will remain open.
- The Farnborough air space issue is still ongoing.
- East Hampshire District Council will be doing large litter picks every so often as roads need to be closed for this.
- A number of Parish Councils have recently been concerned about the level of enforcement.
- The devolution process and bids are still ongoing.
- There is now new grant funding available for the new financial year.
- If any flytipping is noted then Cllr Drew asked for this to be notified to EHDC.

### **22.02.16 Report from County Councillor**

The Chairman read out a report from County Councillor Vaughan Clarke (see appendix attached).

### **23.02.16 Financial Matters**

#### **a) Finance Report**

Balance in accounts: Unity Trust Current account £11,693.79

Unity Trust Deposit account £6,466.02

Money in:

24/03/2016 EHDC £407.00

31/03/2016 Bank interest £1.70

31/03/2016 Bank interest £1.61

14/04/2016 EHDC (Precept) £6,366.58

26/04/2016 EHDC £500.00

Total £7,276.89

Money out:

29/03/2016 300158 Hampshire County Council £180.00

14/04/2016 300159 Steep PCC £100.00

21/04/2016 300160 Mrs F Rogers £13.49

21/03/2016 Direct Debit Biffa £104.05

31/03/2016 BACS Mrs E Foulston £348.12

31/03/2016 BACS HMRC £81.40

01/04/2016 BACS Mrs E Foulston £150.00

12/04/2016 BACS Winscom Trustees £10.00

12/04/2016 BACS Mr CP Jenner (MCS) £66.00

29/04/2016 BACS Mrs E Foulston £344.38

29/04/2016 BACS HMRC £86.00

Total payments made and authorised £1,483.44

The Chairman signed the bank statements for the period.

**b) HMRC RTI – confirmation of end of year**

The Clerk confirmed that all of the Real Time Information returns had been submitted for the 2015/2016 tax year.

**c) Bank account changes**

The Clerk confirmed that from 4<sup>th</sup> June 2016 there would be a £6 per month charge on the Current Account. **It was resolved** to accept the new charges.

**24.02.16 Correspondence**

**a) EHDC – Local Plan: Housing and Employment Allocations**

This was noted and it was discussed that this does not include SDNPA.

**b) HALC – Submitting Motions to NALC**

This was noted.

**c) Buriton Parish Council – Government Petition about Parish Councils**

This was noted and it was agreed that the Clerk would circulate this.

**d) HALC – Response to Technical Planning Consultation**

**It was resolved** that Cllr Burges would review this consultation.

**e) HALC – Village of the Year Competition**

This was noted.

**f) EHDC – HARA Update**

This was noted.

**25.02.16 Future Agenda Items**

Ongoing issues with road safety and the new road scheme.

Recreation ground equipment.

**Date of the next meeting** will be Tuesday the 5<sup>th</sup> of July 2016 at 7.30pm in Langrish School Hall.

Meeting Ended: 9.45pm

Signed

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

Clerk – E Foulston