

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Official Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of
Stratton Parish Council
held on 20th Sept 2016 at Stratton Village Hall

UNADOPTED

Present: Cllr A Aylott, Cllr C Hobbs, Cllr P Jackson, Cllr P Hallett, Cllr H Richardson.
C. Jackson, D Parr, M Jury, C Boulton, Mr & Mrs Downton, J Cherry
D/Cllr T Yarker

Welcome.

The Chair welcomed all attendees and introduced the Public Participation item on the agenda. .

39/16. Public Participation.

D/Cllr Yarker gave a brief outline of the options being considered for the proposed changes in Local Government in Dorset. Basically considerations are to reduce nine authorities to two. All councillors are being asked for their views which can be registered at www.opinionresearch.co.uk/DorsetTC. These should be registered before 25th Oct 2016. Mr Colin Jackson expressed his thanks to D/Cllr J Haynes and Cllr Richardson for enabling the use of concessionary bus passes on the 212 Bus to Dorchester.

40/16. Code of Conduct and Declarations of Interest.

The Chair reminded the Council of its agreed Code of Conduct and the need for Councillors to declare if they had any interest in any of the items to be discussed in the agenda which had not already been entered in the members' Register of Interests. There were none raised.

41/16. Apologies.

C/Cllr J Haynes, D/Cllr Fred Horsington

42/16. Election of Chair.

On behalf of Stratton Parish Council, Cllr Hobbs paid tribute to the past Chairman, Gill Slade for her work and commitment to the residents of the Parish through her time as a Councillor.
Cllr Hobbs is acting as Chair due to the resignation of Cllr Slade until we elect a new chair.
Chair asked if there were any nominations for the office of Chairman.
Cllr Aylott was nominated by Cllr Hobbs and seconded by Cllr Hallett. As there were no other nominations Cllr Aylott duly elected as Chair. Cllr Hobbs to remain as Vice Chair.
The electoral office were informed of the vacancy caused by Cllr Slade's resignation and the statutory notices were issued. There were no requests for an election and we now have to fill the vacancy by co-option as soon as possible. We are now 2 councillors short

43/16. Minutes of last Parish Council meeting held on 19th July 2016.

The Chair asked if there were any reasons why the minutes of meeting of 19th July 2016 should not be signed as a true record. There were none raised. The minutes were duly signed and dated by the Chair.

44/16. Matters Arising

- a.) Administration of Grants – Proposals and actions. Proposal was adopted.
- b.) Wheelchair access – Progress. Cllr Aylott outlined the various options
- c.) Allotments – awaiting action by Wrackleford Estates.
- d.) Activities Fair – 9 organisations have expressed an interest, some for stalls, and some to give a presentation.
- e.) Joint working with other Parish Councils – We have now contacted the local parishes and received responses from all except Frampton Parish Council. (Vacancy of Parish Clerk). Clerk to arrange a date and avenue for a meeting.
- f.) Mr Downton’s application for a memorial. The council is prepared to grant Mr Downton’s request but with the height reduced.

45/16. Finance.

The Parish Clerk reported the details of income and expenditure up to 19th Sept 2016, as stated below.

Monies in the Village Green account cannot be used for any other purpose.

Account	Parish	V/Green	Parish Plan	VAT	Balance
Balance b/f	7517.21	34461.54	5101.28	126.05	46953.98
Receipts			655.28		655.28
Payments	888.47	703.60		169.72	1761.79
Balance c/f	6628.74	33757.94	5756.56	295.77	45847.47

Payments In

Donation – Adventure Play	340.88
Donation – Adventure Play	135.00
Donation – Adventure Play (cream teas)	179.40
Total	<u>655.28</u>

Payments out

Kevin’s Garden Services	55.00
Peter Hallett – Materials	56.00
Wessex Grounds Services	86.16
Stratton Village Hall – Hire	67.50
DCC – Dog Waste removal	8.86
T Gamwell – Website	150.00
Wessex Grounds Services	152.16
Wessex Grounds Services	540.00
Clerks Salary	397.25
DCC – Dog waste removal	8.86
BDO LLP – Audit	<u>240.00</u>
Total	<u>1761.79</u>

Transfer £5000.00 placed on deposit with NS & I.

Cllr Aylott updated the current position of the budget. The budget is slightly off track due to

- 1.) Unexpected Auditors fee of £200.

2.) Tree surgery on trees which fouled the double decker buses. £450.

45/16 b. Audit Report.

Audit report comments were read and accepted by the Council. The Clerk reported that the Auditors report is now available for inspection.

Appoint a new signatory for the Bank Account to replace Cllr Slade (Resigned)

46/16. Policies.

Safe guarding of Children Policy was agreed and adopted. (See annex to these minutes)

Equalities Policy was agreed and adopted. (See annex to these minutes)

47/16. Adventure Play Area

Cllr Jackson reported on the current position. Contractors on site on Tuesday 27th Sept and the equipment for installation will arrive on Wednesday 28th Sept.

48/16. Speed of Traffic

Cllr Hobbs informed the council on the current position. Potential actions which could be taken were

- a. Poster campaign,
- b. Further letter to residents,
- c. Possible speed survey early next year.

49/16. General Maintenance.

Village green. - Cllr Aylott reported on the progress on the cut back of the bushes and shrubs.

Cllr Hallett stated that he thought that the work was poorly done and his dissatisfaction was placed on record.

Trees on the Village Green have been crown lifted to comply with directive from Highways Authority.

Splay areas at the exit of The Rise have been cut back by Highways.

Most of the asset repairs around the village have now been completed.

Tree policy – Adopted (See annex)

50/16. Planning matters

No planning applications received.

Future applications will be conducted on line and Council observations to be submitted on line. Password required

51/16. Highways

Up-date: There has not been any information other than that some maintenance men spotted carrying out maintenance at the pumping house on A37,

52/16. Correspondence.

Email from Mr Hancock re: Japanese knotweed was read out and discussed. It would appear that in this instance the responsibility lies with the householder and neighbour. Clerk to respond to Mr Hancock.

53/16. Arrangements for Christmas.

Clerk to check availability of venue/band/Village Hall. Suggested dates: 9th Dec & 16th Dec.

54/16. Items for next agenda

None stated

55/16.Date of next meeting.

15th Nov 2016 (Precept)

Public Participation

The meeting closed at 21.00 pm.

