

# Stratton Parish Council

Official Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Stratton Parish Council  
held on 18th July 2017 at the Stratton Village Hall

## **Present**

Cllrs A Aylott, C Hobbs, H Richardson, A Wheeler, P Hallett (later), C/Cllr J Hayes, D/Cllrs F Horsington and T Yarker plus eight members of the public.

## **Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all attendees.

## **24/17 Public Participation**

C/Cllr J Hayes reported that she has reached an agreement with the support of various Parish Councils for a replacement service for the 212 bus service which will cease on the 21st July 2017. The new temporary service will be a "Ring and Ride" service which will only run until the end of the summer holidays. The route will be Maiden Newton to Dorchester via Frampton, Grimstone, Stratton and Bradford Peverell. There will be two morning outgoing services and two afternoon return services. The fares will be £2.50 each way and children at half price, however bus passes or concessionary fares will not be accepted. The aim of this service is to provide a flexible service that will be of benefit for the elderly and disabled users. A member of the public congratulated C/Cllr J Hayes and all those involved for setting up this interim service. Local posters will be put up in all bus shelters giving details of the new arrangement.

Mick Barnes a Stratton resident and an Operations Manager with the South-Western Ambulance Service gave a brief introduction to the defibrillator and the benefits of having one locally. He explained that there was no formal training required as a defibrillator will talk you through the process and will not allow any user errors. The approximate cost is £2200 and this includes a familiarisation session and four years servicing.

## **25/17 Code of Conduct/ Declaration of Interest**

The Chairman reminded the Council of 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 Member's Register of Interests. No declarations were made.

## **26/17 Apologies**

Cllr P. Hallett advised that he will be late.

## **27/17 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Stratton Parish Council held on 16th May**

The Chairman asked if there were any reasons why the minutes of the meeting of 16th May should not be signed as a true record. All Councillors agreed the minutes and the Chairman duly signed and dated the minutes.

## **28/17 Matters Arising**

- a) Item 19/17c Grassed area in The Square  
the initial quote of £2500 is excessive for what is required and the Highways department have been requested to re-quote, this is outstanding.
- b) Item 20/17 Beacons of Light 11th November 2018  
Approval has been received from the landowners for a beacon be lit on the South Clump. The Council will register their interest with the Battle's Over - A Nations Tribute

- c) Item 96/16c, 80/16c, 63/16 Red Telephone Box  
There has been no further progress. Cllr Hobbs to follow up and check for any additional information.
- d) Item 100/16a Dead Trees overhanging the Playing Field  
Work has been scheduled for the 7th and 8th August.

## **29/17 Finance**

### a) 2016/2017 Audit

The Period for the Exercise of Public Rights to inspect the accounting records commenced on the 20th June 2017, ending on the 31st July 2017.

The Internal Audit - no written report has been received and only one verbal comment was received, this was reported at the meeting being that several cheques and a small amount of cash had not been promptly banked, this was due to the Parish Clerk being seriously ill in hospital. This answer was accepted by the Internal Auditor.

External Audit – all papers been completed and submitted to the auditor. Three questions requesting further detail have since been received from the auditor. These cover Variance of Expenditure, the Nationwide account and reporting of the Internal Audit Report.

### b) Income and Expenditure

#### Accounts to 18th July 2017

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

Account	Parish	V/Green	Parish Plan	VAT	Balance
Balance b/f	9,472.06	35,339.60	-192.06	3,112.31	41,507.29
Receipts	-500.00		750.00	2,951.85	3,201.85
Payments	217.35	258.66		68.54	544.55
Balance c/f	8,754.71	35,080.94	557.94	229.00	44,164.59

### **PAYMENTS IN**

Virement to Parish Plan Account	500.00
Virement from Parish Account	-500.00
HMRC - VAT Refund	2,951.85
Rent for Allotments	250.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 3,201.85</b>

### **PAYMENTS OUT**

Play Area Inspection	79.80
Wessex Ground Services - May	155.20
Plants	21.00
DCC - Dorset Waste - Apr	9.00
DCC - Dorset Waste - May	9.00
Wessex Ground Services - Jun	155.20
Parish Clerk Salary	115.35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 544.55</b>

- c) Budget Monitoring  
The budget monitoring position was circulated and the only variation to budget is the £600 lease agreement fee for the allotments.
- d) Signatory Changes for Accounts  
Confirmed that the address and change of signatories to the National Savings Account had been completed. Although the change of address for the Lloyds Bank Current Accounts has happened, the change of signatories was still to be done. The Parish Clerk to arrange this.

### **30/17 Speed of Traffic Update - Road Speed Survey**

In comparison with the 2016 results, the 2017 survey results show a dramatic increase in vehicles travelling greater than 30 mph. West to East direction showed 21.2% vehicles were now in excess of 30 mph, while in the East to West direction 26.5% now exceeded 30 mph. The Traffic Sub Group were concerned as to why there was such a dramatic increase over the previous year. Proposed that a letter that would go out to every household with a strong message to reduce speed. A letter received from a resident urged the Council to install a Speed Indicator Device. When looking at current Dorset County Guidelines this cannot be considered as current speeds were lower than the criteria level. The 85-percentile speed level being the criteria threshold that is used. Thankfully Stratton speeds are still below this level.

#### **EAST END - DORCHESTER ROAD BY JOHN LOCKS COTTAGE**

**Feb-17**

		<b>HEADING WEST TO EAST (towards Dorchester)</b>				<b>Top Speeds in Band</b>		
Speed		0>19.9	19.9>29.8	Over 29.8	Total	Over 34.8 >39.8	39.8>44.7	
13th	Monday	44	263	94	401	1	0	
14th	Tuesday	63	251	85	399	4	0	85th Percentile
15th	Wednesday	77	242	86	405	2	0	31.3 mph
16th	Thursday	62	241	95	398	5	0	
17th	Friday	58	284	80	422	5	1	Mean Speed
18th	Saturday	65	252	75	392	5	0	25.1 mph
19th	Sunday	38	226	66	330	3	1	
<b>Total</b>		<b>407</b>	<b>1759</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>2747</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>2</b>	
Within 30mph limit		14.8%	64.0%	21.2%		0.910%	0.073%	
			78.8%			1 between 0:00>1:00 on February 17th		
						1 between 02:00>03:00 on February 19th		

		<b>HEADING EAST TO WEST (towards Yeovil)</b>				<b>Top Speeds in Band</b>		
Speed		0>19.9	19.9>29.8	Over 29.8	Total	Over 34.8 >39.8	39.8>44.7	
13th	Monday	31	164	84	279	1	0	
14th	Tuesday	42	142	87	271	1	0	85th Percentile
15th	Wednesday	29	131	82	242	1	0	32.0 mph
16th	Thursday	46	166	72	284	2	1	
17th	Friday	46	214	64	324	1	0	Mean Speed
18th	Saturday	53	165	65	283	0	1	25.4 mph
19th	Sunday	44	152	59	255	0	0	
<b>Total</b>		<b>291</b>	<b>1134</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>1938</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	
Within 30mph limit		15.0%	58.5%	26.5%		0.310%	0.103%	
			73.5%			1 between 18:00>19:00 on February 16th		
						1 between 07:00>08:00 on February 18th		

### **31/17 General Maintenance**

- a) Review of the Maintenance List
  - I. Notice boards and Manor Close bus shelter have been recoated with preservative stain.
  - II. Ash Hill bus shelter cleared of vegetation and sprayed.
  - III. RoSPA inspection of the small children's play equipment identified two medium concerns, bird mess and loose fencing slats. Separately the steps leading up to the play area require remedial work. Work has commenced on these items.
  - IV. The tennis court white lines do require repainting.
  
- b) Maintenance Contract

The current contractors Wessex Grounds Services have given one month notice to exit the contract. The last cuts are expected at the end of July.  
The Chairman suggested as being mid-season that the Council do not re-let the tender but to split the work load between two or more contractors for the remainder of the year. The Council agreed with this approach.

### **32/17 Planning Matters**

Planning Application Review Process has become paperless and to be included within this process the Council has had to setup a [gov.uk](mailto:gov.uk) email address. This has been completed and registered with the Planning Department. A draft process flow diagram was discussed and circulated to Councillors. Final notes with flow chart of the process for Councillors to follow to be setup and circulated.

- a) Planning Applications

Application No WD/D/17/000588 - Use of land for storage at Higher Wrackelford Farm. A certificate of Lawful Use or Development has been received from WDDC.

### **33/17 Parish Plan**

Various distractions have prevented any individual progress with the parish plan review. A new working group of Cllrs C Hobbs, H Richardson and A Wheeler will review the plan.

### **34/17 Highways**

Nothing specific to report

### **35/17 Website**

Access problems are still causing a major concern. The website author is due to be setting up his own server service. Parish Clerk to pursue.

### **36/17 Correspondence**

- a) Royal Funeral Protocol

A document on Royal Funeral Protocol was received from DAPTC. The meeting discussed the two options put forward by the Chairman, either being pro-active and ready for such an event or taking a relaxed approach and sort out when required. The Council have elected to take the relaxed approach.
  
- b) Section 137

Financial donations for voluntary groups "in the interests of, and will bring direct benefit to, the area, or any part of it, or all or some of its inhabitants". The Chairman proposed to start the process off early, £420 is budgeted. Agreed by the Council.

c) Christmas Carol Arrangements

Traditionally the Council has funded a Carol Service held in joint support with the Saxon Arms. The Council agreed to fund the Carol Service for this year. The Parish Clerk to arrange.

d) 212 Bus Service

The Council received two letters and four emails regarding the bus service. The Chairman thanked Cllr H Richardson for her work with setting up the temporary service which will come into action when the public service ceases on the 21st July. The Chairman re-iterated that no-one knows what is going to happen after the summer holidays, however users are encouraged to try the Ring and Ride Service to ensure its success.

The new details of the interim service will be published throughout the village.

Come September, if no replacement service is available, then a voluntary car service may be considered. These schemes must not make a profit.

### **38/17 Items for the Next Agenda**

Parish Plan; New bench for the Village Green; Maintenance Contract Update; Bus Service; Traffic Speed.

### **39/17 Public Participation**

Question asked about the repair of the Children's play equipment in the field - the repair is due for the 22nd July.

A question raised about the Rent for the Allotments - Wrackleford Farms Ltd charged the Council £250 rent for the period 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018. The Council in turn charged the Stratton (Dorset) Allotment Society £250 rent for the same period.

A suggestion was put forward for the review of the parish plan to be open to residents to participate, however the review is how the Council is progressing against the current plan and not to produce a new plan.

### **40/17 Date of the next meeting**

Tuesday 19th September 2017 at 7:00 pm

Meeting closed at 8:50 pm