

**STOKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
HELD ON 19TH OCTOBER 2017 IN THE
STOKENHAM PARISH HALL**

PRESENT:**COUNCILLORS:****MRS P. DOUST (Chairman)****J. ANSELL****T. LYNN****A. GOODMAN****J. BRAZIL (District and County Councillor)****C. ROGERS****L. COWLEY****MRS. S. ROWLAND****MRS C. PEARCE****Also in attendance:****Clerk – Mrs G. Claydon****APOLOGIES:****COUNCILLORS:****W. FLETCHER-NEAL****P. SPENCE****J. GARDNER****R. JACKSON****MRS T DAYMENT****1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors were invited to declare any disclosable interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they had in any items to be considered at this meeting. They were also reminded to consider whether in the light of recent activities any items within their Register of Interests should be updated. It was advised that any unforeseen request for a Dispensation would be considered by the Clerk at this point only if there was no way a councillor would have been aware of such before the meeting. None received.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the:

- (a) Parish council meeting dated 21st September 2017 were approved by all present and duly signed as a true and correct record.
- (b) Planning Committee meeting none held October 2017.

3. OPEN FORUM

No members of the public were present so this was dispensed with.

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Brazil provided his report at the point of the meeting where it is noted he arrived. He advised that there had been a positive move with regard to the layby parking at Torcross. District Council had felt there should be more short term car parking for those wishing to shop but the County Council central parking by the shops covered this need. Therefore the layby parking sat empty out of season when residents and food outlet users wanted to park nearer. There was a report about mud on the back road from Tanpits towards Prawle through Loo Cross and all agreed this was a dangerous route due to this. The works to the A379 road through Chillington had an extension due to bad weather expected over the weekend. Therefore the road would be open over the weekend to allow a safe route and continue with the works from Monday to Wednesday the following week.

Cllr Rogers noted that the contractor had wanted to take up tarmac all the way through this section in one go to get the work completed quicker but this would have meant it being untarred over the

weekend and County Highways would not let them. Cllr Brazil advised that Meg Booth had been acting Head of Highways but was now permanent and she was prepared to listen and efficient. Cllr Rogers also advised that the parish had obtained the road planings from this work to be used on the Widdicombe Farm to Beeson and also Summerye Lane footpaths. The following month would be the forum meeting in Rattery for all parish councils to attend and this was an opportunity to meet and feedback to highways officers.

County Council now had their final settlement from central Government funding wise and Devon was slightly better off as they were £295 below average and now only £268. Looking at lists however Stokenham Parish had not done particularly well for funding. Allocation went on pupil premium, rurality etc. If some people do not take free school meals due to pride this hid the need for funding issue. However on a positive note the area was very fortunate as even though they had less money they had great schools.

District Council was dealing with the budget process at present and was looking to try and find savings of £800,000 which was not easy. There was an interactive workshop which illustrated the up and downs of cuts but this was in its very early stages. At the same time the One Council consultation had been to Overview and Scrutiny with a decision due on 31st October at 4.30p.m. Following that decision if appropriate District Council would send their request to the local MPs to speak to the Secretary of State and this was the point at which people could comment. Cllr Ansell noted that the Leader and Deputy did not make a good case for this proposal at the recent Coleridge Association meeting. There followed a discussion on how the results presented were shown disproportionately.

4. PLANNING & PLANNING MATTERS

The applications below were received for consideration and such observations forwarded to District Council.

- 3026/17/CLE Lawful development certificate for existing demolition and rebuilding of extension Eden Dene, Chillington – Parish council had no further comments to add to this application.
- 3175/17/HHO Householder application to build on top of an existing single storey extension 2 Blue Waters, Stokenham – No objection.
- 3216/17/CLE Lawful Development Certificate for existing use of land as campsite Beryls Campsite, Beeson – No objection and no further comments.
- 3233/17/FUL Provision of covered feed area and the concreting of existing yard Coleridge Farm, Coleridge Lane, Chillington – No objection.

PLANNING CORRESPONDENCE

- No further correspondence received.

5. ONE COUNCIL CONSULTATION

The response to District Council circulated to all parish council following attendance at the Coleridge Association meeting attended by John Tucker District Leader and Simon Wright Deputy Leader was duly RATIFIED.

6. PLAY AREA INSPECTION

It was AGREED that the play area report and annual inspections remain with Play Inspection (PI) at a cost of £205 for the year.

7. GRATUITY

Following updated information obtained from HMRC parish council AGREED the course of action to release these monies was for the parish clerk to formally request in writing that the gratuity is made available and then in turn that the auditor is asked to confirm this action.

Cllr Brazil arrived at the meeting and gave his report as above.

8. REPORTS

ENDURANCE LIFE

Cllr Mrs Doust attended the Community Safety Event at Plympton and concerns with regard to the parking around the parish for this event were raised. Other agencies also questioned health and safety and requested certificates. The organisers advised that next year there would be a change of venue and parking was going to be run from Prawle. Cllr Rogers noted that the event brought business in for accommodation businesses.

MAINTENANCE WORKS

Cllr Rogers noted that a new footpath sign had been installed for Dunstone to Kernborough, along with another new sign at Coleridge where there was also a gate which had fallen down and this was now replaced. He had walked the footpath from Middlecombe and this was now clear. Road planings for footpath works were mentioned within the District and County Councillor report and there was also funding Devon County to do the lane from Beeson to Widdicombe and this would be commenced shortly.

The buddle hole cleaning grant had been used for a new pipe at Withery Well to remove the road surface pond that builds up and a new buddle hole pipe at Island Farm to alleviate this flooding. He would also scrape the area behind Torcross layby and release the buddle holes.

The slippery driveway from Chillington Hall car park had the holes filled in but with recent downpours they had opened up again so Cllr Rogers had requested two contractors to quote from the road edge up and around to the drive. He requested that Cllr Lynn also to obtain a quote for concrete so that prices could be compared.

DEVON ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS CONFERENCE AND AGM

Cllr Rogers had attended the AGM and workshop on finance and VAT and noted that it was suggested all parish councils should plan for five years in their precepts. Other speakers and workshop presenters also contributed and the day was well attended.

COLERIDGE ASSOCIATION MEETING

Cllr Ansell advised that the Leader and Deputy Leader of District Council had attended and pitched One Council proposals to a hostile crowd. Those who attended were a well versed crowd who questioned and challenged these proposals well and the response to District Council from parish council was put forward on a well-founded basis.

APPLE DAY EVENT

The profit of £408 was made from a great event enjoyed by all and especially the children who were actively involved in pressing apples. Cllr Rogers did raise a concern with regard to the washing facility for the apples and this would be checked with Orchard Link as the apple juice is not pasteurised. The whole day went smoothly with exactly the right amount of apples being provided to satisfy all attendees.

Cllr Ansell noted that sadly ex councillor Ron Bates had passed away and he attended his funeral that week.

CLERK'S REPORT

- Torcross safety gates for when the beach levels were lowered had been installed and training undertaken for such closure by Cllr Fletcher-Neal and two other residents.

- From the 16th October the Devon County winter service period commenced and parish and towns had been asked to indicate any requirement for grit which would be provided in 25kg bags in blocks of 10. They would not provide grit for salt bins but these could be dealt with via their Report a Problem page and would be filled by the County contractor. No further supply of grit was required by Stokenham.
- Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund organisers had requested a presentation of 10 or 15 minutes on 16th November to outline the works that had been carried out, how this had been approached and the benefits to the parish. Cllr Rogers would attend and provide such.
- Devon Highways Parish and Town Conference to be held in Rattery Village Hall 16th November 9 – 4p.m. As above Cllr Rogers agreed to attend.
- Devon Community Resilience Forum to be held 22nd November at Kenn Centre, Kennford 10 – 4p.m. No attendance possible.
- South Hams District and Devon County were to host a Town and Parish meeting to discuss their budgets and take other questions on Monday 27th November at the Cary Room, Follaton House commencing 6.30p.m. Cllrs Spence and Cowley to attend.
- Road Closure from 7p.m. to 7a.m. along the A379 from Carehouse Cross had been extended to Wednesday 25th October due to interim weather conditions expected. A request to shorten the area affected to allow easier movement either end of Chillington was refused.
- Meeting with Honey Foskett with regard to weed spraying would be arranged for the last week in October/ first week November and Cllr Mrs Rowland to attend with the parish clerk.

9. FINANCE AND CHEQUES

Balances were provided and the below transactions were approved:

Current £2,380.79

Savings (1) £78,258.56

Savings (2) £4,930.68

Received: £100 Donation to Beeson Telephone Box Defib.

Payments in October

Cartridge Save – Council photocopier ink pack £57.32

Ashburton Hardware – Garden sieve for Apple Press £9.99

Toolstation – Filtered plastic funnel for Apple juice straining £5.98

DALC – Conference and AGM £25.00

HMRC – Tax and NI £186.40

DCC – Pension £346.44

Wages - £1095.25

Cheques: None

10. NEXT MEETING

The next full council would be on 16th November 2017 with a planning committee held on the first Thursday in November if applications were received that could not wait till full council. Both meetings commenced at 7.30p.m. in the Wesley Smith Room at Stokenham Parish Hall.

Meeting finished: 20.47p.m.

Signed Chairman Dated: 16th November 2017.