

Stretton Parish Council
Meeting on Thursday 3rd March 2016
8.00 pm at The Jackson Stops
Meeting Number 2/2016

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Richard Foster, John Leefe, Lee Overton, Peter Ransome-Jones.

Apologies: Penny Briant, Brian Lester.

Village Residents Present: Mimi Harris, Jill Lessey, Julian Lessey.

Acting as Minute Clerk: Clifford Bacon

The Chairman and Councillors paid warm tribute to the late Cllr Roger Begy, and acknowledged his unstinting good work for the County in general and for Stretton PC in particular.

1. Representations from Residents

1.1 Mimi Harris asked if in future the agenda could be posted to the website three clear working days before the meeting, as required in paragraph 3.2 of the Standing Orders.

1.2 Julian Lessey explained to Councillors the benefits of Parish Council membership of CPRE. (An annual subscription of £36 is payable). CPRE is actively lobbying to protect rural communities from over-development and is challenging the Government's proposed legislation to make housing development in the villages and the countryside easier for developers to obtain permission. Much of the documentation and information produced by CPRE on a regular basis becomes available to Councillors as a result of PC Membership of CPRE. Julian's paper is attached with these minutes and he expressed the hope that the Parish Council would agree to re-join CPRE at the next PC Meeting.

After Note: Julian explained that Stretton Parish Council had been a subscribing member of CPRE for about 18 years until two years ago when the subscription had apparently stopped, without any reference to or approval from the Parish Council so far as he was aware.

1.3 Jill Lessey reported that she would contact Age UK (Lisa Jackson) to explain to Stretton PC the local support available from Age UK

2. Declarations of Interest. None.

3. Minutes of last meeting on 7th January 2016. Were approved and signed by the Chairman

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes. None.

5. CPRE Membership.

Documentation from Julian to be considered and decision at next meeting.

6. Parish Councillor vacancy update.

No firm interest to fill the vacancy shown at present. Advertise in the Stretton Newsletter before the AGM in May, to see whether any residents are willing to accept nomination.

7. Notice of Vacancy for Councillor Greetham Ward.

The Chairman reported that two candidates have come forward and a May election is likely. The names of candidates will be publicly released by RCC as part of the election process.

8. Standing Orders & Code of Conduct adoption.

Adoption by the Parish Council of the latest versions of these two documents was formally proposed by Peter Ransome-Jones, seconded by John Leefe and approved by the Council members present. The two documents were attached to the Agenda.

9. Queen's Birthday Celebrations.

Two events are proposed.

- a) Thursday April 21st: A bonfire in Andrew and Penny's field behind the Pub.
- b) Saturday June 11th: Queen's Birthday Field Party in Corinne and Paul Cassapi's field.

There are costs associated with these events. Insurance costs for the bonfire and beacon of about £150. Cost of Aqualoos for the Field Party of about £100. It was agreed that the Parish Council would underwrite a maximum sum of £250 to cover these costs if no other source of funds could be obtained. Proposed by Richard Foster, seconded by John Leefe and approved by Council.

10. Planning Applications.

The following were reported:

- **2016/0127/FUL hinchenterprises ltd.** New agricultural building for free range egg production. It was noted that this will be the fourth such agricultural building on the site. **The Clerk was asked to respond to this application to the effect that the residential accommodation that had appeared beside the most southerly of the agricultural buildings was inappropriate in its environment when viewed from the road and that planning conditions were to be requested in this latest application to prevent any further subsequent domestic accommodation being allowed.**
- **2016/0173/MAJ Ministry of Justice Stocken Prison. New 3 storey houseblock.**
- **2016/0174/FUL Stocken prison, extension of kitchens.** The clerk was asked to respond to both of these applications to refer to the overloading of the Stretton Sewerage system which had occurred through earlier expansion phases of the prison, and to ask for RCC to condition a response to the Ministry to ensure that all infrastructure between Stretton, the Stocken Hall community and the prison would be fully protected during the development phase and afterwards in normal operation of the new facilities. This includes highways, highway verges and sewerage disposal systems. All prison lighting should be covered so that it focuses downwards and is not allowed to worsen light pollution in any way.

11. Council's submissions for Parish Newsletter.

The Clerk was asked to arrange for an entry to advise residents of the Parish Litter Picking plans for Saturday 16th April beginning at 10am

- **John Leefe** will be Team Captain and will arrange with the Jackson Stops for hosting after the litter picking.
- **Richard** will arrange with RCC for the provision of safety jackets, bags and litter picking tongs, once numbers are known from John Leefe.

12. Other Correspondence:

- A specimen Contract of Employment for the Clerk was tabled.
- **John Leefe** will check on Workplace Pension requirements and report back.
- **John Leefe** took the specimen contract to read, and will arrange for it to be passed around all Councillors and afterwards returned to Richard.
- This is in preparation for the adoption of a contract with or without modifications to the specimen contract.

13. Any other business.

There was further discussion about plans for removal of some trees (possibly in the Conservation Area) and the planting of others, where road visibility sight lines will need to be pre-discussed with Highways.

- **John and Lee** would arrange to find a parish boundary map to be sure where Stretton Parish boundary runs.
- **John and Lee** will obtain a Parish map on a suitable scale and will draw in the proposals for removal of trees and replanting, so that Councillors can approve and RCC can be pre-informed to authorise.

14. **Date of Next meeting.** Thursday 12th May 2016 at the Jackson Stops, starting at 6pm for a PC Meeting, followed at 7.30 pm for the PC AGM.

C J Bacon

5th March 2016.