

Stretton Parish Council

Meeting on Thursday 12th January 2017

8.00 pm at The Jackson Stops

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Richard Foster, John Leefe, Brian Lester, Gideon Visser, Greg Harker, Sally Skyrme - Clerk

Guest: Ward Councillor Nick Begy

Members of the public Present: Three members of the public were present

1. Public questions and comments on the agenda

The construction site at the top of Rookery Lane at Rectory Farm has construction vehicles on the site when we were told this would not be the case.

An enquiry about the tree planting program was discussed regarding having more colourful trees and removing large trees also the question of who would maintain the trees.

Action: Cllr John Leefe to bring the plan to the next meeting

The road sweeper needs to come to Manor Road to pick up remaining leaves left over from the Autumn

Action: Clerk to contact RCC street cleaning dept.

Dog mess is becoming a nuisance on Rookery Lane – a big white dog has been seen running around off its lead up there. A notice board with a fine was discussed and the new neighbourhood watch app.

Action: clerk to get advice from RCC

An email was received regarding a welcome pack and an open gardens event – this will be included in the next newsletter.

Regarding the spring bulbs that were planted – this issues has been resolved.

2. To receive declarations of unregistered disclosable pecuniary interests in agenda items and to receive and approve requests for dispensations from members on matters in which they have a registered Disclosable Pecuniary Interest

None declared

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from the community police.

4. Minutes of last meeting on 10th November 2016

Minutes agreed and signed by Chairman

5. Matters Arising from the minutes

Regarding the broken storm drain in Cllr Brian Lester's field – Sally has contacted Anglian Water and they have directed her to RCC Highways Dept. This has been going on for some years and the hole in the field is getting bigger. Ward Cllr Nick Begy said he would contact the department about this.

Action: Clerk to give details to Cllr Nick Begy

Regarding councillor training – that is going ahead on 16th January.

Regarding Local Councils Explained book.

Action: Clerk to purchase book and pay anything over the £30 agreed.

Regarding Independent auditor

Action: Clerk to ask contacts

Regarding Transparency Fund

The clerk looked into this and Stretton PC have had all they are entitled to besides funding for a website but it was decided to keep the existing website.

6. Co-opting of councillor post:

One person has come forward to stand as councillor; Greg Harker who introduced himself as someone who moved into the village just over a year ago, he previously ran a hotel in the Lake District, worked for BA Systems and was in the RAF. He is now a self-employed consultant. He said he has been made very welcome in the village and would like to give something back.

Mr Harker candidacy was discussed, Cllr Lester expressed concern that there was now no representation from Stocken – he said there was no balance and it had been a turbulent year in the village. Cllr Visser agreed that there could be more balance especially as there are no women councillors but after two months there have been no other volunteers. Cllr Leefe said that if anyone from Stocken or Stretton Woods applied – he would step down as councillor.

A vote was taken and it was resolved to take Mr Harker on as the latest councillor for Stretton Parish Council. Cllr Harker signed the Acceptance of Office form and he joined the other councillors at the table.

7. Defibrillator group

No new volunteers have come forward to help Gill Harker with the project although Dr Chan is still content to oversee the training.

A discussion was had on whether it made sense to continue with the project because of the maintenance, cost, unlikelihood of them being used in time to save anyone.

Action: Cllr Visser to do further research into cost and effectiveness and liaise with Gill Harker.

8. Precept

The budget and accounts were discussed and it was resolved that the Precept for the financial year 2017 – 2018 should be £3000

Action: Clerk to notify RCC

9. Response to Integrated Transport Capital Programme re footpaths from Greetham to Stretton

It was resolved to agree to the programme.

Action: Clerk to contact department to give PC's response

10. Training

Date and place for councillor training was confirmed and most of the councillors were able to attend along with the clerk.

11. Planning Applications

None

12. Holocaust Memorial Day

This was placed on the agenda after an email was received asking the PC to mark the event. The day was discussed and the PC noted the importance of the day and that their thoughts would be with the victims on the day but there would be no official marking of the day.

13. Noxious fumes coming from chicken farm

Cllr Lester has noticed a very bad smell coming from the poultry incinerator at the farm on Hooby Lane particularly when the wind was blowing in a certain direction, on Christmas morning it was particularly bad.

Action: Ward Cllr Nick Begy to discuss this issue with RCC

14. Items for notice boards and submissions to village newsletter

We have received some entries for the village logo competition which will be sent to the newsletter to inspire other people to enter the competition.

Action: Clerk to write a paragraph about the new councillor appointment and also send scans of the logo entries to the new newsletter editor when they take on the role.

15. Correspondence

Village logos as discussed

16. Cheques and expenditure

One cheque for £11.48 was signed for ink and paper

17. Any other business

The Good Neighbours Scheme was brought up and discussed but it was decided that it was not needed because of existing projects such as Neighbourhood Watch and the round robin email.

18. Next meeting time and place

8pm Thursday 9th March 2017 the Jackson Stops back room