

**Stretton Parish Council**  
**Meeting on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017**  
**8.00 pm at The Jackson Stops**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

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

**Guest:** Ward Councillor Nick Begy, PC Laurie Appleton, Jo Haywood, John McCarthy

**Members of the public Present:** Two members of the public were present

**1. Chairman's welcome**

**2. Public Session**

Mr John McCarthy gave a presentation about the Community Response Plan which is part of a wider plan called the Rutland Contingency Plan to respond to emergencies in rural areas that are not near to Fire Stations and other emergency services. If Stretton joins it will be eligible for up to £600 worth of emergency equipment. Cllr Foster and Harker said they were interested in joining and Cllr Overton said he would consider it. They resolved to go ahead with it and will meet next week.

A member of public asked about item 14 on the agenda regarding relaxing the conservation status of the village. Cllr Foster said he had had a few enquiries about reviewing the status because of the strict rules regarding small changes such as changing an outside light and putting up garden sheds.

Cllr Lester said it might be a problem for people who have moved to the village because of the conservation status - to then have it removed. A member of public was concerned that it was Councillors with a vested interest that wanted it changed but this was not the case. Cllr Visser said a public consultation would be a good idea before any changes were proposed.

- 3.** PC Laurie Appleton gave his report to the meeting. He said that there were four reported crimes in Stretton last year; that hare coursing was on the increase and speeding is still an issue. He is setting up community speed watch groups and liaising with the prison because prison officers sometimes speed to get to work on time. If Stretton has a Speed Watch group the village would have more police time allocated to the village, for example Thistleton is getting more Speed Watch equipment as a result of the Speed Watch group there. It was resolved that Stretton will sign up for Community Speed Watch.

Deer poaching was also mentioned as a problem but there are no resources to counteract this.

A member of public mentioned a scam regarding someone in a blue Volvo claiming he had run out of petrol. PC Appleton said this is a common scam. The member of public said he would forward a photo of the vehicle to the Clerk to forward to PC Appleton. (Clerk has forwarded this to the PC Appleton)

PC Appleton reiterated that every incident should be reported even if you think the police won't solve it because it will be logged.

- 4. 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

**5. Apologies for absence**

None

**6. Minutes of last meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

Minutes agreed and signed by Chairman

## **7. Minutes of extraordinary meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

Minutes agreed and signed by Chairman

## **8. Matters Arising from the minutes**

Tree planting – Cllr Overton with Cllr Leefe has plotted space for a walnut tree avenue on Rookery Lane and three ornamental trees near the bench on the corner of Manor Road. Cllr Overton also mentioned the idea of having an ‘adopt a tree’ scheme in Stretton to help with the upkeep of trees.

**Action:** Cllr Overton to get a picture ready of proposed trees for next meeting (which is the Annual Parish Meeting)

With regards to dog mess problem, the Clerk has been in touch with Rutland County Council and they are currently ordering signs **Action:** She checked and there is no charge – they will be fitted at the bottom of Rookery Lane) Cllr Lester looked into getting free signs from the National Farmers’ Union but they didn’t have any left.

Cllr Lester said that people had expressed concerns about the Church yard mowing being cut back. It was resolved that the PC would continue with the current arrangement and Cllr Harker will look into whether the Church Council will pay towards the mowing.

With regards to the noxious fumes from the chicken farm Cllr Lester said the problem had ended. Cllr Begy said to report every time there is an issue with this.

## **9. Planning Applications**

Planning application Ref: 2017/0162/FUL – it was decided that an extraordinary meeting would be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 to discuss this.

## **10. Spring Clean**

Cllr Leefe volunteered to organise this on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2017 10am

## **11. Issues with dog mess**

See item 8.

## **12. Defibrillator Group Update**

The pros and cons of having a defibrillator was discussed and a vote was taken as to whether to go ahead with a defibrillator in the village with 3 votes for, 2 abstentions and 1 against. It was decided that although the PC was in favour it was far from unanimous so decided to do further research and to look into further options such as the offer from Peter Watts of Stowe Court (he has a portable defibrillator that could be accessed by the village) and also to enquire at the Shires School whether they have one.

**Action:** clerk to enquire

## **13. Bollards on Manor Road**

Cllr Foster described problem of verges being churned up by traffic on Manor road

Cllr Lester suggested seeing if the Landlord of Jackson Stops could have a word with his patrons

Cllr Foster mentioned the issues with the milk truck using Manor Road.

Action: Clerk to find out costs of installing bollards (Sally has emailed RCC)

#### **14. Relaxing of current conservation status of Parish**

This was already discussed in the Public Session. **Action:** Clerk to get guidance on amending the conservation status and will bring it to the APM for a public consultation.

#### **15. Local Strategic Partnership Sustainable Growth (Environment) Theme Group**

Cllr Begy gave an explanation of the group. The PC considered the offer of nominating a member to the group and were delighted to be asked but felt there was no-one suitably qualified to join.

#### **16. Internal Auditor**

Cliff Bacon from Clipsham has kindly agreed to be the internal auditor this year.

#### **17. Agendas for Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting**

Conservation Status

Defibrillators

Should Parish Council revert to being a Parish Meeting? **(Cllr Visser to look into this)**

#### **18. Items for notice boards and submissions to village newsletter**

Jo Haywood attended the meeting and introduced herself as the new editor of the village newsletter she asked that we put in any submissions by 20<sup>th</sup> March. **Action:** Sally to send submissions to Jo

#### **19. Correspondence**

A letter from Barrowden Parish Council regarding the new Development Control Conservation Officer was discussed.

#### **20. Accounts**

Bank Statements checked by Chairman

#### **21. Cheques and expenditure**

LRALC for training £238.79

Rutland County Council Clerk's for wages from June 2016 - December 2016 £486.00

Staples for Two archive boxes £ 11.99

**22. Next meeting time and place**

Thursday 7 pm 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017 St Nicolas Church, Stretton (APM and APCM)