

STOKE ST GREGORY PARISH COUNCIL

51 Polkes Field, Stoke St Gregory, Taunton, Somerset. TA3 6EX. Tuesday 7th May 2024.

Monday 13th May 2024 in The meeting room. Williams Hall, Dark lane, Stoke St Gregory at 7.30pm

In Attendance: Heather Venn (Acting Chair), Ann Finn, Peter House, Jessie Cartwright, Lawrence Bostock, Sally Taylor (Clerk) David Fothergill and 3 members of the public.

Appointment of Chair for Meeting

Agreed for HV to Chair.

Apologies for absence

J Hembrow John Hardy Janice Pearce Norman Cavill

David Cuthbertson not in attendance, and no apologies received. This is the 6th consecutive meeting he has not attended. Chair to be made aware on his return.

Approve and sign minutes of the April meeting

Signed with one amendment. Lovells Farm should read Lovells House.

Declarations of interests and dispensations: None

1. Questions and comments from the public

Sue Hembrow: Informed the Council that there will be a Commemoration for the 80th Anniversary of D Day on 6 June at 10:30 am at the Playing Fields

Service led by the Church and the Chapel

Representation requested from PC, All to advise of availability.

Susan and David Crabbe: Live in Huntham and wanted to update on work to reduce flooding in Huntham - joint work they are doing with Phil Stone and John Hembrow. Have been doing a lot of work themselves. Attending as saw Flooding was on the Agenda. An e mail had been sent to ST that afternoon but had not seen as went to junk folder.

HV advised this agenda item is specifically for the Flood Plan this time, but we can consider this e mail next time. NC looking at spending CIL money to alleviate at NC end - would be good to see both councils involved.

ST to Agenda for 8 June meeting.

2 Planning

36/24/0005 First Floor Extension to outbuilding of Pincombe House, Woodhill

HV Declared interest.

JC, PH and LB had attended the site meeting.

1

Signed by Chair:

Date:

Generally happy with what they were proposing.

2 windows facing the farmhouse were only possible issues JC thought.

Window overlooking farmyard will be in stairwell so not so intrusive. Is for light purposes.

HV said that area of the farm is the only quiet area for sick animals.

Impact on neighbours do we need to consider? PH says if use for what the applicants propose there is no issue. Any change in use would have to go through planning again in the future.

Applicant claims stores instruments and needs to move to somewhere dryer. PH thinks his reasoning is valid.

No objection from the 3 Parish Councillors

3 Vacancy for Chair and Vice Chair

J Hardy says he will continue as Chair if no one else comes forward.

Vice Chair: JC will take the role.

Will need support of more experienced councillors, all agreed.

Clerk access to Facebook page – **ST to create a new Official website**

ST to set up password access list.

HMRC account may be accessible if have authenticator -**ST to look in to this.**

Microsoft Account issue may be resolved.

Stoke News contribution - 14th May parish magazine – will miss.

Stoke News 22nd May. JH to write.

4 Stoke St Gregory 2023 Community Plan

Drop in Surgery 8th June 2024 from 11 until 12

Noticeboard update - delivery expected by end of June

Review of Community Plan and Tracker Update: We can now update. One of the items is the Fete - **PH to look at tracker ST to send out to all.**

Precept funds for progressing this needs to be included.

5 Project Play

Rounders Afternoon Sunday 9th June to raise funds for the project.

At the PF Meeting – it was reported that some grants rejected some still awaiting. Fairfield Trust is being considered. DJ is now on PFMC - more official.

6 Somerset Councillor report

Finances under microscope - voluntary redundancies 160 but need 300-400 may be 700 compulsory redundancies. Capitalisation £77m - 37m this year to fund gap other 40m for redundancy packages. Payback has to be within 3 years.

Waste collection - Suez told council no longer viable. 2030 contract - recontract at higher price. Contract is 5.6m light.

Subsidised bus fares continuing £2 fare into Taunton from SSG to continue until end of year.

7 Preparation for APM on Monday 20 May 2024

Chairs facing stage can put couple rows and can easily get more

Councillors to be there earlier to help set up

Drinks at back

8 Digital Mapping

(e mail 29/4/24 from Graham Glead)

Ann had access did the training - did have access 18 months ago, **AF will check**

Look at land registry permission to use OS maps

Village assets could be mapped.

LB advises there is a Historic environment record including tide maps and archaeology. Aerial photography from 1941. The South West Heritage Trust manages this.

LB to send out link

Farmers use Magic Maps - PH shared link: magic.defra.gov.uk

Questioned how much will digital mapping cost?

ST to check

GG to be advised we are looking at other alternatives

Review next meeting

9 Village Fete on 6 July 2024

(e mail 02/05/24 re: Band Terms and Conditions)

James Hickman had confirmed he is able to open.

ST to coordinate coverings for Band

Janice suggested purchase of a marquee. **Not supported.**

West Hatch scout group may have a marquee they would come to put it up.

GG may know about insurance on bouncy castle - **ST to ask GG**

10 Baptist Church CIL Funding Request

Accessibility is critical for the groups who use the facility.

It is a request for infrastructure and does fit in with the CIL criteria.

AF asked if they are contributing. Suggested they may have to self fund any costs in excess of grant funded.

Money from grants budget may be needed for Council services lost.

All agreed to fund from CIL monies at the level applied for or less as costs not certain

ST to receive invoices then reimburse.

11 Emergency and Incident Response Plan

Flood Plan is part of the above.

JC is to look at plan to review. All to feed to JC if any amendments.

Transformer at AF property to be added.

Agree at next meeting

12 Broomfield Park

There are no 'No cycling' signs at the pathway.

ST to take off fixed assets list.

13 Highways

20mph Speed Limit - SEG advertising is questioning who wants a 20mph limit in village.

Undue care and attention is the only outcome for speeding vehicles as no red circle sign outside of school.

As a PC need to have a view. Centre of village has access to footpaths and the contours in the road naturally slow traffic down.

On SEG website - encouraging people to drive at 20 to slow everyone down.

Not keen as a PC to pursue a 20mph limit.

Clearway outside of School to be formalised.

Fingerpost Ownership:

CPRE may give grants for repair and maintenance

DF confirmed owned by Highways but maintained by us.

Agreed for ST to ask Nick for a quote for Churley.

SID Installation at Meare Green:

E mail from Ann circulated. Difficult to find location could be put - The Woodings has a long verge, or other side of Cuppins Farm.

To have one that could swivel in both directions would be useful.

Can't progress it at present due to roadworks.

Decision on location next agenda, and the type of unit.

AF to ask about portability.

14 Footpaths

The PC Insurance does cover work done on behalf of Council with Risk Assessments
SEG have also confirmed will cover under their insurance.

14 Stoke Environment Group

Envirofair (e mail 2/5/24)

Attendance by PC – suggested display boards - set up and leave, but there isn't anything to display.

LB happy to attend and stay for a while.

ST to confirm will be a representation part if not all of the time.

Concern over markers at Village Hall - all agreed need to make safe - **PH to take forwards**

15 Defibrillators

Installation of unit at Curload –

Agreed if Electrician quote is under £100 can proceed

16 Flooding

Review of Flood Plan – part of Emergency Plan

17 Playing Field

Anything suspicious to be reported to Police.

18 Heart of the Village

Nothing to report

20 Village Website

Gov.uk e mail addresses

All in favour of progressing this. ST to arrange

Website updates - need updates from all organisations. NS has had a purge of out of date information.

21 Councillor Training

Agenda item for communicating courses available and feedback from courses attended

21 Financial matters

Payments to be authorised

01-05-24 N Sloan - Website Admin	£120.00
01-02-24 S Taylor Clerk Salary for April	£391.50
01-04-24 Williams Hall Invoice 472	£45.00

04-05-24 Josh Williams Invoice 19	£105.00
01-05-24 SALC invoices 3311-2993-2986 training	£130.00
20-04-24 Absolute Bounce - for village fete	£250.00
01-05-24 Zurich Insurance	£528.27
18-04-24 The Guru (Website) Invoice 292966	£107.99
06-05-24 Information Commissioners Office annual fee	£40.00

Proposed PH seconded LB

Payments Received

Somerset Council Precept £20919.89

20 Other items for discussion

AF flooding outside house, drain full to top with mud. Has had no response as yet, has e mailed twice.

ST to check with JHa whether has written to Highways.

Meeting Closed at 9.45

The next meeting dates will be as follows Monday 10th June 2024 at 7.30pm at The Williams Hall, Stoke St Gregory.