

ALL STRETTON, SMETHCOTE AND WOOLSTASTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

MINUTES

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 21st March 2018
at Picklescote Village Hall.

Present :

C'llr A McVittie (Chairman)
C'llr J Dale (Vice Chairman)
C'llr A Beagle
C'llr M Morris
C'llr T Phillips

Members of the public present:

Mr W Kerswell

Clerk Mrs J Griffiths (Clerk)

Apologies

Apologies were received from C'llr Burton and C'llr Davies...

1) Introduction

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2) Declaration of Interest

The Clerk reminded all Councillors to declare any interests in any items being discussed.

No declarations of interest were offered at this time.

3) Approve Minutes of the Annual Meeting held .on 22nd March 2017

It was proposed by C'llr Dale, seconded by C'llr Phillips and unanimously agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting held on 22nd March 2017 provided a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4) Report from the Chairman

C'llr McVittie gave the following report:-

“Over the last year we have continued to meet bi-monthly and have considered carefully all planning applications which come before us for comment. We have been particularly keen to support applications made under the single plot exception scheme to increase the stock of affordable homes in our area.

The Parish Council continue to complain about the state of the roads in the Parish. During the year I met with Tim Sneddon and Ian Walshaw from Shropshire Council to view the problem areas including the long standing flooding sites at Foxtrot Villas and New House Farm. I am

hopeful that these visits will result in remedial work being undertaken on these two sites before the end of the year but will continue to press for this to be done as soon as possible. Shropshire Councillor Dan Morris and I also met the contractor undertaking the large-scale tree felling operations which were adversely impacting the Portway, the residents of Christmas Tree Farm and the road between the Portway and Dorrington.

Under the Transparency Code the Parish Council received a grant from to enable us to build and upkeep the Parish Council web site. All agendas, minutes of meetings and other relevant information is loaded onto this site. No further grants are available to fund the web site. We still have a small balance to fund this for 2018 but any future expenditure will have to be added to the precept with effect from April 2019.

The Parish Council have received a total of £379.07 as the Parish Council percentage of the Community Infrastructure Levy for the period 2012-2017. No further payment is due in May 2018. The National CIL regulations state that the use of funds must be used to support development by funding (a) the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or (b) anything else concerned with addressing the demands that development place on the area.

As you know the Parish Council elections were held in May 2017. This resulted in one place not being filled and we welcomed Viv Davies back onto the Parish Council as a co-opted councillor.

We will continue to serve the Parish and welcome members of the public to all our meetings where they are free to make public comments at the start of every meeting.

Thank you all for your support throughout the year”.

5) Report from Longnor School

No report has been received.

6) Police Report

Police reports and newsletters are circulated by the Clerk as they are received throughout the year. The police no longer attend Parish Council meetings.

7) Report from C’lir Burton – Public Footpaths

C’lir Burton, the Parish Council Footpath Warden gave the following report:-

“Footpaths in the Woolstaston & All Stretton Parish continue to be regularly walked throughout the year and are mostly in good accessible order, although due to the very wet winter, many are very muddy at present.

There continues to be evidence mountain bikes, scramble bikes, off road vehicles and horse riders using some of the footpaths as well as the bridleways, making these tracks very muddy with deep ruts in places so very difficult to use. The National Trust rangers are informed but seem to take little interest.

At present there seems to be a large group of ponies on Plush Hill. I have spoken to the National Trust rangers about this, as at present there are more ponies on the Longmynd than officially allowed. The National Trust is in contact with the owner and are supposed to be doing something about reducing the numbers. Apparently there should be 26 ponies with followers, there are a lot more than this at present. The National Trust have not put up any signage to inform people of the risks to their cars despite cars still being damaged by the ponies licking and rubbing along the side of the cars.

Last year I hoped that local volunteers might come forward to help improve the public rights of way and repair stiles etc within our parish. To date no volunteers have come forward, so at the present time I am unable pursue this with Shropshire Council's Countryside Access Team to make our paths much more accessible for all and a greater asset to our community.

8) Report from C’Ilr Morris - Rev Fletcher’s, Munslow’s and Poor Land Charity

C’Ilr Morris told the meeting that the Charity continue to give grants for local needs and had provided money towards children’s village Christmas parties in the Parish. A grant had recently been made to the village hall towards the cost of the defibrillator and widows in Smethcott Parish receive a Christmas gift. C’Ilr Morris told the meeting that money is available for small grants to those eligible.

9) Tree Warden Report

C’Ilr Phillips told the meeting that he receives the National Newsletters and would pass on anything of interest to the Parish Council. He reminded the meeting that trees are available in January each year from the County Council free of charge but have to be planted in public areas.

10) Shropshire Council Report – C’Ilr T Barker

C’Ilr Morris provided a report to the Parish Council meeting which followed this meeting.

11) Date of Next Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 20th March 2019.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.20pm and was followed by the Parish Council meeting.

Signed.....(Chairman) Date.....