

Stratton Parish Council

Official Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Stratton Parish Council
held on 18th September 2018 at the Stratton Village Hall

Present

Cllrs A Aylott, C Hobbs, P Hallett, G Hollinshead, D/Cllr T Yarker and five members of the public

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Ordinary Meeting

Apologies

Cllr A Wheeler, C/Cllr J Hayes and D/Cllr F Horsington

35/18 Public Participation

West Dorset District Council Update

D/Cllr T Yarker gave an update on:

- The local government reorganisation, the appointment of the new CEO and recruitment of the second tier.
- The consultation period on the new wards has closed.
- The local plan for the build of 3,500 houses is out for consultation, open to the council and individuals to contribute. The consultation period closes on the 8th October.

Public Input

Two residents overlooking the west end of the Village Green have requested for the three Hornbeam trees to be removed.

36/18 Code of Conduct/ Declaration of Interest

The Chairman reminded the Council of the need for Councillors to declare if they had any interest in any of the items to be discussed in the agenda which had not already been entered in the Member's Register of Interests. There were no declarations.

37/18 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Stratton Parish Council

All Councillors unanimously agreed the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 17th July and the Extraordinary Meeting held on 7th August.

38/18 Finance

a Income and Expenditure

Details of the income received and expenditure made since the previous meeting was circulated:

Accounts to 18th September 2018

Monies in the Village Green account cannot be used for any other purpose

Account	Parish	V/Green	Parish Plan	VAT	Balance
Balance b/f	14,022.33	35,612.99	2,296.01	629.02	51,302.31
Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	471.51	471.51
Payments	78.73	420.00	0.00	4.50	503.23
Balance c/f	13,943.60	35,192.99	2,296.01	162.01	51,270.59
Payments In VAT					471.51
Payments Out					
<u>Parish</u>					
Wreath Hanger Railings and Posts					12.00
Notice Boards - Timber (PG)					14.98
Stratton Village Hall - Room Hire					56.25
<u>Village Green</u>					
Village Green Maintenance (July & August)					420.00
<u>Parish Plan</u>					0.00
TOTAL					503.23

The VAT payment received from HMRC was 6p short of the claim. Councillors agreed for the Income and Expenditure Account to be adjusted to clear this amount.

b Budget Monitoring

The ongoing budget monitoring position for the current financial year was reviewed and accepted.

c Section 137 Grants

- Five applications received so far.
- The closing date for applications is the 30th September 2018.
- Cllrs A Aylott, C Hobbs and A Wheeler are to be on the selection committee.

d Precept 2019/20

There is no indication of what services, if any, the new Dorset Council will pass onto Parish Councils in the next financial year.

Councillors discussed whether to leave the Precept unchanged or increase it in line with inflation, which is about 2% at present. Agreed unanimously to increase the Precept by the rate of inflation.

39/18 Highways

a Grimstone A37 - traffic speed

Dorset Highways have erected the '30 roundel and camera' signs; however, the road markings have not been painted yet.

b Stratton, Dorchester Road - road closure

The works involving road closures have finished.

c Stratton, Dorchester Road - gully clearance and re-installation of the lost gully

Six gullies were reported for clearance and these have been carried out.

The gully that SSE had resurfaced over alongside 72 Dorchester Road has been restored by Dorset Highways.

d Public Footpath Sign

The public footpath sign at the entrance to Sawyers Lane has a damaged post and is temporarily secured to the street sign. Clerk to report to Highways.

40/18 Planning

An update on the following planning notices have been received:

WD/D/18/000490 - Furbers Paddock - Approved 17 July 2018

WD/D/18/001196 - Stratton Dairy. Replacement cattle housing - Approved 31 August 2018

WD/D/18/001326 - Higher Wrackelford Farm - Change of use - No decision

WD/D/18/001978 - The Old Rectory - Removal of decaying tree limb - Withdrawn

41/18 General Maintenance

a Current maintenance issues

Progress to date:

- The Alms Houses bus shelter - materials ordered.
- Steps to the Village Green from the Village Hall - scheduled to be done.
- The old wooden bench at the west end of the village green has been repaired.
- Village Green Play Area fence repaired.
- The Play Area Horse will be taken away for repair and repaint.

b Village Green Trees

Following requests from residents at the west end of the village green for the existing Hornbeam trees to be pruned or removed, Councillors considered whether any work on the trees should be done in 2018 or left to 2019. Unanimous decision for the work to be carried out in 2018.

The Councillors then discussed two options; either to leave the trees and give them a regular prune or to fell the three trees and replace with alternatives in 2019. After much deliberation and soul searching, the Councillors voted three to one to have the three trees felled and replaced.

42/18 Correspondence

Defibrillator - Giving an outline of The Heart of our Community group, the fund raising undertaken, monies raised so far and the type of defibrillator selected for the village

Village Green Trees - Requests for pruning or removal

Wasps - Notice of a large number of wasps by the recreation field

Dial-a-Ride Bus Service - update on the public service, over the past year the service ran at a small loss of £17.50

43/18 Christmas Carol Event (2018)

A report to be given at the next meeting.

44/18 1918 Centenary

a Memorial

The Wreath Hanger is with a metal worker for alterations, then it'll be painted in black. The plaque has been produced and was passed around at the meeting.

b Beacon

Two requests for a meeting to discuss the beacon have not been answered.

45/18 Dog fouling and waste bin by the Almshouses

The current waste bin location is not ideal for residents or those using the bus shelter. Various possible alternative locations were discussed that would suit dog walkers and for general rubbish. The Clerk to raise questions with DWP on types of bins and potential costs.

46/18 Planning Gain Wishlist

a Village Map

It's known that DCC cannot find the original artworks, so an alternative solution is being sought. Initially this would involve the map being scanned. The Councillors unanimously agreed to proceed with the scan.

b 'Drive safely through our Village' signs

The Parish Council will have to pay for any additional signs, a quote has been requested.

c Defibrillator

Unanimous agreement by the Councillors to pay The Heart of our Community group the previously agreed grant of £600. It was confirmed that the Village Hall Management Committee had met and agreed for the defibrillator to be installed on the Village Hall subject to criteria being met.

d Over 70s Christmas Lunch

There is general unease of catering for a large number (potentially 70 people). It was agreed not to progress with a Christmas Lunch this year, however maybe organise a buffet style lunch in 2019.

e Allotment Land purchase

Not possible - no further action

f Replacement computer

Monies have been set aside from last year and current year budgets. The cost of a replacement computer would be met by general funds. To look at making a purchase in January. No further action with regard to the Panning Gain Fund.

47/18 Items for the next Agenda

Replacement trees for the Village Green, Carol Event, Precept, Waste bins, Mill Lane tidy up.

48/18 Public Participation

Dog Fouling - Ongoing education with notices is the only way to get the message across. Many dog walkers are children who are less inclined to pick up.

Defibrillator - The Heart of our Community Chairman gave thanks to the Parish Council for their donation and are ready to purchase the first unit, to commence with CPR training and continue fund raising for a second unit for Grimstone.

Working Groups - it was suggested that there are many residents willing to help the Council in 'working groups' but who do not want to be Councillors.

Date of the next Meetings

Ordinary Meeting – 20th November 2018 at 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm