

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair A Aylott

Clerk M Harding

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 18th May 2021 at 7.30pm At Stratton Village Hall

Present:

A Aylott	A Wheeler
M Garner	S Joslin
C Hobbs	M Harding (Clerk/RFO)
	3 members of public

21-1 Election of Chairman for 2021-22 and signing of the acceptance of office

Cllr Aylott was nominated by Cllr Hobbs and seconded by Cllr Wheeler

21-2 Election of Vice Chairman for 2021-22 and signing of the acceptance of office

Cllr Hobbs was nominated by Cllr Wheeler and seconded by Cllr Garner

21-3 To consider the co-option of a Councillor and sign acceptance of office and register of interest forms

Simon Joslin had expressed an interest in becoming a Parish Councillor and confirmed that he was eligible to be co-opted.

Simon Joslin was nominated by Cllr Garner and seconded by Cllr Wheeler- all agreed

Cllr Joslin signed his acceptance, completed the register of interest form, and joined the meeting as a Cllr.

21-4 To receive apologies of absence- It was noted that Ward Councillor David Taylor is still unwell.

21-5 To receive declarations of interest on agenda items- none

21-6 Public participation (agenda items only)

A member of the public welcomed the new Parish Clerk, the resident spoke on the agenda item 13 – highways. The resident reported on the A37 action group and the comments from the Chair at the last meeting. The group at this time are still waiting on news of an internal review meeting to be arranged by highways, that was suggested to be held in Spring 21. Cllr Aylott noted that he had been in contact with Mike Potter to enquire when this meeting would take place and reported that an internal review meeting was hoped for late May. Following this meeting highways will arrange to meet the PC and an Action group rep to discuss their findings and gather feedback. A discussion ensued on the safety of road users and pedestrians following the village survey when 135 residents had expressed concerns for their safety along the footpath. It was suggested that the action group look at the Sustrans movement regarding pedestrian access areas and trailways. The resident also reported there had been no response from Mike Potter following the recent ice incident. It was suggested that the ice warning sign needs to be closer the affected area or that a further sign is acquired to warn drivers of the hazard. This could be considered but perhaps wait until the meeting has been arranged with highways.

Cllrs noted that the ice sign is not a permanent feature and if the PC had their own sign, they would still need permission to deploy it when necessary, from highways. It was agreed to wait for the review meeting to bring these items to the attention of highways.

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair A Aylott

Clerk M Harding

21-7 To approved the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 16th March 2021

Councillors agreed to the accuracy of the minutes of the last meeting.

21-8 To confirm the Roles and responsibilities of Councillors for the coming year

Allotments	Cllr A Wheeler
Ancient Monuments	Mrs M Putnam (voluntary)
Children's Playgrounds	Cllr A Aylott
Communications	Cllr C Hobbs
Crime Prevention	Cllr C Hobbs
DAPTC	Cllr A Aylott
Finance	Cllr A Aylott
Footpaths and Rights of Way	Cllr M. Garner
Highways	Cllr M Garner
Housing	Cllr M Garner
Maintenance	Cllr A Aylott
Notice Boards	Cllr S Joslin
Parish Plan	Cllr A Wheeler
Social Care & Safeguarding Officer	Cllr C Hobbs
Transport	Cllr S Joslin
Trees	Cllr A Wheeler
Village Hall Committee	Cllr C Hobbs

21-9 To reaffirm and accept the National legislation and Local conditions/policies of the Council including the overriding finance policy.

The Chairman outlined the basic legislation which the Parish Council had already adopted and those local conditions and policies it held.

Annual Statement of Considerations for functions of acts cited below:

Members of Stratton Parish Council were reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions:

- i. Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability);
- ii. Crime and Disorder;
- iii. Health and Safety;
- iv. Human Rights;
- v. Age Discrimination;
- vi. Safeguarding and Vulnerable Groups;
- vii. Freedom of Information;

As well as abiding by its own Standing Orders, the Code of Conduct for Councillors (as adopted from standard NALC code, as part of Localism Act 2011) and those specific adopted policy documents affecting Stratton – Finance Policy/strategy, Trees Policy, Equalities Policy, Safeguarding Policy and Communication Policy. Councillors confirmed their acceptance of this general duty.

21-10 Finance –the Accounts for 2020-21 was read out in the Annual Parish meeting in detail.

- a. **To confirm the Council qualifies as exempt from external audit and approves the certificate of Exemption 2020-21-** The Council confirmed it is exempt- all agreed

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair A Aylott

Clerk M Harding

- b. **To Approve the Annual Governance Statement 2020-21-** The Council confirmed its responsibility for ensuring that there were sound systems of internal control, including arrangements for preparation of the accounting statements and confirm the Accounting Statements to 31st March 2021.
- c. **To approve the Accounting Statements 2020-21-** The accounting statements were approved for the year to 31st March 2021.
- d. **To receive the Internal Audit Report** – the internal report was read out by the Clerk and accepted by the PC.
- e. **To consider receipts and payments due to be paid or paid since the last meeting**

Accounts to 31st March 2021					
Monies in the Village Green account cannot be used for any other purpose					
Account	Parish	V/Green	Parish Plan	VAT	Balance
Balance b/f	15,946.49	37,594.98	1,719.56	761.62	54,499.41
Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payments	1,238.00	490.36	300.00	9.11	2,037.47
Balance c/f	14,708.49	37,104.62	1,419.56	770.73	52,461.94
PAYMENTS IN					
<u>Village Green</u>					
<u>Parish Plan</u>					
TOTAL				£	0.00
PAYMENTS OUT					
(inc VAT)					
<u>Parish</u>					
G. Rose - Village Map Stand (Part)					938.00
G. Rose - Village Map Stand (Part - Planning Gain Fund)					300.00
<u>Village Green</u>					
R. Healey - Replacement Fence Post					44.82
Mole Country Stores - Fence Posts					29.16
Travis Perkins - Postcrete					25.49
G. Rose - Village Map Stand (Part)					400.00
<u>Parish Plan</u>					
G. Rose - Village Map Stand (Part)					300.00
TOTAL				£	2,037.47

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair A Aylott

Clerk M Harding

Accounts at 18th May 2021					
Monies in the Village Green account cannot be used for any other purpose					
Account	Parish	V/Green	Parish Plan	VAT	Balance
Balance b/f	14,708.49	37,104.62	1,419.56	770.73	52,461.94
Receipts	3,280.48	2,180.00	250.00	0.00	5,710.48
Payments	1,168.19	306.72	250.00	6.22	1,731.13
Balance c/f	16,820.78	38,977.90	1,419.56	776.95	56,441.29
Receipts					
Allotment rent (Annual)					250.00
CIL payment-WD/D/19/001942					470.48
Precept 1st payment					4990.00
TOTAL				£	5,710.48
Payments					(inc VAT)
Parish					
Stationery - A4 Paper					5.25
Zurich - Insurance					559.86
Dorset Council - Dog Bin Collection					156.00
W H Smiths- Files					7.98
HMRC PAYE April/May 2021					81.00
M Harding- Salary and expenses April/May 2021					360.30
Village Green					
R. Healey - Replacement Fence Post/Gate Repair					50.00
Zurich - Insurance					186.62
Mole Valley - New fence posts					24.12
R Healey - repairs to you ger childrens play area					50.00
Parish Plan					
Allotments 01/04/21 to 31/03/22					250.00
TOTAL				£	1731.13

f. **To Receive the Budget monitoring report-** The budget monitoring position for the end of 2020-21 and for the current financial year to date was reviewed and accepted.

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair A Aylott

Clerk M Harding

- g. To review the Asset Register and Risk Assessments-** A review was carried out of the Asset Register, all assets have been updated and the new insurance values are to be entered on the Register, some values to be confirmed with the insurance company. A review was carried out of the Risk Assessments. These were agreed

21-11 Planning- To consider any planning applications in circulation

- a. WD/D/20/003304-** Furbers Paddock- erection of garage- granted 01-04-21
- b. P/OU2021/00724-** 6 Magiston Street Stratton- Loft conversion and conversion of existing conservatory. No objections
- c. Cllr Hobbs** commented on the BT phone box and its possible loss, she will make enquiries into the current status of this proposal to remove the box. It was noted that the PC could adopt the phone box for £1 but will then be responsible for its future maintenance.

21-12 To receive reports on General Maintenance

- a. To further discuss the Christmas Tree-** Cllr Wheeler expressed his concern over the funding of the Christmas tree which are currently taken from funds collected the previous year. He felt that any funds collected for Carol singing in aid of the chosen charity should be paid to the charity in full and another means of purchasing the tree should be found. Cllr Wheeler will speak to the organisers to discuss this matter and look to find a solution going forward. It was noted this is not a PC matter but the PC could assist in the future if an application for funding was made from S137 funds for the Christmas Tree for community benefit.
- b. Items noted by the Chairman-** a new gate for the play area, some works needed on the notice boards, a key will be given to Cllr Joslin for noticeboards. A new tennis net has been purchased and will be installed in the coming days.
- c. Highways/RoW- to consider any reports-** It was noted that the new road surface has been laid in the village, this went well without too much disruption.
As noted in the public session an internal meeting is to be held at Dorset Council and then a meeting with the PC and the action group rep going forward, date to be confirmed.

21-13 To receive the correspondence report for information

The Clerk noted the current response requested from the MP on a National park for Dorset following his views. No response to be sent at this time.

Cllr Wheeler commented on the Dorset Council decision not to allow BBQs on DC property, and should the PC have a policy? It was agreed that Cllr Hobbs will put in announcements on the website and Facebook warning people of the issues of BBQ's and sharing the Dorset Council press release.

- 21-14 To confirm the Bye-Laws for dogs-** Cllr Hobbs noted that the dog warden had placed the No Dogs and dog mess signs in the play areas, believing that this was DC land. This was due to the dogs in public places order of Jan 2020 but is mostly regarding beaches and public spaces and parks. Cllr

STRATTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chair A Aylott

Clerk M Harding

Hobbs after explaining the legislation, confirmed that there was no change to the current Parish Council position of allowing dog owners to use the playing field.

21-15 To consider the dates for the coming year and items for the next meeting

The next meeting was booked for Tuesday 13th July 7pm in the VH. It is hoped to hold this in the Aylott room depending on social distance rules at this time.

21-16 Public Participation

It was requested that the VH committee considered a suitable PA system given the issues with the acoustics in the main hall for meetings. It was hoped that the July meeting will be held in the Aylott meeting room.

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm