

Minutes of Stoke Golding Parish Council

Minutes of the 365th meeting of Stoke Golding Parish Council held in the Methodist Church Hall on Wednesday 6th April 2016.

Attendance: Cllrs R Terheege (in the chair), S Beale (Vice-chairman), R Fisher, R Mitchell, P Goodsell, Parish Clerk Theresa Case and Borough Councillor Reg Ward.

Cllr Terheege opened the meeting at 7.00pm

365/1 Apologies for Absence: Cllr Pegg, County Cllr Ivan Ould

365/2 Declarations of interest on items on the agenda: There were none.

In the absence of County Cllr Ivan Ould a report was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

Borough Cllr Reg Ward reported on the following:

1. Jitty on Hinckley Road – gap left between gate and hedge after trim back. Safety issues discussed and disability/pushchair access. ACTION: Clerk to contact highways to arrange a site visit with PC.
2. 48 Roseway – lost appeal.
3. Morris Homes – times on site been exceeded at both ends of the day. ACTION: Clerk to inform Mark Laidlow.
4. Parish Forum – police confirmed that there is no man power to enforce 20mph zones, however, evidence does show that restrictions do slow down traffic.
5. Car parking in Hinckley
6. Planning – a development of 65 homes by Hinckley railway station is looking favourable.
7. Pressure by government to deliver for rural communities is being squeezed by tight budgets.
8. Local authorities now able to retain business rates to improve services, but still top sliced by government.

365/3 To confirm the minutes of the 364th meeting of the Parish Council

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd March 2016 were proposed by Cllr Beale and seconded by Cllr Goodsell and unanimously AGREED that the Chairman signed the minutes of the 364th meeting as a correct record of the meeting. The Chairman signed the minutes.

365/4 Matters arising

Crime Report – one anti-social behaviour near Greenwood Road, one criminal damage near Bennett Close, one violence/sexual offence near Church Close and one Burglary near High Street.

It was asked at the Parish Forum meeting if more up to date crime figures could be provided, but this is not possible. ACTION: Clerk to check with police contact that the Parish Council is informed of any matters that give rise to concern and also public notices could be put on the Stoke Golding and Dadlington Co-operative website.

Rural Watch – is a free scheme where police and people can share information about crime in rural areas via a text messaging service and social media. For more information visit: www.leics.police.uk/ruralwatch.

Grave railings at St Margaret's churchyard – as the church council have agreed to carry out repairs to the gate they will have the railings made safe at the same time.

Pavilion roof – a 15 year guarantee for the work to the roof has been received.

365/5 Reports of elected officers of the council and the clerk.

To receive and consider the following and resolve upon any action or recommendations thereon:

a) Financial Progress Report

The Financial Report was proposed by Cllr Beale and seconded by Cllr Goodsell and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED to approve the report and it was signed by the Chairman.

b) Reports by council representatives and clerk

Cllr Ward reported on the situation regarding the dog information posts at the recreation field. These have now been removed.

c) Playground Inspection Report

The following issues were reported: muddy ground under pod swing, twin rocker – end caps missing, litter bins not emptied, weeds in play area.

Clerk also reminded councillors that the swings were to be painted in the spring. Issues with the roundabout highlighted in the annual ROSPA inspection were also discussed.

ACTION: Clerk to make arrangements for all necessary work and remind Mike Smith to swap the flag for St George's Day.

365/6 Planning Application Matters:

Planning application procedures were discussed and reviewed as follows:

a) New applications –

Tithe Farm, 12 Wykin Lane, SG – erection of a barn – possible restrictions to ensure building is not used for commercial or residential use in the future were discussed. ACTION: Clerk to pass on the Parish Council's comments to Richard Wright.

20 Andrew Close, SG – felling of 4 conifer trees.

88 Sherwood Road, SG – rebuilding of detached garage.

b) Permissions granted –

c) Refusals – none

d) Withdrawn - none

e) Amended –

f) Appeals –

36 Station Rd, SG – erection of single dwelling (outline-access only).

g) Appeals Dismissed –

48 Roseway - proposed dwelling and access

Mark Laidlow of Morris Homes phoned to check all was well with the development and to express a wish to ensure any issues are resolved as soon as they arise. Also Morris Homes are currently investigating options for housing associations to manage the social housing. He asked if the any Neighbourhood Plan surveys had been carried out yet which might give an indication of housing need in the village. Any comments by the PC regarding either issue are welcome through the clerk.

ACTION: Clerk to reply to Mark regarding concerns highlighted by Borough Cllr Reg Ward. Also report the evidence in the village plan highlighting a need for more housing for younger people and work already done by Stonewater Housing on the Mar City Development.

DCLG comprehensive changes to national planning policy – consultation closes 15th April 2016 – discussed.

Cllr Goodsell considered that this consultation would not influence the final decision.

Cllr Mitchell highlighted that some changes were good such as the focus on brownfield sites.

365/7 To resolve upon acceptance of amended ground maintenance contract specifications

A copy of the amended ground maintenance specifications was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

PROPOSED: Cllr Goodsell and SECONDED: Cllr Mitchell and unanimously AGREED.

365/8 To consider draft report of the Council's Accounts for the year end

A draft of year end accounts for the Parish Council along with an updated budget report were circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Goodsell sought clarification on reserves and interest rates.

PROPOSED: Cllr Mitchell and SECONDED: Cllr Beale and unanimously AGREED.

365/9 External audit changes and website publication

A report about changes to the audit arrangements and the implications for website publication was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. ACTION: The Parish Council must publish the approved annual return, internal audit report and notice of commencement of the inspection period on the 2nd June. In addition to the PC noticeboard all PC agendas and Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee agendas and minutes will now be published on the Stoke Golding Village website by the Clerk.

365/10 To receive the Clerk's petty expenditure statement for half-year October 2015 - March 2016

Expenditure statement was presented to the meeting. PROPOSED: Cllr Goodsell. SECONDED: Cllr Fisher.

365/11 To approve 2016/17 Fees for cemeteries and football pitches

Agreed in-line with Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

365/12 To receive and approve cemetery administrator petty expenditure

Expenditure statement received. PROPOSED: Cllr Goodsell. SECONDED: Cllr Mitchell.

365/13 To resolve upon agenda and final administrative arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting

The APM agendas have been prepared and will be distributed shortly.

365/14 Neighbourhood Plan

The minutes of the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee meeting held on the 16th March 2016 were circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.

The Stoke Golding Neighbourhood Plan boundary document was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting and has been slightly amended to take account of the submission of the Higham on the Hill Neighbourhood Plan boundary document. PROPOSED: Cllr Goodsell and SECONDED: Cllr Fisher and unanimously AGREED. This will now be submitted to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council for public consultation.

The appointment of a consultant was discussed. Cllr Terheege expressed concerns that the procedures for voting at the Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee meeting and the subsequent minutes would not stand up to scrutiny. Cllr Beale also questioned why Cllr Mitchell had stated she was not allowed to vote at the meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Terheege should not vote at advisory committee meetings as she holds the

casting vote on the Parish Council, however, Cllr Beale is a member of the advisory committee and therefore has full voting rights. Cllr Mitchell apologised and stated that his decision was a mistake made in good faith. It was agreed that the Parish Council should see references for the consultants' previous work before making a decision. Although a consultant could be agreed in principle the committee would need to take steps to secure the government funding prior to any appointment of consultants by the Parish Council.
ACTION: Cllr Mitchell to provide references, look into funding and ensure the minutes are tightened up to better explain the two votes taken and their outcome.

365/15 Sport in Stoke Golding

All clubs have now submitted a development plan and Cllr Pegg is in the process of arranging a meeting with Graham Chilvers of Leicester-Shire and Rutland Sport (LRS) at HBBC to discuss how best to proceed with the project.

365/16 Play equipment

Cllr Fisher presented three quotations for outdoor table tennis tables. It was agreed that the Parish Council should proceed with the quotation from Red Lynch which offered the best value for money, as the price included all necessary work and also rounded edges on the table. It was also agreed that the clerk should now submit a claim for 106 monies to cover the cost of this project. PROPOSED: Cllr Goodsell and SECONDED: Cllr Beale.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Fisher and submit 106 claim.

365/17 Village Hall maintenance

Cllr Beale reported that Alan White has sought legal advice on the lease agreement and all maintenance of the village hall is the responsibility of the Village Hall Management Committee.

365/18 Environmental Improvement Programme – Church Walk and grave repairs

Grant money would not be available for hedges and border unless part of a larger project to re-surface Church Walks. Church Walks is the responsibility of LCC Highways department; Paul Grundy is liaising with them to ascertain their views. Money could be available to repair grave stones in Hinckley Road Cemetery, previously lay down for safety reason. It was agreed quotations should be sought for work to the grave stones.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Cllr Pegg to identify graves and obtain quotations.

365/19 Wykin Lane Cemetery – block paving

Details of three quotations for cleaning of block paving were circulated to all councillors. It was agreed that the Parish Council should proceed with the quotation from Stonewash Cleaning. This was considered to offer the best value for money and the Parish Council like to support local businesses if possible. Before and after pictures of previous work and a reference from a previous customer have been provided. The gravel pathways will be treated at no extra cost. PROPOSED: Cllr Goodsell and SECONDED: Cllr Fisher.

ACTION: Clerk to make necessary arrangements

365/20 Document storage

Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council will provide secure storage for archive documents at a cost of £192 per annum. PROPOSED: Cllr Beale and SECONDED: Cllr Goodsell.

ACTION: Clerk to make necessary arrangements.

365/21 Convent site community land

A proposed agreement from Mar City to grant licence for use of the land adjacent to the development was circulated to all councillors. It was agreed that councillors should give this careful consideration and discuss further at the next meeting. Cllr Goodsell suggested that Cllrs Pegg and Goodsell should meet with Phil Day of the Allotment Society to ascertain his views and consider the implications of the agreement. Cllr Terheege suggested that legal advice could also be sought from Peter Tustain.

ACTION: Clerk to thank Mar City for the proposed agreement and let them know it is under consideration and will be discussed further at the May meeting.

365/22 VAS traffic report

The VAS report was circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. The report was discussed and it was agreed that it should be forwarded to LCC highways and the police. Cllr Mitchell reported that he is liaising with Higham on the Hill PC: data from their Vehicle Activated Signs is consistent with Stoke Golding. It is important that this information is logged regularly with appropriate authorities to be able to show any future increases.

365/23 To resolve upon the monthly schedule of payments

The schedule of payments was proposed by Cllr Goodsell and seconded by Cllr Beale and unanimously Agreed. The Chairman signed the schedule. The cheques were signed by two signatories. Payments were made as follows: March 2016 – pavilion roof £2,846.00, dog waste collection £84.00 and April 2016 – electricity to pavilion £20.00, admin £472.50, 2 x ground maintenance £1,132.67 and £135.00, trade waste collection £53.30, litter bin collection £58.97, cemetery non domestic rate £101.64, VAS battery £65.00, RCC £50.00, Leicestershire and Rutland Playing Fields association £30.00, LRALC £384.41, dog waste collection £133.00, printing £161.00,

cemetery admin £67.77.

**365/24 To receive and consider such communications as received by the Chairman of the council
Written**

Litter Bin Servicing Agreement – price increase agreed. Proposed: Cllr Goodsell and seconded Cllr Fisher. Cllr Fisher requested an additional litter bin on Higham Lane by the layby/bridge.

ACTION: Clerk to reply to HBBC and request additional bin.

Open Space and Recreation Study – it was agreed that a response was needed and Cllr Pegg would be the best person to do so. ACTION: Clerk to pass the survey to Cllr Pegg.

Leicestershire and Rutland Playing Fields Association – annual membership

Rural Communities Council – annual membership

LRALC – annual membership

All three agreed. Proposed: Cllr Goodsell and seconded: Cllr Beale.

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine – info only.

The Clerk magazine – info only.

Country Voice – info only.

Resident's concern regarding High Street jitty – discussed previously.

HBBC regarding fly tipping of dog waste – clerk has spoken to PC's contractor; they dispose of waste at Ellis Taylor and have all appropriate documentation – details passed on to HBBC.

Purchase of grave plot – it was agreed without prejudice that a former resident of Stoke Golding may pre purchase a grave plot at the discounted rate.

Reply from Highways regarding safety concern – Action: Clerk to request a site visit with PC.

Verbal

Residents concern over the way a safety issue on Hinckley Road has been handled.

Stoke Golding Youth Bus is steadily getting busier and they have asked to continue through the summer term.

365/25 To consider items needed to be brought to public's attention

There were none.

365/26 Any other business

Cllr Fisher asked for a budget of £100 for wildflower plugs for Bennett Close wildflower patch. Agreed.

Proposed: Cllr Mitchell and seconded: Cllr Beale.

The Methodist Church have asked for a donation of £25 towards electricity for the defib. Agreed. Proposed: Cllr Mitchell and seconded: Cllr Goodsell.

A letter from the potential new councillor was read out. ACTION: Clerk to put together a pack of information for the applicant and offer support.

Cllr Beale asked if she could organise a picnic at the recreation field for families with use of the pavilion for toilets and tea making. Agreed. ACTION: Clerk to check insurance and dates of regular use by the cricket club.

Cllr Terheege closed the meeting at 9.40pm

Next meeting:- Methodist Church Hall, Wednesday 4th May 2016 at 7pm