

STAUNTON ON WYE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Group Parish Council Meeting held on Monday **22 MARCH 2021** through Zoom.

Present – A Powles (Chair), N Sellar (Vice Chair), A Andrews , P Dyke, S Williams, P Pantall, and N Kinsey. S Grist was also present as Clerk to the Group Parish Council.

County Councillor G Jones was present.

There were four members of the public in attendance.

103. Apologies for absence – E. Pearson-Gregory, J Nelson, R Skyrme.

104. Declarations of Interest – No declarations of interest were received.

The Clerk addressed the meeting and recommended that he produce a statement of Declaration of Interest that may be circulated to all Parish Councillors to guide them through future meetings. This was agreed.

105. Minutes of meeting held on the 15th February 2021 – The Minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of that meeting.

106. Matters Arising – The Clerk informed the meeting that N Kinsey was now a properly constituted member of the Parish Council.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the situation relating to the provision of a defibrillator for the telephone box in Monnington on Wye was still under investigation largely due to the question of finance available. It had been suggested that the telephone box in Staunton on Wye could be used in some form of a public notice board.

107. Planning Matters -

204573 – Oakchurch Farm – Councillors Pantall and Andrews left the meeting at this point having declared interest. The Clerk informed the meeting of the exchange of correspondence between the Planning Officer and Cllr Jones No decision regarding the application had yet been made by the Planning Department.

The applicant Mr J Price then addressed the meeting informing of a number of amendments that had been made to the original application and which showed in this revised application. Mr Price then left the meeting.

There was considerable discussion during which a number of concerns regarding the application were raised by Parish Councillors. Cllr Jones reported on a discussion that he had recently with the Planning Officer.

It was agreed that a formal representation be made to the Planning Department raising the questions and issues that had been discussed that evening during the meeting again making the point that the Parish Council could not agree with the application without answers being provided to a number of questions.

Councillors Pantall and Andrews re-joined the meeting.

210182 – The meeting was informed that this was a retrospective application and that the Parish Council had agreed to support it. The Clerk read the submission to the meeting.

210603 – Little London – The meeting considered the application regarding the proposed change of use and raised a number of questions with the applicant M Kerr who was present at the meeting. Discussion resulted in agreement to continue discussion in a future meeting to be set up by the Clerk before the Closure Date. Consideration in that discussion would be given to the issues regarding possible noise and access and entry to the site.

Brobury, Old Court – The Clerk informed the meeting of his recent correspondence with the Planning Enforcement Officer.

108. Playing Field – The Clerk reported on the forthcoming inspection of the playing field which he will organise and schedule for July 2021. Consideration will be given to the work required to the site outlined within the last report. That will be considered by the Clerk and by A Andrews. A request was made that a new layer of bark be put down before the inspection is carried out.

It was reported that a letter had been received from neighbours adjoining the site of the playing field informing of re-placement of their fence. It was agreed that following an inspection by the Clerk that this be agreed. Further that S Williams look at the possibility of setting a bolt on the gate to prevent it swinging back.

109. Highway Matters – The Clerk reported that J Nelson had wished to attend the meeting to report on aspects of these issues but had to send his apologies.

The Clerk reported that there was a forthcoming meeting with Lara Edwards from Balfour Beatty to discuss all those issues that had been previously raised as matters of concern. The Clerk informed the meeting that he had drawn up an Agenda for the meeting and that had been circulated around Councillors.

The meeting discussed the issue of grass cutting the local verges. It was agreed that the Clerk would inform Balfour Beatty if Councillors wished a change to the number of annual cuts within their Parish. Comment was made within the meeting that Parish Councillors in Brobury would supply the necessary information to the Clerk for onward direction to Balfour Beatty.

110. Parish Council Website – The Clerk informed the meeting that the presentation of information upon the website had much improved. Further the Clerk is setting up a meeting between himself P Dyke and J Nelson, likely in August, to cost the website and to seek improvement to its current costing.

111. Defibrillator – No matters to report in respect of the Defibrillator in Staunton on Wye.

112. Footpaths – The Clerk informed the meeting of a number of items of correspondence relating to the poor state of footpaths generally in the Parish. The Clerk agreed that he would discuss with J Nelson if he was prepared to report back on any footpaths that he has walked thereby building up details relating to any signage that should be repaired and repairs to the quality of the path.

Comment was made regarding the website on which replacement of items such as signposts can be made. It was agreed that the details of this interactive map should be circulated to the public.

113. General Correspondence – Sheila Marsh raised the issue of the Talk Community Hub and its implications for the Village Hall. She informed the meeting that the application had to detail the views of the Parish Council. It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council support the application. The Clerk agreed to e-mail Sheila a written submission showing such support.

The Clerk informed the meeting that he had responded to the County Council supporting the renewal of dog control legislation.

The Clerk reminded the meeting that he had circulated the recent Transport Review Paper

114. Finance – The Clerk informed the Parish Council of the current financial position. He reminded the meeting that they were close approaching the end of the financial year and that as a consequence he would be submitting a proposed budget for the financial year 2021 – 2022 at the next meeting the Annual General Meeting.

115. Any Other Business – There was discussion regarding the state of a hedge within Staunton on Wye that clearly impinges upon the roadway and effects the safety of pedestrians and traffic. It was agreed that the matter be raised with Lara Edwards and with Cllr Jones.

116. Date of next meeting – It was agreed that the next meeting, the Annual General Meeting should be held on the 24th May 2021. Councillors were reminded that the meeting would commence at 7.15pm. The meeting will be conducted through Zoom but will not be recorded.

The meeting concluded at 9.10 pm