

STENSON FIELDS PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL REMOTE MEETING held on THURSDAY 18th June 2020 at 7.15pm

Owing to the extenuating circumstances surrounding the coronavirus this meeting was held via a Zoom video-link in accordance with **The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020**. Hence, Stenson Fields Parish Council is authorised to hold virtual meetings online. It is therefore intended that future Parish Council meetings will continue to take place online using video-conferencing.

Those members that participated formed a quorum comprising:

Participants: - Cllrs C Fellows (Chair), R Lisewski, I Baker, P Bonnell, P Richardson.

In attendance: - DCllr D Shepherd, Steve Hawkrige (lengthsman) and J Irons (clerk).

1319/20 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** None.

1320/20 **VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS:** none

1321/20 **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS:** None

1322/20 **PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

- No residents or police officers took part.
- Although in attendance DCllr Shepherd also kindly sent a report to the clerk prior to the meeting (see below).
- One of our lengthsman in attendance, Steve Hawkrige, gave his report at minute 1326/20 (c) below.

**South Derbyshire District Councillors' Report to Stenson Fields Parish Council - Thursday 18th June 2020
Bushes at Stenson Field Primary Community School**

Cllr Singh has been contacted by several parents whose children attend the Stenson Fields Primary School. They have concerns about the bushes at the back of the school as these are now overgrown and urgently need to be trimmed back. Cllr Singh has requested that the matter be investigated and the matter added to the other work that is required in Stenson Ward.

Alleged Contamination – Balancing Pond on the Stenson Road Development

It was reported by residents that they had noticed what they assumed was a fuel/oil spillage in the balancing pond the new Stenson Road estate. The swans were captured by the RSPCA and they appeared to be contaminated. Unfortunately, the Environment Agency declined to attend as it was not considered to be an emergency. The balancing pond has been improved lately and residents are happy to spend time looking at the wildlife attracted to the pond. The Environment Officer at the District Council pursued the problem but were unable to act because the Environment Agency have jurisdiction over the pollution of water courses and therefore were unable to act. The developers were contacted and asked if they would clean the balancing pond and to undertake any means necessary for remediation work.

Anti Social Behaviour

Oakwood Close

Your councillors have received complaints of anti-social behaviour in Oakwood Close by a gang of youths. The matter has been reported, the young people of Stenson Fields are generally well behaved but your councillors will not let residents be intimidated by anti-social behaviour.

Gathering in Contravention of the Virus Guidelines

Cllrs Singh and Shepherd have received complaints regarding a few residents disregarding the guidelines regarding the number of people allowed to meet. If you have any concerns, please contact the police on 101. There has been an

allegation that police were called to a party and failed to act. Your councillors have registered their concern with Derbyshire Constabulary.

Asda Car Park Near Kestrals Close

It was reported that several cars arrived in the car park and played loud music and shouting into the early hours of the morning. Evidence of drug abuse was found in the vicinity. Your councillors have registered the matter with Derbyshire Constabulary.

Alleged Drug Abuse in the Vicinity of Sinfin Library

Residents are concerned that they are intimidated by the presence of groups assumed to be taking drugs. Your Councillors have reported the matter to Derbyshire Constabulary.

South Derbys District Council - Stenson Ward Councillors' Advice Surgery & - Walk Around Stenson Fields

The Councillors' Advice Surgeries and walks around Stenson Fields will recommence when the Covid-19 emergency is over.

Cllrs David Shepherd & Lakhvinder Singh: South Derbyshire District Councillors – Stenson Ward

Additionally, during the meeting the following were raised.

1. As mentioned in the district councillors' previous report DCllr Singh has raised residents' concerns over rodents in the vicinity of the balancing pond. Cllr Lisewski rued that rats are still a problem; DCllr Shepherd will follow-up.
2. Cllr Lisewski asked who would pay for the damage caused to the Grampian Way bollard after a car collided with it i.e. taxpayer or insurance? DCllr Shepherd replied saying that Highways will incur this but demand reimbursement from the driver.
3. DCllr Shepherd is pleased to report the introduction of a hight restrictor on the footway alongside Stenson Road and hopes this will prevent travellers accessing the open space to the north of Witton Court. However he awaits SDDC's introduction of bollards at Quantock Close and elsewhere.
4. Steve Hawksworth believes that gutter cleaning is required to clear weeds. Cllr Lisewski thought some spraying had been undertaken but more is needed. DCllr Shepherd will ask the team at district council for another sweep.

The chairman thanked DCllr Shepherd for his report and input after which DCllr Shepherd left the meeting at 7.34pm.

1323/20 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21st May 2020.** These were approved and accepted as a true record and will be signed by the chairman at the next available opportunity

1324/20 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

The chairman had obviously not attended any meetings recently but was pleased to announce that a IGV meeting will be held remotely on 15th July. DCllr Shepherd was dismayed that the minutes of the previous meeting were absent any mention of medical facilities and said (earlier) that he will meet the CCG soon to discuss.

1325/20 **CLERK'S REPORT**

1. Clerk reported vandalism to the goalmouth matting at Fox Close to the police by letter (after trying and failing with the 101 number and online reporting system). The police responded saying it apologised for the problems and will provide a crime number. Members considered whether to claim on the insurance but in the first instance clerk to obtain a quote for repair.
2. CREST confirmed that all Community Speed Watch activities remain suspended due to the virus outbreak.
3. The Police's Traffic Management Officer provided the following update on collisions on Grampian Way: The reported *injury* collision history is shown below together with separate comments below re '*damage only*' collisions. The 5 '*damage only*' collisions all occurred within a short time frame between 23 March and 4 May 2020. Please bear in mind the comments provided in relation to the '*damage only collisions*' briefly summarise the circumstances but do not include any relevant contributory factors.

36 months history 2017-2019 – 11 collisions

Collision checks:

- 24/03/2020, 15:20 – Damage only RTC – Grampian way (asda rbt). 2 vehicle RTC, road blocked.
 - 19/04/2020, 18:44– Damage only RTC – Grampian way (nr Grampian school), damage to wooden bollards and lamppost out school.
 - 25/04/2020, 13:20 – Damage only RTC – Grampian Way. Single veh RTC. Car collides with garden wall.
 - 26/04/2020, 12:08 – Damage only RTC – Grampian Way (near Kirkland Way), 2 vehicle RTC
 - (collision from picture) > 04/05/2020, 13:33 – Damage only RTC – Grampian way (near Glenmore Drive). Hit and damaged bollard, flipped car and blocking road, and lamppost knocked over and exposing wires. Single vehicle RTC. Vehicle recovered, no injury to driver.
 - I have now also reported the sunken manhole cover to Derby City Traffic and Safety colleagues – in addition to the fix my street report. I appreciate this may have now been repaired. Further speed checks are scheduled during June by the mobile enforcement team and our Roads Policing Unit, recognising the number of collisions which have occurred along Grampian Way.
4. District council's Summer Play scheme has been cancelled due to the virus concerns but has plans to reschedule a number of these cancelled sessions, once restrictions are lifted, on evenings, weekends and during half term holidays.

1326/20 **Matters for Decision or Discussion:**

a) Police Issues/Speed Limits/Road Safety. Nothing further.

b) Saxon Gate at Newton Village Development, Stenson Road. Covered above in DCllr Shepherd's report. Clerk to ask DCllr Shepherd whether a fire safety risk assessment had been conducted at the Community Centre yet.

c) Lengthsmen Scheme. Steve Hawkridge noted the following:

- ASDA shopping bags full of household waste have appeared in bins on Grampian Way and behind the school; Steve has removed these although considers this to be unreasonable behaviour by residents; the bins are not for domestic use. Similarly, Pilgrims Way bins are being filled with takeaway boxes and fast-food litter packaging very quickly; Steve clears these and places new bags in the bins although they become full the next day. Clerk to ask DCllr Shepherd if he would mention these issues in his newsletter to try and discourage the practice. Steve is happy to continue to empty these in the interim for which the chairman thanked him.
- Gloves and masks used for protection against Coronavirus are being discarded in the area.
- Hinges on the waste bin at Goathland Road are faulty and need replacing; clerk to inform SDDC.

The chairman thanked both Steve and Jane for their continuing service.

d) Environmental issues (Biffa, trees, bulbs, bins etc). Cllr Baker was pleased to see that the overgrown roots and foliage from a tree at the junction of Derwent Drive and Arleston Lane which impedes the vision of drivers had been cleared by Highways.

e) Suggestions over upgrading/ painting the Ledbury Chase play equipment (if any). **Resolved:** members to consider improvements to the equipment (or installation of a fence) in the next couple of months.

f) to approve the 2019/20 internal audit report. **Resolved:** agreed and therefore clerk and chairman will duly sign the following forms tomorrow after which clerk will prepare them for external audit:

1326/20 (f) Annual Governance Statement;

1326/20 (g) Annual Accounting Statement.

h) to consider increasing the clerk's home allowance. **Resolved:** to increase this from £18pm to £24pm.

i) to consider adopting internet banking. **Resolved:** agreed.

1327/20 **PLANNING**

To consider planning applications: none.

Decisions.

DMPA/2020/0276 - The demolition of existing garage and the erection of a two bed bungalow at 2 Hunters Croft, Stenson Fields. *Refused on the following grounds:*

Hunters Croft has a long and relatively narrow plot which, if split in two results in a cramped and unsuitable layout; and the proposed development, would result in an over-dominant and overbearing impact in the street-scene.

DMPA/2020/0284 - The erection of extensions at 16 Pilgrims Way, Stenson Fields. *Approved subject to conditions being met,*

most notably that 'no pipes or soil and vent pipes should be installed on the principal elevation of the dwelling'.

1328/20 **Finance**

(a) Accounts for Payment – cheques to be approved and signed

Cheque No	Payee-	Total £
002328	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 8 th May	803.69
002328	J Irons – clerk's expenses (see attached sheet) April - May (including clerk's pension return [£210.89] in June to be paid online on 19 th June)	291.29
002329	J Hawkrige - Lengthsman (furlough) pay 4 weeks to 8 th May	221.52
002330	S Hawkrige - Lengthsman (furlough) pay 4 weeks 8 th May	221.52
002331	HMRC –employee's tax & NI May – June	53.29
002332	Biffa – waste collection June to September	470.71
002333	DALC – subscription 2020-21	791.58
002334	S Hawkrige – to replace cancelled chq 02325	476.33
002335	J Irons– to replace cancelled chq 02323	1050.78
002336	Parish Council Websites – web hosting & maintenance 2020/21	202.00
002337	Helen Daniels - 2019/20 internal audit report	85.00
	TOTAL	4667.71

(b) Income

Bank interest 2019/20 (both accounts) £ 79.92

Concurrent Functions Grant 2019/20 on c29th May £ 16546.00

Bank charges for 2 unrepresented cheques £ (32.00)

(c) Bank balances as at 28th May 2020 Current £ 136.45
Reserve £ 5590.94

(d) as permitted under Financial Rules the clerk visited Cllrs Fellows and Baker on 19th June May to obtain signatures on cheques; and the chairmans's signature on the audit documents as agreed above.

1329/20 **TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK AND REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

None.

1330/20 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION** Clerk had circulated recent DALC newsletters and Coronavirus updates received through DALC's Zoom meetings.

1331/20 **Agenda items for the next meeting.**

- Police Issues/Speed Limits/Road Safety;
- Saxon Gate at Newton Village Development, Stenson Road;
- Environmental issues (Biffa, trees, bulbs, bins, etc);
- Lengthsmen Scheme;
- Suggestions over upgrading/ painting the Ledbury Chase play equipment (if any).

1332/20 **Date of next meeting** – The next meeting will be held in the same format on Thursday 16th July 2020 at 7.15pm through the Zoom conference-call facility.

The Chairman thanked attendees for their input and closed the meeting at 8.27pm.

Signed.....C Fellows (Chairman) Date.....