

STENSON FIELDS PARISH COUNCIL
PARISH COUNCIL REMOTE MEETING held on THURSDAY 22nd October 2020 at 7.15pm

Owing to the continuing extenuating circumstances surrounding 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. Parish Council meetings 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, K Rogers and GD Singh.
In attendance: - Steve Hawksworth, DCllr D Shepherd and J Irons (clerk).

1361/20 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllr K Butterworth (unwell).

1362/20 **VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS:** to receive DCllr Shepherd's report later if he participates (he did so at minute 1369/20).

1363/20 **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS:** None

1364/20 **PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

- No residents or police officers took part.
- One of our lengthsman in attendance, Steve Hawkridge, gave his report at minute 1368/20 (c) below.

1365/20 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17th September 2020.**
These were approved and accepted as a true record (pp Cllr Richardson, seconded Cllr Lisewski) and will be signed by the chairman at the next available opportunity.

1366/20 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS** None

1367/20 **CLERK'S REPORT**

1. Clerk's salary has increased 2.75% from 1st April 2020 in accordance with the NJC for Local Govt Services award. Hence this month's salary includes a backdated amount of £144. Unfortunately, the clerk made an error by underpaying the pension contribution (£40.82) associated with the backdated amount and so will add this to his expenses next month, which was agreed.
2. The bank has not yet replied over our application to allow the clerk to become a signatory. Cllr Baker tried to make an enquiry but without success, suggesting that the Derby branch may have closed. If no reply has been forthcoming in a week the clerk will contact the head office branch.
3. External auditor confirmed that it has completed its audit.
4. The website contractor compiled an Accessibility Report to enable website pages to conform to new accessibility rules, which the clerk will undertake soon.

1368/20 **Matters for Decision or Discussion:**

a) Police Issues/Speed Limits/Road Safety.

The vice-chairman asked the CREST traffic enforcement team of any recent successes in stopping speeding drivers. Its reply stated the following:

Wragley Way	01/10	33 offences
	13/09	23 offences
Grampian Way	24/09	17 offences.

CREST added *'One vehicle was recorded as travelling at 52mph on Wragley Way. The majority of the 33 were from very local postcodes. Grampian Way shows about an average set of numbers that we record; unfortunately. Wragley Way is higher, but that could be because it is a new site so it would be wrong to judge at the moment'*.

The vice-chairman thanked CREST, on behalf of the parish council and the many residents who have commented favourably about the recent presence of the team. It is quite clear that the presence of the CREST team has been effective on reducing speed generally.

Both he, Steve Hawksworth and 2 residents attended the recent police 'pop-up' event. The residents' main enquiry was of excessive car parking on Goathland Road near the school. Cllr Bonnell added that PCSO patrols around the school were particularly good and parents are happy with it. Cllr Lisewski showed the police the graffiti near the football pitches. Steve Hawksworth gave the police his name and address for them to send any posters or leaflets providing useful information that may be placed on notice boards.

b) Saxon Gate at Newton Village Development, Stenson Road. Nothing further.

c) Lengthsmen Scheme. Steve Hawkridge noted that household rubbish was still being deposited in waste bins, especially those on Wragley Way. Clerk to produce a poster to be attached to these bins to help discourage the practice.

Cllr Lisewski highlighted that it may be time for the lengthsmen's DBS check to be renewed; clerk to investigate.

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

d) Environmental issues (Biffa, trees, bulbs, bins etc). The dead tree on the ASDA link path on Glendon Rd is still missing; clerk to ask SDDC whether it will replace this and if it is conducting its tree-planting regime as promised. It stated in February that it was awaiting a grant to provide funds for such replacements.

e) To consider quotes for fencing at the Ledbury Chase play site. **Resolved:** to adopt the Kompan quote although clerk to ask for a site visit so that they can inspect and provide a final and accurate quote which he will then circulate to members.

1369/20 – DCllr Shepherd joined the meeting at 7.46pm. He kindly provided the following report to the clerk the next day:

Stenson Ward South Derbyshire District Councillors' Report to Stenson Fields Parish Council - Thursday 22nd October 2020

Government Local Government Proposal – Vision Derbyshire

Councillors will be aware that the structure of local government is under scrutiny by the government which has invited certain councils to consider moving to a unitary system. A White Paper "Devolution and Local Recovery" is expected to outline the government's position in due course. The speculation is that the county and district councils in Derbyshire could be replaced with either one or more unitary authorities. In anticipation of the move to unitary authorities, High Peak, Erewash, Amber Valley and Chesterfield Borough Councils and North East Derbyshire, Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire District Councils and Derbyshire County Council commissioned a report into another option. Price Waterhouse Cooper have produced a document "Vision Derbyshire" which commits the above named councils to strategic collaboration as an alternative model of local government. "Vision Derbyshire" has the support of the council leaders of both political parties.

Derby City Council has already indicated that it would like to create a unitary authority by absorbing neighbouring councils including South Derbyshire: this would enable them to achieve the government's requirement for unitary authorities to have a population between 300,000 and 500,000. It has also been suggested that we become part of a regional East Midlands authority. The Leader of the Labour Group on South Derbyshire District Council has requested that the matter be placed on the agenda of the next Full Council meeting.

Medical Provision – Stenson Ward – Meeting with NHS Clinical Commissioning Group – 5th February 2020

At the meeting with the CCG, Cllr Shepherd reported on the anger of Stenson Ward residents regarding the allocation of £261,646 raised from the development of 500 houses on Stenson Road which went to the Hollybrook Surgery in Littleover. This surgery cannot be reached by public transport other than by a bus into Derby and another to Littleover, and the same journey in reverse. The current local NHS Surgery, Sinfin Moor Health Centre on Arleston Lane, is recognised as inadequate.

SDDC Stenson Ward Councillors and Derby City Sinfin Ward Councillors met with representatives at the Arleston Lane NHS facility on 3rd July 2018 to discuss the need for new local medical facilities. A letter was sent to SDDC on 1st October 2018 asking that a medical facility be considered in the Stenson/Sinfin area ("Sinfin was identified locally within the ETTF process, by both the CCG and NHS England as being the priority scheme for new build solutions"). The SDDC Head of Planning and Strategic Housing wrote to the NHS Senior Primary Care Commissioning Manager on 15th October 2018 outlining the likely housing developments in the area. The reply on 14th December 2018 stating "We do recognise the need for new and improving premises in the South of the City and Sinfin was recognised by Southern Derbyshire CCG as a priority for the next wave of capital funding once that is confirmed." Local press reports suggest that the CCG is not now considering a facility which Cllrs Shepherd and Singh demand, namely a medical centre within walking distance of Stenson ward. Your councillors believe that a medical centre on the development site south of Wragley Way is necessary, not least in view of the vast amount of finance for the NHS which will be generated by the development south of Wragley Way. It is unacceptable for residents without a car to be required to take a two bus journey to Hollybrook Surgery and the same on return or pay £20 for a return tax fare.

Consultation on Planning White Paper: Planning for the Future

On 24th September 2020, South Derbyshire District Council's Environment and Development Services Committee discussed the government's white paper. Considerable concern expressed by councillors and officers. The white paper outlines planning proposals which it states are "most radical planning reforms since World War Two". The plans would involve establishing zones for "growth", "renewal" and "protection". Permission in growth zones would be automatic. The implication is that the current planning system is preventing the building of new dwellings. In the opinion of Cllrs Shepherd and Singh, the problem is developers holding land with planning permission but declining to actually build the dwellings. We are also concerned that the requirement for developers to consent to section 106 agreements and the community infrastructure levy (CIL) may be dropped. Residents will recall that the new Stenson Fields Community Centre on Merevale Way and long campaigned for by Stenson Ward councillors was provided through the section 106 process. The building of affordable homes may also be affected by the white paper. SDDC has a policy of requiring developers to provide 30% on developments of a certain size; this is not always adhered to as developers may find unforeseen difficulties during build. Labour councillors often oppose reducing the amount of affordable housing as such housing is considered necessary.

(If you wish to read the SDDC report on the white paper, open up the SDDC web page – About us – Councillors and meetings – Find Meetings and papers – Council and Democracy – Committees – Environment & Development Services – 24th September 2020 – item 8 for the consultation on the white paper)

Miscellaneous

Fly Tipping – Glenmore Drive.

Residents identified the culprit but asked Cllrs Shepherd and Singh not to pursue as they were concerned to retain good relations with neighbours. Your councillors are always ready to report fly tipping to SDDC for action.

Tree Problems – Holderness Close, Pilgrims Way and Quantock Close - Awaiting action from SDDC

Highways Problems

1) State of Grassed Area – Fox Close - Reported to SDDC for action.

2) Gairloch Close – Sunken Drain - Reported to Derbyshire County Council – Problem resolved the next day.

Fence on Earls Drive - Cllr Singh in contact with the developers to resolve.

Fence on Glenmore Drive - Foliage damaging fence, dealt with by SDDC.

Anti-Social Behaviour

Fire in Community Area at Holderness Close - SDDC Officer investigating.

ASDA Car Park Near Kestrals Close - It was again reported that a number of cars arrived in the car park and played loud music and shouting into the early hours of the morning. The matter was raised with Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner; Hardyl Dhindsa at his virtual meeting, the matter is again being investigated by Derbyshire Constabulary.

Cllrs David Shepherd & Lakhvinder Singh – SDDC Councillors – Stenson Ward

Members had no questions for him, so he left the meeting at 7.56pm.

f) to review the budget and consider the grant claims for the forthcoming year. **Resolved:** a prospective figure of c£24k to be claimed on the precept which can be finalised in the next 2-3 months. Clerk to circulate both an updated budget and a breakdown of the s136 grant application to members.

1370/20 **PLANNING**

To consider planning application.

DMPA/2020/0954 - the erection of a side extension at 11, Quick Hill Road, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** no objection.

DMPA/2020/1002 - The erection of a single storey rear extension at 2 Northfield, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** no objection

Decisions.

DMPN/2020/0695 - Prior notification for the erection of 15m monopole and associated cabinets on Grass verge adjacent to Wragley Way, Stenson Fields. Permission not needed or sought from SDDC.

DMPA/2020/0823 - The erection of a proposed annexe at 17, Derwent Drive, Stenson Fields. **Approved subject to conditions.**

Consultation enquiries with SDDC - planning permission for an extension 96 Beaufort Road; 6 Tregony Way – building but work began but apparently without an application; a garage conversion at 9 Fox Close, apparently without an application; possible building work at 12 Tavistock Close.

SDDC updated these by saying that the works at 6 Tregony Way *'fall within the limitations to benefit from permitted development rights, and therefore do not require any approval from the Council'*. The rest of the above are still being investigated.

Clerk to enquire with SDDC about an invalid application for permission to advertise a fast-food outlet near the Grampian Way island; and the disposal of harsh chemicals and detergents from a carwash at the same location. Regarding the former, clerk has since found a reply from SDDC which said *'this case is already being dealt with by Alan, who is on annual leave this week. An application has been registered under 9/2019/0482 but remains invalid. Alan will respond upon his return. Please be aware that workload is currently high'*.

1371/20 **Finance**

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

Cheque No	Payee-	Total £
002348	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 25 th September	942.29
002348	J Irons – clerk's expenses (see attached sheet) September – October (including clerk's pension return [£210.89] to be paid online on 23 rd October) *	284.29
002349	J Hawkridge - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 25 th September	229.80
002350	S Hawkridge - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 25 th September	211.68
002351	HMRC – tax & NI Sept - Oct	87.84
002352	PKF Littlejohn LLP – external audit 2019/20	240.00
	TOTAL	1995.90

*clerk's expenses comprise the following:

Shardlow to Stenson Fields & return	£18.20
Home allowance (£24 per 4-weekly)	£24.00
4 books x 12 postage stamps 2 nd class	£31.20
Clerk's pension return in October paid online personally	£210.89
Total	£284.29

NB. The pension contribution is incorrect, it should read £251.71 therefore the clerk will add the difference (£40.82) to next month's expense reimbursement.

(b) Income – none

(c) Current Account Bank balance as at 25th September £ 10653.19

(d) as permitted under Financial Rules the clerk visited Cllrs Fellows and Baker on 19th October to obtain signatures on cheques. Hence the above were approved retrospectively.

1372/20 **TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK AND REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr Rogers received an email from the PPG's chairman stating that the Sinfin surgery will reopen in November. 7 new admin and reception staff have been recruited along with 2 new GPs. A new procedure has been implemented for patients visiting Littleover but not Sinfin, which entails the patient texting name and DOB before entry. Cllr Rogers will ask the PPG chairman of the new procedure at Sinfin.

The chairman thanked Cllr Rogers for his report.

1373/20 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION** Clerk had circulated recent DALC newsletters and Coronavirus updates received through DALC's Zoom meetings.

1374/20 **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;
- Site visit and quote from the contractor regarding Ledbury Chase fencing (if received);
- To discuss further the budget and increase in the precept for next year.

1375/20 **Date of next meeting** – The next meeting will be held in the same format on Thursday 19th November 2020 at 7.15pm, via the Zoom conference-call facility.

The Chairman thanked attendees for their input and closed the meeting at 8.23pm.

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