

STENSON FIELDS PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL REMOTE MEETING held on THURSDAY 19th November 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 K Butterworth
In attendance: - Steve Hawksworth (lengthsman), DCllr D Shepherd, CCllr N Atkin and J Irons (clerk).

1376/20 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** None

1377/20 **VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS:** to receive both CCllr Atkin's and DCllr Shepherd's reports later if/when they participate (which they did – see below).

1378/20 **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS:** None

1379/20 **PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

- No residents or police officers took part.
- One of our lengthsman in attendance, Steve Hawkridge, gave his report at minute 1384/20 (c) below.

1380/20 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 22nd October 2020.** After a minor amendment these were approved and accepted as a true record and will be signed by the chairman at the next available opportunity.

1381/20 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

The chairman did not attend the recent IGV meeting although the vice-chair did and he reported:

Chris Nash is leaving SDDC and will be replaced by Steve Sutton; on behalf of the parish council the vice-chair gave his thanks to Mr Nash for his assistance during his tenure. The primary school and the A50 link road will be built although the latter is subject to a new business plan having been requested. It was widely recognised that additional health care facilities are required. A website will be created to circulate accurate and to dispel misleading information relating to the IGV project.

1382/20 – DCllr Shepherd joined the meeting at 7.20pm. 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 19th November 2020.

Government's Local Government Reform Proposal – Latest Situation

The previous Stenson Ward councillors' report to the Parish Council referred to the government's move regarding Local Government Reform. The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government suggested that a White Paper, "Devolution and Local Recovery" would be released in September 2020. The response from Derbyshire, High Peak, Erewash, Amber Valley and Chesterfield Borough Councils and North East Derbyshire, Derbyshire Dales and South Derbyshire District Councils and Derbyshire County Council was to commission a report into options other than become part of a unitary authority. (Derby City Council is already a unitary authority so did not participate) The report called "Vision Derbyshire" outlined an alternative to the governments' proposed reorganisation. The Secretary of State's proposal was not received with enthusiasm and a letter from him was sent to all Conservative councillors stating that there would be "No Top-down restructuring" and that reorganisation is "Not Compulsory or required". The matter was on the agenda of the SDDC Full Council

meeting where it was decided to refer the matter to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration. If changes are proposed, your councillors say that all residents should be consulted before a decision is taken. Further developments are awaited.

Infinity Garden Village

- Medical Facility and Secondary School – No representative from either the NHS Clinical Commissioning Group or Derbyshire County Council Education Department attended a recent IGV liaison meeting. Cllr Shepherd said that this is unacceptable. Whilst understanding the pressure on the NHS currently, it is expected that residents be informed whether the campaigning by SDDC Stenson Ward councillors for a new medical centre locally has been listened to. Despite opposition from Stenson Ward councillors, the new secondary school will be located off Infinity Park Way not in Stenson Ward. Transport for our children needs to be explained. A letter will be sent to both parties urging them to attend meetings to discuss their areas of expertise
- Junction with the A50 – A meeting has been held with Homes England to discuss strategy. A new business case is to be prepared and new transport modelling is being undertaken.
- Design Input – Opinions are being sought regarding what is required to accommodate the nine Garden Village principles.
- Roads and the effect on Stenson Fields and Sinfin – Sinfin Ward councillors expressed concern regarding traffic generated by the development and its effect on Sinfin; a Stenson Fields parish councillor also voiced concerns about traffic and any effects on Stenson Fields. Cllr Shepherd said that he and former councillor, Cllr Chahal, opposed the development on the basis that the infrastructure is totally inadequate to support it. He stated that it is inevitable that vehicles will adversely affect Stenson Ward and regretted the proposed road link from Stenson Road to the A38 at the Rykneld area will not be constructed in the near future i.e construction of the link will only begin when housing is built in the area.
- Section 106 requirement – Consideration should be given what we want for the Ward.

Miscellaneous

Stenson Road Estate Matters

- Horse Riding on Estate Footways - Residents have complained again that horses are using footways and forcing walkers to go onto the wet grass. This matter was first raised with the developers in 2018. The developers responded that horses are not allowed to use the footways and intend to put up notices to that effect. Cllr Singh has been contacted by the horse owners asking why South Derbyshire District Council does not allow usage as the road is very busy. The land is still in the ownership of the developers who show no interest in making the footways bridleways.
- Footway Lighting – Stenson Road Estate – Residents contacted Cllr Singh regarding concerns about inadequate footway lighting. Other residents expressed concerns that improved lighting could attract anti-social behaviour. Developers have been contacted for their view.

Other Stenson Fields Matters

- Cold Callers – After complaints from residents regarding salespersons calling during the current covid-19 pandemic, your councillors contacted the SDDC Strategic Director – Service Delivery who confirmed that: The businesses in question has a duty under the Health and Safety at Work Act to both their own employees and to the members of the public they are visiting *“to conduct this undertaking in such a way as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that persons not in this employment who may be affected are not thereby exposed to risks to their health”*. (H&SAWA section 3). Unfortunately, SDDC has limited powers to act.
- Anti-social Parking – Junction of Pilgrims Way/Grampian Way – Residents are concerned that cars are parking on footways and near to junctions. Those parking anywhere are asked to consider others, especially regarding pedestrian usage of footways.

DCllr Shepherd left the meeting at 7.30pm.

Derbyshire County Council report – CC Neil Atkin.

Cllr Atkin gave his apologies for not attending recent online meetings due to his broadband connection being unreliable.

1. Incidences of Covid-19 cases are widespread in Melbourne, Hilton, Hatton and Swadlincote.
2. Central government has given £2.1m to the county council as funding for school meal vouchers; details to follow. The cost of this to the county council amounts to c£300k per week.
3. Vision Derbyshire. As background, DCllr Shepherd commented in the last meeting: *'The plans prioritise, in an approach known as Vision Derbyshire, a commitment to work with district and borough councils to achieve the best possible deal for residents, communities and businesses. If a deal cannot be achieved with Vision Derbyshire either through all the involved councils not agreeing to the changes that must happen, or because the government requires a different solution, we will seek to establish a single unitary authority covering the whole of Derbyshire. The ambitious plans also include the establishment of an East Midlands Combined Authority to ensure the region is on an equal footing to West Midlands and Greater Manchester'*. Also, see DCllr Shepherd's report above for more on this.

Cllr Atkin explained that this devolution has not progressed recently due to Covid-19. District council's Scrutiny Committee will meet to discuss next week, to which the public can listen online.

4. Due to the fatal road accident at Wragley Way a few months ago improvements to the junction will be made; Highways awaits a police report first. Repairs will be made to Grampian Way's chevron markings. Stenson village will benefit from a pavement extension, from the canal to the Bubble Inn entrance although much depends on cost. Also, installation of streetlights at the Bubble Inn's entrance has been approved. The western hedge at the railway bridge on Stenson Road will be cut soon. Steve Hawkrige asked for hedges on Stenson Road near the Bubble to be cut; Cllr Atkin will speak to the owner.
5. The contract with bin collection contractors will expire next year; however, county council awaits government legislation before it makes any changes to the fleet. This may take 2-3 years.
6. Cllr Richardson raised the matter of errant car parking at the pub. Cllr Atkin replied saying county has allowed parking on the highway while the pub is closed. The pub owners are considering buying the grassed area in front of the coffee shop although this requires planning permission.

1383/20 CLERK'S REPORT

1. Clerk has worked through the website Accessibility Report from the developer and has completed the updates on the website.
2. The clerk sent a signatory mandate to the bank (which the bank requested) only to be told that an internet banking mandate is required. One was sent several months ago although the bank lost it. Clerk retained a copy of this and has returned this to the bank.
3. The 2019/20 year-end notice of audit is ready for our lengthsmen to display on notice boards and the clerk to insert onto the council webpage.
4. Summer Play Scheme: events & days cancelled this year can be rolled over to next year which was **agreed**.

1384/20 Matters for Decision or Discussion:

a) Police Issues/Speed Limits/Road Safety.

CREST traffic enforcement teams have recently attended Wragley Way and Merevale Way; the chairman is pleased to see more of their presence but thought the parish council should maintain pressure on them to continue. A new police officer is due to patrol our area; Cllr Lisewski wondered if this is to be a temporary or permanent post.

b) Saxon Gate at Newton Village Development, Stenson Road. Cllr Lisewski highlighted the dismay of some residents over poor street lighting. The chairman noted that this is the responsibility of the developers. Cllr Richardson rued that the balancing pond still has a low water level; clerk to ask DCllr Shepherd to investigate, preferably before the site is adopted by district council.

c) Lengthsmen Scheme. Steve Hawkrige was pleased to report that no household rubbish had been deposited in waste bins on Wragley Way for 2 weeks. This may have been due to parish notices fitted to them discouraging the practice. However, bins behind the school and on the ASDA link path still attract this waste and need notices.

Graffiti at Goathland Park needs removing and the hinge on the park's gate needs replacing; clerk to remind SDDC. There were 3 instances of fly-tipping recently at the Devil's Triangle, near the wooded area off Stenson Road, 2 of which have been removed by the Clean Team. Discarded items include garden trimmings and a waste cart (which still remains).

The district council dustcart has not collected contaminated egg & pizza boxes from waste bins; these should be deposited in black bags. Clerk to ask the district depot if it will place notices on bins to reinforce this message. Jane Hawkrige reported a missing dog waste bin lid on Goathland Road to the clerk who has since asked SDDC to replace it.

Steve requested a new waste cart for collection of rubbish to which members **agreed**.

The chairman thanked Steve for his report and both he and Jane for their continuing excellent service.

d) Environmental issues (Biffa, trees, bulbs, bins etc). The dead tree on the ASDA link path on Glendon Rd is still missing; as there was no reply to last month's enquiry clerk will ask SDDC again 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 locations of the proposed gates and fencing at the Ledbury Chase play area. Clerk received permission from SDDC' finance department but may need the same from its Cultural Services section which we now await.

f) to review the budget and consider the grant claims for the forthcoming year. **Resolved:** a prospective figure of c£31k to be claimed on the precept which can be finalised in the next 2 months.

1385/20 PLANNING

To consider planning application

DMPA/2020/1032 - The erection of a first floor side extension over existing garage, garage conversion, loft conversion (including raising the ridge height of the roof), new lean-to canopy to front and new raised flat roof to existing rear extension with new roof lantern at 5 Pilgrims Way, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** no objection.

DMPA/2020/1140 - The removal of existing conservatory and the erection of extensions at 9 Tavistock Close, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** no objection.

Decision. DMPA/2020/0954 - the erection of a side extension at 11, Quick Hill Road, Stenson Fields. **Approved subject to conditions**

Consultation enquiries with SDDC - planning permission for an extension 96 Beaufort Road; SDDC confirm that the works at the property in question fall within the statutory limits for permitted development. In the circumstances, no further action is possible.

A garage conversion at 9 Fox Close, apparently without an application; we await an update from SDDC.

1386/20 Finance

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

Cheque No	Payee-	Total £
002353	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 23 rd October	823.49
002353	J Irons – clerk's expenses October – November (including clerk's pension return [£216.72] to be paid online on 20 th November) and underpayment of £40.82 in last month's contribution*	299.74
002354	J Hawkrige - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 23 rd October	169.35
002355	S Hawkrige - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 23 rd October	178.07
002356	HMRC –J Irons' NI Oct - Nov	49.08
002357	Town and Parish Council Websites – accessibility report	120.00
	TOTAL	1639.73

*clerk's expenses comprise the following:

<i>Shardlow to Stenson Fields & return</i>	<i>£18.20</i>
<i>Home allowance (£24 per 4-weekly)</i>	<i>£24.00</i>
<i>Underpayment of last month's pension contribution</i>	<i>£40.82</i>
<i>Clerk's pension return in November paid online personally</i>	<i>£216.72</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>£299.74</i>

- (b) Income – none
(c) Current Account Bank balance as at 26th October £ 9883.87

(d) as permitted under Financial Rules the clerk visited Cllrs Fellows and Baker on 20th November to obtain signatures on cheques.

1387/20 TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK AND REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There was no PPG meeting this month but Cllr Rogers has gleaned information from other sources. The Sinfin surgery will reopen on 23rd November with a new face-to-face system for those patients unable to register online. 5 new reception staff have been recruited.

The chairman thanked Cllr Rogers for his report.

1388/20 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION Clerk had circulated recent DALC newsletters and Coronavirus updates received through DALC's Zoom meetings.

1389/20 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;
- Update on site visit and SDDC permission regarding Ledbury Chase fencing (if any);
- To discuss further the budget and level of precept for next year.

1390/20 Date of next meeting – The next meeting will be held in the same format on Thursday 17th December 2020 at 7.15pm, via the Zoom conference-call facility.

The Chairman thanked attendees for their input and closed the meeting at 8.31pm.

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