

STENSON FIELDS PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL REMOTE MEETING held on THURSDAY 17th December 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), Cllr N Atkin and J Irons (clerk).

1391/20 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** None

1392/20 **VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS:** to receive DCllr Shepherd's report later if/when he participates.

1393/20 **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS:** None

1394/20 **PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

- No residents or police officers took part.
- One of our lengthsman in attendance, Steve Hawkridge, gave his report at minute 1398/20 (c) below.

Derbyshire County Council report – Cllr Neil Atkin.

1. Cllr Atkin thanked council for applying and receiving monies he provided from his Members' Community Grant, for which all 6 parish councils in his ward applied and received. He looks forward to seeing the fencing at Ledbury Chase, once installed, on which part of the grant will be spent.
2. Incidences of Avian bird flu cases have appeared throughout the district; in Radbourne birds have died. Cllr Atkin urged all bird owners to be vigilant.
3. He regrets to inform members that Highways will not act upon the recent accident on Stenson Road (near Merevale Way) because a drink-driver was responsible which the police are investigating. The driver was arrested. Cllr Atkin continues to lobby for the installation of a pedestrian crossing on this road.
4. Tier 3 of the Covid-19 restrictions continue in force in Derbyshire up until 23rd December and after 27th December, after which they will be reviewed. County council staff presently work from home so any urgent enquiries should be directed to Cllr Atkin in the first instance.
5. At district council one member of the Conservative Group has been suspended. Six more have split from the Group to become independent. Of these, 2 have since been suspended. An investigation is ongoing therefore Cllr Atkin cannot make further comment at this time.
6. He asked for any enquiries made to district's planning department to include a 'read & receipt' request, due to some emails having not been received by officers.
7. Other parish councils in his ward list the Zoom login details on the agenda and he considered this may be applied by this council; however, members rejected the idea.

Cllr Lisewski reiterated that a speed limit on Stenson Road is essential and is upset that some residents have a perception of the parish council not doing enough in this regard or even hindering the process. Cllr Atkin assured that he will continue to keep lobbying the issue at county level.

The chairman gave Cllr Atkin his thanks on behalf of members for the Community Grant donation and for his input during this year.

Finally, Cllr Atkin wished all attendees a safe Christmas and a prosperous New Year after which he left the meeting at 7.27pm.

1395/20 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19th November 2020.**

These were approved and accepted as a true record (pp Cllr Lisewski, seconded Cllr Baker) and will be signed by the chairman at the next available opportunity.

1396/20 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

The chairman attended both a remote school governors' meeting recently and the site visit at Ledbury Chase last week regarding installation of new fencing.

1397/20 **CLERK'S REPORT**

1. Clerk ordered a new waste orderly barrow and single brake unit for use by the lengthsman, delivery of which Steve confirmed.
2. As mentioned above clerk secured a grant of £2043 from DCC towards the proposed new fencing at Ledbury Chase play area. Members thanked both them and Cllr Atkin for this generous contribution. Recognition for this will be inserted on the website once the project has been completed.
3. We still await the bank's completion of our application to use internet banking.
4. Members nominated our chairman for an award offered by Census 2021. This is recognition for those people who have gone the extra mile for their community. Cllr Fellows was a founding member of the parish council in 1983 and has sat as chairman for 37 years for most of that time. He also spent spells during the period as the vice-chairman. If successfully awarded he will receive a bespoke purple plaque. Clerk to send the nomination.

1398/20 **Matters for Decision or Discussion:**

a) Police Issues/Speed Limits/Road Safety.

Cllr Lisewski recommended that council send its thanks to both the SNT and CREST enforcement teams for their efforts in reducing crime and speeding traffic; clerk to arrange. He will attend the next online SNT meeting in January. Cllr Lisewski said that residents are annoyed at the continuing incidences of speeding cars, especially considering the recent accidents at Wragley Way and Merevale Way. Cllr Richardson suggested that council publish our campaigning on the website; clerk to create a draft and circulate to members. Also, clerk to ask DCllr Shepherd to publish similar in his Broadside newsletter.

Cllr Baker highlighted the poor visibility for drivers on Stenson Road, both near the balancing pond and at the junction of Pilgrims Way. Members considered the installation of pedestrian signs may help residents navigate the crossing of the road at these 2 points. Clerk to contact Highways over these issues.

Cllr Lisewski will attend the Repton Area Forum to be held remotely on 21st January 2021, as mentioned above.

b) Saxon Gate at Newton Village Development, Stenson Road. Cllr Richardson rued that the balancing pond still has a low water level; and flooding is a perennial problem on the footpath near the railway line. Cllr Lisewski is conscious that, after many requests, we have still not seen the fire risk assessment for the new Community Centre. Clerk to ask DCllr Shepherd to pursue these items.

c) Lengthsman Scheme. Steve Hawkrige reported that gravel falling from lorries is abundant at Stenson Fields Farm, which should be collected from the lorries' contractors. Also, leaves accumulate in the gutters here. Clerk to ask Highways to address these items.

The Goathland Park waste bin still has its lid missing; clerk to remind SDDC to replace it.

Clerk to send Steve the 'no Domestic rubbish to be placed in bins' notice for attachment to bins. This especially after district council claimed to the clerk that it will soon canvass residents in the area to explain the rules over contaminated waste and if any such waste appears in green bins it will attach a notice with guidance notes. This has yet to happen.

Steve requested 2 litter pickers/ grabbers; clerk to ask SDDC. He thanked council for the new waste cart.

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). nothing further.

e) To consider locations of the proposed gates and fencing/ play equipment at the Ledbury Chase play area. The chairman and clerk met district councillors at Ledbury Chase last week to discuss the possibility of installing fencing around the play area. However, 2 of the district councillors showed reservations over this and may alternatively

prefer to see new play equipment. We await district's comments in due course and in the meantime clerk to circulate a plan of the site to members.

f) to review the budget and consider the grant claims for the forthcoming year. **Resolved:** a figure of c£32k will be claimed on next year's precept, the form to be signed next month.

1399/20 PLANNING

To consider planning application

DMPA/2020/1148 - The erection of an extension and the creation of an additional parking space at 2 Hunters Croft, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** no objection.

Decisions:

DMPA/2020/0603 - Certificate of Lawfulness for the proposed change of use from dwellinghouse in use class C3(a) to dwelling-house in use class C3(b) at 6 Mallow Close, Stenson Fields. **Certificate Granted.**

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. **Approved subject to conditions**

DMPA/2020/1002- The erection of a single storey rear extension at 2 Northfield, Stenson Fields. **Approved subject to conditions**

Consultation enquiries with SDDC:

1. A garage conversion at 9 Fox Close, apparently without an application; yet to be publicised although when made official it will have reference DMPA/2020/1279. Clerk asked planning today whether it has validated this and awaits its reply.
2. A new building in the back garden 12 Tavistock Close: district council advise that this is within permitted development rights.

3 Two felled silver birch trees near to Tedworth Avenue, on Wragley Way. The chairman, 2 district councillors and the clerk visited this site last Thursday. One of the district councillors, the Cultural Services Manager, assured that he would investigate the issue. Another district employee, the Communities Team Manager, noted in an email that *'its Planning Department informed the resident that he would not need permission from the district council to carry out any works as there were no Tree Preservation Orders on the trees and they were not in a conservation area. It is clearly a mistake on our behalf and our Cultural Services Team have liaised with the Planning Team to ensure this will not occur again'*.

That said, clerk to ask the Cultural Services Manager how he is proceeding with investigating this and what measures, if any, are proposed to ensure the problem is not repeated. Also, we wish to know whether SDDC has registered this strip of land and seek assurances over registration (or otherwise) of open land generally in our area. In addition, a similar issue arose at 166 Wragley Way some time ago. The district council tree officer is aware and has been asked (internally) whether he will replace these silver birches as part of its tree-planting regime.

4. Clerk to ask SDDC again whether it proposes to act over the Nac Shak signage that appeared on the Grampian Way roundabout recently, without planning consent. It appears that it has operated without a licence for a change of use; SDDC informed the clerk a while ago that the application was invalid. Hence, clerk to ask for an update/ explanation of this.

5. Clerk to inform Steffan Saunders, new head of planning at district council, of our chagrin over missing/ late notifications on its planning portal.

1400/20 Finance

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

Cheque No	Payee-	Total £
002358	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 20 th November	823.49
002358	J Irons – clerk's expenses November – December (including clerk's pension return [£216.72] to be paid online on 18 th December)*	277.12
002359	J Hawkrige - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 20 th November*	238.36
002360	S Hawkrige - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 20 th November	177.37
002361	HMRC –J Irons' NI Nov - Dec	49.08
002362	Biffa – waste collection Dec 2020 – March 2021	374.71
002363	Glasdon UK – new waste street-cart for lengthsman	965.79
	TOTAL	2905.92

*clerk's expenses comprise the following:

<i>Shardlow to Stenson Fields & return (twice)</i>	<i>£36.40</i>
<i>Home allowance (£24 per 4-weekly)</i>	<i>£24.00</i>
<i>Clerk's pension return in November paid online personally</i>	<i><u>£216.72</u></i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>£277.12</i>

Jane Hawkridge's pay cheque comprises the following:

<i>Wage during the period shown</i>	<i>£177.37</i>
<i>Durable work boots</i>	<i>£ 60.99</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>£238.36</i>

(b) Income – DCC grant towards the Ledbury Chase fence/ eqpt on 3rd December £ 2043.00

(c) Current Account Bank balance as at 26th November £ 7017.56

(d) as permitted under Financial Rules the clerk visited Cllrs Fellows and Baker on 18th December to obtain signatures on cheques.

1401/20 TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK AND REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Rogers explained that 2 new full-time GP's have been appointed at the Hollybrook surgery and a vacancy exists for another. The telephone booking system is experiencing problems; up to 10 patients are allowed on the call list but the 11th onwards must wait for a slot. The surgery has been sending some patients to the Sinfin practice but this cannot handle them at present. Ordering prescriptions online is proving problematic with some orders waiting in the online review list. This can cause delays at the chemist on collection; however, the fault is being investigated.

On another note, Cllr Rogers was concerned about planting/ removal of trees at Infinity Garden Village. Cllr Lisewski replied saying that a plan exists to keep both trees and hedges here.

The chairman thanked Cllr Rogers for his report.

1402/20 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION Clerk had circulated recent DALC newsletters and Coronavirus updates received through DALC's Zoom meetings and DCC news bulletins.

1403/20 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;
- Outcome of the Repton Area Forum to be held remotely on 21st January 2021;
- Update on SDDC permission (or otherwise) regarding Ledbury Chase fencing/ play eqpt (if any), tree issue at Tedworth Avenue and registration of this and other open land;
- To sign the form A precept request.

1404/20 Date of next meeting – The next meeting will be held in the same format on Thursday 21st January 2021 at 7.15pm, via the Zoom conference-call facility.

The Chairman thanked attendees for their input and, considering the traumas and difficulties of this year, and wished all members a safe and happy Christmas and New Year. He closed the meeting at 9.08pm.

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