

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD REMOTELY ON THURSDAY
15th April 2021 AT 7.15pm**

Owing to the continuing extenuating circumstances surrounding Coronavirus meetings are held via a Microsoft Teams 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:

Present: - Cllrs C Fellows, (Chair), R Lisewski, P Richardson, P Bonnell and I Baker.
In attendance: - S Hawwkridge (lengthsman) J Irons (clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everybody

1. Apologies

DCllr D Shepherd and CCllr N Atkin; both were attending a full council meeting in Swadlincote.

2. Chairman's Report 2021

The past year has been an unprecedented time with stringent coronavirus regulations in force and everyone having to deal with life in a completely different way. Hopefully, things will improve and gradually get back to normal in the coming months. In the meantime, the work of the Parish Council has continued. This includes raising issues relating to planning, road safety, policing, the provision of play equipment and safer play areas and policies designed to improve the environment.

Safe Crossing Place, Stenson Rd

Parish Councillors, District Councillors, County Councillors and residents have been calling for a safe crossing for many years and it is regretted that Derbyshire County Council continue to rule out the provision of a Pedestrian Crossing and a reduction in the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph. This despite the fact that that the majority of the facilities, including Stenson Fields Primary School, can only be reached, from the Saxon Gate and Newton Village area, by crossing the increasingly busy Stenson Rd. Repeated requests have been met with constant refusals by the County Council and there are concerns that another serious incident will occur unless a safe crossing point is provided. The campaign for a pedestrian crossing will continue.

Infinity Garden Village

Despite its Garden Village designation, the Infinity Garden Village development, adjacent to Wragley Way, will be an addition to our community, the vast majority of the residential development will be within the boundaries of our Parish. The Parish Council continues to be involved in discussions in an effort to secure the provision of community facilities within this expansion. However, more recently, concerns have arisen that funds generated by this development could again be used to benefit other communities.

Closing Statement

Finally, could I thank all Parish Councillors, our District and County Councillors and residents, for their continued help and support and Richard for his help and support as Vice Chairman. I also thank Jonathan for his support, help and service as our Clerk. Thanks also go to Jane and Steve and behalf of the Parish Council, I thank the Lengthsmen for their hard work and dedication in a job that can be difficult and frustrating.

Charles Fellows, Chairman, Stenson Fields Parish Council

3. South Derbyshire District Councillor’s Annual Report - DCllr Dave Shepherd

4. County Councillor’s Annual Report – CCllr Neil Atkin

In their absences CCllr Atkin and DCllr Shepherd sent reports prior to the meeting which will appear on the website. Although the councillors are subject to Purdah restrictions their reports have been written to be admissible.

Both sent an email to the clerk expressing their thanks to the council for its support and cooperation throughout the past year. CCllr Atkin thanked the PC for supporting him over the last four years and hopes that he will be returned on May 6th.

5. Finance Report

Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council’s bank balance as of the 30th March 2021 was £902.38 Council has asked for £32000 precept from SDDC for the forthcoming year. Copies of the clerk’s financial statement had been circulated to councillors to view prior to the meeting and a copy appears on our website.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.25pm and proceeded immediately with the Ordinary Monthly Parish Council meeting, the minutes of which are separately recorded.

SignedCllr C Fellows (Chairman)