

STENSON FIELDS PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH COUNCIL REMOTE MEETING held on THURSDAY 24th June 2021 at 7.15pm

Owing to the extenuating circumstances surrounding the coronavirus this meeting was held via a MS 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 and will continue to use video-conferencing until the lifting of Covid restrictions.

Those members that participated formed a quorum comprising:

Participants: - Cllrs C Fellows (Chair), R Lisewski, P Richardson, K Butterworth

In attendance: - DCllr D Shepherd, CCllr N Atkin, Steve Hawkridge (lengthsman) and J Irons (clerk).

1485/21 **Members absent the last meeting to pledge to abide by the code and to confirm any changes to their Registers of Interests, if applicable.** Cllr Butterworth duly agreed and declared no changes to his ROI.

1486/21 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Cllrs I Baker, P Bonnell and K Rogers. Members agreed to their absences.

1487/21 **VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS:** None

1488/21 **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS:** None

1489/21 **To determine which items if any from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.** None

1490/21 **PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

- No residents or police officers took part.
- DCllr Shepherd attended and kindly sent a report to the clerk after the meeting (see below).
- One of our lengthsman in attendance, Steve Hawkridge, gave his report at minute 1494/21 (c) below.

County councillor Neil Atkin

1. Earlier this evening CCllr Atkin had emailed updates to the clerk and members on the new Freeport scheme, bus strategy and theft incidents at Weston. The Freeport project is undergoing a review of its terms of reference and a consultation over both this and the bus strategy will follow. Grant funding for CCTV cameras is available should council encounter certain incidents of theft in our area.

Steve Hawksworth has been asked by residents whether one or two public benches may be installed on Wragley Way. CCllr Atkin may be able to help fund these should council decide to fit them; if so, CCllr Atkin will need an estimate of the cost. Steve also asked when overgrown hedges will be trimmed on Stenson Road, some of which are a danger to the public; he believes the rural areas need trimming over which CCllr Atkin will enquire. Steve mentioned the nuisance tree roots on the pavement at Quantock Close; clerk to remind Highways again.

Complaints have been received regarding car-parking on the bends on Goathland Road at school pick-up and drop-off times. CCllr Atkin advised that the school has a travel plan although fears that this is being abused. A resident enquired when/ if a pedestrian crossing will be installed on Stenson Road, near to Saxon Gate; CCllr Atkin has replied to say that we are pursuing this despite Highways' insistence that this site does not warrant it.

Cllr Lisewski rued the errant parking next to the post box at the Bubble Inn and suggested that double-yellow lines might deter this practice. CCllr Atkin assured that both the police and Highways are assessing this.

After being met with refusals from Highways and SDDC the clerk asked both district and county councillor if any action can be taken to clear the fly-tipped waste on the embankment at the south side of Stenson Road. CCllr Atkin suggested that this may be a matter for Highways England; clerk to contact.

Report on Special Infinity Garden Village Liaison Group - 13:00 12th May 2021

Background to Medical Provision – Stenson Ward

Parish Councillors will know of the concern SDDC (South Derbyshire District Council) Stenson Ward Councillors viewed the spending of £261,646 at Hollybrook Surgery, Littleover. The money was generated by the development on Stenson Road and was spent by Derbyshire NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on the Surgery in Derby. There has also been a steady trickle of complaints regarding the Sinfin Surgery on Arleston Lane regarding the difficulty in obtaining appointments etc. On 17th January 2018 Cllrs Chahal and Shepherd took the matter to SDDC Overview and Scrutiny Committee and explained in robust terms the residents' and councillors' disappointment. Stenson Ward residents are expected to attend the Hollybrook Surgery which would require two bus journeys there and the same to return to Stenson Fields. Some residents have been forced to take taxis at a cost of £20. Cllrs Chahal and Shepherd liaised with Derby City Sinfin Ward Councillors and arranged to meet with the Senior Team at the Arleston Lane Surgery to express their concerns. The meeting took place on 3rd July 2018 and resulted in the Senior Primary Care Commissioning Officer stating that our area is a priority for funding. At a meeting on 5th February 2020, Cllr Shepherd asked the Derby and Derbyshire CCG representative if in view of the statement of the Senior Primary Care Commissioning Manager regarding our area being a priority, that we will get improved medical provision. The response was that a feasibility study was underway and that a decision had yet to be made. On 21st February 2020, the local press reported "Health Chiefs unlikely to ask for a new GP Surgery for Infinity Garden Village". Stenson Ward Councillors requested a further meeting with the CCG which was agreed for 12th May 2021. Prior to this, the local press reported "Early plans for new super Health Centre in Sinfin".

Meeting with CCG 12th May 2021

At the 12th May meeting, the Derby and Derbyshire CCG representative said that the feasibility study was now concluded, decided that the area needs a new medical facility and that Arleston Lane Surgery needs replacing. The rooms are small and have no natural light. Several options are being considered including a full refurbishment of the existing building or replacement with a new building. An Expression of Interest was submitted and was looked on favourably. Unfortunately, this is not the end of the saga, a business case must be compiled to indicate if the proposal is viable. When asked how long the process will take if the business case is accepted, the answer was three years!

Conclusion

The campaign to get increased medical facilities for the Stenson and Sinfin Wards must continue. We have been told that the area was a priority for funding, then that health chiefs were unlikely to ask for a new surgery and now we are told that there are plans for a health centre.

Meeting Regarding Anti-social Behaviour at the SF Community Centre - 24th May 2021

Climbing on to the Roof

A resident reported that youths had climbed on to the roof of the Community Centre. He said that they were trespassing and putting themselves in danger. South Derbyshire District Council sent a workman who applied anti-climb paint to the appropriate areas. This has prevented a repeat of the roof being accessed via the fence by the bin store. The meeting agreed that anti-social behaviour should be reported to the police via the 101 number which does not require the complainants to identify themselves. The SDDC Anti-social Behaviour Officer said that she is happy to receive complaints and is willing for her SDDC contact number to be publicised.

Action – SDDC Services Officer be asked to provide a notice for display at the Community Centre informing residents that anti-social behaviour should be reported to the police via 101 and adding the SDDC ASB officer's contact details.

Action – SDDC Cultural Services Manager to be asked to look at the fence to find a solution to prevent it being used to access the roof.

Footballs kicked against the Community Centre wall facing the Public Open Space

This is a perennial problem where a wall faces an area where football is played. The fascia board has also sustained damage. The Safer Neighbourhoods Officer said that she had received complaints regarding the matter. Residents neighbouring the Community Centre/POS are annoyed by the constant thump, thump, thump when attempting to relax in their homes. Residents on Chartley Road experienced the same problem by balls constantly rebounding off the sub-station. The developers resolved the problem by constructing a bund which discouraged the activity.

Action – Barratt Housing representative said that he will investigate the provision of a bund against the wall and ask the maintenance company, Premier Estates to investigate additional planting.

Damage to the Memorial Tree

Sadly, the tree to mark the tragic passing of a young resident has been vandalised. The community were pleased when the developers agreed to acquire the tree and plant it at no cost. The family who requested the memorial tree have also asked if the CCTV at the Community Centre could be extended to cover the tree.

Action – The Barratt House Representative said that he will investigate the provision of a tree guard to protect the tree.

Action – The SDDC Officer to investigate the extension of the CCTV to include the memorial tree.

Proposal for a Change of Use of a Dwelling House to a Care Home

An application from Haven Care Group has been made regarding the intended use as a children's care home. Residents contacted SDDC Councillors expressing concerns regarding the suitability of the dwelling. Cllrs Shepherd and Singh visited homes in the area and found there was considerable trepidation regarding the application although one resident was in favour. The Planning Department was asked to provide more information and a company brochure was supplied which did not provide much information. Cllrs were asked for the matter to be decided by the Planning Committee rather than being delegated to officers. This was done and a site visit has also been requested.

Maintenance of the Public Open Spaces (PoS) on the New Estate – Stenson Road

Residents contacted Stenson Ward Councillors complaining about the lack of grass cutting and weeds in the gutters on the new estate. Cllrs Shepherd and Singh contacted Premier Estates who took responsibility for maintenance on 1st June 2012. They promised that the grass would be cut during the week, and it appear that this was done. Councillors contacted SDDC to see if the contract for gutter sweeping had been given to them. SDDC do not have the contract, so Derbyshire County Council Highways Department was contacted as they have now adopted the roads on the estate.

SDDC Civic Council & Annual General Meetings

Cllr Kevin Richards was elected as Leader of the Council and Cllr Malcolm Gee was elected as Chair of the Council.

Cllrs D Shepherd & L Singh, South Derbyshire District Councillors – Stenson Ward

Cllr Richardson asked about two issues at Saxon Gate; the low level of water in the balancing pond, and the overhanging weeds etc on the footpaths. DCllr Shepherd thought the low water level normal but it will be addressed further when the estate is adopted. He will ask the new grounds contractor (Premier Estates) to assist with the latter.

The county and district councillors left the meeting at 8.11pm.

1491/21 **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5th May 2021.**

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.

1492/21 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

The chairman and vice-chairman attended the recent IGV meeting of which DCllr Shepherd reported on earlier. Cllr Lisewski considered there to be a lack of communication (such as press releases and website facility) from the contributors.

1493/21 **CLERK'S REPORT**

1. Clerk received 2 requests for grass cutting; one at Earls Drive and the other at Fox Close. SDDC said it has staffing issues now so strimming and spraying services have been reduced. Once it is back up to speed it will trim and spray throughout the district.

2. clerk reported following on 7th May to Highways:

a) Reference number F810228: *cars are regularly parked on the pavement at Stenson Fields Farm, Stenson Road. Most of these cars park on the dropped kerb and hinder pedestrian access The police were informed but took no action.* Highways replied to say that these *should be reported to the Civil Enforcement Officer. An offender needs to be reported at the time of obstruction to the Civil Parking Enforcement team.* Clerk to contact this team to ask if it will investigate (especially car transporters that also park on the Grampian Way island).

1494/21 **Matters for Decision or Discussion:**

a) Police Issues/Speed Limits/Road Safety.

Cllr Lisewski is dismayed that little or no police presence is evident in the area. Clerk to write to the new Police & Crime Commissioner with a request for this accompanied by a site visit if possible.

Clerk reported a serious accident involving 3 cars at Wragley Way & Arleston Lane to Highways and asked whether it would implement measures to reduce such occurrences in future. We await a reply although CClr Atkin was copied into the email and so is aware.

b) Saxon Gate at Newton Village Development, Stenson Road. Covered above and in DCllr Shepherd's report.

c) Lengthsmen Scheme. Steve Hawkridge noted the following:

- broken glass and discarded bottles are rife throughout the area;
- Hinges on the waste bin at Goathland Road are faulty and need replacing; clerk has informed SDDC three times and will send them a stern reminder;
- Clerk to ask SDDC again for a graffiti-removal kit;
- Steve confirmed that he sent the DBS barring forms for both his and Jane's checks.

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

d) Environmental issues (Biffa, trees, bulbs, bins, etc);

Clerk reported a non-collection by Biffa which should have taken place on 24th May.

Biffa replied saying that a *'service has been confirmed on 31/05/21 lifting 110kg. As you are on a trade waste contract, your invoice is produced over the amount of waste accumulated in the period, not by lift.*

If there is ever a missed or an incomplete service, we would either recover the service before the next service day or complete a full site clearance on the following service, with the additional waste being removed at no additional charge. Therefore, there is no credit due at this time'.

Clerk to confirm Biffa's collection times during school holidays.

Clerk received a reply from SDDC stating its short-staffing problem and hence the sparse grass-cutting service.

However, clerk to push again for this to be undertaken.

e) installation of Ledbury Chase play-equipment. SDDC agreed to the proposal suggested by council for buying 2 x slides and one set of swings. The quote was **agreed** by members therefore clerk to obtain a pro-forma invoice from the contractor, which is needed as proof for a funding claim from SDDC.

f) Cllr Rogers to confirm whether he will continue to report on the PPG meetings. **Resolved:** to allow Cllr Rogers an exemption and agreed to his absences from meetings for the foreseeable future.

g) budget review, which included audited figures for 2020/21. **Resolved:** members were satisfied with the breakdown and projection for this year as it stands presently.

h) to sign the SDDC s136 concurrent functions grant form for year 2020/21. Clerk visited the chairman on 25th June for his signature on the form, which the clerk also duly signed and submitted to district council.

1495/21 **PLANNING**

To consider planning applications.

DMPA/2021/0668 - Change of use from **dwelling-house** (use class C3) to care home (use class C2) at 4 Padstow Close, Stenson Fields – asked for extn on 6th June. Resolved: objection on the following grounds: *'The application is*

an unreasonable development for affected Padstow Close residents, if approved. Access to the proposed development is via a shared driveway with other properties. This could restrict visitors', employees', and owners' ability to park vehicles. Access proves difficult at times, caused by vehicles parked partially on the public footpath, on a narrow section of public highway. It increases the risk to those pedestrians navigating an insufficient space. This proposed development could seriously impact on EMERGENCY VEHICLES needing access to attend a property.

Also, we question the rationale of one WC, a bathroom and shower for a six-bedroom care home; and three parking spaces for staff and visitors which is hardly sufficient for residents and staff. We suggest this gets inspection by the CQC prior to approval/ rejection.

Hence, at present this development application is unacceptable.

DMPA/2021/0786 - The erection of a two-bedroom bungalow at Land adjacent to 7 Tay Close, Stenson Fields.

Resolved: objection on the following grounds: *We believe this sets a precedent for building extensions in gardens. We are also concerned about the ownership of the land and think this should be investigated further. Vehicle access could be impaired due to this being a cul-de-sac.*

DMPA/2021/0806 - Retrospective application for the formation of a vehicular access and a hard surface at 3 Lundie Close, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** no objection.

DMPA/2021/0832 - Amended scheme to previously approved ref DMPA/2020/1264 for the erection of a two-storey front and side extension at 24 Templar Close, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** no objection.

DMPA/2021/0719- -The demolition of existing garage and erection of new garage and front porch at 14 Jarvis Road, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** no objection.

Decisions.

DMPA/2021/0565 - erection of an extension at 4 Silverton Drive, Stenson Fields. Approved subject to conditions.

DMPA/2021/0439 - erection of extensions at 17 Nevis Close, Stenson Fields. Approved subject to conditions.

1496/21 Finance for payment

(a) Accounts for Payment were approved for payment (via internet bank transfer):

Reference	Payee-	Total £
24 th June	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 7 th May	848.24
24 th June	J Irons – clerk's expenses May-June *	24.00
24 th June	J Hawkridge - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 7 th May (including holiday pay)	453.31
24 th June	S Hawkridge – Lengthsman pay 4 weeks 7 th May (including holiday pay)	452.31
Reference	Payee-	Total £
24 th June	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 5 th June	848.24
24 th June	J Irons – clerk's expenses May-June (including expenses) *	42.20
24 th June	J Hawkridge - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 5 th June	222.52
24 th June	S Hawkridge – Lengthsman pay 4 weeks 5 th June (including expenses) *	273.69
24 th June	HMRC –employee's tax & NI May – June	150.16
24 th June	DCC - clerk's pension return June	447.70
24 th June	Biffa – waste collection June to September	506.90
24 th June	Town and Parish Council Websites – website hosting 2021/22	202.00
	TOTAL	4471.27

*clerk's expenses comprise the following:

Shardlow to Stenson Fields & return (to obtain the chairman's signature on the SDDC concurrent functions form)

£18.20

Home allowance (£24 per 4-weekly x 2)

£48.00

TOTAL: £66.20

*S Hawkridge's expenses comprise the following:

Gloves	£4.00
Secateurs	£2.99
Fixtures	£3.98
	£10.97

(b)	Income – cancellation of historic cheques	£	750.80
(c)	Bank balance as at 7 th May 2021	£	10574.58

1497/21 **TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK AND REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**
None.

1498/21 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION** Clerk had circulated recent DALC newsletters and Coronavirus updates received through DALC’s Zoom meetings.

1499/21 **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;
- Cllrs Rogers and GD Singh to pledge to abide by the code and to confirm any changes to their Registers of Interests, if applicable;
- To discuss possible installation of one or two public benches on Wragley Way;
- To consider the removal of the Coronavirus regulation in the standing orders;
- Chairman & vice-chairman to sign their 2021/22 declarations of office.

1500/21 **Date of next meeting** –TBA although the next Council Meeting will probably be held at Stenson Fields Primary School on Thursday 22nd July 2021 at 7.15pm (easing of Covid restrictions allowing).

The Chairman thanked attendees for their input and closed the meeting at 8.53pm.

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