

STENSON FIELDS PARISH COUNCIL
**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on THURSDAY 17th February 2022 at 7.15pm in Stenson Fields
Primary School**

Participants: - C Fellows (Chair), R Lisewski, P Richardson, K Butterworth, P Bonnell and I Baker.

In attendance: - DCllr D Shepherd, Steve Hawkrige (lengthsman) and J Irons (clerk).

A minute's silence was held in remembrance of Ken Rogers, an ex-councillor who sadly passed away recently; attendees stood to pay their respects.

1568/21 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** G Dhillon Singh (holiday), CCllr Neil Atkin and DCllr Lakhvinder Singh.
Members agreed to their absences.

1569/21 **VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS:** None

1570/21 **DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS:** None

1571/21 **To determine which items if any from Part 2 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.** None

1572/21 **PUBLIC SPEAKING:**

CCllr Neil Atkin.

In his absence CCllr Atkin sent a short report to the clerk:

I have notified highways of suggested project works required in AE1 & C roads. In relation to smaller highway works I will post them on the DCC Website "Do it now" network.

Also circulated an email earlier this month highlighting the projects in Stenson Fields / Stenson now budgeted / approved by Cabinet including others in Aston Ward.

Yesterday I circulated an email on my MCLS grants; you have up to £1000 for a bench, I will arrange for the paperwork to be forwarded and the monies to be handed over.

You will also receive a share of the Platinum Jubilee Pot in April £250.

Stenson Ward South Derbyshire District Councillors' Report to Stenson Fields Parish Council for February 2022

Continuing Noise Problem at the Stenson Fields Community Centre

Several residents adjacent to the Centre are experiencing unacceptable levels of noise emitted. Stenson Ward Councillors and the Chair of the "Friends of Stenson Fields Community Centre" have held discussions with SDDC Officers but the problem remains unresolved. Further correspondence with the appropriate officers has resulted in a meeting between Senior officers, we await the results of their deliberations.

Highways Matters Raised at the Repton Area Community Meeting

Footway Blockage – Rowan Close.

After several attempts to convince Derbyshire County Council that the footway had been blocked and being told that the land belonged to the resident, they finally conceded that, whilst it is not a footway but a service strip, the obstruction should be removed. I have asked if a letter will be sent but was told that it was covered by confidentiality. I suspect they will or already have contacted the resident.

Tulla Close – Resurfacing

The County Council informed me that, whilst Broom, Nevis and Tay Closes were on the 2021 schedule for resurfacing, Tulla Close is on the 2022 schedule. It is strange that Tulla Close was not on the same schedule.

Knights Close - Derbyshire County Council still to respond

Motions to Full Council 20 th January 2022 - Votes of No Confidence

Two motions of Vote of No Confidence in the Leader of the Council, Cllr Kevin Richards and the Deputy Leader of the Council, Cllr Trevor Southerd were on the agenda of the SDDC Full Council Meeting. The motion was moved by the Leader of the Independent Group. The votes were defeated 17 against, 5 for and 14 abstentions.

Planning Application – Childrens’ Home – Padstow Close

Residents of Padstow Close contacted Cllrs Shepherd and Singh to express their concerns regarding the application for a change of use. Recognising the concerns, Stenson Ward Councillors asked for the application to be decided by the Planning Committee rather than the officers decide the matter under delegated authority. The application was recommended for acceptance by the officers and Cllr Shepherd, as a member of the Planning Committee, asked for a site visit so members could view the parking and other concerns raised by the residents. Many residents attended the meeting and Cllr Singh outlined the residents’ concerns and asked for members to refuse the application. After a well-informed debate, Cllr Shepherd moved that the officers’ recommendation to approve the application be overturned. The Planning Committee members voted unanimously to refuse permission. It remains to be seen if the applicant appeals to overturn the members decision. Stenson Ward councillors believe that a purpose-built facility is needed.

Taylor Wimpey Derby City Development (Phase 1) – Deepdale Lane

Residents raised concerns regarding mud on the road, construction lorries parked outside on the road adjacent to the site early in the morning, construction vehicles using Deepdale Lane via the canal and railway bridges at Barrow-up-on-Trent and flooding of the site. There was also concern that the development had encroached on private land. Cllrs Shepherd and Singh requested a site visit and met the Site Manager to discuss concerns. The site manager said that road sweeping will be done daily, contractors would be reminded not to access the site other than agreed by the travel plan (avoiding Deepdale Lane). The flooding of the site will be catered for by on-site SUDS. GPS has confirmed that the construction site has not extended outside the agreed site. Taylor Wimpey will also develop the site adjacent to the current site as Phase 2, this site is in South Derbyshire.

Cllrs David Shepherd and Lakhvinder Singh

DCllr Shepherd had attended the recent IGV meeting and will circulate minutes thereof soon. He then explained further points and fielded some questions and queries from members and the lengthsman:

- Cadent gas repair lorries are parked and barriers are present on Goathland Road creating obstructions; also, mud has been deposited on the road. The contractors are storing rubbish in this area although it is usually collected the next day; Steve will monitor.
- District council’s council tax levy increase will be decided next week.
- Contractor’s barriers are present in the road on Deepdale Lane around the new building site; and the sides of the road are showing effects of damage from lorries. Dave will pursue this with the builders.
- Excessive rubbish sits on Stenson Road near the railway bridge; Dave will ask the Clean Team to collect.
- DCllr Shepherd met the CEO of Premier Estates to discuss possible solutions/ reductions to the maintenance charges incurred by residents of Saxon Gate. The balancing pond has yet to be adopted by SDDC despite Dave’s persistent enquires. The district council has asked Severn Trent if it wishes to adopt it. Meanwhile, silt and weeds continue to accumulate.
- He will meet the chief executive of district council to discuss the problems at the Community Centre as highlighted in his report above. Rats are evident in this area too.
- 2 bollards have been removed at Northfield near to the pub. He will pursue the long-awaited installation of bollards on Glendon Road.
- Steve wondered if bird-repellers could be fitted to the tops of swings at Ledbury Chase to discourage their mess. However, this may prove difficult and may injure children if they clamber onto them. Steve continues to request the removal of discarded ASDA trolleys through a dedicated App.
- Cllr Lisewski invited DCllr Shepherd to the Speed Watch training to be held on 3rd March.

District Councillor Shepherd left the meeting at 8pm.

1573/21 **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th November 2021.** Once approved the chairman signed these as a true record (pp Cllr Richardson, seconded Cllr Baker).

1574/21 **CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

The chairman attended the funeral of Ken Rogers who passed away as mentioned above. He missed the IGV meeting but both the vice-chairman and DCllr Shepherd attended. Cllr Lisewski expressed his disappointment (both here and at that meeting) regarding several aspects such as the developers’ core document, absence of timescales for various targets and lack of a dedicated website. The chairman of the meeting, DCllr Peter Watson, was also critical of these failings, saying the meetings has lost focus and meaning. Barrow parish council, who were also in attendance, agreed with the sentiments.

1575/21 CLERK'S REPORT

1. Clerk received a new demand in Dec last year of £309.79, to which he replied. He has since spoken to HMRC who were most unhelpful; it seems it has mis-allocated payments made, despite all tax demands being met. Furthermore, the technician spoken to had not seen the 2 letters explaining how our payments had been made to address the periods specified by HMRC. Clerk awaits another letter and will respond accordingly.
On a similar note, clerk asked HMRC in another conversation about the VAT repayment that we await; their suggestion is that we register for VAT, even though this is not required if revenue falls below £85k. Clerk has now asked HMRC for guidance and in the meantime sent the request form once again (for the 4th time).
2. On 7th January the chairman & vice-chairman agreed to the clerk's request for an increase of one hour's paid wage per week and to honour the new SCP rate (or the present rate if a new one is not agreed with government) to take effect from April. The clerk expressed his thanks and appreciation.
3. Clerk circulated an Action List over the progress of ongoing issues to which he added some new items to be addressed.
4. The school will not have its bins emptied next week due to the half-term holiday, but the clerk confirmed to them that we wish to have our waste collected.
5. Clerk has asked SDDC whether it will inspect the new play equipment at Ledbury Chase as part of its ongoing maintenance checks of all equipment both here and at Fox Close. Clerk to request an initial inspection by SDDC soon.

1576/21 Matters for Decision or Discussion:

- a) Police Issues/Speed Limits/Road Safety. Five members, the lengthsman and a couple of residents have volunteered to undertake the Community Speed Watch training scheme, which will be held on 3rd March. Clerk to add the new signs purchased for the project to the asset register.
- b) Saxon Gate at Newton Village Development, Stenson Road. Covered earlier in DCllr Shepherd's report.
- c) Lengthsmen Scheme. Steve Hawkridge gave the following report:
 1. The school used council's waste bin during the summer; Jane has since placed a notice on it discourage them.
 2. Overhanging branches around the Bubble Inn have been cut by the farmer.
 3. After Jane complained to Leaders estate agents of its 'to let' boards placed at several properties they have since removed them.
 4. Steve told the Clean Team of glass and other waste in bus shelters which has since been removed.
 5. Jane will be absent from work in c3-4 months' time for about 3 or 4 weeks.

The chairman thanked Steve for his report.

- d) Environmental issues (Biffa, trees, bulbs, bins, etc). Clerk to ask the district council tree officer again for a site visit to assess tree replacement/ plantings in the area.
- e) to consider this year's SDDC concurrent functions increased grant award and an updated budget. Clerk had circulated a revised budget which included figures showing a broad outline of possible s136 expenditure. Some tweaking of this will be required depending on SDDC's reply over benches (which they might now provide and fit but not fund). The upcoming precept request for 2022/23 has been submitted to district council (which is less than last year's at £28000).
- f) to discuss possible installation of public benches. Linked to the above point, it is dependent on SDDC's reply although the clerk suggested that the s136 grant would fund up to 8 benches (to include Wragley Way, Ledbury Chase, and consideration of possible sites elsewhere for further benches depending on SDDC's permission). The lengthsman raised the possibility of the installation of a children's fitness facility instead of further benches.
Resolved: clerk to circulate details of the fitness equipment to members and the issue will be discussed in the next meeting.

1577/21 PLANNING

To consider planning applications:

DMPA/2022/0108 - Removal of existing conservatory and replace with the erection of a two-storey extension at 22 Pilgrims Way, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** no objection.

DMPA/2022/0137 - The erection of a single storey rear extension at 3 Witton Court, Stenson Fields. **Resolved:** no objection.

Decisions:

DMPA/2021/0668 – change of use from dwellinghouse to children's care home at 4 Padstow Close was refused.

1578/21

Finance for payment

- (a) Accounts for Payment were approved for payment (via internet bank transfer) - February's to be approved. Payments were made on 17th & 24th December and in January by the clerk under his delegated powers of authority and of which members were made previously aware; these were **resolved retrospectively**:

Reference	Payee-	Total £
17 th Dec	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 19 th November	848.24
17 th Dec	J Irons – clerk's expenses November - December*	308.20
17 th Dec	J Hawkridge - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 19 th November*	223.51
17 th Dec	S Hawkridge – Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 19 th November*	201.53
17 th Dec	HMRC –employee's tax & NI November - December	48.68
17 th Dec	DCC - clerk's pension return December	223.85
17 th Dec	Biffa – waste collection December - March	468.78
17 th Dec	Protect Signs – speed watch signage	195.11
24 th Dec	Unipar Services – 5 x jackets (winter) for CSW	213.60
	TOTAL	2731.50
Reference	Payee-	Total £
20 th Jan	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 17 th December	848.24
20 th Jan	J Irons – clerk's expenses December – January*	42.20
20 th Jan	J Hawkridge - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 17 th December	140.82
20 th Jan	S Hawkridge – Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 17 th December *	336.48
20 th Jan	HMRC –employee's tax & NI November - December	54.28
20 th Jan	DCC - clerk's pension return January	223.85
20 th Jan	Kompan – new play eqpt at Ledbury Chase	16173.60
Chq 2379	Cllr R Lisewski – batteries for speed radar gun	4.00
Chq 2380	Cllr C Fellows – chairman allowance 2021/22	128.00
	TOTAL	17951.47
Reference	Payee-	Total £
17 th Feb	J Irons – Clerk's salary 4 weeks to 14 th January	908.13
17 th Feb	J Irons – clerk's expenses December – January*	55.68
17 th Feb	J Hawkridge - Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 14 th January	191.57
17 th Feb	S Hawkridge – Lengthsman pay 4 weeks to 14 th January	196.02
17 th Feb	HMRC –employee's tax & NI December – January	74.22
17 th Feb	DCC - clerk's pension return February	241.48
	TOTAL	1667.10

*clerk's expenses on 17th December comprise the following:

<i>Shardlow to Stenson Fields & return (28 miles at 0.65p per mile) on 16th December to attend the Dec meeting</i>	£ 18.20
<i>Home allowance (£24 per 4-week)</i>	£ 24.00
<i>Unipar - 5 x large size hi-viz vests (CSW - summer)</i>	£ 87.00
<i>Amazon – Bushnell Radar speed gun on 23rd Nov</i>	<u>£179.00</u>
<i>Total</i>	<u>£ 308.20</u>

clerk's expenses on 20th January comprise the following:

<i>Shardlow to Stenson Fields & return (28 miles at 0.65p per mile) on 21st January 2022 to obtain signatures on cheques and Form A precept request</i>	£ 18.20
<i>Home allowance (£24 per 4-week)</i>	£ 24.00
	<u>£ 42.20</u>

clerk's expenses on 17th February comprise the following:

<i>Home allowance (£24 per 4-week)</i>	£ 24.00
<i>4 x books postage stamps</i>	£ 31.68
<i>Shardlow to Stenson Fields & return (28 miles at 0.65p per mile) to attend the February meeting</i>	£18.20
<i>Less: cost of petrol claimed 17th December due to this meeting being cancelled</i>	<u>(£18.20)</u>
<i>Total</i>	<u>£ 55.68</u>

- (b) Income: none

- (c) Bank balance as at 11th February 2022 £ 16723.48

1579/21 **TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK AND REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**
None.

1580/21 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION** Clerk had circulated recent DALC newsletters and Coronavirus updates received through DALC's Zoom meetings.

1581/21 **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;
- To discuss either possible installation of public benches on Wragley Way & elsewhere and/or a children's fitness facility ;
- Action items;
- Consider use of the £250 contribution offered by county council to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee;
- Apologies from Cllr Baker.

1582/21 **Date of next meeting** –the next Council Meeting will be held at Stenson Fields Primary School on Thursday 17th March 2022 at 7.15pm (assuming excessive Covid restrictions are not reintroduced).

The Chairman thanked attendees for their input and closed the meeting at 9pm.

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