

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 17th
SEPTEMBER 2015 AT 7.15PM AT STENSON FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL, STENSON FIELDS**

Present: - C Fellows (Chair), R Lisewski, P Richardson, K Rogers, K Butterworth, P Bonnell, I Baker

In attendance: Mrs J Storer (Clerk), County Cllr R Davison (7.22pm to 8.40pm), District Cllr D Shepherd (7.22pm to 8.40pm).

Apologies: - Apologies were received from Cllr G Dhillon

422/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

423/15 VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

It was agreed that the public section would be taken when Cllr Davison and Cllr Shepherd arrived.

424/15 TO GRANT ANY DISPENSATIONS RELATING TO DECLARED INTERESTS

None granted

TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 16th JULY 2015

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16.07.15; as previously circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7.22pm Cllrs Shepherd and Davison arrived.

425/15 PUBLIC SPEAKING

a) Public

There were no members of the public present.

b) Police

No representative from the police were present and no report had been provided.

c) District Councillor

Cllr Shepherd circulated a written report on the various matters he has been involved with over the summer. The consequences and the likely impact of the appeal decision on the New House Farm, Mickleover application, were explained. This included the possibility of increased housing being allocated to Stenson Fields.

The fence at the Saxon Gate site has now been erected.

A bus shelter is to be erected in the same location as the existing temporary shelter on Stenson Road, although a request has been made to the Highways Dept that its erection should not preclude any installation of a pedestrian crossing. The pedestrian crossing remains a priority and DCC has confirmed to Cllr Shepherd that it has not categorically rejected the possibility of a light controlled crossing being installed on Stenson Road.

Over the summer there was an incident whereby two young boys became stuck in the mud around the balancing pond and had to be rescued. Requests have previously been made for the erection of a fence at this location and these requests have been repeated in light of this incident. The latest thinking however, is that fencing hinders any rescue efforts and instead, some form of thorny hedging is recommended to prevent access. Cllr Lisewski provided to Cllr Shepherd a model risk assessment relating to open water. Councillors expressed concerns that the balancing pond is overgrown, which is obscuring the dangers. A barrier is still awaited at the end of the path around the balancing pond at its exit onto Stenson Rd.

Barriers have been installed at Lupin Close and the leaning lamppost has been repaired. Cllr Shepherd explained and urged Cllrs to view and comment upon the Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Part 1.

d) County Councillor

Cllr Davison commented that the Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Part 1 is adding another delay to the introduction of the Local Plan and he advised on the pros and cons of this delay. The number 37 bus is to be re-numbered 7 and the Sinfin/Stenson Fields loop is to be reinstated for a trial period and he urged that the service is used, otherwise the service is again at risk of being lost.

The South Derbyshire integrated transport link is being considered by the County Council on 22nd September. Cllr Davison's personal views on the link road were expressed.

The County Council's planning dept is recommending to support the increase of the primary school's pupil capacity. Residents have expressed concerns about the proposed expansion of the primary school particularly in regard to the increase in traffic congestion, a matter which is already an issue.

Cllr Davison has held a meeting at County Hall about a secondary school in South Derbyshire, which may be in the Stenson Fields/Boulton Moor area as both are expanding.

The Clerk provided an update on the boundary review; the Parish Council, District Cllr and County Cllr have received letters from Frank McArdle (CEO – SDDC) with proposals to move the matter forward.

Thanks were extended to Cllr Davison for £1,100 provided by his Leadership Fund; the cheque has arrived today.

e) Members declaring an interest

No declarations were made.

426/15 8.40pm Cllr Shepherd and Davison left the meeting.

427/15 **TO DETERMINE WHICH ITEMS IF ANY TO BE TAKEN WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED**

No items were deemed necessary to be taken with the public excluded.

428/15 **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS**

No report was provided.

429/15 **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk's report had been previously circulated to all Councillors.

The report was accepted with a verbal update from the Clerk regarding the grant application for new play equipment at Fox Close.

430/15 **GOVERNANCE**

To consider the establishment of a Strategic Working Party; to appoint membership and agree terms of reference

At the July 2015 Parish Council meeting it was agreed to establish a small working party to consider the Parish Council's requirements and proposals for the new developments.

RESOLVED to set up a working party with initial membership of Cllr Baker and Cllr Bonnell.

The working party will have no powers to spend money and will not be authorised to take decisions, only to bring recommendations to the Parish Council for consideration.

The working party will consider the Sustainability Appraisal Addendum, the Parish Council's requirements and proposals for new developments and the Parish as a whole.

431/15 **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. DALC – various circulars
2. Mr P Jameson – advising that a pedestrian refuge can be installed at the Pilgrims Way junction. This was in response to an email from Cllr Shepherd for a pedestrian refuge
3. Zoe Sewter – agreement for the Tree Officer to consider action which can be taken regarding a tree casting shadow at Bluebell Close/Quick Hill
4. Derbyshire Law Centre – Confirmation that the Parish Council has been accepted as an organisational member.
5. SDDC - Parish Liaison minutes and forthcoming briefing sessions
6. SDDC – Derbyshire Cycle Plan
7. SDDC – Sustainability Appraisal Addendum (consultation dates 28.08.15 – 12.10.15)

432/15 **FINANCE**

- a) Accounts for payment

<u>Cheque No</u>	<u>Payee & Description</u>	<u>£</u>
1921-1925	August salary payments	585.50
1926 – 1930	September salary payments	672.90
1931	Grant Thornton – Audit 2014/15 fee	120.00
1932	Biffa Waste	131.82
1933	Mrs J Storer – Clerk’s expenses	22.14
1934	Mr B Wood – Internal audit for 2014/15	
	Replacement cheque	44.10

- b) To consider any amendments to the Risk Assessments
There were no amendments made to the risk assessments

- c) To consider the Audit Report from Grant Thornton
The Clerk reported that the Audit Return has been returned and that the high level of reserves was noted.

RESOLVED to accept and to note the comments raised by in the Audit Return.

433/15 **PLANNING**

Applications

9 2015 0599 – The erection of extensions, a garage conversion and the erection of a detached garage at 303 Grampian Way, Stenson Fields.

NO OBJECTIONS

CD9/0715/65 - Proposed extensions to the existing main school building on both the East and West Elevations to provide 6 additional classrooms with toilet facilities, Stenson Fields Primary Community School,

NO OBJECTIONS

9 2015 0817 – a retrospective application for the conversion of the garage into living accommodation at 20 Tavistock Close, Stenson Fields.

NO OBJECTIONS

434/15 **POLICE ISSUES/ SPEED LIMITS/ ROAD SAFETY**

- a) Cllr Lisewski reported that he had informed the police of an alleged incident of dangerous driving but the police advised that they were unable to take any action as it was outside of the area.
- b) A report was given about the apparent failure of the Ticknall Speedwatch Scheme and the Parish Council reiterated that it did not wish to participate in the scheme for fear of reprisals from local residents.

- c) Cllr Bonnell reported on several examples of speeding vehicles in the Parish.
- d) Cllr Lisewski informed the meeting of recorded footage of groups of youths in the early hours of the morning which had been placed on a social media site. The police have been made aware of the recording but have allegedly stated that as the person recording the footage does not wish to report any matters to the police, they are unable at present to take any action. The identity of the youths cannot be ascertained and there is no evidence that they are directly linked to the recent thefts and burglary.
RESOLVED the Clerk was instructed to pass the link to the recording to PC Centro and to ask for further clarification as to why the police are unable to take any action.
- e) There are low overhanging branches at a property on Glencroft Drive.
RESOLVED the Clerk was instructed to report the matter to the Highways Dept (DCC).
- f) The pothole on Stenson Road which was reported to DCC some months ago, has still not been repaired. The Clerk will pursue this with DCC.
- g) Recently vehicles attending a function at The Bubble were parked on the road and on the chicane. It is not possible to take any action as the event has passed and it is not possible to identify the motorists concerned.
- h) The Tyre Firm at Stenson Road continues to display it's "A" Boards on the highways. This is repeatedly reported to the Enforcement Officer at SDDC.

SAXONGATE

No further discussions took place.

435/15 **LENGTHSMAN SCHEME**

Mr S Lisewski has left the employment of the Parish Council to pursue his studies and the Parish Council conveyed their best wishes and thanks to him for his help and assistance during the last year. The two remaining lengthsmen will work to their maximum contractual hours of 26 per month, before authorisation is required from the Chairman.

436/15 **ENVIRONMENT**

- a) Cllr Richardson has reported to the City Council some hedging and shrubs which are protruding onto the pavement on Tregony Way.
- b) The quality of the District Council's grass cutting continues to be poor. The matter will be reported to SDDC again.
- c) SDDC reported to the Clerk of some nasty anti social behaviour occurring during one of the summer sports sessions. No further incidents occurred at the subsequent sessions. It was noted that the majority of those attending were made aware of the sessions via the primary school and not from the noticeboard or website.

437/15 **TO RECEIVE ANY UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED BOUNDARY CHANGE**

This was discussed earlier in the meeting and no further information was given.

The letter from Frank McArdle requested a small group of Parish Councillors and the Clerk work with SDDC on the proposals to change the boundary.

RESOLVED Cllr Fellows, Cllr Lisewski and the Clerk were authorised to work with SDDC on this matter.

438/15 **CONSULTATIONS**

Sustainability Appraisal Addendum Part 1.

RESOLVED this is to be considered by the small Strategic Working Party. (Min 430/15)

439/15 **PRESS RELEASES**

No press releases will be made.

440/15 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Cllr Bonnell provided a report on the Area Forum meeting which he attended in July. The Parish Council acknowledged both that the Police continue to view Stenson Fields as a low

crime area and that the police have limited resources, but it was accepted that there continues to be a need to report the problems experienced in the Parish to the police to ensure that the Parish obtains the best possible police support.

441/15 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be held on 22nd October 2015 at Stenson Fields Primary School at 7.15pm.

442/15 9:23pm The Chairman moved the following resolution - "That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted (in respect of the personal situation of an employee which could result in legal proceedings) it is advisable in the public interest, that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw."
The meeting continued in Exempt.

CONFIDENTIAL

443/15 Lengthsman Salary Review, Staffing Levels and Staff Appraisals

The Clerk had previously circulated a confidential report about the current hourly rates, the new minimum wage levels and the National Living Wage. The Parish Council considered the report and discussed the hourly rates for the lengthsman.

RESOLVED to agree to pay the lengthsman the statutory minimum wage with effect from 1st October 2015 and at the budget review for 2016/17; consideration will be given as to paying the living wage.

The Clerk is due to have an appraisal in the New Year and it was **AGREED** that the lengthsman should also have an appraisal.

There was no further business and the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:32pm.

Signed..... Date.....