

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19th January 2017 AT 7.15PM AT STENSON FIELDS PRIMARY SCHOOL, STENSON FIELDS

Present: - Cllrs C Fellows (Chair), P Richardson, K Rodgers, R Lisewski, Singh Dhillon and K Butterworth.

In attendance: - County Cllr R Davison, District Cllr D Shepherd, Mr Simon Tranter and J Irons (clerk).

759/16 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Peter Bonnell and Ian Baker.

760/16 VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

Members **agreed** to accept DCllr Shepherd's report if/ when he arrived.

761/16 DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

None

762/16 PUBLIC SPEAKING

a) Police - No representative from the police was present and no report had been provided.

b) District and County Councillor Reports

Cllr Rob Davison.

1. Cllr Davison introduced Mr Simon Tranter from DCC Highways and members welcomed him to the meeting.

Complaints have been raised regarding DCC's refusal to reinstate 'cat's eyes' on Stenson Road which were removed to allow surface dressing to be carried out. Mr Tranter said DCC carry out an environmental assessment of several factors, lighting being one and the state of the road another. He echoed Cllr Davison's previous comments that no safety advantage exists due to the presence of street lighting. They are costly to replace and their presence is not generally associated with urban areas, more rural ones without such lighting. Neither do they contribute to reducing traffic speed; limits depend on the density of population in the area.

The chairman asked what criteria is involved to reduce traffic speed and thought that DCC could take such measures if it wished. Mr Tranter explained that the criteria highlights whether a housing development or other accesses front onto the road in question. This is a national criterion and in any case much depends on driver interpretation; speed sign limits are not always adhered to. Cllr Rodgers noted that Grampian Way has no visible fronting onto the road but has a 30mph limit. Simon believed that a limit of 40mph sounds more appropriate in this case.

Mr Tranter continued saying the limit on Wragley Way for instance was raised on police advice so limits are not always reduced. If speeds are deemed artificially low drivers will ignore them and instead make a judgement base on visibility, light etc. Councils rely on driver respect of the conditions and try to ensure consistency of speed rules and safety. In many instances if speed limits are dropped residents in other areas wish for its local limits to be reduced too, thereby setting a precedent.

The chairman pointed out that Stenson Road is without a pedestrian crossing which makes a case for speed reduction measures. Mr Tranter sympathised but noted that demand for crossings is high so requests must be assessed due to cost factors. Only in areas of a high proportion of vehicles to pedestrians would they be considered. They are expensive and so must be justified. In this regard surveys have been conducted on Stenson Road, the result of which was that the road is not deserving of a crossing at this time. Moreover, accident rates at Wragley Way have declined in recent years. Cllr Lisewski refuted this saying accidents are not reported if no injuries occur. Mr Tranter responded to say he will check the accident records. Cllr Lisewski also thought that a change in driver behaviour is needed which VAS signs seem to accomplish. Unfortunately we do not meet the criteria for their implementation here. Mr Tranter cites the lack of funds in most parishes and financial constraints at county hall. Also, they cannot be erected at will and should be used sparingly or they become ineffective.

Another issue is that residents do not see the criteria and often speed reduction is based on hearsay safety. The road safety budget is reserved for the most serious sites and is reducing because councils are cash-strapped. Any proposed safety measures must be evidence based. Two examples of justified expenditure are J29 of the M1 and Snake Pass in N Derbyshire. Such hot-spots have had traffic flows and accident surveys conducted and have thus been ranked for best-investment regarding resources and more importantly, accident reduction. The chairman considered this approach to be waiting for accidents to happen on Stenson Road before action is taken.

Members highlighted 2 problems to Mr Tranter; one being a road bend on Pilgrims Way and the other over a give-way sign on Stenson Road. After discussion of these Mr Tranter left the meeting at 8.10pm.

2. Cllr Davison gave his report saying he was delighted that DCC won its recent case over a court decision to stop Sheffield city region absorbing Chesterfield, which he believed would have resulted in Derbyshire being dismembered as an administrative county. The bid failed to consult Chesterfield residents about whether they wanted to join the combined authority.

3. A new care home providing in-house care has opened in Darley Dale.

4. DCC's council tax precept will rise 3.99 % (1.99% plus a 2% addition to address social care funding), assuming it is passed at cabinet next week. Regarding the social care element it will consider a 2% rise this year with the same next year and the same again the following year.

5. Cllr Davison has submitted a FOI request regarding the 'Infinity garden village' proposal at Wragley Way on the basis that there has been no engagement with the community or with local elected members.

6. After complaints claiming that part-time street lighting increases crime Ray Holmes at DCC has reviewed and decided the criteria to change it was not met. Despite numerous anecdotes of burglary only 1 complainant came forward. Cllr Davison said a programme of LED equivalent replacements is being rolled out.

7. The county councillor is upset that a pedestrian crossing is not intended for Stenson Road.

DClr Dave Shepherd (arrival at 7.55pm).

1. The councillor was concerned that he knew nothing of the 'Infinity garden village' as mentioned above, the Derby Telegraph was aware of the announcement before local members. SDDC's chief executive has since apologised for this anomaly. DClr Shepherd insists that this proposal is an extension to Stenson and not a separate garden village. Besides addressing this DClr Shepherd also raised the Stenson Road Bridge which provides only 1 lane for traffic and not 2. Cllr Rodgers would like to see a secondary school in the development to which DClr Shepherd replied he would wish it too.

2. Under the s106 agreement the developers were due to build and complete a community hall once the 250th dwelling was occupied at the Saxon Gate Development but it has not been; they seem unwilling to build it. DClr Shepherd is chasing this and will try to have an enforcement notice issued. Cllr Richardson believes another meeting with developers is needed to address the maintenance of the area, completion of roads, weeding of paths and repair to the fence near the railway line. Members agreed that the clerk should contact SDDC's planning officer to voice such concerns.

3. The councillor has asked for 4 new trees to be planted on Wragley Way.

Both the county and district councillors left at 8.50pm.

763/16 TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 15th December 2016

These were approved and accepted as a true record once 4 minor amendments had been made after which they were signed by the chairman. The clerk read a passage from a clerk's handbook denoting that draft minutes should not be circulated to any one member for checking prior to a meeting and which states '*the chairman and other councillors have the opportunity to correct errors (if any) in the draft minutes when these come before the council for approval*'.

764/16 TO DETERMINE WHICH ITEMS IF ANY TO BE TAKEN WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED - None.

765/16 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORTS – None.

766/16 CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE

1. Clerk contacted SDDC on 29th December requesting emptying of an overflowing waste bin on Wragley Way. However, members agreed that the clerk should request 2 new bins of 60 litres in size, the other being for Grampian Way.

2. SDDC replied to the clerk request saying it will replace the corroded waste bins at Zetland Crescent and Arleston Lane near Derwent Drive.

3. New/ revised policies and procedures update. Cllr Lisewski to circulate these to members for comment in the next meeting.

767/16 Matters for Decision or Discussion:

- a) Website maintenance. It was agreed in the last meeting that the site is adequate for the time being. **Resolved:** clerk to ask Nadine to update the meeting dates.
- b) To receive any update on the proposed Parish Boundary Changes. **Resolved:** Members await the outcome of the consultation period to expire.
- c) Police Issues/Speed Limits/Road Safety. These issues were covered earlier. Members believed the Safer Neighbourhood meetings to be ineffective and wondered if they are worth attending. Cllr Rodgers had previously informed Cllr Davison of 2 potholes on Deepdale Lane and Wragley Way.
- d) Saxon Gate at Newton Village Development, Stenson Road. **Resolved:** Discussed earlier.
- e) Lengthsman Scheme. The chairman handed the lengthsman's work sheets to the clerk. Clerk to arrange holiday pay entitlement to be paid in March.
- f) To consider areas to benefit from planting of bulbs and trees. Cllr Baker and Cllr Davison will assess soon.
- g) To consider the replacement of a bench with a memorial bench for Mrs. P Harvey. **Resolved:** The chairman received details and a quote of around £650 from Zoe Sewter (SDDC) who also offered a £500 grant towards this expense. This to be discussed in the next meeting.
- h) Bank mandates, budget update and setting of the forthcoming year's precept. A finance meeting held at Cllr Lisewski's house on 4th January agreed budget figures and the forthcoming year's precept request. In tonight's meeting the bank mandate was revisited because further signatures on different forms were necessary. These were duly signed by 2 signatories. **Resolved:** Clerk to deposit these at the bank, update the bank regarding the new clerk's details and ask for the current balance of the savings account. Chairman and clerk duly signed Form A requesting a precept from SDDC of £3000 in the forthcoming year, the same level as last year's.
- i) To sign the S136 concurrent functions form. Duly signed by the chairman and clerk.
- j) Summer Play Scheme. **Resolved:** Clerk to decide on appropriate events and book these with SDDC.
- k) To consider the co-option of a prospective member. The candidate had given his apologies to the clerk for non-attendance prior to the meeting and will attend in February.

768/16 PLANNING

Applications

9/2016/1292 - ERECTION OF A REAR FIRST FLOOR EXTENSION at 1 BODMIN CLOSE STENSON FIELDS. **Resolved:** no objection.

9/2016/0860 - CHANGE OF USE OF OPEN SPACE TO RESIDENTIAL GARDEN LAND AND ERECTION OF TWO METRE CLOSE BOARD FENCING AT 166 Wragley Way. NB.Subject to appeal.

Decisions.

9/2016/1160 - THE ERECTION OF AN EXTENSION AT 9 OUTRAM WAY.

9/2016/1084 - THE ERECTION OF A SINGLE STOREY FRONT EXTENSION AT 1 HOLDERNESS CLOSE STENSON FIELDS. Granted.

9/2016/1159 - THE CONVERSION OF THE GARAGE INTO LIVING ACCOMMODATION AT 17 BURNSIDE CLOSE. Granted. **Resolved:** clerk contacted SDDC asking to it to ensure provision of enough car parking spaces for 2 vehicles. This has been ignored therefore clerk to object and ask them to explain the decision.

9/2016/1163 - CONVERSION OF THE GARAGE INTO LIVING ACCOMMODATION AT 2 DULVERTON AVENUE.

Resolved: as above.

769/16 **FINANCE**

a) Accounts for payment

| Cheque No | Payee | Total £ |
|------------------|--|----------------|
| 002049 | J Irons – Clerk’s salary December to January | 469.26 |
| 002049 | J Irons - clerk home allowance December to January | 18.00 |
| 002049 | J Irons expenses (petrol) meeting + Yorkshire Bank Derby | 31.20 |
| 002050 | K Fellows - Lengthsman pay December to January + waste sacks | 248.30 |
| 002051 | J Harvey - Lengthsman pay December to January | 69.20 |
| 002052 | HMRC –employee’s tax & NI December to January | 134.48 |
| 002053 | DCC – clerk’s pension December to January | 134.69 |
| 002054 | Cllr Richard Lisewski – paper and pouches | 5.00 |
| | TOTAL | 1110.13 |

770/16 **TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK AND REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES** - None. Cllr Rodgers noted that no meeting of the PPG had been held recently.

771/16 **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

The next Safer Neighbourhood/Area Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday 31st January 2017 at Repton Village Hall.

772/16 **Agenda items for the next meeting.**

- New/ revised policies and procedures update;
- Areas for planting bulbs and trees;
- Replacement of a bench with a memorial bench;
- Press release regarding speeding cars.

773/16 **CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION** - None

774/16 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next Ordinary Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 16th February 2017, commencing at 7:15pm and will be held in the Stenson Fields Primary School.

There being no other business, the Chairman thanked attendees and closed the meeting at 10:15pm.

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