**STAUNTON COLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 16 JANUARY 2017 AT 19.30**

*[N.B. These minutes remain in draft form until approved at a subsequent meeting of the Council]*

**PRESENT**

Parish Councillors: John Flynn JF Jean Sadler JS, James Langdon-Down JLD, Jessica Horler JH , Marian Flynn MF, District Councillor Marrilyn Smart MS,

2151 APOLOGIES

None

.

2152 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

**2153 REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION**

None.

**2154 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 14**

**NOVEMBER 2018**

Terry Hall and Cllr M Smart amended the minutes at 2137 to read as follows;

“ TH reported that 27 people signed the recent letter to the MP and this should help him with any further action to be taken.  TH agreed to discuss the issues further with the quarry to ascertain that they were complying with set procedures and to contact Mark Harper.”

These changes were approved and it was resolved to confirm the minutes as an accurate record.

There were no matters arising that were not placed on the agenda

**2155 REPORT FROM THE PARISH CLERK**

The Parish Clerk reported that they had spent the last month settling into the role and catching up on correspondence. The biggest piece of work dealt with in December was the drafting of the budget and getting the finance spreadsheet to balance. HMRC are chasing the Parish Council for an alleged outstanding bill. The clerk has instructed to PATA to investigate but this has not yet been resolved.

Council resolved to pay the bill at this stage and to continue to query the bill with HRMC.

**2156 REPORT FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

The County Councillor was not in attendance.

The report from the District Councillor is as follows:

**Staunton Parish Council Parish Meeting – 16 January 2018**

**District Councillor Report.**

First of all a Happy New Year to you all and welcome to Clare who I hope will enjoy working with this Parish Council.

**Snow on Sunday 10 December**

I am disappointed that the Council did not have a contingency plan in place to deal with the severe conditions in the Council owned Car Parks. They were extremely treacherous and icey and it was not until the Wednesday morning that the staff in Coleford volunteered to clear the car parks. Staff should not have been put in this position, but are to be congratulated for the work they did.

**Budget 2018/19**

The proposal is for 2.96% increase in council tax in 2018/19 which is an increase of £5.00 for the year on a Band D property. There is no proposal to increase car parking charges or raise the cost of Green Waste which remains at £30.00 a year, still the cheapest in Gloucestershire. The Budget consultation is on the web site until 5.0pm onthe 19 January if you still wish to make a comment.

**Community Hospitals in the Forest of Dean**

Further to my report last month, the consultation into options for Community Hospitals in the Forest of Dean has now finished. The result was announced last week. Some 3344 responses were received and this gave 44% (1315) supporting the preferred option of a new hospital, 45%(1336) did not and 11% (339) Don’t know. The final report was presented to the Health & Care Overview Scrutiny Committee on the 9 January and was interrogated in public and can be viewed on web cam at Gloucestershire County Council. The Glos Care Services Trust and the Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group will now review and consider all the feedback from the consultation and issues that were raised by HCOSC. A joint report will set out recommendations for consideration by the Boards on the 25 January. This report and the Boards decision will determine the next phase. This meeting is open to the public.

**Boundary Review Proposals**

The Final Proposals from the Boundary Commission were published this morning. Very much as expected , Forest of Dean will have 38 Councillors representing 21 Wards. Staunton will be part of the Newland and Sling Ward represented by 1 Councillor. The full report can be viewed at [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk)

**Wild Boar**

Good to hear that the Boar Cull by the Forestry Commission is working and the numbers have come down to 1200. Still far too many, but the aim of the Forestry Commission is to bring it down to 400.

**Stowfield Quarry**

I have noted all the emails resulting from the meeting convened at the Quarry at the end of November. I have also noted your latest email John to Jay Deakin at the Quarry.

I am pleased that the liaison meetings have been re-instated and I believe at this stage we should wait until the Liaison meeting has taken place on the 22 February when all matters will be fully discussed, including the concerns of the Parish Council over blasting at the Quarry. I would just like to remind the parish council that the Liaison Meeting is not a public meeting.

**Broken Branches on the pathway opposite the Church**

I have noticed that there are some broken branches on the pathway opposite the Church. No doubt as a result of the snow in December. Can we get the person who manages our grass maintenance to remove them?

**Councillor Marrilyn Smart**

**District Councillor**

**16 January 2018**

.

2157 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

* 1. For members of the public to ask questions and make comments.
  2. For the Chairman to direct whether public comments or questions shall be responded to and how.

None

2158 FINANCE

* 1. The cheques as listed were agreed and signed

| To | Purpose | Power | Value of cheque (£) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Clare Davies | Salary/Expenses to date £175.01 plus £19.80 | LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 | £194.82 |
| HMRC | Clare Davies tax payment | LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 | £43.60 |
| Pauline Clarke | Salary/Expenses to date | LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 | £223.39 |
| HMRC | Pauline Clarke tax payment | LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 | £29.00 |
| PATA | Setting up pay roll | LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5 | £45.00 |
|  |  |  | £535.81 |

The cheque for Forever Green was not authorised because the clerk had not received the invoice

* + 1. To approve a financial statement and cash re-conciliation to date

The Clerk had balanced the financial statement.

* + 1. To approve PATA for payroll of the clerk

Approved

8.1.3 To discuss a budget for 2018/2019

The budget was discussed and Council resolved to increase the precept by 6%. The following budget figures were approved

| Expenditure | Figure |
| --- | --- |
| Staff Salaries | £2900 |
| Staff salaries additional hours | £400 |
| Staff pensions | £150 |
| Staff home working allowance | £208 |
| Staff travel | £183.60 |
| Printing | £80 |
| Postage | £60 |
| Telephone | £30 |
| Room Hire | £220 |
| IT | £100 |
| Insurance | £1110 |
| Audit | £300 |
| Professional subs | £180 |
| Training | £400 |
| Cllrs expenses | £150 |
| Staunton Meend Management | £5280 |
| Grass Cutting | £1000 |
| Other Estate Management | £450 |
| Road Safety strategy | £1500 |
| Grants and donations | £500 |
| Contingencies | £1000 |
| GDPR Professional Services | £200 |
| Welcome Pack | £50 |
| Clerks training | £50 |
| Tree surgeon | £765 |

* + 1. To approve the anonymous donation of £1500

Approved

2159 VILLAGE WELCOME PACK

Councillors reported that it has been distributed and there has been no feedback as yet.

2160 Coleford Area Partnership

2161 REMOVAL OF TREES FROM THE BUTTS

The quote presented to Council was approved.

2162 QUARRY FIRING COMPLAINT

Councillors expressed their frustrations that the quarry have been unable to explain the increase in noise and vibrations to houses in the village. The limits for Stowfield are higher than they are elsewhere. Councillors felt that other methods should be offered for the blasting to resolve the problems that villagers are currently facing. Newland and Clearwell are employing their own consultant to conduct a hydrological report. Councillors discussed that Staunton Coleford might need to employ a consultant to investigate the problems that the village are experiencing. JF and JS are attending the next quarry liaison meeting on 22nd February.

Action: JH to make some enquiries and find out if other villages are experiencing problems and whether they have employed experts to investigate.

2163 VILLAGE HISTORY

A parishioner is working with Jack Cockburn on this project..

2164 MINOR MATTERS

1. There continues to be problems with speeding on the main road. JF explained that there is funding that Council can apply for to make some changes to the road to mitigate these problems
2. The Quarry have triggered Section 106 and Gloucester will receive a minimum of £13,000 as a result.
3. To find out if Staunton Coleford have to have an external audit

**Action: Clerk**

1. To print out all invoices for the next meeting including those which haven’t been countersigned

**Action: Clerk**

**2165 PLANNING**

P1606/17/FUL

Council discussed the progress of this planning application and will discuss it further at the February meeting

2166 TO RECEIVE PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

None

2167 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Road Safety, 1 Acre Paddock and two adjacent buildings, planning P1606/17/FUL

2168 DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

To note that the date of the next Parish Council meeting is 13 February 2018 at 7.30pm

The date of the Annual Parish Meeting is May 22nd 2018.

No further business and the meeting ended at 9:10pm