

STAUNTON COLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 13
MARCH 2018 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 Marilyn Smart MS,

2186 APOLOGIES
None

2187 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None

2188 REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION
None.

**2189 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 13
MARCH 2018**

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

JF reported that the 12th February was the last day to comment on the planning application to remove trees from The Butts. JF spoke to the planning officer who stated that it will be dealt with by 20th March. A tree surgeon has been provisionally booked and the logs will be cut and stacked to be available for the villagers.

Action: JF to post on facebook, JH to make a poster for the notice boards

2190 REPORT FROM THE PARISH CLERK

The Parish Clerk reported that the setting up of Unity Bank account was underway.

The Clerk also reported that she had researched free alternative virus software.

Action: The Council resolved to cancel the Mozypro contract and set up AVG virus protection.

Signed Chairman.....date:

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2191 REPORT FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

The report from the District Councillor is as follows:

**Staunton Parish Council Meeting – 14 March 2018
District Councillor Report.**

Five Acres Site

The partner funding for the Five Acres site will be withdrawn from July 2018. A recently published Community and Equalities Impact Assessment has identified areas of need when it comes to the health and wellbeing of local people. Cabinet acknowledges that before they can make any decisions on leisure facilities they need to see the bigger picture. They have therefore commissioned a company to look at leisure provision across the district. The study is expected to be completed by the summer and the findings of the report will form a leisure strategy, which will act as a guide to future leisure services. It should be noted to keep the facilities open as is with no further investment will cost tax payers £12,000 a month. Subject to a detailed business case and viability assessment Cabinet are recommending that Full Council approve up to £1.5m from unapplied capital resources to fund a phased programme to include: asbestos survey, demolition and clearance work and supervision and planning fees for the site.

Stowfield Quarry

Jean will be giving you a full report on the meeting held in this hall on the 22nd February. I have just a few comments to add.

It was a well-attended meeting with representatives from Coleford Town Council, the County Council and an environmental protection Officer from the District. I was also pleased to see Nick Bainton Enforcement Officer from the County Council attending, who I know from his time as enforcement officer at the district Council. His comments were interesting in that he make 3 – 4 visits a year to Stowfield and they have 100% compliance, both on maintenance

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and Safety. He also told us that he has responsibility for all the quarries in Gloucestershire. At some quarries he does un-announced spot checks. Stowfield is not one of them.

I believe that the management at Stowfield fully appreciated the concerns of Staunton residents on blasting and informed the meeting that they are due to meet, John Keating an expert on blasting at the beginning of March when all these concerns will be raised.

We also had confirmation from Jay Deakin that the liaison meetings would continue twice a year as before. They also agreed to my suggestion that there should be an additional meeting on the 19 July for a further update on their meeting with John Keating and his findings.

Councillor Mairilyn Smart
District Councillor
14 March 2018

2192 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a. For members of the public to ask questions and make comments.
- b. For the Chairman to direct whether public comments or questions shall be responded to and how.

None

2193 QUARRY FIRING COMPLAINT

JF and JS reported on the meeting that was held on 22nd February 2018 as follows;

- 1) All present welcomed the suggestion that the quarry set up a Facebook page to provide updates for the villagers. The quarry will need to get PR clearance to do this as they have no social network presence as this stage.
- 2) Tarmac's Regional Estates Manager, Andy Cadell, reported that there was a possibility that they will be deepening the quarry so that they won't be working against the village. This will require planning permission.
- 3) The Quarry Management has arranged for John Keating who is a blasting expert to carry out a root cause analysis. He was due to attend when the weather was bad but the firing was cancelled. At this stage there is no date for the next firing.

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- 4) Andrea Simmons FOD Environmental Officer will try and attend April firing to get a sense of the noise levels.
- 5) The quarry reported that they are only undertaking one firing a month because business is currently slow.
- 6) The Parish Council stated that there will be a chance to change the current blasting parameters when the planning application is submitted.
- 7) The Parish Council stated that they felt that the planning officers had not negotiated very effectively at the outset when the quarry had initial planning permission. The upper limit for Staunton is 6 but another quarry near the local hamlet Scowles is restricted to an upper limit of 3.

2194 FINANCE

a. The cheques as listed were agreed and signed

To	Purpose	Power	Value of cheque (£)
Clare Davies	Salary/Expenses to date £218, £19.80 travel and £8.39 Mozy , home working allowance £17.30	LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5	£263.49
HMRC	Clare Davies tax payment	LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG(FP)A 1963 s.5	£43.60
Forevergreen LTD	Cutting down the bracken	Public Health Act 1875 s 164 Highways Act 1980 s. 96	2,040.00
Cheryl Hockey	Herd Management contract Jan -March 2018	LGA 1894, s.8(1) (i)	£718.15
			£3065.24

The Council discussed that the invoice from Cheryl Hockey may be incorrect. Some of the items that were billed as additional appear to be part of the basic contract. Council resolved that a cheque for £718.15 be paid for at this stage.

The Clerk informed the council that money needed to be transferred from the deposit account to the current account and suggested £5000 to cover current bills.

Action: JF to discuss contract with Cheryl
Clerk to claim back VAT for Forever Green Invoice
JF to provide written approval of the transfer of £5000 to the current account.

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1. To approve a financial statement and cash re-conciliation to date
The Clerk had balanced the financial statement but was unable to do a bank reconciliation because of the lack of bank statements

2195 TO DECIDE ON SUITABLE PARISH COUNCIL PROJECTS FOR 2018-2019
Council resolved to ask villagers for their suggestions using an on-line survey. The Village Hall has undertaken one of these before and has questions that can be replicated.

Action: MF to get a copy of the village hall questionnaire
Clerk to create a survey monkey and to add to May agenda.
JS to approach the hall users for their feedback

2196 STAUNTON MEEND UPDATE
JF provided a report on the Meend which is owned by Staunton Coleford Parish Council not by the Parish. At present JF does a huge amount of work on the Meend but this is not sustainable in the long term. Gloucester Wildlife Trust is interested in taking over the management in future. They currently manage Paws Allotments and would like Councillors to visit to showcase their work. They carry out practices however that may be contentious for example using herbicide to manage the birch and bracken.

Action: JF to invite the Villagers to the Meend in June.

2197 QUARTERLY RISK ASSESSMENT
This item needs to be on the agenda every quarter. Council needs to update their plan ensuring that the risk assessment has information on which councillor is responsible an area to be risk assessed.

2198 COMMUNITY GRANT IDEAS
Council would like to offer community grants of £50 to enhance the area.
Action: Clerk to add community grant suggestions to the questionnaire.

2199 ROAD SAFETY

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Brian Watkins met JF and JS to discuss the various suggestions that have been put forward to improve road safety and he has agreed to work with Aney to help.

At present, Brian felt that the road was probably not wide enough to include an island but could be potentially widened. Making the road appear to narrow by drawing yellow lines either side could potentially be an option. Cushions and bumps need to be constructed every 70 metres and the stretch of the road might not be able to accommodate this. It is not possible to add another 30 mile repeater sign as the style of the road already dictates that there is a 30 mile speed restriction. To carry out the works a 2 month study and consultation period will need to be undertaken so results won't be seen until next December. MS informed Council that each County Councillor has a budget of £20,000 for Highways and the Police and Crime Commissioner has a fund with an application process. The police will be carrying out irregular checks for speed.

JF has acquired some wild flower seeds and has a group of 5 volunteers available to plant them out.

Action: Clerk to write to Brian Watkins to ask permission to plant the wild flower seeds

JS to chase Brian regarding the section 106 monies and see what they can be used for.

2200 MINOR MATTERS
None

2201 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

The Village Hall has not recently met so there is no report this month. JF stated that one of the councillors attend the Coleford Area Partnership as the content is relevant and interesting

2202 PLANNING
P1606/17/FUL

Action: Clerk to draft a letter to parishioner regarding Easement.

2203 TO RECEIVE PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS
None

2204 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Reappointment of Councillors, Appoint new chair

To note that the date of the next Parish Council meeting is 8 May 2018 at 7.30pm

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seeds

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2200 **MINOR MATTERS**
None

2201 **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

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2202 **PLANNING**
P1606/17/FUL

Action: Clerk to draft a letter to parishioner regarding Easement.

2203 **TO RECEIVE PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**
None

2204 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Reappointment of Councillors, Appoint new chair

To note that the date of the next Parish Council meeting is 8 May 2018 at 7.30pm

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

No further business and the meeting ended at 9:30 pm

Signed Chairman.....

date

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