

## STAUNTON COLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE VIRTUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1st MARCH 2021 AT 19:30

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

#### PRESENT

Cllrs Dyson (Chairman), Elsmore, Mobbs-Morgan, Richards, Sadler & Smart.  
County Cllr Allaway-Martin, District Cllr Wheeler, 1 member of the public. Locum Clerk Mr Crighton

**2795 APOLOGIES** None

#### 2796 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr	Minute	Interest	Reason
Dyson	2805.1.2	Disclosable pecuniary	Applicant
Richards	2809.1.2	Disclosable pecuniary	Supplier of quotation.

**2797 DISPENSATION REQUESTS** None

#### 2798 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD 1 FEBRUARY 2021

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes of the meeting; arrangements would be made for them to be signed by the Chairman.

#### 2799 CLERKS REPORT

- 2799.1 It was reported that there had been no requests for the redundant laptop; it was suggested it be donated to the BBC appeal.
- 2799.2 it was reported that the earliest date for the resumption of physical meetings was 17 May. The Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Parish Council Meeting were scheduled for 10 May. The current legislation allowing virtual meetings and the removal of the requirement to hold an Annual Parish Meeting expires on 7 May. Consideration would have to be given on if and how to hold these meetings at the April meeting.
- 2799.3 It was **resolved** that virtual meetings would not be recorded and uploaded to YouTube.

#### 2800 MATTERS ARISING

- 2800.1 re minute 2785.4: it was noted that receipt of the Village Hall rental was up to date.
- 2800.2 re minute 2786.5: the meeting was advised of the owners of the land from which vegetation was overgrowing the A4136 footway; the Clerk was asked to contact them.
- 2800.3 re minute 2792.1: it was reported that the salt and grit bins had been refilled.

#### 2801 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR ALLAWAY-MARTIN

Cllr Allaway-Martin reported:

- The opening of a lateral flow COVID test centre In the Cinderford Miners' Welfare Hall
- New Forest hospital consultation results reviewed – new unit in Cinderford to have 24 beds, outpatients and 12 hour a day Minor Injuries Unit to replace the current 47 beds in the two existing hospitals, with the 'shortfall' being accommodated in community beds in Gloucester.
- Proposed 2 new GP hubs (Coleford and Lydney) to replace existing separate practices.

C:\Users\paris\Documents\RSC docs\Minutes\2021\Mins 2021 03 01.docx

SIGNED (Chairman).....12/4/2021

- GCC have an Ash die-back tree replacement scheme; councils may currently register expressions of interest

**2802 REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR DAVID WHEELER**

Cllr Wheeler reported:

- FODDC budget set – increase £5 (= 2.72%), finances helped by generous government COVID related grants
- Proposed appointment of a Climate Emergency Officer.
- Advice of the status of the planning application at the White Horse public house.

**2803 REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS AND COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES** None

**2804 PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

2804.1 Mr Astley asked about the provision of play facilities in the village for young children. It was recognized that there was a growing need but the problem was identifying suitable land. Informal enquiries would be made by members.

2804.2 Mr Astley highlighted the risk of children exiting the path (Restricted Byway) on to the A4136 and suggested the installation of a staggered gateway to cause children to slow down. Enquiries would be made of the Rights of Way Officer.

**2805 PLANNING**

2805.1 FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL – APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

	<b>LPA Ref / applicant</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Proposal</b>	<b>Response</b>
2805.1.1	P0232/21/TCA Sarah Morgan	Staunton: The Steps	Reduce 1 x prunus, 1 x Beech, 1 x Walnut & 1 x Maple each by one third.	No objection.
2805.1.2	P0335/21/TPO Annie Dyson	Staunton: 4 Staunton House	Reduce crown of 1 x Copper Beech by up to 25%. Remove 2 lower branches showing signs of decay, one on the east side of the tree, and one on the south-west side. Two branches on north side of tree are crossing/rubbing, to be dealt with while pruning the crown.	Tree is a prominent feature in the village and wider landscape. No objection subject to the views of the Tree Officer and we suggest a site visit by him.

Cllr Smart assumed the Chair for item 2805.1.2

**2806 FINANCE**

2806.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: it was **resolved** to to approve the following accounts for payment.

BACS ref	Payee	Purpose (Authority – Localism Act 2001 s.1)	Amount	VAT	Payment value
20/049-	R Crighton	Salary Jan 21-31	165.00		

20/053		Salary Feb	346.05		
		Travel	3.60		
		Telephone & IT	14.88		529.53
20/054	A K Contracting Services Ltd	Refill salt binds – 2 hours	50.00		50.00
20/055	GAPTC	1 x course	25.00		25.00
20/056 <sup>1</sup>	Defib store	Battery & pads	276.00	55.20	331.20
20/057 <sup>2</sup>	Turtle Engineering Ltd	Defib cabinet service	105.00	21.00	126.00
		<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>985.53</b>	<b>76.20</b>	<b>1061.73</b>

<sup>1</sup> Paid 5/2/21

<sup>2</sup> Payment withheld until work carried out.

It was noted that the accumulated sum due to HMRC was £242.40, to be paid at end of March

2806.2 INCOME RECEIVED: £ 13830.24 (no change)

2806.3 TO CONSIDER ESTIMATES FOR REPAIRS TO MEEND FENCING

It was **resolved** to delay obtaining additional quotes pending clarification on (1) ownership of the boundary fencing, (2) advice from GCC Commons Land Officer, (3) whether this work was subject to planning permission by the Planning Inspectorate – see minute 2808.2 below

2806.4 INHOUSE FINANCIAL CHECKS

To note these were undertaken by Cllrs Dyson and Elsmore and all found to be in order

## 2807 HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

2807.1 It was reported that a reply was awaited from Tarmac to the Council's request for the supply of material for road repairs.

2807.2 It was reported that Gloucestershire Highways had advised that they were responsible for the maintenance of Rookery Lane up to 'footpath standard'. They would repair the potholes but no speed bumps could be installed. There was no liability for upkeep on the owners of land either side of the road. The renewal of existing signage would be considered.

2807.3 It was reported that a response was awaited from Gloucestershire Highways to the request to finance 2 x VAS from the s.106 quarry fund. An approach was made to Cllr Allaway-Martin to fund any shortfall from her 2021/22 budget allowance.

2807.4 It was noted that the request to clear drains in the area of the White Horse PH had not been actioned.

Cllr Richard advised that he would discuss these issues with Brian Watkins.

## 2808 THE MEEND

2808.1 REPTILE MONITORING

It was **resolved** to allow the Foresters Forest to undertake reptile monitoring subject to an appropriate risk assessment and signage.

2808.2 RENEWAL OF PLANNING PERMISSION

It was confirmed that the renewal of the permission would be on the same basis as the current permission. The Clerk would draw up a list of the salient points for members' confirmation and then embark on the application process. The aim was to submit the application by July; the current permission expired in September.

C:\Users\paris\Documents\RSC docs\Minutes\2021\Mins 2021 03 01.docx

SIGNED (Chairman).....12/4/2021

## 2809 RISK ASSESSMENTS

The following actions were noted:

### 2809.1 BRINDSEY WELL

2809.1.1 Footpath – obstruction by vehicles. Advice from Rights of Way Officer that a gap of 1 metre must be left to allow pedestrian access to the footpath.

2809.1.2 Well – loose capping stones in front of wall. It was **resolved** to accept the quote from Cllr Richards for £120 to fix.

2809.1.3 Stile – knotweed present. Watching brief

2809.1.4 Well – chicken and barbed wire around structure. Minor repair to be effected by Cllr Richards.

### 2809.2 THE BUTTS

2809.2.1 Bench – rear support rotten; requires repair. Fixed.

### 2809.3 THE MEEND

2809.3.1 Trees – above Assisi part fallen. Chapel Tree Services to be asked to quote to make safe.

2809.3.2 Roads – potholes worsening. It was reported that the tarmac around Severn Trent's manhole was in a poor state; company to be asked to put right.

### 2809.4 CASTLE DITCH / THE POUND

2809.4.1 Trees – summer inspection by members to be undertaken.

## 2810 QUARRY ISSUES

It was reported that there had been two 'heavy' blasts in recent weeks. GCC had confirmed that ground vibrations were within permitted limits and that they could take no action against the quarry. There was a suspicion that the vibration limits set for Stowfield quarry were higher than for other quarries – this had not been confirmed. Cllr Dyson undertook to contact the quarry if such heavy blasts recurred.

## 2811 ALLOTMENT LAND

Members discussed several possible options for suitable land and would make informal enquiries in the village.

## 2812 DEFIBRILLATOR

It was reported that new pads and battery had been installed; the equipment was now serviceable. The cabinet inspection was still awaited.

## 2813 LOCAL POLICING

It was felt that the PCSO's presence in the village should be more 'on foot' and chatting with residents, than merely the occasional drive through. Coleford police to be advised.

## 2814 CORRESPONDENCE

2814.1 Village Hall: request for Parish Council representative to be appointed to hall committee.

*[Cllr Mobbs-Morgan nominated].*

2814.2 Digibus: invitation to host an event.

*[Expression of interest to be shown – location for bus could be an issue.]*

2814.3 Forest Guardians: information on funding and events. *[No interest, funding not suitable for Meend]*

2814.4 Sheep Liaison Group: seeking Parish Council representation. *[Cllr Smart nominated]*

C:\Users\paris\Documents\RSC docs\Minutes\2021\Mins 2021 03 01.docx

SIGNED (Chairman).....12/4/2021

**2815 PUBLIC COMMENT** None

**2816 MINOR MATTER**

2816.1 Cllr Smart would chair the next meeting on 12 April

2816.2 It was considered that the practice of having a different Councillor to chair each meeting was a system which provided experience in the roll for all.

**2817 ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

Apr – decision on style, location of future meetings

Apr – consider new road signage for Rookery Lane

Jun – arrange tree inspection at Castle Ditch / The Pound

**2818 DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Date*	Time	Meeting	Venue
12 Apr	1930	Monthly Council meeting	Virtual
10 May	1900	Annual Parish meeting (provisional)	Virtual
10 May	1930	Annual Council meeting	Virtual
7 Jun	1930	Monthly Council meeting	Village hall#
5 Jul	1930	Monthly Council meeting	Village hall#
2 Aug	1930	Monthly Council meeting	Village hall#
4 Oct	1930	Monthly Council meeting	Village hall#
1 Nov	1930	Monthly Council meeting	Village hall#

# assuming COVID restrictions permit

\* Last date for submission of:

- agenda items – 8 days before meeting (Friday two weeks earlier)
- written reports – 5 days before meeting (Wednesday of previous week)
- written dispensation requests – 3 days before meeting (Friday of previous week)

**Rota for undertaking in-house checks prior to these meetings**

Cllrs Smart & Sadler before the June meeting  
Cllrs Mobbs-Morgan & Richards before the October meeting  
Cllrs Dyson & Smart before the March 2022 meeting

The meeting closed at 2152