

**STOUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
at 7.00pm in Stoughton Village Hall.**

**Councillors present -**

Cllr Mr Bob Battey (BB) – Chair  
Cllr Tom Richardson – Vice Chair  
Cllr Paul Cresswell (PC)  
Cllr Mrs June Sparrow (JS)  
Cllr Mrs Tracey Mee (TM)  
Simon Galton C.C.  
Peter Elliott C.C.

Clerk Karen Giddens (KG)

**Apologies for Absence – None received.**

**Chairs Opening Remarks**

Chairman (BB) Welcomed everyone to the meeting.  
Chairman (BB) said he would give an update on the situation with the Church for information purposes only at the end of the meeting.

**Declarations of interests.**

There were no declarations of interest.

**Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 07.01.2020.**

The minutes of the previous meeting on 07.01.2020 were approved as a true record.  
Signed by Chairman (BB)

**Parishioners Time – None present**

**008/20 Correspondence with County Council – Highways enquiry.**

Clerk had reported back that she has had a telephone conversation with James Whailing who apologised for the lack of response. He explained that he no longer covers the Harborough area and as it had not been received via the Council Portal it had been overlooked.

Chairman (BB) clarified that there are 3 outstanding issues with the County Council at present:

1. On the matter of the faded Reduce Speed now sign that has been raised to Highways, Clerk has received an update on the 5/03/2020 that there is a works order in progress. The Parish Council appreciate the sign has now been ordered but request that the C.C. advice the Parish Council of a timescale to complete the work.

**Agreed by All.**

**Action – Clerk to contact C.C. to establish timescale.**

Approved & Signed: .....  ..... Date: **08.09.2020**

2. Chairman (BB) said there is still the outstanding issue of not having the warning sign for 20 mph zone when entering Gaulby Lane. When entering Gaulby Lane from Gartree Road there are no countdown warning signs to say that the speed limit is changing from 60mph to 20 mph and request that the C.C. consider some countdown markers just before the Church warning of the reduction to 20 mph. There is a speed monitor which was purchased by the Parish Council sited at this location recording the speed of cars travelling through the village. Speeds of between 40mph and 60mph have been recorded.

Also, there is a lack of countdown markers when entering the village from Stoughton Lane when coming from the direction of Evington.

Chairman (BB) proposed that the Clerk submit the request for this work to L.C.C. and a copy of the submission be sent to Simon Galton (C.C.) giving him permission to engage on the Parish Councils behalf with the relevant officers at the C.C.

**Agreed by All - Copy to be sent to CC Galton give him permission to see the relevant officer.**

**Action – Clerk to submit via online portal to Highways L.C.C.**

3. Third issue is the traffic exit out of The Byways. The exit is too narrow, and the kerb is far too high making it dangerous and damaging to vehicles when entering and exiting onto the road. The kerb is now breaking down and is in urgent need of repair.

**Agreed by all.**

**Action – Clerk to submit via online portal to Highways L.C.C.**

#### **009/20 Cadent Access to Stoughton Recreation Area**

Cllr TM met with James Pidduck from Daclour Maclaren on Thursday 05/03/2020 Cadent Gas Networks ('Cadent') have identified that their intermediate-pressure gas pipeline that passes through the Recreation area off Old Charity Farm, Stoughton has an area with a reduced level of soil cover within a ditch.

The long-term solution to this issue is to line the ditch in the area of the gas pipeline with a concrete canvas. However, due to the current work load this solution cannot be implemented immediately so Cadent are requesting a temporary fence is erected to protect the pipeline in that area. This fence will be a wooden post and rail type positioned across the ditch. This will protrude approximately 3m from the centre of the ditch for a length of approximately 6m on the open side of ditch. There is a fence / tree line closing the far side of the ditch so this should be sufficient to protect the ditch from that side.

Since there is an existing easement that permits Cadent to access and maintain the pipeline there will be no fee payable. However, cadent will reimburse any reasonable reinstatement costs as a result of damage incurred during the initial erection. Cadent have been informed to take care with all planting / trees in the area both those currently visible and those bulbs / roots under the surface.

Cllr Mee is going to be present when the fence is erected later this week.

#### **010/20 Damaged Legh Keck Motto**

Cllr TR has received quote to clean repair and stand up vertically.

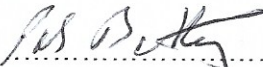
Total Cost of quote - £10450.00

Total Cost without frame - £5000

Quote extortionate and unachievable for the Parish Council

Parish Council to look at alternative options

**Agreed by All**

Approved & Signed: .....  ..... Date: **08.09.2020**

**011/20 Grass Cutting Contract**

The Urban Grass Cutting contract is due for renewal. The consortium of three Parish Councils, Thurnby and Bushby, Stoughton and Scraftoft are working together to towards a new contract for 3 years with the possibility of extending to 5. Quotes have been requested and evaluation will take place W/C 16.03.2020

Memorandum of understanding between Thurnby and Bushby, Scraftoft and Stoughton Parish Council has been presented

**Agreed by all and signed by Clerk**

**012/20 Annual Play Inspection**

Clerk highlighted that an annual play inspection is due and seeks approval to contact Wicksteed to plan for inspection to go ahead.

Agreed to the Annual Fee £45.00  
Cllr (TM)) requested to be present when the inspection takes place.

**013/20 Wooden Flower Bed**

Cllr (TM) has sourced a wooden flower bed to be positioned between the Bench and the church steps. Cllr TM will plant up the flower bed.

**Agreed by All**

Chair (BB) said Many Thanks to Cllr TM and Parishioners for their efforts with the spring planting. Cllr TM to plant up Wooden Flower Bed

**014/20 V.E. Day Grant Funds**

A grant of £500 available by application to Harborough District Council for any V.E day events. Due to short timescale and forthcoming annual village fete it was agreed that an application would not be submitted.

**Agreed by All**

**015/20 Parish Survey**

Completed by all Cllrs present and submitted by Clerk.

**016/20 Audit**

Clerk requested that consideration be given to using LRALC Auditors for the annual end of year audit.

Chair (BB) requested that clerk notify previous Auditors that Parish Council would not be requiring their services this year.

**Agreed by All**

**017/20 Approval of Accounts and Payments**

Hire of village Hall - £60.00 and Fete Flyer - £60.00 and Cork Tiles for Noticeboard £12.00 also approved.

**Accounts Approved and reconciliation signed by chair.**

Approved & Signed: .....  ..... Date: **08.09.2020**

## **Notices**

### **Planning**

An unofficial flyer has been placed on a lamp post at the proposed site of demolition of north west elevation extension of agricultural building, Home Farm, Gaulby Lane Stoughton.

**Action** – Clerk to notify H.D.C. Planning Office.

### **Agreed by All**

Cllr (TM) met spoke with L.C.C. regarding the overgrown hedge on Thurnby Lane just before Corbar Cottage. L.C.C. have written to the Landowners agent Savills to ask them to cut back the hedge.

This will take place in the foreseeable future

The Stoughton Fete Committee has asked to have use of the Play area for the Village Fete.

### **Agreed by all**

### **Stoughton Church Clock**

Stoughton Parish Council have received a request from the Church treasurer requesting that the Parish Council take over the responsibility for payment of the maintenance contract of the Church Clock.

The Parish Council decision was that this was not something that they could agree to undertake.

Chairman (BB) requested that all attend the DCC meeting on 31.03.2020

**This was agreed by all.**

**Action** – Clerk to reply to email

**Meeting closed at 20:40pm**

**Date of next meeting – 26.05.2020 at 07.00pm**

Approved & Signed: .....  ..... Date: **08.09.2020**