

The MINUTES of the meeting of held on Tuesday 10th May 2022 at 7.00pm at Stoughton Village Hall

Present: Cllr Bob Battey (BB) (Chair)
Cllr Tom Richardson (TR) (Vice Chair)
Cllr Mrs June Sparrow (JS)
Cllr Paul Cresswell (PC)
Cllr Mrs Tracey Mee (TM)
Clerk Karen Giddens (KG)
2 Parishioners present.

34/22 Election of Chair of 2022-2023

Cllr Battey was nominated for the office of Chair. There were no other nominations. Cllr Battey was elected as Chair for 2022-2023.

35/22 Election of Vice Chair for 2021-2022

Cllr Richardson was nominated for the office of Vice Chair. There were no other nominations. Cllr Richardson was elected as Vice Chair for 2022-2023.

36/22 To receive Councillors Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

Cllr Battey and Cllr Richardson signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms.

37/22 Apologies for absence.

None received.

38/22 To receive Declarations of Members Interests.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

39/22 Chair's Annual Report for year ended 31.03.2022.

Our successes this year have been in generally keeping the nature of our country village surrounded by the open countryside firstly and the green wedge. We objected to the plans for a formal application on the barn which if approved would have led to further developments on the green belt. Due to our representations at the meeting off the District Councillors the application was turned down. The application for a house to have garages on its front in Stoughton Lane has opened up again by the owner objecting to the Secretary of State.

The Co-op is now selling off its land that it still owns in the village. Our recreation ground which we could not afford to buy is fortunately protected by a lease which still has 108 years to run. We are most grateful for the help of the villager who voluntarily gave us advice on the

legal matters. Unfortunately, the Co-op is asking the market price land and there are instances where the present occupants cannot afford the asking price demanded by the Co-op. Considering the number of years the Co-op has been in the village we think it is regrettable that they have not been willing to re-consider a more favourable price. In about 10 years our Village Hall could be taken over for sale by the Co-op. We strongly resist this move as it should remain as it is an important asset for the village.

Despite reading how well our Police force are doing we are making little progress to get them to visit our village and to monitor the very excessive speeds of the traffic coming through it.

I am most grateful to Councillors who have reprimanded some drivers when they have been speeding. We must continue to notify the police on these events and ask them to take necessary action.

We are now having regular meetings with the Manager of the Airfield to discuss with them its day to day running and future developments. We occasionally get residents expressing concerns with the flights over the village and we are most appreciative of the actions the airfield managers take to improve the situation.

We appreciate the support of our District and County Councillors who occasionally attend our meeting to give advice. We regret that our Clerk who has given us excellent service has chosen to resign to take up a position where there will be more day to day contact with people. We wish her well. Applications for the post are ongoing.

Overall, a good year. I am looking forward to the coming year maintaining the character of our beautiful village. I very much appreciate the excellent support of my fellow Councillors and our Clerk. Very well done.

Bob Battey
Chairman of Stoughton Parish Council.

40/22 Parishioners Comments

A large fire was reported to the Parish Council. It occurred on 09th May 2022. A neighbouring house has reported being immersed in smoke and then fire was doused causing huge rapidly spreading flames. The Nursery had to cancel an outside scheduled activity with children. Burning last year went on for three days. Cllr Mee has spoken with Parishioner concerned and asked her not to have a fire and although it is not against the law it is inconsiderate.

Harborough regulations have been published in the flyer. Stoughton Parish Council urge parishioners not to have bonfires if it is going to cause distress to any neighbours.

Agreed by all: Cllr Richardson to draft a letter to be approved by the Council and send to Parishioner

A tent has been discovered in the field on the headland. It is now on the field by the recreation area and two Staffordshire bull terriers are running around the play area. Approximately ten bags are around this area. Police have been notified. The man has declared himself a vulnerable person. Cllr Richardson has spoken with him.

Agreed by all: camping is not acceptable on the recreation area. Cllrs will oversee.

41/22 To appoint representatives for the Community Gardens Committee.

Cllr BB and Cllr TM and Cllr TR were appointed as representatives.

42/21 To review the Risk Assessment.

The risk Assessment was reviewed and adopted by the Council.

43/22 To review the Asset Register.

The Asset register to 31st March 2022 was agreed as accurate by the Council.

44/22 To review the Standing Orders.

The Standing Orders were reviewed and adopted by the Council.

45/21 To review the Financial Regulations.

The Financial Regulations were reviewed and adopted by the Council.

46/21 To review the Equal Opportunities.

The policy was reviewed and adopted by the Council.

47/22 To review and adopt the Retention of Document schedule

The policy was reviewed and adopted by the Council

Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2021 -2022

48/22 To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2021 -2022

Approved

49/22 To approve section 2 the accounting statement 2021 – 2022

Approved

50/22 To Approve the Certificate of Exemption

Approved

Financial Matters

51/22 To approve the Accounts and Financial statement and for end of year to 31.03.2022.

Approved

52/22 Bank Reconciliation and Bank statement verification for year ended 31.03.2022.

Approved

53/22 To approve Community Gardens Account for year ended 31.03.2022.

Approved

54/22 To approve payments detailed in expenditure.

Approved

55/22 To approve Bank reconciliation to 30.04.2022.

Approved

Expenditure

PAYEE	DETAILS	NET	VAT	GROSS
DCK Accounting Solutions	Payroll to 31.03.2022	£25.00	£5.00	£30.00
Tom Richardson	Repairs to swing seat parts	£24.77	£4.95	£29.72
M.Ellis	Swing seat repair	£30.00	£0.00	£30.00
Clerks Expenses	Ink Cartridge and envelopes	£33.00	£0.00	£33.00
H.D.C	Dog Bin and Grass cuts Oct 21 – Mar 22	£366.36	£73.28	£439.64
M & BG	Grounds Maintenance Inv 83961	£183.75	£36.75	£220.50
M & BG	Grounds Maintenance Inv 84684	£183.74	£36.75	£220.49
LRALC	LRALC and NALC membership	£195.23	£0.00	£195.23
BHIB	Annual Insurance	£483.85	£0.00	£483.85

56/22 Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting on 08.03.2022

Approved: The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting.

57/22 To review any actions from the minutes of the meeting on 08.03.2022

23 Gaulby Lane H.D.C. planning Department response.

Clerk agreed send a letter to Mr Atkinson H.D.C. with specific reference to the Grade 2 listed status of the property and hand deliver a copy through the door of No 23

58/22 Application for Clerk Vacancy

Interview date for Monday 23rd May 2022 for at 19:00pm was agreed.

In the meantime, Chairman to request two references one to be current employer and full address to be provided.

59/22 Community Gardens Annual Meeting

Meeting to be arranged.

60/22 Dragons Teeth and speed humps

Repainting of the dragon teeth and the raising off the speed bump since resurfacing is still being negotiated.

It was agreed by all

Clerk to draft letter to Highways asking when it going to happen

61/22 Planning

No Comments.

62/22 Benches, tables and play equipment refurbishment.
Approved by All: To the refurbishment of the above.

63/22 Visual Inspection of Play Area
Damaged chain links have been replaced on the swing.

64/22 Date of next meeting 26.07.2022

Meeting closed at: 20:35pm