

Stockbridge Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 21st May 2020
7.30PM via ZOOM online



Present: Cllrs A Lawrence (Chair), G Boney, D Halle, J Leslie, R Foord, I Bell, S Taylor, V Vere-Stokes, T Hales.

Cllr A Gibson

Apologies: None

Clerk: Belinda Baker

Public attendance: Two

C/20/015 **Apologies**
Cllr Ward and Cllr Parr sent their apologies which were accepted.

C/20/016 **Election of Chair and Vice Chair**
The Clerk confirmed that although she had received no nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair of the Council, both the present Chair and the Vice Chair were prepared to stand. Cllr Taylor nominated Cllr Lawrence as Chair with Cllr Hales seconding, Cllr Lawrence was voted in by 7 votes. Cllr Vere-Stokes proposed Cllr Halle and Cllr Hales seconded and Cllr Halle was voted in by 8 votes. Cllr Taylor moved a motion that the signing of the declaration of acceptance of office form could be made away from the Council meeting but it needed to be in the presence of the Clerk. The Motion was carried unanimously.

C/20/017 **To receive declarations of pecuniary interests (DPIs) and other significant interests from members concerning specific items on the agenda**
Cllr Foord declared an interest in Planning item 19/02505.

C/20/018 **Public Participation**
The member of the public that attended was there to speak about planning item 20/00815. She was unhappy with the application because the height of the present building was higher than the original and was placed 3 ft further up the garden. There was now considerable effect on her property which the heritage statement made no mention of. She felt that the consultation document was inaccurate and pointed out that no one from TVBC Planning had been to see the building, that it does not fulfil the Council's obligations to high quality building and that it has not been built with listed building materials.

C/20/019 **Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16th April 2020**
a. To approve and sign the minutes
The Clerk apologised to the Council that the minutes of the 19th March contained an error on the closing time, this should have read 9:15pm.

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This was accepted by the Council. The Minutes of the meeting of the 16th April were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

b. To deal with matters arising not on the agenda

The Clerk notified the Council that there was nothing further to report on the Development near Test Valley School.

c. To deal with any correspondence.

The Clerk notified the Council that she had received an email from a member of the public complaining about excess dog excrement on Lilliee's path. Cllr Halle explained that the intention had been to work with the Scouts to develop signage but the Covid 19 crisis had stopped this. He agreed to order some signs from another source.

Action: Cllr Halle

C/20/020 **County and Borough Councillor Reports**

Cllr Gibson commented that the National Park Car Parks are now open free of charge and that re-cycling centres has re-opened. As his report also concerned that Traffic Safety issue, the Chair agreed to bring that matter up the agenda.

Cllr Ward did not attend and there was no report circulated.

C/20/021 **Traffic Safety**

Cllr Gibson commented that the quotation from HCC, for the implementation for the one way street down Old London Way, seemed high because it was outside the proposed workload of the HCC Highways, although he acknowledged that the expense for traffic calming measures was unusually high. Cllr Bell queried the quotation because the average cost in other counties was £10-15 and that the traffic calming measures were agreed to be minimal. Cllr Lawrence commented that there was no justification provided by HCC for the figures. Cllr Foord expressed disquiet that the consultation would agree with the conclusions of the Traffic Safety Working Party on the necessity of a One Way Street. Cllr Gibson agreed to go back to HCC Highways to get a more detailed quotation.

Action: Cllr Gibson

C/20/022 **DPI Forms**

The Clerk asked the Councillors to review their Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and to report any changes. All Councillors reported no changes. The Clerk asked Cllr Halle, Lawrence, Parr and Vere-Stokes to resubmit their DPI forms because the Auditor had commented that the forms had been filled in incorrectly.

Action: Cllr Lawrence, Cllr Parr, Cllr Vere-Stokes, Cllr Halle

C/20/023 **Covid 19**

a

The Clerk had circulated before the meeting an update from Help in Stockbridge, the Covid 19 support group. Cllr Halle reported that the Primary School was having to withdraw from providing lunches because the pupils were returning on 1st June. The Group was expecting an invoice from the school of

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around £500. The Group was intending to provide 2 meals a week and these were being offered from Prego's, Thyme and Tide and Robinson's at cost. Cllr Halle acknowledged that although people were looking forward to the crisis coming to an end he didn't want just to cut off the support that people had relied upon. He said two new people had asked for help recently. Cllr Gibson commented that £500 was being made available to the group from his fund.

Action: Cllr Halle

- b** Cllr Vere-Stokes brought to the Council's attention that, although Stockbridge had welcomed many new visitors since the Crisis hit, some of these visitors were not respecting the social distancing rules and she had been the recipient of some upsetting abuse. She suggested to the Council that the Lillies path could be made one way because it was not wide enough for two people. Cllr Leslie suggested asking for a Community Police Office to patrol at the gate. The Council looked into the merits of closing the path but a member of the public, who was invited to speak, cautioned against this and this was agreed by the Council as being inappropriate. It was agreed that Cllr Halle would contact the Police and that he and Cllr Vere Stokes would organise signage that would encourage social distancing.

Action: Cllr Halle, Cllr Vere Stokes

C/20/024 War Memorial – update on developments

Cllr Foord informed the Council that the grant application was progressing and that they had heard positively from the War Memorials Trust. In order for the application to progress the Stone Masons needed to confirm their costs, but unfortunately, this business had been closed temporarily due to the Covid 19 crisis. The Clerk asked the Council to agree that if the present cross on the war memorial is moved to a separate location then the Council would bear any upkeep costs. The Council agreed to this.

Councillor Taylor lost internet connection

C/20/025 Planning

The Council agreed to put this matter down the agenda to when Cllr Taylor was able to get internet connection again.

a. To discuss updating village design statement

Cllr Taylor had notified the Council that he now had two volunteers confirmed for the Village Design Statement Working Party.

Action: Cllr Taylor, Clerk

b. Parish Infrastructure Plan

This was not discussed.

C/20/026 Traffic Parking Survey

Cllr Boney had notified the Council that an online meeting had been set up with the local MP Caroline Noakes and a member of the Stockbridge Business Assoc. The intention was to ask Ms Noakes to approach HCC on behalf of the Council. Cllr Foord commented that the Council agreed (C/19/103) to survey

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the rest of Stockbridge, once the survey of the High Street had been undertaken, and he felt that this should now be done. He also cautioned going too far along with HCC in case things could not be backtracked. Cllr Boney acknowledged that it would be important to discuss the matter with the village and felt that the order in which everyone was approached was key to the success of the project. Cllr Lawrence, who had been a member of the previous Traffic Parking WP, commented that he felt that they had been looking for a “parking light” solution that hadn’t worked. Cllr Gibson cautioned that it was important that the Council was clear with what they were asking the MP and HCC to do, but he said that Ms Noakes could be quite persuasive.

Action: Cllr Boney

C/20/027

Trout n’About

Cllr Halle notified the Council that the Trout n’About committee had taken the decision not to hold Trout n’About this year. This was in consideration that restrictions could be continuing and that more vulnerable residents might not wish to be exposed to an influx of 8000 people. There was a possibility of offering an online market for stallholders to maintain momentum. Cllr Vere Stokes notified the Council that Trout n’About may apply for a grant for this project.

C/20/028

Celebration of 800 years of Stockbridge’s Market Charter

The Clerk had received notification from an events company that 2021 was 800 anniversary of the granting of Stockbridge Market Charter. The events company had proposed a medieval celebration. Cllr Leslie was of the opinion that the community could take advantage of the anniversary without going to the expense of what the events company suggested. Cllr Vere Stokes agreed to talk to Trout n’About concerning tying in the two events and the suggestion was to have a separate community event at the end of Trout n’About.

Action: Cllr Vere Stokes

C/20/029

Audit, Governance and AGAR

a The Clerk had circulated the report from the internal auditor from the recent audit. The Clerk brought to the Council’s attention the issues raised by the auditor and the report was noted.

b The Annual Governance Statement (section 1) was approved by the Council.

c The Annual Accounting Statement (section 2) was approved by the Council.

Action: Clerk

C/20/030

Cemetery

a Cllr Boney commented that the cemetery was in good order but he noted that the toppling test should be applied to some of the gravestones. Cllr Halle said that the topple test had been undertaken with the last Council and all the dodgy gravestones had been lain down. Cllr Leslie commented that the road to the cemetery was in reasonable shape but the Council agreed that it was a good

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idea to have a road engineer review the condition of the road and make recommendations (C/20/012c).

Action: Clerk

- b** The Chair had been notified that the Council could apply for a small business grant from TVBC on behalf of the cemetery. The Clerk was directed to apply for the grant.

Action: Clerk

C/20/031

Village amenities

a. Lengthsman update

Cllr Halle informed the Council that the Lengthsman had completed work around the war memorial and he was waiting for a quotation to re-furbish the community benches.

Action: Cllr Halle

b. Community land

There was no update.

Action: Cllr Lawrence

c. Community use of phone boxes including de-fibrillator

Cllr Halle confirmed that BT had accepted the Council's request to purchase them and he now needed a cheque for £2 to pay for them. BT would undertake to supply the electricity for the de-fibrillator for 7 years. The WI had expressed an interest in using the 2nd Box as a book and information exchange.

Action: Cllr Halle, Clerk

d. War Graves maintenance

It was agreed that the Council did not object to a group of volunteers from the Eyes On Hands On project could look after the CWGC graves in Stockbridge cemeteries. The Council thanked the volunteers for undertaking this valuable work.

Action: Clerk

e. Electric Charging

Cllr Halle had not yet received a reply from the electric charging company he had contacted c/20/011e.

Action: Cllr Halle

f. Recycling Centre

There was no update.

Action: Cllr Lawrence

g. Rights of Way vegetation cutting

The Clerk had circulated a notification from HCC that due to the Covid 19 crisis HCC could not commit to undertaking the annual rights of way vegetation cutting. HCC was requesting that the Parishes undertook to do the work either via the Lengthsman or separately. The Clerk and Cllr Halle to agree a response to HCC.

Action: Cllr Halle, Clerk

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C/20/032

Finance

a. Recent Transactions – to approve income and expenditure since last meeting

Income and payments 7-18 were circulated ahead of the meeting, were reviewed and approved. Cllrs noted expenditure against bank statements.

B Baker – Zoom Licence	7	143.88
Chantal Storey	8	41.92
HCC	9	694.34
Play Inspection	10	102
Shane Ling	11	266
B Baker (salary + Lengthsman)	12	503.77
Do the Numbers	13	240
HALC	14	280.07
Shane Ling	15	1084
Chantel Storey	16	36.38
YMML	17	16.8
123 REG	18	28.78

b. To review budget year to date.

Expenditure against budget was reviewed, approved and noted. The Clerk drew to the Council's attention that £1500 had been allocated the previous year for a Neighbourhood Plan, since this was not going to be pursued she enquired if this money should be allocated to the Village Design Statement. The Council agreed to defer this decision for Cllr Taylor's input.

Action: Clerk, Cllr Taylor

c. Insurance

The Clerk had circulated insurance quotations received from Came & Company. These quotations included insurance for all the Council's assets. The Council agreed to the proposal with Pen Underwriting Ltd. The Council also unanimously agreed to undertake a 3 year agreement with Pen which would entail a further discount.

Action: Clerk

d. Lloyds Bank Account

The Clerk asked the Council's permission to close the Lloyds Bank account. This was agreed.

Action: Clerk

C/20/033

Planning

a. New applications – to agree responses

Number	Address	Description	Date
20/00906/TREEN	1 Test View Old London Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EJ	T1 - Yew - Fell from bank behind house, T2 - Yew - Cut back to 50 cm tall	26/05
The Council has no objection			

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20/00815/FULLN	Old Bridge House, High Street Stockbridge SO20 6EX	Erection of replacement brick and timber garden shed (Retrospective)	15/05 – extension requested
The Council Objected on the grounds that the new building was more permanent than a garden shed and the response of the conservation officer raised a number of doubts. The Council agreed to formulate the response to the planning officer on the following day.			
20/00666/FULLN	Nomads House High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HE	Change use to restaurant on the ground floor with living accommodation above	15/05 – extension agreed
The Council Objected on the grounds there was inadequate provision of parking in the High Street and that there was nowhere to store the waste bins. The Council agreed to formulate the response to the planning officer on the following day.			
19/02505	Land South West of Little Dean, Winton Hill, Stockbridge, Hampshire	Demolition of three agricultural buildings and erection of a single dwelling and detached garage.	Extension agreed
The Council were taking a neutral stance provided the concerns regarding ground stability had been addressed by the Civil Engineer.			

b. To note recent decisions

Number	Address	Description	Date
20/00784/Treen	New House Winton Hill Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HL	Fell x 6 Sycamore; Fell x 2 Ash; Fell x 1 Horse Chestnut; Scyamore x 1 remove decaying stem and deadwood; Horse Chestnut x 1 reduce lateral limb by up to 4m	28/04/20
20/00728/Treen	Lillies High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HF	T1 - Weeping Willow - Pollard 7m from ground level, T2 - Silver Birch - Fell to ground level	No objection
20/00678	Elston High Street Stockbridge SO20 6HF	Certificate of proposed lawful development for a single storey rear extension	Withdrawn
20/00693	Kings Head House High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EU	Willows x 5 - Reduce to 450 mm above ground to be maintained as a coppice rather than as pollards	Permission

c. To note decisions awaited

19/03027	Grosvenor Hotel High Street Stockbridge SO20 6EU	External works comprising new lighting and replacement fire doors onto High Street	22/01/20
19/03028	Grosvenor Hotel High Street Stockbridge SO20 6EU	External works comprising new lighting and replacement fire doors onto High Street, along with various internal works to ground floor including removal of existing bar, new bars, new and renovated flooring and other works to walls and ceilings and reconfiguration of toilets and reception areas	22/01/20

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19/01843	Rosemary High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HF	Change of use from existing depot to residential development of 5no. 2 bed dwellings with associated access, parking etc.	23 rd Aug
19/02505	Land South West Of Little Dean Winton Hill Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HL	Demolition of three agricultural buildings and erection of a single dwelling and detached garage	29/11/19
19/02508	Land South West Of Little Dean Winton Hill Stockbridge Hampshire	Demolition of three agricultural buildings	22/11/19

d. Enforcement – to note any enforcement matters

There were no enforcement issues

C/20/34

Items for next agenda and date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 18th June 2020. It is likely to be by teleconference. Items for the agenda:

Traffic Parking

Resilience

Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 9:40 pm

Signed.....

Date.....