

Stockbridge Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 18th March 2021
7.30PM via ZOOM online



Present: Cllrs A Lawrence (Chair), G Boney, F Parr
R Foord, I Bell, J Leslie, H Jackson, D Halle
T Ward, A Gibson

Apologies: Cllr T Hales

Clerk: Belinda Baker

Public attendance: Two

C/20/187 **Apologies**
Apologies had been received from Cllr Hales.

C/20/188 **To receive declarations of pecuniary interests (DPIs) and other significant interests from members concerning specific items on the agenda**
There were none.

C/20/189 **Public Participation**
The first member of the public wanted to talk about the barriers on the High Street. He maintained that the other residents were fed up with them and that they were part of an exercise for re-organising the High St. He said the notice on the pedestrian crossing made clear that it was a temporary scheme. He asked the Council how long the barriers would be up and expressed frustration that the part of the High Street he lived in, had had to put up with more barriers than others. Cllr Jackson commented that she felt that the barriers were a good idea because people did not socially distance and the barriers encouraged this. Cllr Foord commented that he felt the barriers time was coming to an end. Cllr Leslie commented that they were a temporary measure but the visiting public paid no heed to them. Cllr Bell said that they were installed to protect the older residents and to give them more space down the High Street. He said the design was to allow greater space where it was needed eg: outside Beccys and the Co-Op. The Chair agreed to move item 6 up the agenda.

C/20/190 **Covid 19 – Opening Up as Restrictions ease**
i Cllr Lawrence said that he and the Clerk had met with TVBC, John Harvey and a local Police Officer. He said that TVBC were sending wardens round to monitor things. Cllr Halle commented that he had been tidying the barriers and had help to do so from other members of the community. He said that as the restrictions eased the space outside the restaurants would be needed and that the picnic tables would return beginning April. Cllr Boney said they were waiting for a plan from HCC regarding other ways the High St could be designed. Cllr Lawrence felt that the barriers would be needed until restrictions were lifted.

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C/20/191 Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18th February 2021

a. To approve and sign the minutes

The minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

b. To deal with matters arising not on the agenda

The date for the APM in 2022 was agreed to be 22nd April.

c. To deal with any correspondence.

There was none.

C/20/192 County and Borough Councillor Reports

i Cllr Gibson explained that HCC would be increasing the Council tax by 4.99%. He said HCC would usually have a considerable portion of their funding made up from entertainment revenue. Covid had therefore created a blackhole in the Council's finances. He said that HCC was having to use reserves. He said in reality HCC Highways was very underfunded and stated that there was no money except for basic maintenance. He said that all projects needed a funding route but he felt that maintenance at Lily's path should be available.

ii Cllr Bell raised the issue of the cycle path by the A30. He said the weed growth across the path was worrying and would cause deterioration. He also said a laurel hedge needed cutting back and the drains on the roundabout needed clearing. Cllr Gibson agreed to meet with Cllr Bell on site to discuss.

Action: Cllr Bell

iii Cllr Ward had circulated a newsletter before the meeting. He said the cost of Covid had not affected TVBC as badly as HCC. They were covering the drop in income from the leisure centres with reserves. He said that TVBC was now collecting more green waste and that Gvt guidance was that recycling collections would need to be the same across the UK. He said this meant that more sorting would be introduced in TVBC and glass collection. He said that all electric rubbish collection lorries were very expensive.

C/20/193 Covid 19 – Opening Up as restrictions ease

ii The Clerk explained that unless the Gvt changed the legislation the virtual meetings were not lawful after May 6th. She said in practise delegated authority to the Clerk meant that meetings could continue with all decisions that were made virtually could be resolved when the Council met in person in July. However, the Council may have to hold an extraordinary Annual Council meeting in the 1st week of May to carry out, formally, the necessary Annual Council business.

C/20/194 Recycling Centre

The Chair said that there was no update. It was agreed for Cllr Gibson to meet with Cllr Leslie to look at the A30 site. Cllr Halle expressed reservations for the Trafalgar Way site because there was no footpath and it was a residential area. He said that if it had to be accessed by car then residents may as well drive to Longstock.

Action: Cllr Leslie

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C/20/195

High Street Design Update

Cllr Lawrence outlined the progress of the project. He said that Cllrs had met with HCC in August to look at the next stage after the barriers which would include use of planters to look more attractive. This design had been left with HCC. Cllr Bell commented that the plan should look at extending the pavement without disturbing the parking. Cllr Halle agreed that the covid mitigations had shown up how narrow and unsuitable the pavements were for elderly residents. Cllr Boney commented that TVBC seemed to be looking at a parking study for after Covid. Cllr Bell noted that the Council's original desire to replace the barriers with something more attractive had now been linked to a wider parking plan. The Clerk said to the Council that she had approached a highways consultant to get an idea of how much an independent consultation would cost. She had not yet had a figure. Cllr Ward said that it would be best if his grant money was applied for after the forthcoming election period.

C/20/196

Littering Issues

a. High Street

Cllr Bell confirmed that the next cleaning would take place Monday 22 & Tuesday 23rd March. He said a letter would be going out to residents. Cllr Lawrence said he was impressed with the quality of the work. Cllr Leslie said he had scoped an environmental management project for Test Valley School (C/20/177a) which had been circulated to Cllrs. The member of the public who was a governor of the school agreed to hand it into the school.

Action: Cllr Leslie

b. A30 Layby

It was confirmed that TVBC had refused to allow a TTRO because they saw it as part of a parking plan not Covid mitigation. Cllr Bell commented that the real problem was the lack of toilet facilities for the overnight truck stops. Cllr Halle said that the space was needed to encourage traders to park there in the mornings and not on the High Street.

c. Steepleton Hill Layby

The Clerk had checked on Parish Online but the layby didn't appear to be owned by HCC. Cllr Foord suggested it was owned by the Fishing Club. The Clerk was asked to investigate.

Action: Clerk

C/20/197

Cemetery

a. New Signage

It was confirmed that the new signage (C/20/179) had been purchased and was now installed.

b. To agree policy on non-resident burials

Cllr Boney explained to the Council that he didn't feel that it was a good idea to open the cemetery up to non-residents because the cemetery would soon run out of land. He said that the cemetery was a service for the residents of Stockbridge. Cllr Halle queried how much land was available and asked if the Council needed to purchase more land. Cllr Boney confirmed there was only enough for about 15 yrs. The

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Council agreed to limit the burials to previous residents of Stockbridge.
Cllr Boney and the Clerk were asked to write a policy.

Action: Cllr Boney, Clerk

C/20/198 **Planning – update of Village Design Statement**

Cllr Lawrence, who was now the new Chair of the Working Party, said that he Terms of Reference for the WP needed to be changed. He proposed that they should be to produce an updated Village Design Statement which would be used to inform planning decisions. He wanted to ensure the new design statement worked for Stockbridge today and going forward. These terms of reference were agreed.

Action: Cllr Lawrence

C/20/199 **Policy Review**

a. Agree Review of Standing Order of the Working Party

The WP had reviewed the Council's standing orders and had circulated the proposed changes before the meeting. The Chair said he felt it was important that all Cllrs were able to read and digest the changes. He proposed that in order for this to happen the matter would be put forward to the next meeting. This was agreed. Cllr Foord noted that point 7a would need the Council's attention.

Action: All Cllrs

b. Grant Form

The Council agreed to move this item to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

C/20/200 **Infrastructure Issues**

a. Trout Pond

Cllr Halle had met with Aquascience who had said that the work would need a licence from the Environment Agency which takes 3 months to come through. Therefore, the earliest this matter could be dealt with would be October. He noted however, that if it was not dealt with the problem could become expensive.

b. Lily's Path

Cllr Halle said that he had met with Aquascience who had confirmed that the path was being undermined, as socially distancing users stood on the edge to let others pass. There were signs it was beginning to collapse where it was tarmaced and the concrete edge was starting to bow out. He warned that if it got worse the path may need to be closed. Cllr Lawrence said that the path was in a poor state but it seemed no one was owning up to say what needed to be done. Cllr Gibson confirmed that he had visited the path and had been astonished by the numbers of users. Cllr Boney commented that Mr Macey from HCC (who had visited the path) was not in a position to say the path was dangerous. Cllr Halle said that Aquascience had suggested putting sandbags down to halt the erosion, but were not prepared to approach HCC any further. Cllr Boney said he felt it was an unacceptable situation because the Council were unable to

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control the use of the path. He said it was important to find out where HCC stood. Cllr Gibson confirmed that HCC had a clear statutory duty to keep all footpaths open. He said that legal services advice would be to keep the path open. He said he did not agree with Mr Macey's assessment. Cllr Boney expressed concern for the Council's liability and what was HCC's liability. It was agreed that Cllr Boney should write to Ms Jo Heath at HCC pointing out the problems with the park and noting HCC's liability. Cllr Jackson suggested putting signs up to ask people to use the Lion's Den car park for access.

Action: Cllr Boney

C/20/201

Council Communications

The Clerk had circulated before the meeting the latest version of the newsletter. Cllr Boney commented that he thought it was good. The Clerk asked for volunteers for proof reading. She had still the back page to do but was aiming to go to print at the beginning of April. Cllr Leslie said he would contribute an article regarding dog mess.

Action: Clerk, Cllr Leslie

C/20/202

Village amenities

a. Cycle Path

This had been dealt with under C/20/192 ii.

b. Lengthsman update

Cllr Halle confirmed he has started the project of tidying up around the War Memorial. He had asked the lengthsman to scarify the grass and re-seed if necessary.

c. Lancaster House

There was no further update.

d. Rights of Way

Cllr Lawrence confirmed he was in communication with Romsey Ramblers regarding reviewing Stockbridge's RoWs.

e. The Milsoms

Cllr Halle had contacted Aster Houses who had said that the sale of the property had gone through due process and Aster would be building homes in Kings Somborne as compensation.

C/20/203

Finance

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

Income and payments 107-115 were circulated ahead of the meeting and were reviewed and approved. Cllrs noted income and expenditure against bank statements.

Opening bank balance		62619.05
Itchen Valley (lengthsman) income		1100
HCC (lengthsman) income		110
ICO	107	35

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HALC (Clerk course)	108	36
YMML (Clerk office)	109	16.80
B K Baker (salary)	110	581.71
Shane Ling (Lengthsman)	111	1076.75
Shane Ling (Cemetery)	112	38
Shane Ling (Barrier re-filling)	113	228
SafeSite Facilities (barrier hire)	114	1084.56
YMML (Clerk office)	115	16.80
Closing Balance		60715.43

b. To review budget year to date.

Expenditure against budget was reviewed, approved and noted. The Clerk brought the Council's attention to the barrier budget which was approaching £10,000 and therefore may need extra funds if the barriers were to stay until July.

c. Asset Register

The Clerk had circulated the asset register before the meeting. Cllr Leslie queried the laptops that were held at the Town Hall. Cllr Gibson said if more were needed, he could see if funding was available.

The Chair notified the Council that the meeting would need to run past 2 hours. This was agreed by the Council.

C/20/204 Planning

a. New applications – to agree response

Number	Address	Description	Date
21/00627/CLEN	Garden House Blandford Row Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HB	Application for a lawful development certificate to establish that planning permission 17/02350/FULLN has been implemented in accordance with the permission	27/03/21
The Council has no comment to make			
21/00719/TREEN	New House, Winton Hill, Stockbridge	T1 - Sycamore - Reduce crown by up to 2m and install brace, T2 - Sycamore - Reduce crown by up to 2m	30/03/21
The Council has no objection.			
21/00495/RESN	Land Adjoining The Tallet, Manor Farm, Marsh Court Road, Stockbridge	Approval of details for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the demolition of farm buildings and the erection of 3 dwellings and garages pursuant to outline planning permission 19/01914/OUTN	19/03/21
The Council objected to this application on vote of 7:1 with Cllr Foord dissenting. The objections were in terms of scale of the proposed buildings which the Council believed equated to overdevelopment of the			

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site, and that buildings of this size are not in keeping with this part of the Conservation Area. The Council objected to the negative effect the scale of these buildings would have on the neighbouring Dairy Cottages, and the Council also objected to the loss of the historic cob wall that is not supported with any justification for removal. The Council would encourage a design of smaller scale buildings to address the impact on the Conservation Area and to reflect the scale of existing buildings in Stockbridge. This would allow the buildings to better integrate into their plot sizes. The Council also believed that a reduction in size would improve the public views into the site, and the negative effect on Dairy Cottages. The Council requested that the historic cob wall is retained.

b. To note recent decisions:

Number	Address	Description	Date
21/00196/TREEN	The White House, High Street, Stockbridge	T1 - Yew - Reduce Crown by up to 2m, T2 - Sycamore - Fell	No Objection

c. To note decisions awaited

Number	Address	Description	Date
21/00499/TREEN	Little Dean House Winton Hill Stockbridge SO20 6HL	17 - Beech - Crown reduce by up to 4m, T18 - Dismantle to 4m monolith/habitat pole	11/03/21
21/00489/TREEN	Manor Farm House Trafalgar Way Stockbridge SO20 6ET	1, T2 - Ash - Fell, T3 Sycamore - Pollard at approx. 4m, T4 Thuja - reduce by 50% and reshape, T5 Yew - reduce by 50% & reshape, G1 Lime - Pollard linear group of trees to approx. 6-7m, G2 - Prunus - Fell	11/03/21
21/00289/FULLN	High Firs Old London Road Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6EL	Amendments to approved plans of 10/01600/FULLN to include rear gable, fenestration, removal of catslide roof, new balcony and additional chimney	05/03/2021
21/00346/FULLN	8 New Street Stockbridge SO20 6HG	Replace conservatory frame and roof structure with new white UPVC frame & grey slate solid roof	05-Mar-21
21/00322/FULLN	Fishmore House High Street Stockbridge SO20 6EY	Demolish garage and summer house, construct a studio / home office with access across footbridge from main garden	12/03
20/02643/FULLN	Garden House Blandford Row Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6H	Construction of a detached dwelling with garage, parking, garden and new access (Resubmission 17/02350/FULLN)	28/10/20
20/01722/FULLN	Rosemary High Street Stockbridge Hampshire SO20 6HF	Change of use from existing depot to residential development of 4 two bed dwellings with associated access, parking	20/08/20
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.	22/11/19

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19/02508	Land South West of Little Dean Winton Hill Stockbridge Hampshire	Demolition of three agricultural buildings	22/11/19
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d. Enforcement – to note any enforcement matters

Cllr Halle brought to the Council's attention that he had been notified by a resident that the owner of the Pump House in Marsh Court Rd had said that he was going to change the building into a home. To do this the owner would need to apply for planning permission for change of use. This had not been received. Cllr Halle and Cllr Lawrence had visited the property to speak to the owner concerning this matter but he had not been available.

C/20/205

Items for next agenda and date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 15th April. This will be held via Zoom.

Items for the agenda:

Queen's Birthday celebrations

Village Design Statement WP

Policy Review

Lilly's path

High Street Design

Action: Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.45 pm.

Signed.....

Date.....