# **A meeting of Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council was held on 12 January 2022 at 7.15 p.m. in the village hall**

**Present: Isobel Hazelwood (Chair, IH), Chris Longleather (CL), Keith Finlay (KF), Jon Holdback (JH), Jo Barker (WCC, SDC) (JB)**

*M21.48. Apologies:*  Penny White, Richard Eedle (both attended on Zoom for the purpose of commenting only; they were unable to vote).

*M21.49. Approval of minutes of last meeting:* Approved.

*M21.50. Matters arising:*

*Climate change and Stretton Sustainability Initiative*: CL reported that the coffee morning held in December had been very successful and had made a small profit. People had asked for a regular event and it was proposed to hold one monthly. He also reported that the Co-op were collecting 6 bags of soft plastic recycling per week now so this initiative had been very successful. He commented to JB that he felt the DC could be doing more in this line.

*EV chargers on the village hall*: IH reported that the Internet had now been installed. CL said they had a quote from EO to install two chargers, but needed a particular app to be able to use them. He was waiting for a quote from another company which allowed payment by contactless. He hoped they would be installed by the end of the financial year.

*The proposed ‘Library of Things’*: now called ‘Stretton Share’ still needed morework. CL asked JB if any other villages in the area had come up with any different projects that Stretton could adopt, but she said that Stretton was the village she used as an example to other villages.

*Queen’s Jubilee, June 2022: Friday 3 June 2022:* No action had been taken as yet. JH had offered to help in the organisation and said that consideration was being given to doing a combined Strettfest and Jubilee. CL felt a budget should be set for this before the precept was considered. He said Strettfest usually ran on donations. The main cost would be the band. KF pointed out that this would probably be more expensive as bands would be in high demand and would need to be booked soon. IH said at previous jubilee the council had purchased commemorative coins for all the children in the village. She had priced up coins and mugs:

100 coins would be £319 +VAT

Mugs would be £5.55 + VAT each (min order of 36).

She thought the village hall, which was due to meet next week, would be willing to pay half. CL thought the Apple Juice money could donate up to £500.

The purpose was to provide an event that would bring the village together.

CL proposed a budget of up to £1000 (seconded by IH) and this was agreed. IH to ask the Village Hall Committee to commit a similar sum, to be shared equally.

*Road signage for HGV’s:*  IH said this rested with Highways currently, although the signage to prevent HGVs using unsuitable roads was a matter for health and Safety. She said she would follow this up.

*Hole at the entrance to the gated road:* The hole at the entrance to the gated road had stalled again, with Highways saying they would repair it, but if they found the problem was with Severn Trent, they would charge them for it. JB said this could come from her Highways Budget. It was commented that, although all the drains had been recently cleared, the ones that had collapsed had not been repaired.

*M21.51. Planning applications*

*New*

*On-going*

*Pitstop*: The lease has fallen through with previous applicant and owners are now looking for a new tenant.

21/02956/LBC, Dovecote Cottage, Erection of a garden shed. [No objection]

*Approved*

21/02750/FUL, The Chimneys, revised planning application for the conversion of an existing stable building to private ancillary accommodation to be used incidental to the main house.

*M21/52: Finance*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 25/11/2021 | Stan Dawes | Grass cutting 8/9, 22/9, /10 | | 360.00 | 11092.79 |
| 26/11/2021 | Sue Finlay | Clerks salary & exp. |  | 161.35 | 10931.44 |
| 28/12/2021 | Sue Finlay | Clerks salary & exp. |  | 155.31 | 10776.13 |
| 05/01/2022 | Village Hall | Hall hire |  | 7.00 | 10769.13 |
| 09/01/2022 | WALC | Training (footpaths) |  | 30.00 | 10159.13 |

*Discussion of precept for 2022:*  The councillors examined the figures and discussed additional possible charges. IH suggested a budget of £100 p.a. for Training; CL thought this could come from the left over budget from 2021, but IH said most of this had now been spent. KH felt that money spent on training was never wasted. CL asked the clerk if she could reduce the administration costs and queried expenditure on ink. The current printer is inkjet and he suggested getting a more up to date one as it uses less ink. The current printer is fairly recent, but it was thought this should be considered when the time came to replace it. KH and IH suggested an increase of £200; CL suggested no increase.

IH proposed increasing the precept to £6000 (seconded, KH), for JH, against CL. The increase was approved, but CL asked that it be minuted that he did not agree.

*Proposed appointment of Ken Dunn as internal auditor for 2021-22 audit:* Approved

*M21.53 Correspondence*

Clerks and Councils.

LCR magazine

*M21.54. Council reports:* JB reported that the merger to form a super district was to go ahead having been approved on 14 December 2021. Approval has been sought from the Minister. A number of services would be merging. She hoped planning would become more streamlined as it had a new Interim head. She said, inevitably the Council tax would increase.

*M21.55. AOB:*

*Welcome pack for new residents to parish:* IH had found 50 of the folders that had been previously produced, some 10 years ago. It was agreed that what to put into the folders would be discussed at the next meeting.

CL reported that the hedge at Corner Cottage had overgrown the path, together with other vegetation. IH agreed to approach the owners about cutting it back

*M21.56. Date of next meeting:* 16 March 2022 at 7.15 p.m. in the village hall.