Draft minutes for the meeting of Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council held on 9 April 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall

**Present: Isobel Hazelwood (Chair, IH); Penny White (PW); Chris Longleather (CL); Jon Holdback (JH); Sue Finlay (Clerk); Trevor Harvey (TH, SDC)**

***M24.18: Apologies:*** Richard Eedle whom listened on Zoom. Jo Barker.

**M24.19: *Declaration of Interests*:**  None

***M24.20. Approval of minutes of last meeting:*** Approved with some minor amendments.

***M24.21: Matters arising:***

*Risk assessment:* The clerk asked if anyone was willing to review the Risk Assessment. JH offered, but as the item was time critical the clerk said she would deal with it.

Cl RAISED THE MATTER OF THE Allen Scythe and the Chipper. He proposed that they be purchased from the council by himself, IH and David Passingham and they would deal with lending them out and maintenance. IH said she would consult with the other groups who had donated towards them originally. In principal the change was approved.

***M24.22. Planning applications:***

24/00054/VARY, The Old Post Office , Main Street, for Ms S James. Variation of condition 2 and 3 of planning permission 18/03375/VARY dated 23 January 2019 to rebuild south wall of the extension in brickwork. Original description of development: Variation of condition 2 of application 16/01697/FUL for the erection of a two storey rear extension; variation to the materials from red brickwork to timber cladding. **[Approved]**

24/00587/HRN, Badgers Poor, North And South Tredington, Shipston-on-Stour. Option A - Removal of a section of hedgerow, 111 metres in length, located to the west of an entrance track to farm buildings, Badgers Poor, North and South, Tredington, off the B4035 highway. O.S. grid reference SP 2275 3982. Replace hedgerow on similar alignment, set-back 4 metres north of the existing hedgerow. -Option B - Removal of section of hedgerow, approximately 30 metres in length, located to the west of an entrance track to farm buildings, Badgers Poor, North and South, Tredington, off the B4035 highway. O.S. grid reference SP 2279 3982. Replace hedgerow on similar alignment, set-back 4 metres north of the existing hedgerow. [Comments due by 15/04/2024]. IH agreed to comment Option A.

***M24.23: Finance:***

1. *Approval of expenditure since last meeting:* Approved. CL said he felt the balance column was superfluous.
2. *Treasurers account*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 30/10/2023 | Stan Dawes | Grass Oct |  | 240.00 | 1405.47 |
| 06/11/2023 | P Robinson | Garden club pd in error | 20.00 |  | 1425.47 |
| 30/11/2023 | Stan Dawes | Grass cutting Nov |  | 240.00 | 1185.47 |
| 02/12/2023 | Sue Finlay | Clerks salary & exp. |  | 280.99 | 904.48 |
| 13/12/2023 | SDC | Election fees |  | 100.00 | 804.48 |
| 13/12/2023 | Trs from savings |  | 200.00 |  | 1004.48 |
| 15/12/2023 | Paul Robinson | Refund of GC payment | | 20.00 | 984.48 |
| 20/12/2023 | Secure-a-Field | Pdestrian gate |  | 322.80 | 661.68 |
| 29/12/2023 | From Bus acc | Top-up acc | 500.00 |  | 1161.68 |
| 29/12/2023 | Sue Finlay | Clerks salary & exp. |  | 231.77 | 929.91 |
| 03/01/2023 | Amazon | Thermal camera via Izzi | | 349.00 | 580.91 |
| 03/01/2023 | From Bus acc | Thermal camera via Izzi | 350.00 |  | 930.91 |
| 10/01/2023 | Hort Soc | Donation | 484.00 |  | 1414.91 |
| 25/01/2024 | Hort Soc | Donation refund |  | 69.17 | 1345.74 |
| 31/01/2024 | Sue Finlay | Clerks salary & exp. |  | 302.46 | 1043.28 |
| 04/02/2024 | Stretton Village Hall | Rent 8/01, 22/01 |  | 21.00 | 1022.28 |
| 27/02/2024 | Sue Finlay | Clerks salary & exp. |  | 168.71 | 853.57 |
| 15/03/2024 | HMRC | VAT reund | 172.46 |  | 1026.03 |
| 25/03/2024 | Sue Finlay | Clerks salary & exp. |  | 229.32 | 796.71 |

1. *BSA*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 09/01/2024 | Lloyds Bank | Interest |  | 9.69 |  | 8821.32 |
| 18/01/2024 | From Play area | Refund overpayment | | 190 |  | 9011.32 |
| 09/02/2024 | Lloyds Bank | Interest |  | 9.9 |  | 9021.22 |
| 11/03/2024 | Lloyds Bank | Interest |  | 9.96 |  | 9031.18 |

*(III) Play Area*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 18/01/2024 | Trs BSA | Overpayment refund |  | 190 | 3966.49 |

1. *Approval of annual accounts (tbc):*  Approved. CL felt that an inordinate amount was being spent on printer ink and suggested the current printer be replaced with a laser printer; he suggested that IH and the clerk arrange this separately.
2. *Formal approval of Ken Dunn as the internal auditor:* Fee £80. Approved.

***M23:24. Any other urgent business:***

*Emergency plan:* IH asked TH if the Emergency plan was necessary any longer in view of the fact that SDC had one. TH said he had never come across another PC with on

*Defibrillator: Do we need another one in the village?*  This was to be reviewed later as there would be problems with siting and electric supply; it would need to be at the top end of the village. IH reported that the village hall were considering arranging another first aid training session, to include use of the defibrillator. The clerk reminded her that Todenham PC (and Wolford) had expressed an interest in holding a joint session.

JH asked the council about cones which were being used by a resident for parking. Because people kept moving these the owner had coated them in a sticky substance that could be carcinogenic. IH agreed to contact Environmental Health.

***M23:25. Councillor reports:*** TH had supplied a briefing paper of information he felt would be useful:

1. *Public Space Protection Order for Stratford Town Centre - Consultation*

SDC is carrying out a 7-week Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) consultation in Stratford-upon-Avon town centre. A PSPO is a control measure created by the 2014 Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act. The orders deal with specific nuisances or problems in a defined area that are 'detrimental to the community's quality of life' and are designed to tackle anti-social behaviour in

public places.

The District Council is consulting regarding anti-social behaviour anywhere within the Town Centre when consuming or possessing alcohol. The behaviour SDC is seeking to prohibit has been identified as detrimental, persistent and unreasonable to the area.

For more information or to take part in this consultation, please visit the District Council's website: www.stratford.gov.uk/Stratford-PSPO-Consultation. The consultation runs until 8 May 2024.

2. *Year 3 UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Year 2 Rural England Prosperity Fund*

On 11 March calls opened for project applications for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF).

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is part of the UK Government's Levelling Up agenda. It aims to empower local lead authorities to identify opportunities to build pride in place, improve the places in which people live and support individuals and businesses to thrive, by:

• Boosting productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector, especially in those places where they are lagging.

• Spreading opportunities and improving public services, especially in those places where they are weakest.

• Restoring a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost.

• Empowering local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency.

The total 2024-2025 funding allocation from the Department of Levelling Up Housing and Communities (DLUHC) is £2,286,796 for UKSPF and £761,384 for REPF. The call for applications will close on at midnight on Tuesday 9 April.

3. *Stratford Leisure Centre Hosts Prostate Screening Event*

On Sunday 28 April 2024 Stratford Leisure Centre will host a prostate screening event. The event is being subsidised by SDC in partnership with The Graham Fulford Charitable Trust (GFCT) and Everyone Active. The event will run from 10am until 4pm and people are able to book at a discounted rate of £12.50. Spaces are limited, so make sure to book.

The aim of the event is to make the local community aware of the signs and symptoms of prostate cancer and to offer free prostrate PSA screening blood tests. The statistics show that 1 in 8 men show positive signs of having prostate cancer but if caught and treated early, the results of treatment are extremely good.

4. *SDC Receives Funding From Swimming Pool Support Fund*

Rooftop solar panels will be installed at Stratford Leisure Centre, following SDC's successful bid in Phase II of the Government's Swimming Pool Support Fund. SDC has been awarded £283,000 to provide grant funding for capital investments to help swimming pools become more energy efficient.

The funding will be used to install Photo Voltaic (PV) panels on Stratford Leisure Centre's roof. This will help to reduce the Leisure Centre's energy bills and save carbon emissions. It is anticipated that the size of the rooftop solar panel system to be installed will be 202.50kWp, housing 405 panels, yielding 849 kWh.

It is also anticipated that the Year 1 energy savings will generate 172,090kWh in electricity reductions. At the current rate, the annual forecast savings post intervention will be £51,627. Based on the costs of the project, the expected payback period is just under 5.5 years. No start date for the work has been agreed, but the installation needs to be completed by no later than 31 March 2025.

5. *New Eligibility Criteria for Energy Efficiency Schemes*

The income eligibility criteria for Home Upgrade Grant - phase 2 (HUG2) funding has increased to £36,000 a year. Some residents who may not have applied previously because they were over the first £31,000 threshold may now be eligible. Residents are encouraged to apply to grants as soon as possible because there is a three to six months’ time frame from application to installation.

6. *Appointment of Parish/Town Council Representatives to the Audit & Standards Committee*

SDC values collaborative working with Parish and Town Councils through their representatives. Two representatives nominated by Parish and Town Councils are currently co-opted as non-voting members to the ASC. Their terms of appointment are due to end shortly and new appointees will be sought.

One area of activity with which the ASC is concerned is the Code of Conduct with which councillors are required to comply. The most recent report considered by the ASC on 25 March 2024 identified that thirteen of the sixteen complaints against councillors involved parish rather than district councillors.

All 81 parish councils within the District will be invited to nominate up to two parish councillors to be considered for these appointments. A sub-committee of the ASC will be established to consider nominations and to make recommendations to the ASC and subsequently Council on who should be co-opted.

***M23.26. Date of next meeting:*** Thenext meeting will be the AGM and will be held on 27 May 2024 in the Village Hall at 7 p.m. There may be a separate planning meeting before that date as two or three applications are expected shortly

These minutes were approved at the ordinary meeting of Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council held on:

28 May 2024

at:

Stretton-on-Fosse Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

Signed (Chairman)

Date: 28 May 2024