**Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council Meeting**

A meeting of Stretton-on-Fosse Parish Council was held in the village hall on 19 November 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

*M19.37. Apologies*

Apologies were received from Councillor Barker.

*M19.38. Approval of minutes of last meeting*

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. Councillor Longleather requested that the section on the Ambitions for Stretton document be removed from the online version as he felt it was a work in progress and he didn’t wish to go ahead with it until the allotments matter had been resolved. [See matters arising.]

*M19.39. Matters arising*

*Portobello crossroads:* The crossroads re-opened on 15 November and so far the new lights system seemed to be working well. Councillor Hazelwood pointed out that it had taken exactly the 20 weeks that Highways had projected. Councillor Longleather felt that the national speed limit signs began too close to the lights on the B4035. He also felt that, especially in view of the planning application for Chimneys that the council should request a speed limit of 50 mph on the Fosseway, extending to the county boundary, encompassing both Chimneys and the Stretton turn. Councillor Hazelwood agreed to write to Highways requesting this. Councillor Longleather also suggested planting wildflowers at the crossroads in the disturbed ground. Councillor Hazelwood felt this might not be practical on the Fosse as the council will mow the grass short at the actual junction, but felt it was feasible along the B4035.

*Allotments*: The council has not received any replies to its communications regarding this. They are of a mind that they still want the land handed over to the council, rather than having to rent it. Councillor Hazelwood had found an email from March 2015, addressed to her personal email account, from Jonathan Collis when Grevayne wanted the council to take over responsibility for the footpath behind the houses, where he specified that ‘perhaps the Council could take on responsibility at the same time as the allotments land was transferred to the Council. It was pointed out that Paul Bellew sold the land for building the houses on at a much reduced rate and did not, in fact, charge for the allotment land as this was to be donated to the PC, not to Grevayne. Councillor Barker has suggested that if the PC lawyer could get Paul to sign an affidavit confirming this it might be enough to uphold the council’s claim. She also suggested registering the land as a parish asset, but it was felt that it might be too soon to do this. Councillor Longleather asked when the council should involve the press, but it was felt that it was something to be held in reserve. He also wondered if it was worth pressing Jonathan Collis on this, but Councillor Hazelwood pointed out that JC was on the council’s side and the sticking point was the owners of Grevayne. Councillor Hazelwood agreed to write to the Section 106 officer and ask that, in consideration of the 106 appeal, they insist that the allotments are handed over.

*Play area*: This is now completed, but is awaiting the new signage. Councillor Hazelwood reported that she still had to purchase the new football nets and basketball net. It was agreed that the clerk would reclaim as much VAT as possible at the end of the month. The Chairman and clerk suggested converting the HSBC treasurers account to the exclusive use for the play area in future and to transfer the sums put aside for the bark each year into it, etc.

*VASA*: The clerk reported that she had not yet paid the donation of £75 to VASA and asked the Chairman to forward the original email to her so she had the details.

*Recycling*: Councillor Hazelwood reported that there were more unusual recycling facilities (Crisp packets, pet food pouches, pen cases, etc) available in the vestibule of St Edmunds Church. She had advertised this to the village. The recycle is under the auspices of Terracycle and they make a donation to local charities.

*Age Concern grants*: Councillor Hazelwood reported that there were small grants of up to £100 available to elderly individuals in order to make independent living easier. She agreed to make the Parish charity aware of this.

*Ambitions for Stretton document*: This was postponed until the January meeting as Councillor Longleather wanted to get the allotments situation clarified before he proceeded with this.

*Co-opting a councillor*: Suggestions were made regarding possible people to approach.

*M19.40. Finance*

*Expenditure since last meeting:*  Councillor Longleather refused to examine these as he did not like the layout and felt it did not make sense. It was agreed that he and the Chair and Clerk would look at this on a separate occasion.

*VAT division and Precept Figures:* The council has agreed that these, along with the expenditure sheets, should be sorted to everyone’s satisfaction when the clerk, the Chair and Cllr Longleather meet next week.

*M19.41. Planning applications*

*New*

19/02785/FUL, Chimneys; Barn and Equestrian facilities. Councillors Hazelwood and Finlay had visited the site and raised some issues with the applicant. They were reassured that the applicant had considered the visibility issue and that there would be no issues with increased traffic. They agreed to suggest a speed limit of 50mph to Highways, although they did not make this a condition of approval. The applicant said the architect had not made clear what would happen to the run-off from the slurry pit, but agreed to ask the architect to look at this matter.

*On-going*

18/01641/FUL, Portobello Farm (café). It is believed that this is no longer going ahead and the applicant intends to continue to run it as an antiques centre.

Pitstop: The matter is still under appeal. The owner had asked the council to withdraw the enforcement notice as he wished to sell the property, but the enforcement office had refused.

*Approved*

19/01799/FUL, Town farm, for T. Venables.

*M19.42. Correspondence*

Clerks and councils.

*M19.43. Council reports*

None. Councillor Longleather asked that Councillor Barker be asked to supply written updates on local matters when she is unable to attend e.g. Wellesbourne airfield).*M19.44. AOB:*

None.

*M19.45. Date of next meeting*

The next meeting was arranged for 15 January 2019, at 7.30 p.m.