

**Minutes of Severn Stoke & Croome d'Abitot Parish Council Meeting
held at Severn Stoke Parish Hall on 13th November 2019 at 8pm**

Present: Cllr Watkins (Chair) Cllrs Preston, Garrard, Sturgess, Seward, Halling, Hadley, Keating-Nash and Williams, Dist Cllrs Harrison and Michael

In attendance: Clerk Mrs L Gower and 4 members of the public.

- 1 **To consider apologies and to approve reasons for absence.** Cllr Cox and Cllr Hodson.
Reasons approved.

- 2 **Declarations of Interest**
 - a. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.
 - b. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the Code of Conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items. Cllr Halling declared an interest in item 10, a planning application submitted at his property. Cllr Halling has not been on the distribution for consultation on this application and Clerk has submitted PC response online in the usual way.

- 3 **Minutes** To consider the approval of the minutes of meeting held on 18th September 2019. Clerk read over actions from last meeting, all of which are covered on this agenda. Cllr Halling proposed approval of these minutes, seconded by Cllr Keating Nash, unanimously agreed.

- 4 **Vacancy of a Parish Councillor** – Cllr Peter Talbot has resigned. Clerk has informed MHDC and will put up the necessary form on the notice boards. After the period with first form, PC can co-opt.

- 5 **Councillors' Reports**

County Cllr Middlebrough – The announcement of a general election has delayed announcements on funding but WCC continue to concentrate on budget planning. The funding for a roundabout on the A38 has been approved which must be spent before 2021 so this will happen next year.

Cllr Harrison – The new improved bus service is working well and areas of our parish have a much improved service. This is being funded from 106 agreement money from Kempsey developments. It is funded until Aug 2020 but will be use it or lose it! There have been changes within the South Worcestershire Development Plan with many parishes such as ours having their village boundaries removed so basically no new building of any sort can take place.

There are various dates when the SWDP can be reviewed, locally Upton have a date of 19th Nov.

Cllr Michael – Airband are a company who are rolling out ultrafast broadband throughout areas of the parish and they hope to come down the A38 to Severn Stoke..

- 6 **Clerk's Report**

Clerk General Admin of correspondence emails etc. Minutes of last meeting and actions arising. Response sent to MHDC re 106 funding from Orchard House development. Discussions with Cllr Harrison re bus service and advised residents after revised timetables. Telephone discussion with MP secretary re Flood Defenses. Monitoring car parking on green in Kinnersley, photos taken due to further damage. Chased electricity EON as we haven't had any invoices. MHDC confirmed receipt of Register of Interests documents for Cllr Halling and Cllr Williams. Updating information web pages. Dates for meetings for 2020 set for approval 13.11.19, sent to Clinks magazine.

Flooding – 26th Oct 2019, Clerk/Cllr Halling went to Birch Lane. Clerk photographed and logged flooding on WCC site, contacted Cllr Harrison to ask for Highways signs to close road. Highways brought signs at 12am. Cllr Halling on site much of the evening, walked the length of the area, took photos and assisted people who got stuck! We now have two signs for future use. Road was flooded to a considerable depth. Further photographs sent to Land Drainage Officer at MHDC and asked for meeting, hopefully 18.11.19.

Highways –Flooding in field opposite Madge Hill/The Lodge reported to WCC, drain believed to be blocked under the road, causing flooding in the field and combine to get stuck, WCC acknowledged and will have it inspected/jetted. chased again with WCC 21/10/19 as no action yet. Pavement issue Knights Hill reported with photographs, Reference Number 765878, discussion with neighbor and pursued with WCC re fortis owned and tree needing removal. Repair carried out by Ringway. Pursuing Croome d'Abitot larger "village" signs with WCC liaison officer.

Lengthsman Asked lengthsman to sweep and cut back brambles etc from all pavements up and down Madge Hill and Severn Stoke. Also tidying war memorial for 10th November service.

Finance Cheques sent off following last meeting. Ledger updated. Interim figures produced and projection for the remainder of this financial year. Budget for 2020/21 prepared. Meeting with Cllr Hodson to ensure all looks correct.

Urgent decision None.

7 Clerk Finance Report

a. Finance update Clerk has circulated sheet by email and provided copies to meeting. Balance of bank accounts was £14931.43 as of 28 October 2019 and £1667.26 as of 9 October 2019. Sheet attached showed 31 March 2019 yr end figures. Budget for 2019/20, spend so far to 31.10.19, proposed expenditure to 31.3.19 and final expected figures for 31.3.19. Items discussed for clarification included grass cutting at parish hall (done as PC responsible for the site, Hall committee responsible for the building).

b. **Approval of cheques and invoices**, St Monica Trust Landlord Account for site of parish hall £453.60, Mrs L Gower £39.82. including two cheque below. Approval proposed by Cllr Seward, seconded by Cllr Hadley, unanimously agreed.

8 **Agree donation amount to Royal British Legion (wreath bought £18.50) and Friends of St Denys annual donation.** Cllr Hadley proposed a donation of £100 to Royal British Legion, seconded by Cllr Garrard, unanimously agreed. After a discussion re churchyard, Cllr Hadley proposed donation of £1000 to Friends of St Denys for upkeep of the churchyard. Seconded by Keating Nash, unanimously agreed.

9 To Approval of draft Budget for Financial year ending 31 March 2020 and discuss precept for 2019/20 (precept decision to be decided at meeting in Jan 2020)

A discussion took place regarding speed signs, benches etc and defibrillator. These were all included in the budget figures and a total budget expenditure of £17600 was agreed. Clerk will circulate the finalised budget. Cllr Keating Nash asked regarding a defibrillator, Clerk will investigate and added a sum of £1000 to the budget under this heading.

Clerk

10 Planning Report

Clerk asks all Councillors to respond to planning applications when they are emailed

Application	Property concerned	Detail	Action
17/01729/LB	School House, Severn Stoke	Repair and replacement of materials to fire damaged east elevation and gable.	Responded approval. Approved by MHDC
19/00203/FUL	The Old School House Severn Stoke Worcester WR8 9JA	Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 15/00601/FUL to alter the approved plans - Change of Use of Old School House to 3 residential dwellings	Recommended approval Approved by MHDC
19/00776/LB	Huntsman House, Croome Hunt	Overhaul of slate pitched roof covering, removal and reinstatement of natural slate with reclaimed, replace softwood tiling battens and roof felt and insulate	Recommend approval sent. Approved by MHDC
19/01168/CU	Defford Mill, Dunstall, Earls Croome	Change of use of site for use as coach depot inclusive of the siting of cabins and fuel tank	Had site visit, sent recommendation for approval, inc comment re turn left agreement Approved by MHDC
19/01400/HP	10 Knights Hill Severn Stoke	Retrospective application for car port and store	Circulated(except Cllr Halling as personal interest) Recommended approval
19/01430/FUL	Coach House, Severn Bank	Erection of a sectional 3 sided steel storage building to store garden/woodland equipment	On circulation

After further information was submitted by Astons Coaches, the application for Defford site was approved.

11 To approve the purchase of Village “Welcome to Croome d’Abitot” signs and agree locations

Cllrs are happy for signs to be erected, as long as the same as existing ones and the locations are agreed with WCC. Cllr Middlebrough will fund these. Clerk will discuss with WCC.

Clerk

12 Bus service and updated timetables

Following various meetings with District/County Councillors, WCC and First Direct a new agreement has been reached with Astons Coaches. The new service is improved for Severn Stoke parish and is being funded by 106 money from Kemspey housing until August 2020. The District Councillors urge residents to “use it or loose it”. The Parish Council are very grateful to all involved for achieving this result. Clerk will put new timetables on the notice boards.

Clerk

13 Parking on village green area in Kinnersley

This has been monitored and unfortunately the grass is now cutting up and becoming muddy. Two bollards have also been damaged. A discussion took place. Whilst everyone is happy the public house is busy it is felt that parking on the village green is not appropriate at this time of year particularly. Clerk will log with WCC to see if they will replace the bollards to prevent a vehicle parking on the green.

Clerk

14 High Green VAS and Clifton/Severn Stoke speeding

18/9/19 to 22/10/19 13469 vehicles west to east 22/10/19 to 13/11/19 9023 east to west. Highest speed recorded was 50 mph (5 mph lower than previous figures). No further information from the Safer Roads Partnership. Cllr Middlebrough will review recent emails and send one.

- 15 **Croome/Tarmac Liaison Group updates**
No meetings taken place since last Tarmac meeting in September.
- 16 **Land drainage issues**
Cllr Halling and Clerk has visited Birch Lane on Saturday 26th October, Clerk had asked Cllr Harrison to locate some road closure signs. These arrived by midnight. Cllr Halling pulled several vehicles out and also walked the length of the watercourse. Clerk has arranged a meeting with the Land Drainage Officer on Monday 18th November to discuss this area. Cllr Harrison and Cllr Halling will both attend.
- 17 **Maintenance of seat in Birch Lane and possible replacement of two benches**
Cllr Halling had voluntarily treated the bench in Birch Lane. Clerk thanked him for this. Clerk has included in the budget for the next financial year Cllr Middlebrough commented that he will donate funds for anything commemorating VE Day. Clerk will note this.
- 18 **Agreed dates for 2020 meetings**
Clerk had circulated dates to Councillors and given to parish hall committee.
- 17 **Parish Hall committee update**
Cllr Halling had attended the last meeting. The Hall committee and proactive and are having various quotations prepared for work on the external of the hall. Funds and hire usage are all good.
- 18 **Councillors' comments and items for future agendas**
Cllr Preston raised the question of the hedge belonging to the Bromfords property at Severn Stoke. Clerk will report to them, this has been an ongoing issue.
Cllr Williams has repaired the white gates at Kinnersley which were damaged during the summer. These look much improved, Clerk thanked Ray on behalf of the parish council.
The road surface is becoming damaged at Clifton on Sheepcote Lane by gravel extraction, Clerk will monitor and report.
- 19 **Date of next Severn Stoke & Croome D'Abitot Parish Council meeting – 15th January 2020**

*Clerk/Cllr
Halling
Harrison*

Clerk

Clerk

Public Question Time

3 members of the public present.

Signed ChairmanDate