

STANTON UNDER BARDON PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 25TH MAY 2022.

PRESENT: Cllr Briggs – Vice Chair
Cllr West
Cllr Geary

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Eliza Hill – Parish Clerk

| Minute | Item | Action |
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| | The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. | |
| 1. | <u>Apologies</u> Apologies were received from Cllr Ramsay and County Councillor Bedford. | |
| 2. | <u>Minutes of the last meeting – 26th May 2021</u> It was proposed that the minutes be approved as a true account of the meeting. RESOLVED: That the motion be carried. | |
| 3. | <u>Chair's report</u> The Chair's report was received. The Parish Council members were disappointed to receive the resignation of Stuart Bridges from the Council. Stuart has given over 20 years' service to the Parish and his knowledge will be missed. A notice of vacancy was issued to seek his replacement. As nobody came forward, the Parish Council now has the power to co-opt a replacement. If anybody wishes to become a member of the Council and in doing so make a difference to the parish, then they should contact Eliza Hill, the Parish Clerk. Eliza has made a very positive contribution to the administration of the Council. She is the first Clerk employed by the Council who is fully qualified and she leads us competently through the increasingly legal aspects of parish council business. I would like to pass on Councillors thanks for her hard work. During the year, the Parish Council were represented at the planning appeal for the warehousing on Stanton Lane and whilst the Inspector approved the application, the scheme submitted was a substantial reduction on the first application and included more landscaping and the formation of a small nature reserve. The Parish Council hope to work with the developers to ensure that the impact of the warehousing on the village is as minimal as possible. Housing is always an emotive issue. Given the increasing demand for housing, all communities have to take their share. The Draft Local Plan currently being put forward by Hinckley and Bosworth has allocated 56 properties for Stanton under | |

Bardon. There has been an indication that an application for approximately 50 houses will be made in the near future on land off Main Street. Should this receive planning approval, the Parish Council will seek the reassurance of Hinckley and Bosworth that no further housing will be required to be constructed during the life of the Local Plan, ie 2039.

Following the death of the tree in the school grounds which the Parish Council had decorated with lights for many years, the Council has been looking for a suitable alternative location for Christmas decorations. It has now been agreed to place a tree adjacent to the Village Hall and it is the aim of the Council to have this in place for Christmas 2022.

HM The Queen asked for a Green Canopy to celebrate her Platinum Jubilee. The Parish Council have planted a horse chestnut in the recreation ground near to the new Muga. We look forward to seeing this grow in the years to come.

The Council has been in discussion with Marstons to place a second defibrillator at the Old Thatched Inn. A grant has been received from the Bardon Quarry Community Fund to assist with the financing of this. The Council is grateful for the assistance of both parties and hopes that the defib will be in place shortly.

The Parish Council has over the last years facilitated significant improvements to the village, from the Village Hall to the resurfacing of the children's play area. The Council is always open to receiving suitable suggestions from parishioners upon where they would like improvements made. If these are feasible, they can be budgeted for the future. So please let us know of anything.

Finally, this is the last Annual Parish Meeting before the elections in 2023 and I would like to thank all Councillors for their dedication and help in making improvements to the village.

4. Clerk/RFO Report

The Clerk's report was received.

It's been a busy year, finally returning to normal after zoom meetings becoming the norm for a while. The main project that was the focus of the year was the resurfacing of the children's play area which has been successfully completed.

The accounts for the financial year 2021/22 are in the process of being finalised, and will be submitted to the Council for approval at the next meeting in good time for submission to the external auditor in early July. The internal audit is underway. Dates will be published in due course when the accounts may be inspected by the public.

The finances of the Council are extremely healthy. This has meant that the Council has been able to spend on improving the recreational facilities in the village and undertake works to generally improve the appearance of the village yet. The precept for the Council is £ 12,357.50 pa, equating to £41.98 for a Band D property. The Council continues to make every endeavour to make use of grants available to it in order to make best use of our financial resources.

I would like to thank the councillors and our previous Chair who recently retired along with our litter picker come odd job man, for their continued, ongoing support.

5. County Councillors Report

No report received.

6. Borough Councillors Report

No report received.

7. Village Hall Report

No report received.

8. Luke Jackson Charity Report

A report was received from the trustees.

They confirmed that there has been no pay out for the last two years due to Covid but there will be this year, it is likely to be next month. The decrease in investment income has become an issue so the trustees are looking at ways to deal with that. Going forwards it may affect the viability of the charity which started in 1648.

Income is currently below £2000 per annum.

The charity will also be looking for a second trustee for Stanton soon as there is currently only one.

8. St John Cole Charity Report

The report was read out by Cllr Briggs on behalf of the Chair and Secretary of the secretary. The balance is currently £18,374 and there are 112 claimants. The charities activities were affected by the pandemic. A single payment was made of £50 during the pandemic to prevent elderly people queuing.

There are two trustees and one has stepped down due to ill health.

The next payment will be made around December.

9. Floor Open to the Public

Grants to the Village Hall were questioned – Parish Council were not in the position to comment as not aware. Parish Council do pay hire fee for Pensioners Christmas party as a grant.

Questions about the council governance including Freedom of Information requests, speed signs, boundaries, the Neighbourhood Plan and Code of Conduct.

A member of the public asked about school signage and lights – they were informed that this is outside of the Parish Council's remit and that it is up to school.

Meeting Concluded 19.40