

Rodney Stoke Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs H Marshall 3, Barrows Park, Cheddar BS27 3AZ Tel: 07423283940

Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Rodney Stoke Parish Council held in the Draycott Memorial Hall, Latches Lane, Draycott on Thursday 16th January 2020 at 7pm.

Present: Cllr Sealey (Chairman) and Cllrs Dollins, Gamester, Gladman, Hele Kergozou, James, McGovarin and Ward. Also present were County Cllr Noel, District Cllr Wyke, 4 members of the public and the Parish Clerk.

- 237.1 Apologies for absence:** Cllr Dudden, previous commitment. Cllr Haskins, personal commitment. The apologies were accepted.
- 237.2 Declarations of Interest.** Cllr James declared a personal interest in the request for a grant from St Leonards Church PCC.
- 237.3 Public Participation.** None
- 237.4 Minutes** of the Parish Council meeting held on 21st November 2019, having been previously circulated, were taken as read, and approved as a true record.
- 237.5 Co-option** for the vacancy for a Parish Councillor. No applications were received, and the vacancy will be advertised again.
- 237.6 Matters arising from the minutes:** The matter of wooden posts to be erected on Stoke Street verge: The Chairman reviewed the matter and showed the members a sample wooden post that the applicant is proposing to install. It was noted that the posts will have reflectors.
Resolution: Members were happy with the type of post proposed. The application is to be submitted.
- 237.7 Roads Report: Visibility Splay Stoke Street:** A response from the County Council is awaited to progress the installation of posts. The Council has contacted Gigaclear to remind them that it had been agreed that they would remove the gravel they placed at the splay, when they finished working in Stoke Street. **New Road Signage:** A response from the County Council is awaited to progress the revised signage. Priddy Parish Council have confirmed that they support our request for signage to be installed in their Parish. **Speed Indicator Device:** A response from the County Council is awaited to progress the Memorandum of Understanding. The cost of the machine has reduced.
Resolution: To complete the purchase. Unanimously agreed.
Support to resolve the above items has been sought from Cllrs Mike Pullin and John Woodman. Cllr Woodman has passed the information to Alyn Jones.
Road Closures were noted. **Speed limit in Back Lane** – roundels request, no update is available until data is collected. **Latches Lane, Bradley Cross Lane, top Road, School Lane, Draycott:** request for reduction in speed limit is still under discussion
- 237.8 Planning:**
- i. **Planning Report:** The report, having been previously circulated, was updated to reflect that new application 2020/0075 has been received.
 - ii. **Application 17/19/00095:** The application was discussed, including the following topics: Consultee comments; public comments; affordable housing limits; the size of the properties; the AONB; style, design and materials; the local drainage system; siting in Mendip District Council and Cheddar Parish and the development plan; Community Infrastructure Levy, which would be received by Cheddar Parish Council; environmental benefits; the tree buffer zone and maintenance; bats and wildlife zone; water runoff.
Resolution: To Object on the basis that the site is in the Mendip Hills AONB and open countryside; the site is outside of the development plan for the District and Parish Plans; to require a bat survey; the scale, style and appearance of the properties; need for smaller housing; more environmental benefits desired; to clarify who would be

responsible for the tree buffer zone; concerns over the treatment of runoff; concerns over local drainage and sewerage infrastructure.

The members of the public left the meeting.

237.9 County Council Report: The report is available in the minute book. Matters discussed included: Finances; the budget; the proposal for a unitary Council. Questions were asked and answered on the proposal. The Chairman thanked Cllr Noel very much for his help in securing a Members Improving Lives grant for the Parish Council's Play Area. Cllr Noel left the meeting.

237.10 District Council Report: Matters discussed included: Enforcement; the proposal for a unitary council; the Local Plan; local planning applications, and string development. The Chairman thanked District Cllr Wyke.

237.11 The Rev Cobley Playing Field Report:

- i. **Play Area Improvements:** A recommendation from the Play Area Committee was circulated prior to the meeting. The Committee proposed that the quotation from Kompan be accepted, both as the preferred equipment and the most competitive quote. It was noted that the need for the equipment continues and the profile of the villages has not changed. The project is to be funded in the most part by monies raised for this grant funding and budgeted funds with the remaining monies from an outstanding grant offer, part of a grant to the Parish and funds budgeted for community improvements.

Resolution: Cllr Dollins proposed that the project be awarded to Kompan Cllr Hele Kergozou seconded. Unanimously agreed.

Cllr Dollins thanked the committee for their hard work. The committee will make arrangements for opening the Play Area and for thanking those who have donated funds. If it is appropriate the final details will be uploaded to the Contracts Finder website. The Chairman asked if other members wished to join the committee in planning for the future of the Play Area. No members volunteered.

District Cllr Wyke left the meeting.

- ii. **Grass Cutting Contract:** Members considered the quotes received and the preference for the removal of grass cuttings.
Resolution: Cllr Dollins proposed awarding the 3 year contract, with an option to extend for 2 further years to GWB Services Ltd, Cllr McGovarin seconded. Agreed.

- iii. **Inspection Record Sheet:** Having been previously circulated, the revised sheet was discussed. Cllr Gladman reviewed the proposed procedure for completing checks.

Resolution: To remove the 'risk' element and approve the new form for immediate use.

The form was noted as excellent.

Resolution: Members present agreed to the circulation of their contact details among members of the Council. Cllrs Haskins and Dudden will be consulted before details are circulated.

237.12 New Memorial Hall Report. It was noted that the floor has been refurbished.

237.13 Burial Ground Report

- i. There were no **interments** this period.

- ii. **Levelling the plots:** Quotations were discussed.

Resolution: Cllr Dollins proposed to award the work to GWB Services Ltd. Cllr Gamester seconded. Unanimously agreed.

237.14 Footpath Walkers Report: Stiles: Members were pleased to note that The Mendip AONB are progressing the project to improve access to the footpaths. **Scaddens Lane Brook** path is deteriorating. Bristol Water have apologised for the delay and are

looking into the matter of ownership of the land.

- 237.15 Neighbourhood Watch:** the report was circulated at the meeting and is available in the Minute book. It was noted that there was a robbery from a yard in Rodney Stoke. The November update from the Police was noted.
- 237.16 Somerset Association of Local Councils: Website Accessibility Regulations: Resolution:** Cllr Dollins proposed that the Council seek a quote for an audit of the website to establish the burden that the regulations pose on the Council, Cllr Gamester seconded. Unanimously agreed.
Cllr Ward had previously circulated 20 suggested **environmental measures** that the Council could consider, and these were discussed including increased consideration of the environment in decision making. Cllr Ward reviewed recent guidance on **transport planning**. Cllr Ward noted that he is a member of the Local Councils County Committee.
- 237.17 Environmental Issues** the report was circulated at the meeting and is available in the Minute book.
- 237.18 Emergency Planning** Cllr Dollins updated action on the draft plan, and is currently investigating GDPR implications.
- 237.19 Community Matters: Fingerposts:** Cheddar Parish Council have confirmed that they would be pleased if the post opposite the Cider Barn were refurbished. A **Complaint** was discussed regarding staples left over from fly posting on wooden posts in the villages. The anti-social behaviour has caused injury to one resident. A notice will be placed in the newsletter and the Clerk is to write to various groups in the villages who may have put up posters.
- 237.20 Correspondence** was brought to the attention of the Council. Cllr Dollins will try to attend the Parish Forum. The Section 137 limit for 20-21 was noted as £8.32 per elector. There will be a presentation from the Sea Cadets at the Annual Parish Meeting.
- 237.21 Newsletter:** The following items are to be included: – local burglaries; Cllr vacancy; staples left in telegraph poles; award of Play Area contract and closure while works are carried out.
- 237.22 Statement of Accounts** The financial statement was approved and signed as a true record.
- 237.23 Finance:**
- i **Request from St Leonards Church for a grant** towards the church yard upkeep was discussed.
Resolution: Cllr Dollins proposed granting £500 Cllr Hele Kergozou seconded. Agreed.

Cllr James left the meeting.

- ii **Grants:** Questions were raised regarding the bodies requesting grants.
Resolution: To defer this item to March to allow Cllr Ward and the Clerk time to research and address the queries.
- iii **The fixed fee schedule** for the payroll and internal audit, having been previously circulated, were considered.
Resolution: Cllr Dollins proposed accepting the schedule Cllr Ward seconded. Agreed.
- iv **Resolution:** Cllr Dollins proposed that the **Payments Schedule** be approved. Cllr Gamester seconded. Agreed

Draycott Playing Fields Management Cttee	1618	Contribution towards costs	£	500.00
G Jeff	1619	Newsletter Printing	£	44.80
H Marshall	1620	Clerks Salary and Expenses	£	713.15
HMRC	1621	Clerks PAYE	£	30.73
Draycott Memorial Hall	1622	Room Hire 2020	£	90.00
A Chick	1623	Street Cleaning	£	205.25
H Marshall	1624	Clerks Salary and Expenses	£	741.77
HMRC	1625	Clerks PAYE	£	30.73
Probusiness Ltd	1626	Payroll Services	£	43.50
GWB Services Ltd	1627	Grass cutting Oct	£	103.25
St Leonards Church PCC	1628	Grant towards churchyard upkeep	£	500.00
H Dudden	1629	Grass cutting Pound and path	£	31.13

237.24 Dates of future meetings:

19th March, 21st May, 16th July, 17th September, 19th November **2020**

Meeting closed at: 9.40pm