

## STAUNTON ON WYE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Group Parish Council Annual General Meeting held on Monday 24 MAY 2021 in the Village Hall , Staunton on Wye.

**Present** – N Sellar (Vice Chair) , A Andrews , P Dyke, S Williams . R Skyrme, N Kinsey, E Pearson-Gregory, J Nelson.

There were two members of the public present in attendance together with Cllr G Jones.

**1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman** – The Clerk chaired this element of the meeting. Mr A Powles was elected as Chairman and Mr N Sellar was elected as Vice Chairman. Both Councillors were properly nominated and seconded.

**2. Apologies for absence** – A Powles and P Pantall.

**3. Declarations of Interest** – No declarations of interest were received.

**4. Minutes of meeting held on the 22 March 2021** – The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

**5. Matters Arising** – There were no Matters Arising.

**6. Planning Matters** –

211202 – The Beeches – The Clerk informed the meeting of the response that he had made in relation to this application on behalf of the Parish Council.

204027 – Florence House – The Clerk confirmed that he had forwarded a detailed response, to the Planning Department, in respect of this application.

BLISS HOUSE – The Clerk read the response that he had received from the County Council Enforcement Officer and the content that referred to the clearing of the area known as the “yard” at the end of the development and that such would be enforced. It was agreed that such should be undertaken. It was further agreed that clarification should be made regarding the area known as the “yard”.

OAKCHURCH FARM – Cllr Jones informed the meeting that a smaller application may well be made shortly in respect of Oakchurch Farm with the possibility of the proposed buildings being reduced by one third. N Sellar questioned the issue regarding the archaeology on the site and informed the meeting that consideration would have to be given to such proposals.

**7. Playing Field** – A Andrews addressed the meeting in respect of the last Safety Report that had been drawn up in respect of the Playground in October 2019. Report was made that a list of those issues that required immediate attention had been made and that a local builder had been approached to undertake such work. It was agreed that a quote be requested and further agreement was given to the undertaking of such work.

N Kinsey raised the matter of weeds growing around the borders of the Playing Field and agreed that she would be prepared to spray the affected areas.

**8. Highway Matters** – J Nelson informed the meeting of updates in respect of the local road signage and of the potholes and the proposed 20mph limit in the village. It was agreed that there was continued concern regarding these outstanding issues and further the speeding of vehicles on the A438 and the risk that posed to vehicles entering and exiting both Staunton and Monnington on Wye.

Cllr Jones reported on work currently being undertaken on drainage as part of a plan to sort out flooding issues and the consequent wearing away of road surfaces. He further raised the issue of vehicles being parked at Bredwardine Bridge. Comment was made that an article had been written recently in the Times advertising Wild Water swimming at that spot. Clearly that would raise concerns regarding large numbers of vehicles parking and the risk that posed to pedestrians and other vehicles. Cllr Jones concluded informing the meeting that a TRO application is in process.

The issue of verge cutting was raised and the meeting was informed that work is in progress.

The issue of a house in the village where a hedge is overgrowing and causing pedestrians to walk into the road was raised. The Clerk was requested to raise the issue with Lara Kennedy of Balfour Beatty with a request to gain assistance in getting it cut back.

**9. Parish Council Website** – The Clerk informed the meeting that he would be arranging a meeting with J Nelson and P Dyke to look at the costing of the website with a view to reducing such cost. It is likely that such a meeting will take place in August.

**10. Defibrillator** – The meeting was informed that the defibrillator had been inspected and it was noted that the pads within were considerably out of date. The Clerk agreed to contact the providers to order and replace the pads.

**11. Footpaths** – J Nelson informed the meeting that he has been walking local footpaths regularly. He agreed that should he come across any issues regarding footpaths that require Parish Council attention he will report back. The Clerk agreed to provide J Nelson with a copy of a map outlining local footpaths within the Parish.

**12, General Correspondence** – The Clerk read out a recent letter that he had received from PC Dean Wall of the West Mercia Police. PC Wall had expressed an interest in attending future Parish Council meetings. The Clerk was requested to write and invite PC Wall to the next meeting scheduled to be held in September. It was further agreed that the Parish Council should provide PC Wall with a short list of issues that were of concern to the Council.

The Clerk was requested to write to the Chief Executive expressing Parish Council concern at the current poor level of communication with Parish Councils.

It was agreed that the Clerk would set, as a Standing Item on future Agenda, the item of County Councillor's Report.

**13. Finance – ACCOUNTS FOR 2020/2021** - The Clerk informed the meeting of the current financial situation.

(1) - It was agreed that the Clerk should submit a request for a Certificate of Exemption for the Accounts 2021/2022

(2) – The Internal Audit Report has been carried out and signed off by Mr M Phillips.

(3) – The Annual Governance Statement was considered by the Parish Council and signed off by the Vice Chairman.

### **ACCOUNTS FOR 2021/2022**

(1) – It was proposed, seconded and carried unanimously that the Clerk's pay should remain at £1100 per annum.

(2) – It was agreed that the cheque signatories remain as A Powles, N Sellar, A Andrews and P Pantall with any two out of the four signatories.

(3) – It was agreed that S Grist ( Clerk ) should remain as the Responsible Financial Officer.

(4) - It was agreed that Mr M Phillips should remain as the Internal Auditor

(5) – The Clerk circulated the proposed account for 2021/2022. An amendment was requested that the monies set aside for elections should be transferred to that set aside for grass cutting. The proposed account was agreed.

**14 – Any Other Business** – There were no items of any other business.

**15 – Date of next meeting** – It was agreed that the next meeting should be held on the **13 SEPTEMBER 2021** at 7.30pm in the Staunton on Wye Village Hall.

The meeting concluded at 8.35pm