

**CANON FROME, CASTLE FROME, EGGLETON AND STRETTON GRANDISON
ANNUAL PARISH MEETINGS – RUN CONCURRENTLY**

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meetings held
at The Stables, Canon Frome on Monday 14th May 2018 at 7.00pm**

Present: Mr. Doug Smith – Chair of Stretton Grandison Group Parish Council – Chair for the meeting.

In attendance: Emma Thomas – Parish Clerk

Public: 14

1. **To Accept any Apologies for Absence and Note the Reason**
Apologies were RECEIVED from Mr. Rob Manning
2. **Welcome by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Douglas Smith**
All were welcomed to the meeting
3. **To Consider Approval of Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 2nd May 2017**
The minutes were APPROVED as an accurate record of the meeting and duly signed.
4. **To Receive Annual Report from Three Crosses Ward Councillor Jonathan Lester**
This item was deferred until Cllr. Lester had arrived.
5. **To Receive Annual Report from Chairman of the Parish Council**
Cllr Doug Smith deliver his short report which included:
 - Welcome to the new clerk – Emma Thomas. The clerk had completed her CiLCA and was now qualified.
 - Welcome to the new Council members – David Kaner and Jess Davies.
 - The NDP was ongoing – albeit slowly.
 - There had been more speed checking of traffic in the parishes.

It was **RESOLVED** to take item 4 next – following the arrival of Cllr. Lester.

Cllr Lester delivered a report which included:

- Cllr Lester had been cabinet member for children's services for the past three years and since 9th March 2018 had been made Leader of Herefordshire Council.
 - HC raised over £98 million in council tax of which 75% was spent on vulnerable people in the county.
 - The cabinet had recently agreed to spend £4.6 million on an extension to Marlbrook Primary School.
 - £1.25 million had recently been received from central government to assist with pothole repairs.
 - The recent Peer Review found that HC was financially stable.
 - The review also noted that communications with the community and parishes could be improved.
 - Key challenges to the county were in health issues of an aging population.
6. **To Receive Update on Neighbourhood Development Plan**
The clerk gave a summary of the NDP and the future timeline. The Call for Sites submissions had been received. The clerk was now waiting for technical assistance with these from AECOM. Once completed, a meeting of the NDP steering group would be called to progress the NDP further.
 7. **To Receive activities and accounts report from The Poorland Meadow Trust**
It was REPORTED that a new account was being opened for the Trust, so the accounts had been dormant for the past year.
 8. **Open Forum to discuss any matters relevant to the parishes**
The following issues were raised:
 - Potholes and the condition of the road was causing great concern. Cllr. Lester REPORTED that there was not enough money to repair all road issues. They would keep trying to receive extra funds from government. He had REQUESTED that diversion routes were looked at before being sent though Stretton Grandison so often.
 - Support in having a Speed Indicator Device on the A417 would be appreciated.
 - Communications over the NDP had been lacking – and it did not appear that all residents had received updates in the past. It was REPORTED that there had been few communications as the process was only just starting. There would be more in the coming months. It was NOTED that the Parish Council were looking at improved communications in their following meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.05pm

Signed: _____

Dated: 13/5/19.