

STRETTON GRANDISON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

**Parish Clerk: Mrs Emma Thomas, Hadleigh, Bishops Frome, Worcester, WR6 5AP. Tel: 01885 490414  
email: [pcgroupclerk@gmail.com](mailto:pcgroupclerk@gmail.com) website: [www.strettongrandisongpc.org.uk](http://www.strettongrandisongpc.org.uk)**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council  
held online via Zoom due to the Coronavirus  
on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Cllrs: Helen Heathfield (Chairman), Richard Henson, Andy Towers, Malcolm Davies, Charles Pudge and Richard Crompton.

**In attendance:** Emma Thomas – Parish Clerk,  
Cllr Jonathan Lester – Ward Councillor  
Jeanette Cohen-Brand – Census Engagement Manager - Herefordshire

**Public:** 11

**1. To Accept any Apologies for Absence and Note the Reason**

None

**2. To Record any Declarations of Interest and Consider any Requests for Dispensations**

Cllr Helen Heathfield DECLARED an NPI against item 8e. The Clerk signed the book on her behalf.

**3. To Consider Approval of Minutes of Parish Council meetings held Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

The minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.

**4. To welcome Jeanette Cohen-Brand to the meeting to give information on the data collection process for the Census 2021**

Jeanette Cohen-Brand was welcomed to the meeting and gave the following information.

- Census day is 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021 – it takes place every 10 years.
- This year data collection will be done digitally.
- The census data is important as it forms the basis for many grants and funding schemes within the county and from Central Government.
- A range of support will be put in place to assist those who may struggle to complete the data needed.
- There are employment opportunities available for anyone wishing to assist with the data collection – contact the clerk or [census.gov.uk](http://census.gov.uk)

**5. Public Participation Session for Local Residents to raise matters relevant to the Parish Council**

The following items were RAISED:

- Concern and dismay was expressed about the length of time it is taking to determine planning application 202585.
- Concerns were raised about some of the supporting documents.

*Cllr Ed Godsall joined the meeting*

*Jeanette Cohen-Brand left the meeting*

**6. To receive a brief report from Three Crosses Ward Councillor Jonathan Lester**

Cllr Lester's report included the following items:

- The planning officer for the application mentioned in item 5 has been contacted and asked that the application is determined as soon as possible for the well-being of all involved. Once a response has been received it will be forwarded to the clerk.
- Recruitment of Herefordshire Council's new Chief Executive is taking place.
- The budget is the main topic of discussion at Herefordshire Council meetings at present.
- Council tax is looking likely to be raised by 4.99% for 2021-22 financial year.
- A meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February will determine the fate of the bypass.

*Two parishioners left the meeting*

**7. Planning:**

**a) To consider any planning applications referred for comment**

None

**b) To note the planning record (attached) and details of decision notices received from Herefordshire Council**

The following table was NOTED

<u>DATE</u>	<u>APPLICATION NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>PC COMMENT</u>	<u>HFD COUNCIL DECISION</u>
Nov 2019	<b>193574</b>	<b>Monksbury Court, Monkhide Village Road, Monkhide, HR8 2TU</b> Change of use of Dutch barn to 2 units of new residential accommodation.	Support	<b>Approved with conditions</b>

Further to the item raised under item 5, the clerk explained that the Parish Council had submitted their response to this application and therefore nothing more could be said about the content. The Clerk AGREED to ask the planning officer why the application was taking so long to be decided, as will the Chair.

**8. Finance:**

**a) To Consider the January finance report and bank statements. – Appendix 1**

The clerk REPORTED that finances were healthy. It was NOTED that following the payment of the grant from the PCC, the Parish Council would have to have an external audit this year. This is usually in the region of £200. The report was APPROVED as evidence of budget monitoring and bank reconciliation.

**b) To Receive Update on Poorlands Meadow Trust**

It was REPORTED that until face-to-face meetings restart it is almost impossible to open a bank account.

**c) To Note the following payments made between meetings under Clerks Delegated Authority (Finance Regulations item 5.5)**

- a) Clerks December Salary
- b) HMRC PAYE £240.80

The above payments were NOTED

**d) To consider the following invoices for payment**

- a) Clerks January Salary
- b) Clerks January expenses £17.05 – previously circulated
- c) Autela Payroll Services £51.25

The above invoices were APPROVED for payment.

**e) To consider a PWLB Loan to enable affordable housing at Canon Frome Court**

The Chair explained that the three houses ear-marked for development would all be for local people at affordable rates.

The clerk REPORTED that she had taken advice from HALC on this matter. Neither HALC nor the clerk would recommend taking out a PWLB loan for this purpose. It would set a precedent for the Parish Council assisting with funding of private development schemes. The Clerk also advised that the Parish Council did not have the reserves available to negate the risk of taking on such a project.

*Six parishioners left the meeting*

**9. Highways/Footpaths:**

**a) To receive an update on the installation of traffic calming measures through Stretton Grandison and consider next steps.**

The clerk REPORTED that the white gates had been ordered and the SID speed surveys undertaken. The installation of the SID bases and the ordering of SID's are in the following items. The clerk would chase up the signage.

**b) To consider paying for the installation of two SID bases £800 plus VAT.**

It was AGREED that the installation of the SID bases should be paid for.

**c) To consider choosing which SID's to purchase.**

It was AGREED that two Stocksigns solar SID models should be purchased at a cost of £4708 + VAT. The clerk thanked Mrs Marjie Evans for researching and proposing several options of SID's for purchase.

*Two parishioners left the meeting*

**d) To consider issues with overgrown verges.**

It was AGREED that Cllr Pudge should email the clerk so they could be reported.

**e) To consider the possible closure of the footbridge connecting Canon Frome to Stretton Grandison**

It was AGREED that the situation should be monitored and revisited if need be.

**10. To consider an update on Faster Broadband in Canon Frome**

It was REPORTED that Canon Frome is now connected to fibre broadband.

**11. To consider organising a parish get-together.**

It was AGREED to defer this to the May meeting

**12. To consider any correspondence received by the Clerk**

None

**13. To consider any items for the next agenda (no discussion)**

None

14. **To note the date of the next meeting – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – via Zoom**  
NOTED

*The meeting closed at 20.55*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: \_\_\_\_\_