

STRETTON GRANDISON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Mrs Emma Thomas, Hadleigh, Bishops Frome, Worcester, WR6 5AP. Tel: 01885 490414
email: pcgroupclerk@gmail.com website: www.strettongrandisongpc.org.uk

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council
held at Ashperton Village Hall
on Monday 14th November 2022 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs: Helen Heathfield (Chairman), Andy Towers, Charles Pudge and Malcolm Davies

In attendance: Emma Thomas – Parish Clerk
Ward Cllr Jonathan Lester
Olivia Manning – Potential Cllr Co-optee

Public: 0

1. **To accept any Apologies for Absence and Note the Reason**
Apologies were RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Cllr Richard Crompton.
2. **To record any Declarations of Interest and Consider any Requests for Dispensations**
None

Cllr Ed Godsall joined the meeting

3. **To consider co-opting a Councillor for Castle Frome Parish**
Olivia Manning was invited to say a few words about why she wished to be a Parish Councillor. She was duly co-opted and signed her Acceptance of Office form. The clerk gave her a Register of Interest form and advised that this needed to be sent to Herefordshire Council within 28 days.

Cllr. Olivia Manning joined the meeting

4. **To consider the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 9th May 2022 and any issues therein**
The minutes were considered. There were no issues to discuss further.
5. **To consider Approval of Minutes of Parish Council meeting held Monday 9th May and 14th October 2022**
Both sets of minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.
6. **To receive a brief Report from Three Crosses Ward Councillor Jonathan Lester**
Cllr Lester's report included the following items:
 - Attended 4 PC meetings regarding the Whitwick Manor development – all 4 have objected.
 - Comments can still be submitted to the Planning Department on this application.
 - A Full Council motion to write to central government requesting the national voting system is changed to proportional representation has been deferred to the next meeting
 - The budget process is ongoing
 - The Scrutiny Committee will continue to look at the Planning Service.
7. **Public Participation Session for Local Residents to raise matters relevant to the Parish Council**
None
8. **Finance:**
 - a) **To consider the November 2022 finance report and bank statements. – Appendix 1**
The clerk REPORTED that the budget was underspent and that by the end of the year, reserves would be at a healthy figure. Moving forwards the PC would need to think of their next highway project. The report was APPROVED as evidence of budget monitoring and bank reconciliation.
 - b) **To note the following payments made between meetings under Clerks Delegated Authority (Finance Regulations item 5.5)**
 - a) Clerks June Salary
 - b) Clerks July Salary
 - c) Clerks July expenses £26.41 – previously circulated
 - d) HMRC PAYE £292.80
 - a) Clerks August, September and October salaries
 - b) Ashperton Village Hall Meeting Hire – May and July £54.00
 - c) BHIB Insurance £395.58
 - d) Stocksigns Ltd – Replacement solar panel for the SID £624 (as agreed via email)

e) HMRC PAYE £293.40

f) Autela Payroll Services – 2 invoices – total £115.63

The above payments were NOTED

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

a) Clerks November expenses £129.43 – Previously circulated

b) Clerk's November salary

The above payments were APPROVED for payment by BACS

d) **To note the direct debit payment to the ICO of £35**

NOTED

e) **To consider the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements 2022-27**

It was RESOLVED not to opt out of these arrangements.

f) **To consider adopting the revised Standing Orders in light of new procurement legislation changes.**

It was RESOLVED to adopt the updated Standing Orders.

g) **To consider the draft budget and precept for 2023-24 – Appendix 2**

It was RESOLVED to defer this item until the January meeting to allow Cllrs to think further on the next possible project they wish to undertake.

9. Planning:

a) **To consider any planning applications referred for comment, for determination by Herefordshire Council**

1: - **223573 - The Beech House, Stretton Grange, Stretton Grandison, Ledbury, HR8 2TS**

Proposed removal at ground level of large Horse Chestnut (TPO ref 547) with fungus next to Beech House and the neighbouring property Yew Tree House

It was AGREED that it was impossible to comment on this application without the required Tree Report attached.

2: - **222937 - Park View, Stretton Grandison, Ledbury, HR8 2TP**

Propose to form new internal disabled use shower/w.c within existing garage at ground floor requiring some modification of an existing internal oak frame

It was RESOLVED to support this application

3: - **222498 - Land at Birchend Farm, Birchend, Bosbury, Herefordshire HR8 1HF**

Proposed change of use of land from agricultural to equine, with the erection of a stable barn and Menage

It was RESOLVED to support this application

b) **To consider the Rural Settlement Hierarchy – Revised Audit**

It was NOTED that after the first filter all 4 parishes had been removed as options for further development. The document has not yet been legalised so the clerk advised that the PC continue to monitor the situation.

c) **To consider the "Role of Neighbourhood Planning within and alongside the new Local Plan 2021-41" document**

NOTED

d) **To consider a response to the Ashperton Estate Woodlands Management Plan Public Consultation**

It was RESOLVED to thank the agent for the consultation but make no further comment.

10. Highways/Footpaths:

a) **To consider any highway or footpaths issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty**

The following items were RAISED for reporting:

- A sign needs installing on the westbound side of the A4103 on Fromes Hill warning of stationary traffic at the junction with the B4214.

b) **To consider an update on claiming for a replacement solar panel for the SID from the insurance company**

It was REPORTED that the panel has been delivered to Cllr Davies and it will be installed as soon as possible.

c) **To consider investigating setting up a Community Speed Watch Group for Stretton Grandison**

It was RESOLVED that the clerk should get more details on this from the Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator at West Mercia Police.

08/22

11. To consider the next litter pick and a schedule for the coming year – Appendix 3

It was RESOLVED that each Cllr should pick a coloured route to undertake litter picks on. The following routes were chosen:

- Helen Heathfield: Medium Blue
- Ed Godsall: Purple
- Malcolm Davies: Dark Blue
- Charles Pudge: Salmon Pink
- Andy Towers: From Blacklands garage to Brinsop Barn along the A417

Cllrs were REMINDED that they should not pick on routes marked by black dots as these were deemed too dangerous by Balfour Beatty

Cllr Lester left the meeting

12. To consider any correspondence received by the Clerk

- Resignation letter from Richard Henson - *NOTED*
- Village Safety Initiative update from Balfour Beatty – *no decision yet.*

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

Budget and precept; possible highways projects

14. To note the date of the next meeting –9th January 2023 – Ashperton Village Hall

NOTED

A resolution was passed to exclude the press and public from the following confidential item – Employment Matters

15. To consider the clerks annual appraisal, salary review and National Salary Award 2022-23

The Chair REPORTED that the annual appraisal had been undertaken. The Clerk was thanked for her hard work. It was AGREED to approve the National Salary Award and back date it to 1st April 2022.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

Signed: _____ Dated: 9-1-23