

STRETTON GRANDISON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Mrs Emma Thomas, Hadleigh, Bishops Frome, Worcester, WR6 5AP. Tel: 01885 490414
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Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Ashperton Village Hall
on Monday 15th January 2024 at 7.30pm

The meeting was preceded by a meeting with Ashperton Parish Council about highway safety on the A417

Four members from both Parish Councils, along with both clerk's and the Ward Cllr met to have an informal discussion about highway safety issues along the A417. It was AGREED that it would be useful to work together on such issues moving forwards. In the first instance it was AGREED that a joint project of supplying with and encouraging parishioners to stick 30mph and "drive safely" signs onto their wheelie bins will be taken back to the respective Councils for approval. It was AGREED that Pixley PC should also be asked if they wish to join the project.

Present: Cllrs: Helen Heathfield (Chair), Charles Pudge, Richard Crompton, Andy Towers and Rebecca Tully

In attendance: Emma Thomas – Parish Clerk
Ward Cllr Jonathan Lester

Public: 0

1. To accept any Apologies for Absence and Note the Reason

Apologies were RECEIVED and ACCEPTED from Cllrs: Charlotte Phillips and Olivia Manning

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

None

3. To consider Approval of Minutes of Parish Council meeting held Monday 13th November 2023

The minutes were APPROVED and duly signed by the Chair.

Cllr Ed Godsall joined the meeting

4. To receive a brief Report from Three Crosses Ward Councillor Jonathan Lester

Cllr Lester's report included the following items:

- Childrens Services will remain under the responsibility of Herefordshire Council despite improvements being slow.
- Wetland works are ongoing – Luston wetlands is working
- A government grant has been received for on-going phosphate mitigation measures
- Midlands Connect is discussing railway projects in Herefordshire – including an extra track from Ledbury towards Worcester and a station in Pontrilas
- A consultation on The County Plan is on-going at present
- A consultation regarding the budget for 2024-25 has taken place. There will be an increase of 4.99% in Council Tax for the coming year.
- It was requested that Cllr Lester investigate when the highway by Stanley Hill will be resurfaced as it is dangerous.

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

None present

Ward Cllr Jonathan Lester left the meeting

6. To consider the following planning application for determination by Herefordshire Council

a) 203313 – Land at the Barn, Canon Frome

Outline application with all matters, save access, reserved for the erection of up to two detached dwellings.

It was RESOLVED to support this application as it is ear-marked for development within the NDP.

7. Finance:

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

The clerk REPORTED that spend against budget remained low. The report was APPROVED and signed as evidence of budget monitoring and bank reconciliation.

b) To consider the following invoices for payment

- a) Clerks January Salary
- b) Clerks January expenses £17.49 – previously circulated
- c) Autela Payroll Services - £54.58
- d) HALC Affiliation fee 2024-25 £596.82
- e) Eyelid Productions – Web support £100.00
- f) Herefordshire Council – Elections recharges - £480.19

The above invoices were APPROVED for payment by BACS

c) To note the payments made between meetings under clerks delegated authority

- a) Clerks December Salary
- b) HMRC PAYE - £370.45

The above payments were NOTED and approved.

8. Highways/Footpaths:**a) To consider any highway or footpaths issues for reporting to Balfour Beatty**

None – although the general state of over-growth along verges was noted.

b) To consider the cycle access and safety along the A4103

It was AGREED to defer this item to the March meeting. Cllr Tully will draw a map of the route and the issues with it.

c) To consider the meeting with Ashperton Parish Council on the issue of highway safety on the A417 and next steps

It was REPORTED that a joint project with Ashperton and Pixley Parish Councils to supply with and encourage parishioners to stick 30mph and “drive safely” signs onto their wheelie bins is planned. It was RESOLVED to support such a project. It was RESOLVED that the clerk will wait a response from Pixley and Ashperton Parish Councils and then purchase (up to £100) enough stickers (30mph and “drive safely”) for distribution between the three parishes. The cost will be shared pro-rata between the three Councils. It was RESOLVED that Cllrs would distribute the stickers by hand – alongside a slip explaining the project – to those properties along the A417.

9. To consider the parish noticeboards

It was REPORTED that the hedge behind the board in Stretton Grandison has been removed. The noticeboard is dangerous and needs removing as soon as possible. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Ed Godsall would remove the board and dispose of it. It was RESOLVED that costs for a replacement board will be bought to the March meeting. It was RESOLVED that Cllrs Tully and Heathfield would ask Canon Frome Court and St James Church if they wished to jointly (along with the Parish Council) replace the current board in Canon Frome with a new one. It was further AGREED that Cllrs Pudge and Godsall would consider if it would be useful to have a board in the parishes of Castle Frome and Eggleton and if so where.

10. To consider meeting venues for the 2024 meetings

It was AGREED to have the March meeting at St James Church in Canon Frome. It was further AGREED that Cllrs should continue to think of other venues throughout the parishes to hold meetings in the future.

11. To consider a project to help combat loneliness in the parishes.

It was AGREED to defer this item until the March meeting. It was AGREED that Cllrs Godsall and Crompton would investigate ownership of the telephone exchange in Stretton Grandison as Cllrs would like to investigate setting up a Community Hub in the parishes.

12. To consider a newsletter for the parishes

It was REPORTED that there are different options for a newsletter – with the logistics of delivery being a key organisational task. It was AGREED that Cllr Pudge would email Cllrs a copy of the Frome Vally News and the clerk will email a copy of Ocle Pychard’s Community News for Cllrs to consider. The item will be revisited at the March meeting.

13. To consider any correspondence received by the Clerk

- Highway flooding signs - NOTED
- HALC Information Corner - NOTED

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

None

15. To note the date of the next meeting – 18th March 2024 – St James Church – Canon Frome

NOTED

The meeting closed at 20.50

Signed: _____ Dated: _____