

Minutes of the Stathern Parish Council AGM
Tuesday 14th May 2019 in Stathern WMI

Present: Cllrs Rhodes, Steadman, Evans, Ramsay, Bray, Humberstone, Hourd, Underwood, Smith, O'Donoghue
Clerk: J Collins.

Members of the public: 11

170. Election of a Chair

Cllr Smith proposed Cllr Bray, seconded by Cllr Underwood and Ramsay

171. Election of Deputy Chair

Cllr Ramsay proposed Cllr Smith, seconded by Cllr Underwood

172. Apologies for absence

none

Cllr Bray invites anyone present to speak.

Cllr Rhodes spoke on behalf of Leicestershire County Council. LCC deliver 80% of the services provided in Stathern. The main services are adult social care, and children particularly special educational needs children. Highways issues – pot holes, speeding traffic, library services and environmental, footpaths and land use. They don't cover planning that is the Borough. Stathern is a controlled school.

Financing for Leicestershire local government is as short as for everyone else, they are surviving and out of 150 local governments Leicestershire are the most efficient. Leics. matters gives details, consultation on future priorities of funding use is coming out soon
800million per year spent. another 70 million to save. Want to improve highways, as budget has halved. always at end of email. he has 12 PC meetings to attend but tries to get to as many as possible.

Resident sends thanks to PC for funding towards the defibrillators.

Speedwatch ask what to do with the old worn out speed sign – PC will look into safe disposal of it.

173. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 9th April 2019

The minutes of the meeting, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members. Resolved that these are accepted and signed by the Chair.

174. Declarations of interest and dispensations

To be declared during the agenda item if applicable.

175. Receipt of SRA committee meeting minutes

No meeting to report on. Planning work for party in the park

176. Receipt of Stathern Neighbourhood plan advisory committee meeting minutes

Area designation letter has been received by MBC

The last minutes have been circulated but have not yet need signed off by the group. The NHP meetings need to be timed so they sit before the PC meeting to enable the minutes to signed off prior to the next PC meeting.

177. Approval to start funding bid for NHP

This year's funding stream has just been confirmed it is open, which hadn't opened. This needs approval to start – Resolved to start the funding bid.

178. Appoint SRA members to the council

SRA committee is a spending committee of the council and is empowered to co-opt its own members, it needs 2 Councillors on the committee. Resolved that Cllr Ramsay and Smith sit on the committee.

179. Appointment of Stathern Neighbourhood Plan advisory committee

This committee is the same basis as the SRA, it is delegated to co-op its own members and must document in the minutes who they are. 2 Cllr's are required and 1 of those as Chair. Cllr Underwood was elected Chair, Cllr's Bray and Smith are also committee members.

180. Appointment of Stathern William Hands Charity trustees

All Councillors are to be trustees – this is a small charity set up in 1800's to provide for the poor.

They now give a Christmas donation to all residence over 85 each year.

Resolved that Cllr's Bray, Smith, Ramsay, Underwood, O'Donoghue and Humberstone are appointed trustees.

181. Correspondence/Planning Applications received prior to the meeting

Correspondence

Leics. communities – invite to NHP network event on Tues 21st May. Reply due end of week, David Shelton has offered to go. Cllrs agree that David Shelton shall attend.

G Kirk – NHP conference 6th June 9:30 in Mkt Harborough

LRALC – re management of memorials course info

Mr Scarborough Invoice for April grass cutting £400 – Resolved that this invoice is to be paid.

MBC – agenda for MBC meeting on 16th May

ROSPA – Quote for playpark inspection £54 plus vat – Resolved that this work is to be carried out and approval for the future payment

Prospective resident regarding the passing over of the allotment tenancy on the purchase of 3 Main Street – Resolved that the new tenant will be allowed to continue to rent the allotment garden

Mr Kennedy requesting payment for the posts put in around the cemetery (Tofts Hill) £56.40 as agreed in item 106 in December 2018. Resolved this is to be paid.

Richard Bye of Highways – re Bridleway G24, he found no issues when he visited, trespass with a vehicle is a matter for the landowner

Letter from resident – regarding the Mill Hill development, letter is read out.

Cycle live Nottingham – They have an event nearby on Sun 23rd June, their route covers Stathern and Long Lane.

Planning applications

19/00407/TCA – Felling of 2 non fruiting cherry trees. Bramble Cottage, 6 Penn Lane Cllr

Underwood declared an interest as friends of the applicants – Resolved nothing to report

19/00321/FUL – Proposed new dwelling and change of use for outbuilding from office to residential –Concern over lack of sufficient parking spaces, and the risk of damage to the

verge by the highway if used for parking due to the lack of space on site. The new build is in a conservation area and will harm the setting of nearby important village buildings.

Resolved to object to the new build

Application for change of use of outbuilding from office to residential – Resolved nothing to report, no objection.

182. Blacksmith End planning proposal

Clerk spoke to John Cosgrove at MBC and it is currently parked with no action. MBC are waiting to give applicant time to withdraw it, otherwise it will be refused in due course – Resolved that when the application is withdrawn or refused it will be removed from the agenda. Unless any further action is taken by the applicant.

183. Mill Hill Planning development

An informal meeting was held with Pegasus and Davidsons on 2nd May to hear any feedback to date on the open exhibition and any changes since that time, in which there was a useful exchange of views.

The number of dwellings has been reduced to 85, although the Melton plan calls for 65. Developers view any number on a plan is a minimum. This village responded to the consultation for the Melton Plan but were ignored.

As stated in the Melton Plan, development should fit in with the village – this density does not fit in with the village or respect its surroundings.

The aerial view of the landscape from Mill Hill will be changed drastically by this proposal and density, the unique nature of this is quite different from most other sites and must be addressed.

Developers raised the use of PC land at the bottom of Mill Hill on the corner of the proposed site. They are offering to make it into parking spaces but PC are concerned this could be used to justify more houses by allowing this.

Developers will attend the next PC meeting on 4th June to present their updated plan. They intend to apply for full permission later in June, then the more formal process of objections can begin. Pegasus are keen to discuss the use of any 106 funds, whether this is towards school, the play park, village hall, traffic calming measures or any suggestions that are presented. Once the planning application goes in, this is the time that ideas are required to be put forward, Pegasus welcome ideas and are keen to keep the funds within the village. Once planning permission is granted the opportunity for proposals is lost.

No information of which house designs are being proposed is available at this point Cllr Bray has since visited Waterford Heights on Nottingham Road, Melton. A site recently built by Davidsons. He noted that - it is all very dense, concrete, brick and tarmac. Fences are close boarded with no gaps, it is not nature friendly, there is no wildlife pathway across the estate. Social housing is tucked away in 3 corners not seen from main road. The houses seem well built and are well finished internally.

To date there are 300 signatures on the petition with more houses to do once the planning application goes in.

Resolved that the opportunity regarding the PC land at the bottom of Mill Hill is explored, incorporating it into the site design is favourable, but it needs to be sympathetic, and we should retain ownership. Clerk to indicate we want to discuss options; they should come up with ideas and get back to us at or before the next PC meeting on 4th June.

184. Payments and Receipts

Payments

Clerk salary	£438.00	22581
SSE Electricity (April)	£98.30	Direct Debit 25/04
Elan City	£2389.80	22582
Water Plus – Allots	£95.20	22583
Post Office (Clerk)	£15.72	22584
Mr Kennedy	£56.40	22585
J Daws	£19.01	22586
K Clayphan	£100.00	22587
R Scarborough	£400.00	22588
BHIB	£272.61	22589
NALC / LRALC	£240.92	22590
LRC	£17.00	22591

Invoices inspected and payment for the above is approved

Receipts

Purchase of grave plot	£310.00
Internment	£105.00
MBC 1st ½ of precept	£8750.00

185. Annual audit – annual governance statement approval

Completed and signed by the Chair, a copy has been emailed to all Cllrs prior to meeting

186. Annual audit – annual governance approval accounting statement

Completed and signed by the Chair, a copy has been emailed to all Cllrs prior to meeting

Following internal audit report, resolved to stipulate check every quarter and include in the agenda / minutes.

187. NALC / LRALC and LRC annual membership renewal

Resolved that £240.92 and £17 membership payment is approved

188. Appoint a Councillor as a delegate to attend LRALC AGM

Sat 15th June, 10:30am at Leicester County Hall – Resolved that no representative is to attend.

189. Renewal of Parish Council Insurance

We are with BHIB on a 3-year rolling deal until 31st May 2021. Renewal cost is £272.61

Resolved that the renewal fee is approved. Also the extra cover required for party in the park event, Cllr Smith to email clerk details of extra cover needed, clerk to contact insurers and establish any extra payment required.

190. Approval of quotation to remove dead wood from churchyard

3 quotes – Price £940 – 970, Wadkin £520, Sochacki £265

Clerk asked a further company, Greenfields countryside for a guide due to the large variation in quotes. A suggested figure of £400 plus vat would be accurate for the work

Resolved to with the cheapest quote but first request a copy of their risk assessment for the job, and confirm they will do all the work as per report. Clerk to check our insurance policy covers us for them to do the work.

191. Street lights - #8 is in need of urgent replacement

Light #8 is rotting at ground level, cost is £1029 plus vat to replace. Having clarified the state of the others they can be replaced as and when we have the funds. E-ON will let us know if an old lantern is burnt out or beyond repair. Church lane street light request for removal has been withdrawn for now, long term it is still an issue, consider moving closer to the church in the future.

Resolved this work is to be done, a street light is needed in this location, it should be financed out of the contingency fund. Clerk to produce a spreadsheet of the lights

192. Review and adopt Code of Conduct, Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

All 3 are from the NALC model templates, the main change is around data protection. No data protection officer is needed, but a written record of what Clerk does with the data is required and Clerk to do this.

A copy has been sent to Cllrs prior to meeting.

Resolved to adopt these and the clerk is to produce a form for Cllrs to sign to state they have accepted these.

193. Approval to contribute towards monthly printing costs

Clerk is using own printer and ink package. Ink package is for 100 pages a month at a cost of £3.49 This is going over the allowed pages. Cost of ink used by clerk last year was £75. Next package up is £7.99 a month for 400 pages or £17.99 for 700 pages, there is scope adjust up and down the packages as required. Printing has increased considerably due to the NHP, SHM and proposed developments.

Resolved to approve payment of £7.99 package and approved for Clerk to move up to the £17.99 package on a busy month. Clerk to inform Cllrs if moving to the more expensive package.

194. Gote

For the benefit of the new Cllrs this started as a planning application. Within the highlighted area on the application there was some debate in the PC about ownership of some of the land thought to belong to the PC.

Following investigation an old hand drawn map of the now closed cemetery was located. Years ago this was used when the graves were being filled. Some of plots near the corner by the Gote never got filled. When the cemetery was closed, a new boundary line was drawn and for some reason it was drawn around the filled graves rather than to the original corner of the Gote. When the PC registered the land in 2010 it was done with the incorrect boundary line. In 2012 the church then registered this small area of land along with the field beyond and merged both parts into one when they were sold to Mr Kennedy.

The PC are concerned with protecting the graves, Cllr Bray and the Clerk measured the graves matching them to the hand written map of filled graves. The edge of the last grave in the corner nearest the Gote is right on the very edge of the land where the ground drops away.

Cllr Bray has drafted a memo to Mr Kennedy, a copy is on file. He has also seen him on site and gone through the above detail with him. Mr Kennedy wants to establish the gateway so he can get access to his stable block, as the current access from Tofts Hill will be blocked when he builds his new house.

Cllr Bray proposes to send the drafted letter outlining the details of the investigation to draw this matter to a close.

Resolved that the letter / memo inspected by the Cllrs is to be sent and the matter closed.

195. Village matters

Cllr required to attend training for 106 on 26th June 6-9pm – Resolved that Cllr Humberstone will attend

Approval of Mr Hourd's quote of £250 for replace post and refit the village sign is proposed – Resolved that this quote is approved and the work to go ahead.

Approval of ROSPA inspection of playpark at a cost of £54 plus vat is proposed – Resolved that quote is approved and the inspection takes place.

Redmile developments

- mud on road, Clerk reported as per complaints. The herras fencing is well onto highway land. Clerk to inform planners.
- Sign gone up on the highways outside of their land. Clerk to follow up with highways and planning
- Soil being moved off site by local farmer, does he need or have a waste licence. Cllr Steadman says no licence is required

Sheds on the allotments, tenants should ask permission before a shed goes up, Clerk to follow up

Condition of allotments, add allotment review and action to next month's agenda.

Gateway into allotments – Clerk to check if the access to allotments is registered and if it needs formalising. It is understood that Mr R Atton had registered an interest in the track/road but not owned it. Is it registered as a right of way for allotments.

WMI has an independent management committee. The PC are only trustees of the hall, there ought to be a member of PC on the committee. Make feedback from WMI a standing item on the agenda

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 4th June 2019

Meeting closed: 9:30