

STANTON UNDER BARDON PARISH COUNCIL



Unapproved

Parishioners: 6

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2ND MAY 2017, AT THE VILLAGE HALL, STANTON UNDER BARDON, LEICESTERSHIRE, COMMENCING AT 7PM

PRESENT: Mr Bridges (Chairman)
Mrs Briggs (Vice-Chair)
Mr West
Mr Geary
Mr Briggs

CLERK: Ms Beesley

Mr Stuart Bridges opened the meeting by welcoming everyone.

Apologies – Councillor M Lay

174/17 Declaration of Interests – A Non-Pecuniary interest in the village hall was declared by Mary Briggs

175/17 Acceptance of minutes of the previous meeting – 4th April 2017

RESOLVED: That the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record

Proposed: Mr I Briggs Seconded: Mr S Bridges

174/17 Matters arising from those minutes

Minute No. 148/17 – Speed Camera

Mrs Briggs informed the meeting that information was awaited from LCC on the positioning of the speed cameras.

Minute No. 163/17 – Weed Spraying

Quotation from Brian Mee Associates (now M&BG) to be sought, together with one other, for spraying vacant areas and plots of the allotments.

Minute No. 163/17 – Hanging Baskets

Mrs Briggs had contacted Leicestershire County Council and had received information on their requirements for using lamp posts for hanging baskets. There were detailed requirements which must be met, including the inspection of the lamp posts.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That Mrs Briggs seek information on the cost of lamp-post baskets, flower towers and street planters and report to a future meeting.
- (ii) That Mr Bridges contact Ibstock with a view to obtaining information on the contractor who waters their baskets.

Minute No. 163/17 – Street Signs

Mrs Briggs had contacted Nailstone Parish Council who had recently had new street signs, which were part of their Conservation Area.

RESOLVED: That Mrs Briggs contact HBBC with a view to obtaining the name of the supplier of the name plates in order that costs could be reported to a future meeting.

Minute No. 163/17 – Wheelie Bin Race

Mr Briggs reported that he had discussed the race with the Landlord of The Old Thatched Inn, who was aware of his responsibilities.

Minute No. 164/17 – Internal Audit

The Audit will be held on 10th May

Minute No. 167/17 – Village Hall

Mrs Briggs reported that she had been unable to contact the plumber, but would try again. The electrician was to be at the hall the next day and would inspect the burglar alarm. The letter of thanks had been sent to the Trustees.

Mr I Smith had reported to her that there was a broken manhole cover in the overflow car park area. Mrs Briggs to take this up with Persimmon.

Minute No. 169/17 – Sale of Land to Persimmon

Legal advice has been asked from LRALC regarding the sale of the land to Persimmon. This is expected for the next meeting. Despite leaving several messages, Mrs Briggs had been unable to speak to Grant Thornton to ensure that they were now satisfied.

RESOLVED: That Mrs Briggs write to Grant Thornton stating that, as there had been no response to messages, the file would now be closed.

Minute No. 170/17 – Barbed Wire

177/17 The Clerk to let the letter writer have details of how to contact the farmer. Mr Bridges undertook to discuss the matter with the farmer.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING TO ENABLE COMMENTS/QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE THE CHAIRMAN (MAXIMUM 10 MINUTES)

Sale of Land by Persimmon

A parishioner enquired about the progress of land to the rear of his property on St John Cole Crescent. The Chairman stated that slow progress was being made and the documents had been signed and returned to the solicitors. Problems with the Persimmon plans not agreeing with the Land Registry plan had delayed the sale. The resident of St John Cole Crescent reported that he believed the residents of nos. 41, 43 and 45 were interested in acquiring the land.

178/17 County Councillor's Report- Mr David Sprason

Councillor Sprason reported that works on the A511 were near completion and the road would be resurfaced.

He said that the Conservative Candidate had included a statement in his election pamphlet alleging that he (Councillor Sprason) had voted against the bus route 120. This was not true. What he had voted against was the reduction in the budget for public bus services, which would result in a drop in subsidies in 2018/19. He had reported this inaccuracy to the Electoral Commission and the police.

179/17 Staffing

(a) The resignation of the Clerk was reported. The actions of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman in advertising the replacement were approved. The terms of employment were confirmed at a salary point of LC1 SCP18 – 22 (£18,070 - £20,661 Pro Rata) for 16 hours per month. An advert would be appearing in The Herald on 13 May, with closure date on 31 May.

RESOLVED: That the actions of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman be approved, together with the remuneration and hours.

(b) Mr Briggs reported the receipt of a letter from the newly appointed Litter Picker requesting feedback, together with instructions on how to dispose of several pieces of motor vehicle abandoned in Luke Jackson Way. He also enquired whether it would be possible to acquire a bin for recycling plastic and glass bottles. The Clerk reported that a collection charge was £2 per lift. He had also noticed that the metal picnic table in the children's play area was badly rusted.

RESOLVED:

(a) That Mr Smith be thanked for his work in the village, which had been noticed and was much appreciated by villagers

(b) That, should he be willing, Mr Smith be requested to obtain materials and undertake the necessary work to the picnic bench

- (c) That the motor parts be deposited in the general bin for collection.
- (d) That Mr Briggs be requested to contact HBBC with a view to arranging a recycling bin.

180/17 Clerk's Report

(a) Outgoings

30.04.17	Mr I Smith	Wages	102382	£68.25
30.04.17	Ms D Beesley	Wages	102383	£124.16
30.04.17	HM Revenue & Customs	Income Tax	102384	£30.80
30.04.17	Mr I Briggs	Reimbursement	102385	£21.50
30.04.17	Mr Frank Dexter	Tarmac r/o Main St	102386	£5040.00
30.04.17	Eon Street Lighting	Electricity	102387	£43.73
30.04.17	LRALC	Membership	102388	£217.17
			TOTAL	£5545.61

The Clerk reported that 50% of the Precept had now been received, totalling £5,755.00

The Clerk further reported that some Right of Way and Allotment Fees were outstanding. She was asked to remind them that payment was due and that a £5 late payment charge could be made.

RESOLVED: That, subject to the recording of receipt of the precept, the Financial Statement be accepted
 Proposed: Mrs M Briggs Seconded: Mr S Bridges

(b) Website

Mrs Briggs reported that the annual charge to Spanglefish for the Council's website was due in the sum of £29.95.
 RESOLVED: To renew the subscription for 12 months and a direct debit to be arranged for future payments.

(c) Electricity price increase – EON

Notification had been received that EON were increasing their Deemed Contract charges.
 RESOLVED: To accept the increase

(d) HMRC – taxation of employees – update. The Clerk reported that figures were now being submitted. P45s and P11Ds were still outstanding and would be completed shortly.

181/17 Grant Thornton Audit

Mrs Briggs reported that she had drafted a letter to Grant Thornton, which she had submitted to LRALC for their comments. It had been their strong recommendation that legal advice be sought as it might be that the sale of the land was technically illegal. This advice is now in the process of being obtained and would be presented to the June Council.

Mrs Briggs further reported that she had attempted on several occasions to speak to Grant Thornton but had received no reply to messages left. It was

RESOLVED: That Mrs Briggs write to Grant Thornton, on behalf of the Council, stating that as there had been no reply, it would be assumed that the matters had been dealt with and the files could be closed.

182/17 Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities

Mrs Briggs reported that she had attended a course run by LRALC on the Transparency Code and was pleased to report that the Council was compliant. She had discovered that there was a fund available for, amongst other things which did not apply to this Council, the supply of computer equipment and software to enable Transparency work to be undertaken.

RESOLVED: That an application be made to LRALC for the supply of a PC or laptop and Microsoft Office software.

183/17 Neighbourhood Plan

Mr Briggs reported that the Steering Group had met with Bagworth and Thornton Parish representatives and had

agreed that a joint Neighbourhood Plan should be progressed. Whilst this would necessitate the sharing of the £9K grant from HBBC, it was considered that this sum would be adequate to meet requirements. The new Steering Group would consist of 5 representatives of each Parish. The next meeting is scheduled for 1 June and would be held at Bagworth and future meetings would alternate between the parishes. All meetings would be open to the public. Officers had been appointed to the Group with Mr Russell George being appointed as Chairman. Mr Briggs was to be Vice Chairman.

HBBC had appointed the Rural Community Council to undertake work in progressing Neighbourhood Plans and they have been invited to the next meeting.

184/17 Parish Properties

a. Recreation Ground/Allotment Inspections

Mr West reported that he had inspected the recreation ground. The following points were observed:

- i. Waste bins emptied
- ii. Viburnum bush near to boundary with school is overgrown and needs trimming
- iii. Toddler swing supports broken and need attention.
- iv. The gate repair undertaken by Brian Mee had failed. Mrs Briggs suspected that because the gate had been locked, a pedestrian had knocked down the fencing to gain access. She suggested that, at the appropriate time, the kissing gate at the top of the lane, adjacent to the school could be used.

RESOLVED:

- a. That Brian Mee be asked to trim the bush
- b. That Wicksteed be asked to bring forward their inspection of the play equipment
- c. That Brian Mee be asked to reinstate the fencing

d. That information be obtained re ownership of kissing gate.

b. Allotments

Mrs Briggs reported that she had undertaken an inspection of the bottom allotments. With the exception of two plots, all were under cultivation. There was the ongoing need to spray areas which are not let, together with the roadways. The shed on former Plot no.14 was still there and needed to be removed. It was agreed that allotment holders should be reminded that, should they leave their plots, that all equipment and sheds etc should be removed.

RESOLVED:

That the Clerk write to the former occupier of Plot 14 asking him to remove the shed without delay.

Mr Underdown had submitted a request to erect a 6 x 8 greenhouse. This request was approved.

185/17 Planning

Applications: South Charnwood School – no comments

Refusals Meadow Lane – erection of 2 properties – Refused by HBBC and appellant going to appeal

Additional Application: 17/00357/CONDIT: Amendments to roundabout – no comments

The Chairman reported that he had received an approach from Mr Clark, whose applications to make an entrance into his field had been refused. Mr Clarkspan asked if the Parish Council would support his application. The Chairman asked all Councillors to review the application and comment. This item to be placed on the June agenda.

186/17 Correspondence received

Change of name of Brian Mee Associates to M&BG

Eon – increase in charges

Norris & Fisher – insurance brokers company information

Houses of Parliament – Re UK Parliament Week

HAG Play equipment – brochure

Society of Local Council Clerks - Conference

Noted and filed

187/17 Matters Pending to be actioned before next meeting

Chase LCC re speed camera positions
Quotation from M&BG for spraying + one other
Write to M&BG re recreation ground gate
Write to M&BG re flower bed, mowing areas around St John Cole Cres and gardens to village hall.
Write to M&BG re cutting back of bush
Contact Istock re watering of baskets
Prices for baskets etc in village
Contact HBBC re supplier of street signs
Contact HBBC re recycling bin
Manhole cover - Persimmon
Email to Grant Thornton
Barbed Wire – SB to discuss with farmer
Laptop – Apply under Transparency Code
Ascertain ownership of kissing gate and obtain permission to move at appropriate time.
Outstanding fees
Removal of Shed
Mr Clarke's application – review and discuss in June.

188/17 It was RESOLVED that the next Parish Council Meeting be 6 June 2017, commencing at 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm