

PARISH OF ENDON WITH STANLEY

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Endon Methodist Church on Tuesday 8th June 2021 at 7.00pm.

Present:

Cllrs. S.Sillitoe (Chairman), V.Harris, J.Sillitoe, H.Clulow, C.Jebb, E.Durose, L.Adams, S Carey

Action

- 680 **Apologies for absence** J.Sambrook (Vice Chairman), D.Spooner, J.Porter, from the floor K.Flunder.
- 681 **Declarations of Interest** -None
- 682 **Public Forum**
Standing Orders were suspended. Cllr Flunder's report was read out by the Clerk.
- 683 **Chairman's remarks.**
The Chairman informed the meeting of the death of Val Swinnerton (Station Kitchen) Letter of condolence to be sent. The Christmas Tree at The Fountain has died and the Scouts have offered to purchase a new one which will be planted in November. The Chairman has ordered 210 free trees from Woodland Trust which will be mainly planted at Hillswood. She has entered the Station Road Play Area project into the new style Best Kept Village competition which focuses on community adhesion. The replacement bench for Queens Cross (donated by Sue Stevenson) will be installed ASAP and will be known as the "Lovers Bench".
- 684 **Minutes of meeting held on 11th May 2021.**
The minutes were agreed unanimously.
- 685 **Matters arising from the 11th May 2021 not on the agenda:**
1. Leek Show. After some discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should contact the organisers and offer a donation of £30.
- 686 **Grounds and Amenities**
The Sub group had met on Tuesday 20th April and discussed many issues.
1. Playing Fields
Station Road Memorial Park was proving very popular. There had been a complaint about loud noise from some youngsters playing football although this correspondence was anonymous. PCSO has been informed. The Lengthsman has reported that he has had no trouble with teenagers who have been very respectful. SS proposed that we look at installing a self-closing gate to help with the safety of especially young children. JS and the meeting agreed to obtain quotes. We are still waiting for the new picnic tables, two benches and the train carriage which are all on order.
2. Unit 2 – The Clerk had received agreement from all parties and would carry this forward.
3. Post Box Toppers
An enquiry had been received via JP if the Parish Council would condone the use of Post Box Toppers around Endon. After some discussion, it was decided that this issue could not be decided by the Parish Council regarding the property of Royal Mail as previous experience had shown that they took their ownership seriously.

4. Benches on the Canal.
SS had held talks with the Canal and River Trust (Simon Martin) and they had agreed that the Parish Council could install two benches along the canal. Possible sites had been identified and agreed. Quotes had been received (£182 for the two) and the Canal authority would install. Proposed by SS and agreed unanimously to proceed with purchase. It was also agreed that the Canal Trust would install two new litter bins (Park Lane and Post Bridge) and the Lengthsman will empty them on a regular basis. This was agreed.
5. Bins - The Clerk will ask about a second bin at The Fountain and if SMDC would empty this if the Parish Council purchased it. It was agreed to go ahead with the purchase of this and a second for Hillswood. DB
6. Footpaths repairs (FP73). DB
This had been reported and photographs taken. To date there has been no response from Stafford although this bridge is quickly getting worse and more dangerous. Clerk to chase and ask Cllr Funder to assist on this as it was a County Council responsibility.
7. Meeting of subgroup. This was arranged for 15th at 19.00 hrs by Zoom. JS

Flood Action Group

687 JS had reported that there had been no further movement and KF will chase for further action on the project.

Finance.

688 1, Report DB

This was accepted. The Clerk explained that as things had been delayed, there needed to be a special meeting (by Zoom) to agree the accounts before the end of June. Agreed

2. The new insurers were BHIB and they were insuring with the same specifications for £4000 less than Cane & Co.

Accounts and Expenses.

				<i>Cheq</i>	<i>No</i>
				<u>Payments</u>	
689	D.Boulton	Sal	£ 806.40		
		Exps	£ 4.50	£ 810.90	10905
		HM Revenue & Customs (PAYE)		£ 380.80	06
	J Gibson – Lengthsman	General	£ 773.71		
		Cemetery	£ 336.00	£ 1109.71	07
	BT – Telephone			£ 33.54	DD
	S Sillitoes – Padlocks			£ 19.15	08
	Water Plus – Drainage charge			£ 48.98	09
	BHIB-Insurance			£ 980.35	10

All payments were agreed.

Newsletter and Social Media

690 J.Sil. reported that the Newsletter should be ready in the next two weeks. The PCSOs have contacted the PC to enquire if they could use the PC Facebook for a live online community forum. Agreed to host, details to follow. J. Sil

Lengthsman and Maintenance.

691 CJ reported that the bus stop on Clay Lake was dirty and needed some attention. DB

Planning.

692 Ref SMD/2021/0164. Moss House Farm, Leek Road, Endon.
Proposed Ext to rear to create 4th bedroom. No objections

Reports

- 693** LA said that the development of Wild Flower Meadows will be an important ongoing project for several years and must be encouraged.
SS said that schools were getting involved in the Peat-Free challenge and were getting the message out to use peat-free compost. She had managed to get the chemical toilet removed from the wildflower meadow site.
J.Sil. Reported a telephone conversation with David Greatbatch (Infrastructure Manager) about several issues concerning Highways, in particular difficulty for public in contacting them. It was clarified that the PC could contact our liaison officer at Highways on behalf of the public. A PC contact phone number and email address was put in the Newsletter for anyone having difficulty contacting Highways.
JP's report was read out by the Clerk. This included Post Box toppers (discussed earlier) use of Peat-Free compost, discussed earlier and, as reported earlier, noise on Station Road playing field.

JSil

694 Correspondence –

1. PCSO Staples – discussed earlier re Facebook.
2. Letter from resident re dog access to Playing Fields
This was discussed at some length as the resident believed that the Parish Councils policy of banning dogs from both Station Road and Hillswood Playing fields should be changed.
It was explained (CJ) that historically the Parish Council had been advised on Health and Safety grounds (SMDC) and because of possible serious infection to children to adopt this policy. CJ also explained that this consideration gave rise to the acre of PC land at Hillswood playing field being partitioned off to provide a facility for dogs to run off lead. There was a vote taken and the Parish Council voted unanimously to keep this policy in place.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Minutes approved at a meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 13th July 2021

Signed by the Chairman _____ Dated _____