



## **STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY,  
21 JANUARY 2019, AT 6.30PM AT STOCKTON HEATH LIBRARY,  
ALEXANDRA ROAD, STOCKTON HEATH.**

**Present:** Councillor S Barlow (Chair)

Councillors S L Dean, C E Jordan, P Todd (from 7.30 pm) and G Welborn (from 7.00pm)

**Attending:** Mrs. L Jacob (Clerk); one member of the public

**V18/030**

### **Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs H J Dutton, A M Fell, C E Jones and L Murphy.

**V18/031**

### **Budget**

1. Payments made and monies remaining across the budget headings over which the Village Committee has oversight were noted.
2. The proposed budget for 2019/20 was reviewed.

**V18/032**

### **Parish Action Plan**

1. The Village Committee elements of the Parish Action Plan were reviewed and it was agreed that items on Best Kept Village, additional barrier baskets and additional litter bins would be placed on the next Village Committee agenda for discussion.

**V18/033**

### **Consultation on Bus Information Strategy**

(Cllr Welborn joined the meeting)

The following points to be put forward in the response to the consultation:  
The bus app information is very welcome and its development should be encouraged; key data such as reliability of services should be published in order to inform users and build trust in non-users, that use of the bus for their journey is viable; a spot survey of those entering or leaving car parks might provide information on the reasons for non-use of the service; robust advertising across all platforms of special fare offers and imaginative targeting of fare offers to maximise usage, particularly of those who currently do not choose bus transport.

**V18/034**

### **War Memorial**

1. Update: the contractor Lloyd and Smith has confirmed that works are scheduled to begin at the end of February 2019. The clerk to circulate the detail of works that are being undertaken.

**V18/035**

### **Floral Planting**

1. Update: Northwich Town Council completed the winter planting at the beginning of November and subsequently a group of councillors planted spring bulbs. The barrier baskets look pretty but the planters currently look "flat" and several have chickweed growing. Feedback will be sent to Northwich and the parish ranger will remove the weeds.
2. One of the barrier baskets needs to be tightened to the railings – parish ranger will be asked to investigate and rectify the issue.

**V18/036**

### **Litter Issues**

1. Great British Spring Clean – it was agreed that the date of this event will be Saturday 30 March 2019. The clerk to advertise the event and contact community groups to gain a commitment for some of their members to attend. A member of the public will send the clerk some contact details for the Community Pay-back scheme.

An event for Autumn was discussed and it was agreed that information regarding Children in Need would be obtained and the possibility of theming the litter pick event and involving local schools in sponsorship would be explored. A provisional date of mid-October was agreed.

2. Parish Ranger/Weekend Litter Pickers – the main shopping streets of the village are being kept to a high standard by the parish ranger, who also deals with fly tipping incidents and attends to issues highlighted by residents and councillors. The ranger is currently attending training on weed spraying and is keen to tackle environmental projects across the parish, including finishing the trimming of the ivy on London Road and maintaining the garden area at East Avenue/Arley Avenue. No invoices had been received from the weekend team since November and they have not been in contact to provide an update on activities.

**V18/037** **Speed Indicator Devices**

1. Update: two residents had been in contact to express concern about excessive speed and were interested in possible volunteering. A discussion on assistance in placing and using the device will take place during the meeting with Inspector Neil Drum regarding the PCSO service (minute V18/038). The device is due to be purchased at the beginning of the new financial year and it was suggested that it could be displayed at the Stockton Heath Festival to inform residents and to attract further volunteers.

**V18/038** **PCSO Meeting with Inspector Neil Drum**

(Cllr Todd joined the meeting)

Items to be discussed at the meeting will include assistance with the Speed Indicator Device; work with local schools; contact with residents through social media and surgeries; whether the parish council can assist with surgeries; how Stockton Heath compares to other parts of Warrington in terms of the challenges it faces with regard to anti-social behaviour; overview of issues at Alexandra Park and Ackers Pit and issues around littering and dog fouling.

**V18/039** **Christmas Lights**

1. Update: the Christmas tree in Victoria Square has now been removed.
2. Christmas Lights Switch-On event – some felt that the real Christmas Tree was not well-decorated; the gathering in the square is increasing in number, which, whilst encouraging, does present issues regarding public safety; some of the charity shops did not have lights lit on their real trees – Cllr Welborn will visit and establish if a solution can be found for next year's display; Cllr Jordan will liaise with the schools to establish if suggestions for a variation in the song sheet might be considered and if choirs could be assembled, monitored and in position prior to the countdown; an informal invitation will be extended to the Member of Parliament for South Warrington; the clerk will seek advice from Warrington Borough Council on the status of the street traders; the parish council could consider supporting additional activities on dates prior to the switch-on event, working in partnership with other agencies rather than leading.
3. The three year contract with City Illuminations will come to an end at Christmas 2019, therefore tenders for the contract for Christmas 2020 and beyond should be sought in the financial year 2019/20.

**V18/040** **Register of Assets of Community Value**

1. Update: Warrington Borough Council had advised that Land Registry or equivalent plans must be submitted with each application and that detail needs to be gathered in support of each application which illustrates the future value of the asset to the community.

The clerk to approach those organisations who own buildings that were identified for the Register projects by the parish council to ask if they can assist or make their own application to the register.

**V18/041 Attendance at Stockton Heath Festival**

The parish council will request sole use of a table for the two days of the Festival; the treasure hunt flag activity will be repeated; a Festival edition of the newsletter will be produced; the Speed Indicator Device will be displayed; fruit will be offered to children.

2. The clerk will request a list of possible events for sponsorship from the Festival Committee and circulate these to members for consideration.

**V18/042 Reports from attendance at outside groups**

There were no reports from attendance at outside bodies.

**V18/043 Matters for noting not on the agenda**

Forge Car Park – some work on the surfaces was currently being undertaken.

Warrington Youth Zone – Cllr Jordan suggested that a representative be invited to speak about the plans for the Youth Zone.

**V18/044 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

TBC - last week of April 2019.

Meeting closed at 8.17 pm