



## STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF STOCKTON HEATH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY 9 OCTOBER 2018 AT 7.30 PM AT THE SANDY LANE CENTRE, SANDY LANE, STOCKTON HEATH.**

**Present:** Councillor H J Dutton (Chair)

**Councillors** S Barlow, S W Boggan, A M Fell, C E Jones, C E Jordan, L Murphy, D Robb, S H Taylor, P Todd, P J Walker, G Welborn and J C Wheeler

**Attending:** Mrs. L Jacob (Clerk); PCSO Phil Hilton; one member of the public; Mrs Emsley and a guest.

#### **SPECIAL MEETING**

**1. Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs N Bent and S L Dean.

**2. Freedom of the Parish**

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to grant former Councillor Wendy Emsley Freedom of the Parish in recognition of her dedication spanning over 30 years as a councillor to the Parish of Stockton Heath.

**RESOLVED** that Wendy Emsley be granted Freedom of the Parish of Stockton Heath.

A framed decorative scroll, flowers and a framed photograph were presented to Mrs Emsley. Cllr Dutton thanked Mrs Emsley for her long years of service and dedication to the people of Stockton Heath in her role as councillor.

Mrs Emsley responded by thanking the Parish Council for honouring her in this way, saying

“We give with whatever is within us, without thinking about what we will receive. We just hope that Stockton Heath will be a better and happier place for us having been here. Stockton Heath Parish Council has been like my second home.”

Mrs Emsley also thanked the Parish Council for the gift of a painting received, aptly created by the 2018/19 Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Helen Dutton.

#### **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**18/072 Apologies**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs N Bent and S L Dean.

**18/073 Declarations of interest**

Cllr Walker and Cllr Wheeler declared that they were members of Warrington Borough Council Development Management Committee and would therefore not participate in any items regarding planning issues.

**18/074 Public Participation**

74.1 PCSO Monthly Report

PCSO Phil Hilton introduced himself and gave the following report:

Anti-Social Behaviour incidents – two reported; one at Alexandra Park involving an abusive male; one at Aldi, a male begging.

Theft – of a mobile phone from an outside table at the Slug and Lettuce.

Criminal damage – to a padlock at Sandy Lane Community Centre, with a mobility scooter then left in the grounds of the building; damage to business premises.

Burglary – intruder in gardens at properties on Whitefield Road and Kimberley Gardens and a break-in at business premises on Walton Road.

PCSO Hilton also reported on a successful youth engagement evening held at the Sandy Lane Community Centre, attended by about 12 young people, who were given the opportunity to take part in a FIFA19 computer game tournament. The PCSO team hope to run further activities and suggestions from councillors were invited; a successful operation targeting anti-social riding of bicycles, with the issue of notifications to parents and one fixed penalty notice, had also taken place.

Information was given regarding the increase in rogue tradesmen offering gardening services in the area with investigations ongoing, supported by Trading Standards. Councillors then discussed a number of issues of concern ranging from door-to-door salesmen; shoplifting; begging and the use of mobile phones while cycling.

#### 74.2 Members of the Public

A member of the public outlined arrangements that have been put in place for the Remembrance Event in Stockton Heath. New Union Jack flags will be flown from flagpoles at Thorn Marine (south boundary of the parish); The Cheshire Shoe Repairs; Fiona Bruce; The Barbers by the Swing Bridge (north boundary of the parish). A bagpiper will play Battle's O'er at 6am on 11 November 2018 at Victoria Square. There will be an assembly at Victoria Square from 10.15 am and those gathered will parade to the War Memorial for the laying of wreaths, with a service at St Thomas' Church following, involving a showcase of the work undertaken by the Scouts on the history of those fallen whose names appear on the memorials across the parish. Cllr Barlow provided information on an event being held by the Friends of Stockton Heath Library on Saturday 10 November 2018, being an Armistice tea party at the library from 12 until 3pm.

### 18/075 Minutes

#### 75.1 Parish Council

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 11 September 2018 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

#### 75.2 Village Committee

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Village Committee held on Thursday 13 September 2018 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

#### 75.3 Planning, Finance and General Purposes Committee

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Planning, Finance & General Purposes Committee held on Tuesday 2 October 2018 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

### 18/076 Matters to be resolved arising from the minutes

To consider the recommendations of the Planning, Finance and General Purposes Committee of Tuesday 2 October 2018.

76.1 (minute P18/038) **Recommended** that approval be given for payment of the accounts as detailed on the schedule of payments dated 2 October 2018.

**Resolved** to accept the recommendation.

76.2 (minute P18/041) **Recommended** that the Annual Governance and Accountability Report be approved and accepted.

**Resolved** to accept the recommendation.

76.3 (minute PP18/042) **Recommended** that insurance cover be put in place at an additional cost of £64.19 to insure 9 double litter bins; 4 barrier baskets; 1 bench and the office furniture.

**Resolved** to accept the recommendation.

76.4 (minute P18/043) **Recommended** that Stockton Heath Parish Council asks if Warrington Borough Council will consider a write-off of the amount if an invoice for van costs cannot be presented.

**Resolved** to accept the recommendation.

76.5 (minute P18/044) **Recommended** that the council do not subscribe to SCRIBE, a dedicated accounts package, but that alternative ways to present financial information be considered.

**Resolved** to accept the recommendation.

#### **18/077 Matters arising from the minutes**

The following updates on matters arising from agenda items from the aforementioned meetings, where the item is not listed under discussion below, were received:

*Parish Council Tuesday 11 September 2018:*

77.1 (minute 18/064) The meeting of the South Area Team WWI Centenary Commemoration did not take place. Cllr Wheeler reported that the beacon lighting was not planned to go ahead. Details for the arrangements for the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial are at minute 18/74.2. The Parish Council will make the usual donation of £120 to the Royal British Legion for a poppy wreath, to be placed by the Chair during the ceremony.

77.2 (minute 18/067) Richard Moore, WBC Environmental Protection Officer (Air) had confirmed his attendance for the November meeting.

77.3 (minute 18/068) The PCSO Service Level Agreement document signed by Appleton PC, Stockton Heath PC and Cheshire Constabulary had been received.

*Village Committee Tuesday 13 September 2018*

77.4 (minute V18/022) The Autumn Litter Pick event is to be held on Sunday 21 October 2018, meeting at Ackers Pit from 10 am.

77.5 (minute V18/023) The construction of the wall at Walton Road is nearing completion and when the barriers are removed the clerk will arrange for the installation of the bench.

77.6 (minute V18/028) WBC have been informed that a commercial bin by the passageway next to Bessie's Pie Shop has not been emptied or collected as the contracting business are no longer operating.

#### **18/078 Register of Assets of Community Value**

Applications to be made to Warrington Borough Council's Assets of Community Value register were discussed and it was

**Resolved** that the following applications will be made:

St Thomas Church; Methodist Church; St Thomas' Church Hall; Methodist Church Hall on Walton Road; Christian Fellowship on Chapel Lane; Bethesda Church Hall; The Red Lion Inn; The Mulberry Tree Inn; Sandy Lane Community Centre; Stockton Heath Library; Bowling Green at Alexandra Park; Bowling Green at Red Lion Inn; Pavilion at Alexandra Park; St Thomas' Primary School; Stockton Heath Primary School; Dance Centre at Sandy Lane; Red Lane Allotments.

#### **18/079 Reports from Outside Bodies**

**To receive** and **discuss** reports from attendance at other meetings.

79.1 Promote Stockton Heath, 24 September 2018, attended by Cllr Barlow. Cllr Barlow had been unable to attend but a member of the public provided an update: A Pumpkin Hunt had been organised and a special Harry Potter themed event would take place in the barn at the Red Lion Inn, with entry fees raised to be donated to the youth projects being planned by the PCSOs. Christmas events were planned to take place on 8 December, being a Father Christmas Grotto at the Red Lion and the attendance of the Golborne Brass Band.

79.2 Parish Liaison Meeting, 1 October 2018, attended by Cllrs Walker, Wheeler, and Jordan.

Cllr Walker reported that a discussion had taken place on whether an objection to a planning application by a parish council meant that the application would default to be heard by the Development Management Committee; parishes present varied in their understanding of this process; the change in Council Tax Base calculation which removes the grant element made by WBC to parish councils to offset the Council Tax Support Allowance will mean that Stockton Heath Parish Council will need to raise the precept by 3.4% in order to maintain the equivalent budget for 2019-2020.

Cllr Wheeler reported on the presentation by Warrington's Own Buses (formerly Network Warrington); WBC heavily subsidise the public transport system; Cllr Wheeler put to the representative that the bus fleet should be encouraged to switch off their engines during bridge swings.

Councillors then discussed whether signs to inform drivers could be placed at locations in Stockton Heath. It was agreed that this issue could form a discussion with Richard Moore, WBC Environmental Protection Officer (Air) when he attends the November meeting.

79.3 South Warrington Library in Stockton Heath (SWISH) Working Group, 2 October 2018, attended by Cllrs Walker and Barlow.

Cllr Barlow reported that this was the final meeting of the group, as its objectives had been achieved. A public engagement exercise on the layout of the library will begin on Monday 15 October running to Saturday 3 November 2018, with a display in the library and members of the group available to discuss the plans with the public. Tenders will be issued in November, with work planned to commence in Spring and complete in Summer 2019. A group of several members of the Working Group will monitor progress and ensure that the work is carried out to the specification.

The Stockton Heath Library is the first in Warrington to achieve approval for their business plan. The Parish Council recorded their thanks to the group for their achievements.

79.4 Stockton Heath Primary School meeting attended by Cllr Jordan.

Cllr Jordan reported on her attendance at a School Council meeting held at the Primary School. The School Council has 17 student representatives drawn from the year groups across the school. These students help to monitor "worry boxes" in the classrooms and have an input into choosing the school's charity for the year.

#### **18/080 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk provided information received since the Monthly Parish Council Meeting of Tuesday 11 September 2018. Additional items received since 3 October were discussed. The quotation to reduce the height of the trees at Victoria Square, in order to enhance the effect of the Christmas lighting, was discussed and councillors agreed that this action should not be taken.

#### **18/081 Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Barlow – reported that she had been in communication with WBC regarding the Forge Car Park; the footpath from the car park to Egerton Street must remain integral to the design and the borough are currently at the design and discussion stage. This being a lengthy process, WBC meantime are planning sectional surface repairs before winter weather.

Cllr Wheeler – provided information that Burtonwood Library car park is being resurfaced.

Cllr Taylor – reported that residents had mentioned that the dressed tree at Whitefield Road/Walton Road was so tall that the Christmas Lights had little impact.

Cllr Boggan – deadly nightshade weeds are growing at the base of road barriers on Chester Road.

Cllr Dutton – the public footpath at the rear of Greenbank Gardens had now been resurfaced; some new swans had been seen at Ackers Pit.

**18/082 Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 13 November 2018 at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Following the meeting, members of the Planning, Finance and General Purposes Committee met to discuss the following plans:

Planning Application Number	Address	Proposal	Comments
2018/33648	65, West Avenue, Warrington, WA4 6HX	Householder - Proposed two storey side and single storey rear extension	No objection
2018/33649	26, Greenbank Gardens, Stockton Heath, Warrington, WA4 2DR	42 Day Householder Prior Approval - Proposed single storey rear extension to extend beyond the rear wall by 3 metres; maximum height 3.1 metres and height at the eaves 2.6 metres.	Information only
2018/33660	16, Algernon Street, Stockton Heath, Warrington, WA4 6EA	Householder -Proposed first floor extension to rear and side	Inadequate plans – extension to consultation period requested
2018/33664	48, Ackers Road, Stockton Heath, Warrington, WA4 2BQ	Householder - Proposed single storey kitchen/family room and garden room extension to side and rear elevations.	No objection

Cllr Taylor declared that he knew the applicant for 2018/33660 and took no part in the discussion of that plan.