

## STAUNTON ON WYE GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Group Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2023 in the Village Hall , Staunton on Wye.

**Present** – N Sellar (Chair), A Andrews, J Price, E Pearson-Gregory

There were seven members of the public present in attendance together with Cllr G Jones.

**1. Apologies for Absence** – P Dyke, J Nelson, P Pantall, S Williams, R Skyrme  
Steve Grist, Clerk unable to attend due to covid

**2. Declarations of Interest** – No declarations of interest were received.

**3. Minutes of meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2022** – The Minutes were agreed and signed as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

**4. Matters Arising** – Matters arising were covered in the agenda items.

### **5. Report from Councillor Jones**

– Councillor Jones gave an update on Herefordshire Children’s Services. A damning report was issued last week; the service has been inadequate for the past 10 years. The council declined support in 2019 but has now accepted external support and will be closely monitored.

- Council tax will rise by 4.99%
- Holiday homes will now have to pay 100% council tax
- Houses will have to be empty for 2 years before receiving relief from council tax
- HC has backed a motion asking the government to establish a bye law to protect the river Wye.
- HCs head of planning has left and officers dealing with this part of the council have left or been moved.
- No update on the yellow lines at Brobury, may hear later this week
- No news on the 20mph speed limit but is actively chasing.
- Meeting the locality steward on 24<sup>th</sup> March, please send any items to be raised to the Clerk.

Councillor Jones informed the meeting that he would be stepping down at the next election. The Chair thanked him for his work over the past 4 years and in particular for his support of the parish council.

### **6. Planning Matters**

Florence House - The parish council had submitted no objections to the application for renovations.

Snuffles Wood – It was noted, and concern expressed that a caravan / mobile home had been placed in the land of Snuffles Wood. Cllr Jones reported that he had consulted the planning dept and planning permission is required. The planning dept propose to visit but the owners are normally only there at weekends.

## **7. Playing Field**

The report on the Playground will be circulated to councillors after the meeting. The clerk will be asked to put a copy on the parish council website. There are a number of minor repairs to be carried out and new bark needs to be laid. Volunteers are needed to spread the bark. It was agreed that in the absence of volunteers to inspect and maintain the equipment the parish council would need to employ someone to carry out the work.

The fence also needs to be repaired.

The goal posts and nets had been delivered to A Andrews for placement. They will be installed in April.

## **8. Highway Matters**

Councillors and the public were encouraged to report potholes on the HC website.

We are still waiting to hear about how to apply for a 20mph limit through the village.

## **9. Parish Council Website**

There was nothing to report in the clerk's absence.

## **10. Defibrillator**

The parish council agreed to fund the rental of the village hall for first aid courses. It was agreed to compile a list of villagers who would be available and able to take the defibrillator to locations in the village in case of an emergency.

## **11. Footpaths**

There was no update on the compilation of a list of people to walk the footpaths. A stile is broken and needs replacing between the Bulmers' Orchard and land at Little London. The clerk to contact R Skyrme to identify the land owner.

## **12, General Correspondence**

There was no correspondence that was not covered by agenda items.

## **13. Finance**

There was nothing to report in the clerk's absence.

## **14– War Memorial**

The idea to move the war memorial has been publicised in The Signal and is supported by a number of parishioners. The clerk will investigate the potential cost and the permissions required.

### **15. Elections**

Parish Council elections will take place on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Councillors and members of the public should contact the clerk if they would like to stand. He has application forms. If there is an election this will cost £5-6000 which is more than the annual precept.

### **16. Bus Shelter**

Designs of a possible bus shelter had been circulated before the meeting. Councillors unanimously supported the fitting of the low maintenance bus shelter with a rounded roof.

**17 – Any Other Business** – There were no items of any other business

**18 – Date of Next Meeting** - It was agreed that the next meeting should be held on **15th MAY 2023** at 7.30pm in the Staunton on Wye Village Hall.

The meeting concluded at 20.30 hours.