

STOKE GABRIEL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes from the **REMOTE** Parish Council meeting
held on 29th June 2020 at 7pm via ZOOM - COMMENCED 7.15
Present; Cllrs Blood, Bridge, Bullock, Collings, King, Stobart, and Tully (Chair)
Dist Cllr Rowe. Dist Cllr Bastone
8 members of Public & Clerk - Karen Gilbert

20/06/01V Apologies - County / Dist Cllr Hawkins

20/06/02V Declaration of Interests - None dispensation requests - None

Standing orders were suspended

20/06/03V - Public participation

The Chairman introduced Mike Pearey who had offered his services as Lengthsman to the Parish. Having previously sent a comprehensive letter detailing his work / costs, Mr Pearey answered questions from the Council and advised he had visited the Parish to gain an insight into the problematic areas

The Chairman thanked Mike for attending and confirmed that the matter was due for consideration.

A Parishioner commented on the weeds around the Village

Another Parishioner suggested it might be a good idea to add a Public participation session at the end of each meeting for Public comment on what had previously been discussed/ agreed

ACTION ; COUNCIL TO CONSIDER SUGGESTION

A Churchwarden brought to the Council's attention, the fact that the scarcity of burial plots in Stoke Gabriel was fast becoming an issue and asked that the Parish Council considers this problem

Peter Fenwick, Stoke Gabriel Neighbourhood Plan, expressed his disappointment that the five Community spaces forming part of the Blue Cedar development/ planning consent at Mill Pool were being offered at an annual rate of £1000 + VAT each - rather than on a daily basis (rates matching those in the Village). It was **NOTED** that the sum of £5000 given to the Parish by Blue Cedar would be recouped in just one year. The Council

AGREED that SHDC enforcement should be made aware

ACTION ; CLERK TO NOTIFY SHDC ENFORCEMENT

20/06/04V - Councillor reports

Cllr Rowe - SHDC

We have reached the end of 3 months of Lock Down and indeed it is 15 weeks since it first began. We are holding all our meetings via Skype and Zoom. I have also recently started using Team Viewer. We keep in touch with regular meetings on a Monday and various meetings throughout the week.

We have been continuing with enabling businesses to access various grants which are available and can be viewed on the Council's website.

The Council's finances are badly affected as are all councils. At present we are £2.588mil. over budget. The new waste & recycling Service will now not come into service until February 2021 - the delay will cost The Council £65,000. Per month. The income from the Employment estates is down by 25%.

All The Councils across Devon are working together under the banner of Team Devon to exchange ideas & working practices. Lobbying M.P.'s, Central Government & other bodies where finance may be available. Fortunately due to prudent financial management

in years gone by South Hams is in a good financial position with reserves which may have to be tapped into to help out at this unprecedented time.

Car Parks have now reopened and charging so income will start to trickle in from them .The Lr.Ferry will hopefully see more use as Tourists will start to visit and use it. So that will help. Most Public Toilets have now reopened too.

Take care ,stay safe and stay local.

Cllr Bastone SHDC

Cllr Bastone commented on the busy meeting schedule at South Hams , the deficit in the Budget caused by the Covid 19 virus and the fact that the budget will have to be re-assessed accordingly in due course. He added that he was happy to assist in Parish matters were he could

Dist/County Cllr Hawkins

DCC - During the past 3 months meetings have been taking place via Team, all meetings of council have been virtual and have worked well

Except for a short period Highways teams have continued to work, it is strange that some residents have assumed they would have worked throughout but just like the rest of us County has a responsibility to its staff and protect them from Covid

County Hall Most staff have been working from home and this has worked well, one Officer has been working from Bavaria, so as we go forward do we really need such large expensive offices Government have confirmed a £28 million pledge of last autumn and this will go along way to help catch up on badly needed repairs to roads

Standing orders were re-instated

20/06/05V- Minutes from previous meetings

Following a minor amendment, the Minutes from the Stoke Gabriel Parish Council meeting held on 1st June 2020 were agreed by the Council & would be sent to the Chairman for physical signature - all in agreement

20/06/06V - Clerk's report

The Clerk advised that

She had sourced a larger doo poo bin as a replacement near the Access strip to the "burial ground" . She had received confirmation that this was acceptable to SHDC but awaited confirmation that the contractors will continue to empty . Cllr Rowe kindly advised that she would be willing to fund this purchase

ACTION : CLERK TO PROGRESS

She had arranged the removal of an abandoned car at Four Cross & requested that the contractor did not carry out works at Rydon Acres

20/06/07V. To consider a response to Dog control Consultation

The consultation had been emailed to all Councillors . Cllr King commented that dogs were still running in the Orchard off the lead

20/06/08V Stoke Gabriel Public Toilets - to assess current situation and decide whether or not to re-open

It was **NOTED** that the cleaning Contractor was willing to clean the facility once a day - rather than the current 3 times a week . The cleaning costs would be rise from £320 per 4 weeks to £728.00 .

Cllr Bullock kindly agreed to drain down the system and flush the pipes / fittings through agreed

It was **AGREED** that suitable signage be placed on the Toilets along with hand sanitiser and that appropriate hand washing facilities be made available

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council should re-open the toilets as soon as practicable

20/06/09V To consider using the services of the Lengthsman - Mike Pearey

It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council use the services offered by Mike Pearey - initially up to a value of £1000 . It was **AGREED** that Jamie Bullock work alongside when possible once Chapter 8 training had taken place

ACTION ; CLERK TO OBTAIN HIGHWAYS MAPS

ACTION ; CLERK TO SOURCE COSTS FOR CHAPTER EIGHT TRAINING

ACTION ; CLERK TO CONTACT LENGTHSMAN

20/06/10V - Future Burial spaces in Stoke Gabriel - to consider an email from Churchwarden

The Council regretted that the land purchased for this purpose was not suitable due to soil / rock conditions. One alternative site was suggested but it was **AGREED** that the Church should make appropriate contact

ACTION : CLERK TO CONTACT CHURCHWARDEN

20/06/11V To consider the preparation of an Emergency Plan for Stoke Gabriel

IT was **AGREED** that the preparation of a comprehensive Emergency Plan would be a good idea and that Cllr Collings should take the lead role in its production
Cllr Rowe agreed to ascertain whether any support was available from South Hams

20/06/12V To consider supporting a campaign for a cycle path to Totnes

An email from the organiser of this path had been emailed to all in advance

It was **AGREED** that this cause should be supported in principle and that a working group should be formed to offer help and support

It was **AGREED** that Cllrs Blood and Bullock lead this

ACTION ; CLERK TO ADVISE ORGANISER OF LINK COUNCILLORS

20/06/13V - Website

Cllr King advised that the new website should be up and running by the beginning of July
The Chair asked that all Councillors should provide emails and telephone numbers

20/06/14V - Financial matters

a) The following cheques were presented for payment (gross figures) - Payments approved all in agreement

Karen Gilbert - admin / expenses June 2020	62.65
A Hudson replacement of latch - Orchard gate	20.00
M Collings Monthly Zoom charge	14.39

The Clerk advised that she was awaiting details of signatories to the Parish Bank account prior to contacting Unity Bank regarding a transfer of services

20/06/15V Planning

The following applications were considered

0845/20/LBC Mr Michael De-Vere
Listed building consent to repair and restore the slates on the front, lower and lean to roof
Slees Flood Street Stoke Gabriel Devon TQ9 6QL NO OBJECTION
1489/20/AGR Mr David Webber. WITHDRAWN 23/6. NOTED
Application for prior notification of proposed garaging and machinery store with Woodland Management Office over
The Round House, South Downs Stoke Gabriel TQ9 6RJ

20/06/16V To receive reports on Parish assets

a) Toilets - - Already discussed

b) Playground - The Clerk had previously circulated the Government guidance and guidance issued by South Hams

It was **RESOLVED** that

- Subject to a SHDC routine inspection for equipment safety , the Playground should open
- That hand sanitiser be purchased to be placed near the gate
- That a Risk assessment template be completed by Cllr King and placed on file
- That the appropriate signs be laminated and placed at appropriate points
- That the pre-school be contacted to restrict use to mornings only

It was **AGREED** that no further action take place with regard to

Restricting numbers in the area - subject to distancing signs

There was no need to sanitise the equipment

c) Orchard - - NO report

d) Hoyle Copse A report had been previously emailed

It was **NOTED** that two complaints had been received regarding the removal of vegetation during the bird nesting season . An explanation was sent by Phil Bolt

The Council asked the Clerk to reply accordingly

ACTION ; CLERK TO REPLY TO COMPLAINTS

It was **AGREED** that the large ash tree in the access strip more than likely belonged to the Parish Council. It was **RESOLVED** that a tree survey be carried out to ascertain the health of the tree

ACTION ; CLERK TO CONTACT RUPERT BAKER TO SURVEY

e) Footpaths - No report

20/06/17V It was **RESOLVED** that , due confidential nature of the business about to be discussed , to exclude the press and public from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, s1

Date/time of next meeting 27th July - via ZOOM

There being no further business the meeting was closed at. 9.00pm

PART TWO

Following a Zoom meeting on 15th June involving 5 Councillors and 2 members of the Public , a report was circulated detailing a potential future use for the Community Building at the Cavanna site

It was **AGREED** that , before any further schemes / meetings , a Public consultation be carried out