**Stoke Gabriel Parish Council**

**Minutes from the Extraordinary General Meeting held at Stoke Gabriel Village Hall on 21st June 2022 at 18:30 hrs.**

Present: Cllrs Bridge, Callaghan, Collings, Fletcher, Harris, King, Patch and Tully (Chair)

Cllr R Rowe and 7 members of the public.

**22.06.1 Apologies:** Cllr Hawkins.

**22.06.02 Declaration of Interest:** None

**22.06.03 Dispensation Requests:** None

**22.06.04 Public Participation:**

A Parishioner stated that he felt that any proposed action by Devon County Council should be considered and proportionate, and he felt that the proposals for the change in parking restrictions was neither proportionate nor considered. He thought that the changes were brought about by one incident concerning the bus being unable to enter the village due to a visitor parking on double yellow lines. He felt that rather than restrict the current parking, money would be better spent by regular patrols of the double yellow lines currently in place. The changes would be to the detriment of the villagers, especially the elderly, who try to use the village shops, Post Office, and businesses, wish to visit the church and graveyard, or attend clubs held at the bistro, school room or village hall. He felt it would severely restrict the way the village has operated for many years.

Another Parishioner asked whether the Parish Council were properly consulted before the changes were advertised. He stated that as part of the Traffic Amendment Order they had to consult with Councils as a statutory requirement, and that we should be able to onject that notice wasn’t given.

Cllr Harris responded that the notice given already formed part of the Consultation process, and that we were here to discuss our response, which would also form part of the consultation.

Cllr Rowe stated that these proposed changes were not what the Parish Council had asked for, and that our original request has been in regard to the Bus Stop lines being removed from outside the Post Office, and be replaced with a loading bay to allow suppliers to deliver goods and for customers to stop and collect their groceries. Several suppliers, and the Shop Owner have received parking tickets whilst delivering to the businesses. Cllr Rowe reminded everyone present that a delivery driver is entitled to stop in the road and block the traffic for up to 20 mins when making a delivery, which is what we were trying to avoid. A meeting with Cllr Hawkins, Lisa Edmunds and the shop owner, had discussed this at length, but this seems to have been disregarded, and the changing of the times people can park from 3hrs to 20 minutes is unreasonable. This would discourage people using the village facilities. Cllr Rowe suggested a 2hr restriction would be better.

**The Council Convened to conduct the following business:**

**To Consider Response to**

**Devon County Council (South Hams HATOC) (Traffic Regulation) Amendment Order**

Cllr Bridge agreed that 20minutes was not long enough and suggested a 1hr restriction between the hours of 9am-6pm, allowing residents to be able to return home from work and park overnight. This was questioned by several of the Parishioners, who felt that 1 hr was not long enough to attend a Church Service or Club activity within the village. Visitors parking is available on the quay side at a cost, but the businesses at the quay are telling their customers that they are able to park around the village for free.

The Chairman asked that we discuss a practical solution that we can return to Devon County Council.

Discussion ensued and Cllr Harris defined 4 different areas to be responded to.

* Bus Stop lines need to be removed, to allow delivery drivers and suppliers to deliver to the local businesses.
* Parking on Paignton Road should be only reduced to 1 hr rather than 3 to allow people to use the Post Office, shops and facilities
* Parking on School Hill should remain at 3 hrs to allow users of the hall for set sessions.
* Parking restrictions should be limited to between the hours of 9am-6pm, to allow residents to be able to park overnight.

It was also noted that the Traffic Wardens should be monitoring the yellow lines along New Road, where visitors are parking, causing obstructions, and better signage regarding the yellow lines currently in force.

These points were AGREED by all, and Cllr Harris will formulate the response on behalf of the PC and circulate.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 19:10hrs.

Date of next Parish Council meeting, Monday 27th June 2022 at 7pm