

# **Stoke Bliss, Kyre and Bockleton Parish Council**

## **Minutes of the meeting held on 2nd December, 2013 at Bockleton Parish Hall**

**Present:** Cllrs Burgess Adams, Adam Berry, Dave Clarke, Brian Farmer, Jessica Middleton, Terry Powell, Chris Rodgers, Oliver Turner, Andrew Yarnold (Chair)

**In attendance:** District Cllr Tony Penn, County Cllr Ken Pollock, Mrs Louise Gibbs (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for absence:** apologies were received from District Cllr. Phil Grove. Absent without apology were Cllrs Peter Basford, Michael Bowdler, Charlie Rea, Jayne Williams

**2. Declarations of Interest:** there were none

### **3. Report from District Cllr Tony Penn**

- South Worcs. Development Plan – Now at 23,200 dwellings and further statistics being compiled for the next stage. Inevitable that numbers will increase, though unlikely that Tenbury will be affected. Senior Planners in discussion with building companies.
- Rough sleepers – Protocol is in place and the annual census being undertaken.
- Benchmarking profile for local authorities and how they perform compared to other District Councils – see MHDC website.
- Parking in Tenbury – new initiative is working well and there has been a positive response from traders.
- Tesco work likely to start February 2014.
- Public Realm work – display is in the Pump Rooms – 45% of cost is being contributed by Tesco.
- ‘Draft Statement of Community Involvement’ – so residents of MHDC can have their say – consultation open until 5<sup>th</sup> Jan – responses can be made via MHDC website.
- Flooding – Environment Agency awareness campaign is being supported by MHDC.

**Report from County Cllr Pollock:** see appendix

Various areas of poor road surfaces were discussed and the Clerk would summarise these in an e-mail to Cllr Pollock – they included by the church in Bockleton, at Grafton and on Stoke Hill. There is also a patch of Japanese Knotweed which the Clerk would report.

**4. Minutes of the last meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013** were agreed as a true record and were signed accordingly.

**5. Matters arising therefrom:** Jetting teams had been in the parishes clearing drains; flooding still at the bottom of Stoke Hill which the Clerk will report again

### **6. Planning matters:**

- a) **13/00307/FUL** - The Fulhams, Sutton – there had been e-mail correspondence between neighbours and MHDC regarding Mr Mumford’s apparent breach of the Enforcement Notice. Cllr Penn commented that action was being taken but must be allowed to take its course.
- b) **13/101473/FUL** - Upper House, Stoke Bliss. To convert barn into one-bedroom holiday let. The Clerk had received plans by e-mail following MHDC’s decision not to circulate printed copies of plans. Cllrs looked at the plans on The Clerk’s laptop and recommended approval. It was suggested that the Council purchase a projector and screen to view future plans and The Clerk

would ask County Cllr Pollock for funding assistance. *(subsequent to the meeting, the Clerk costed such equipment and put the proposal to Cllr Pollock, which was turned down)*

**7. Finances:**

- a) bank balance as at 30<sup>th</sup> October was £1035.76
- b) payments made since the previous meeting: Lengthsman £236, £118 and £118: HMRC £55 (Clerk's PAYE). Payments for consideration: Village Hall room hire £60 (2 meetings); Clerk's salary £220.
- c) the precept for 2014/15 was discussed. The previous 2 years had been set at £2100. Cllr Powell proposed £2100 again, which was agreed unanimously.

**8. Parish Plan update:** Cllr Clarke brought a few copies of the final Parish Plan and a discussion took place about distribution of the Plan. It was expected this to be completed before Christmas. The Clerk would submit a note to both parish magazines stating that if any household was missing a copy, they should ask for one – central contact in each parish to be decided. Cllr Clarke was thanked for all his work in getting the Plan produced.

**9. Winter gritting:** The Clerk had agreed with Cllr Basford that Worcs CC would deliver two bags of grit salt for spreading in the winter. No confirmation yet as to whether these had been delivered but the Clerk will check. Cost is £40 per bag.

**10. Clerk's update:** the annual audit had been carried out successfully by the new external auditors

**11. Correspondence:** Various correspondence from MHDC and Worcs CC was circulated – bus service review, war memorials upkeep, Act Local' initiative, Council Tax Support Scheme

**12. Any other business:**

- Cllr Middleton said that Geoffrey Gwilt from Sweet Green, Stoke Bliss, would like a copy of Parish Council finances – the Clerk will follow this up.
- Cllr Middleton said that if it was known that anyone in the parishes was suffering from the cold, that funds are available from the Dykes Trust to assist. Applications to Cllr Middleton.
- Cllr Yarnold suggested that the next meeting takes place at Bockleton, but the following one at the new Stoke Bliss Village Hall, subject to their hire charges being acceptable.

**13. Date of next meeting:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2014