

STOKE BLISS, KYRE AND BOCKLETON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Annual meeting held on Monday 11th June, 2012

at Bockleton Parish Hall, 8pm

Present: Cllrs Burgess Adams, Peter Basford (Vice Chair), Michael Bowdler, Brian Farmer, Jessica Middleton, Terry Powell, Chris Rodgers, Oliver Turner, Jayne Williams, Andrew Yarnold (Chair)

In attendance: Cllr Ken Pollock, Cllr Phil Grove, PC Tracey Wood, PCSO Teresa Howells, Mrs Louise Gibbs (Clerk), Mr George Jarvis, Mr Michael Downes, Mrs Maggie Downes

1. Apologies were received from Cllr Adam Berry (on holiday) which were accepted. Cllr Charlie Rea was absent without apology.
2. Election of officers – Cllr Andrew Yarnold as Chair and Cllr Peter Basford as Vice Chair – second year of their term of office and therefore no election necessary.
3. Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting on 23rd May 2011 were agreed as a true record. There were no matters arising.
4. Parish Charities: The Dykes Charity is subject to some changes in the wording of the criteria for those who are able to occupy Pytts Cottages which will widen the parameters.
5. Annual Parish Council Accounts: the Clerk circulated the bank reconciliation and explained the few variances from the previous year. It was agreed that the Accounts now be submitted to the auditors.

Quarterly Parish Council Meeting

1. Apologies for absence – as above
2. Declarations of Interest – there were none.
3. Reports from County Council, District Council and West Mercia Police:
 - a. Cllr Grove has stepped down as Leader of Malvern Hills District Council. The new leader is David Hughes (Alfrick & Leigh) and the Deputy Leader is Paul Swinbourne (Lower Broadheath). Cllr Grove is now responsible for Economic Development. Restructuring continues at MHDC with redundancies etc. Recycling continues to be developed – it is anticipated that glass collections from households will start before too long. The weekly ‘black bag’ collection will continue. There are plans for 30 more new houses on Oldwood Road (opposite the High School). The Loyalty Scheme has been a great success in Tenbury, and finishes at the end of June. Regal Cinema re-opens soon, following its refurbishment. Tesco development – still waiting for confirmation of the conditions. Rumours that Tesco have bought the Swan Garage are unfounded.

- b. Cllr Pollock explained that the Public Realm work will fit in around the Tesco development as they are contributing financially to it. The contract with the County Council is not yet finalised. The Public Realm work has been put back to 2013. The drainage works in Teme Street will be done this Autumn. The Council tip will be moved from its current site to the Bromyard Road Industrial Estate to enable more car parking spaces to be available during the time that the Tesco store is built. The rural road improvement scheme will see the completion of Bockleton Lane's re-surfacing within the next few weeks.
 - c. West Mercia Police: there are no changes to the local policing team. A summary of reported crimes on the three parishes in the past year were listed –
 Stoke Bliss – some fly tipping, copper stolen from a plumbing business
 Kyre – nothing reported, although 5 road traffic collisions had occurred
 Bockleton- 3 thefts (batteries from a farm, and gates stolen)
 If any residents would like to take part in the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, they should let one of the team know.
 The new national phone number for the police is 101 which diverts callers direct to local police.
4. Minutes of the last meeting on 5th March 2012 were agreed as a true record.
 5. Matters arising: winter road clearance – Cllr Basford has yet to submit the paperwork received last winter from Worcs CC but will see to it.
 6. Planning matters:
 - a. Three Chimneys, Stoke Bliss 12/00238/HOU - Councillors had met twice at the site and a letter had been written to MHDC Planning Dept (appended here).. Revised plans now include the carport/garage that has been built without prior permission. The Clerk will follow up for an update
 - b. The Gobbitts, Bockleton 12/00643/FUL – a three bedroom dwelling on the site of a stable. A site meeting had taken place and no objections had been raised.
 - c. Newtown Farm, Bockleton – 12/00571/FUL – a new four bedroom house with agricultural tie. A site meeting had taken place and no objections had been raised.
 - d. Kyre and Stoke Bliss Village Hall 12/00293/FUL – new plans for the village hall developments had been passed and the Lottery Funding moves on to the next stage – it is expected that the committee will hear more in August
 - e. Mill End, Kyre 12/00503/S73 – lifting of restrictions on occupation to be lifted – no objections had been raised.
 - f. Grafton Farm, Bockleton 12/00363/FUL – the plans for a 10m extension to the riding arena has been passed by MHDC.

The Clerk was asked to ensure that reference numbers were included in all correspondence with Parish Councillors.

7. Finances:
 - a. Bank balances: current account: £667.45; deposit account £1525.68. The Clerk suggested that both bank accounts be amalgamated into one. The interest earned on the deposit account is minimal.
 - b. Payments since the previous meeting: Jeremy Moore (Lengthsman) for £208 March, £236 April and £236 May; Worcestershire CALC annual subscription £209.10; PIP Printing (Parish Plan questionnaire printing) £158.33; Clerk £261.58 (includes postage and stationery expenses); HMRC (PAYE for Clerk) £50; Village Hall hire £90
8. Parish Plan update: The questionnaires had been circulated and about 58% returned. Data is to be presented at a public meeting on 20th June at Stoke Bliss and Kyre Hall.
9. Clerk's update: the Faster Broadband project is still not off the ground – bureaucracy has stalled progress; Alec Wall had called the Clerk regarding the BT phone box in Stoke Bliss and wondered whether the Parish Council would re-consider taking it on and making use of it – the decision was not to; new Code of Conduct – the Clerk had circulated a draft from MHDC and suggested that it be adopted at the next Parish Council meeting after Councillors had read it through and made suggestions for amendment; the Lengthsman had increased his hourly rate and the Clerk suggested he works only one day per month in quieter months in order to save costs – all agreed; Cllr Ken Pollock had contributed £660 from the County Council Divisional Fund to the Parish Plan project following a request from the Clerk.
10. Correspondence: there was none.
11. Any other business: it was noted that signs for some Rights of Way had been changed and that cycle-ways had now been added to some of them; the Clerk was asked to check the water over the road in Bannals Lane (potentially a grip needing to be dug out).
12. The next meeting will be on Monday 3rd September at 8pm at Bockleton Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm