

# Strensham Parish Council

**Minutes** of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2013 starting at 19:30 in Strensham Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors: N P Guilding (Chairman) C White A Truscott D Wallbank  
M Gribble P Ellis

**Apologies:** Cllr L Gough

**In Attendance:** Rebecca Abunassar (Clerk) Ron Davis (DCllr) & 9 Parishioners

## **1/05 Election of Chairman 2013/14**

It was proposed (DW), seconded (CW) and agreed that Nigel Guilding would be elected as Chairman for the ensuing municipal year.

## **2/05 Declarations of Interest & Dispensation Requests from Councillors**

None received.

## **3/05 Election of Vice Chairman 2013/14**

It was proposed (NG), seconded (MG) and agreed that Angela Truscott would be elected as Vice Chairman for the ensuing municipal year.

**4/05 Minutes:** The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated. No alterations were requested and they were signed off by the Chairman.

## **5/05 Matters Arising and Progress Reports:**

- a) Escape of sewage into the ditches : It was agreed the problem would continue to be monitored and would be reported again in the future if required.
- b) ROSPA Report: The annual report had been received and it was agreed to obtain a quotation for the work highlighted.  
**ACTION:** *The Clerk to arrange for the contractor to provide a quotation.*
- c) Email from Mr Sawyer: The Chairman confirmed he had met with Mr Sawyer and answered the queries raised in his email regarding Roadchef.
- d) New Homes Bonus: A flyer had been drafted requesting ideas for the NHB money and it was agreed it would be distributed to parishioners to encourage ideas to be put forward.  
**ACTION:** *The Clerk to print off and distribute the flyers over the summer months and continue to collate suggestions.*

**6/05 Planning:** a) To consider planning applications referred by Wychavon DC:

**W/13/00784/PN** - Strensham Business Park :  
Retrospective application for two workshop units.  
**No objections raised.**

- b) To Consider under the Scheme of Delegation any Planning Applications received between publication of the agenda and the Meeting: **None received**
- c) *Details of Decision Notices Received to-date: **None received***
- d) *Details of Appeal Notices Received to-date: **Wind Prospects***  
Cllr Wallbank updated the Council on the appeal. Confirming appeals had been launched for the access track in both Wychavon and in Malvern Hills but an appeal had not yet been made against Tewkesbury's refusal of the turbines. Wind

Prospects had until the first week in June to appeal the turbines for the Inspectorate to consider linking the three appeals but they have until 5<sup>th</sup> August to appeal against the refusal of the turbines if it is not to be linked.

**ACTION:** Cllr Wallbank to update the Council at the next meeting

e) Details of enforcement action:

a. **Harbour Wood** – The Clerk read out the correspondence received from the enforcement officer regarding the complaints of breach of conditions that were put forward to the Planning Department along with an email from Mr Fieldings, the track owner. A discussion which allowed the Parishioners present to contribute followed and the Parishioners were able to raise all their issues and concerns regarding the activity at Harbour Wood and the detrimental impact on the village.

The main concern raised was that Harbour Wood was being used and advertised as an Inert Tip and it was **agreed** this information was to be sent to the Enforcement Officer. It was also **agreed** to contact the Highways Officer Gareth Jones and gain confirmation that Highways have agreed for the lorries to be routed through the village which is a change to the original approval and to highlight the damage the lorries are causing to the road structure and to the Alms Houses.

**ACTION:** DCllr Davis to contact Wychavon Enforcement and reiterate the Parish Councils concern about their apparent lack of positive action. The Clerk to contact Highways, CCllr Hardman and continue to liaise with the Enforcement Officer.

b. **New build on Court Rd** – The Clerk read out the correspondence received from the enforcement officer regarding the alleged of breach of conditions. The Enforcement Officer had advised that the new owners would be responsible for correcting breaches of planning conditions if the property has indeed been sold. A site visit had taken place and the full report is awaited.

**ACTION:** The Clerk to continue to liaise with the Enforcement Officer specifically over drainage and the pavement.

## 7 Highways Matters

a) Report & Works for the Lengthsman –

Mr Williams reported on the work he had been undertaking around the village. He asked if the Council would consider purchasing a new strimmer which would enable him to keep the verges under better control. The anticipated cost was approximately £250. It was **agreed** by all Councillors to approve the purchase. (See under Finance)

b) Main Road – The main road through the village would be undergoing resurfacing in June. Disruption may be caused for a few days.

## 8 District & County Councillors Reports: for information

a. **District Cllr Ron Davis** – DCllr Davis congratulated Cllr Guilding & Truscott on their appointments. He informed the Council that Wychavon would continue to keep Council Tax at 0% increase. The District Council are unable to remove car parking fees as they bring in much needed income but they will continue to be looked into to see if future reductions could be made. DCllr Davis updated the Parish Council on the activities of the main committees that he sat on and provided the Council with the annual Crime figures for the parish which included:

1 robbery, 2 burglary non dwelling, 17 Thefts, 1 Assault, 4 Vehicle Crimes, 12 others (including Motoring Offences)

These figures include incidents at the Southbound Services not solely within the village.

b. **County Cllr Adrian Hardman** – Councillor not present

## 9 Correspondence

a) **Parish Matters** – Magazine was distributed.

b) **Discover History** – The email asking if the Parish had any information they wish to exhibit about the manor (court) at Strensham during the Civil War was read out.

**ACTION:** The Clerk to forward the email to Cllr White.

**10 Finance:**

a) Payments of Accounts: The Council approved the following payments of accounts:

Date	PAYEE	Description	Cheque No.	Amount
08/04/2013	Mr Williams	leaf blower service	473	47.21
01/05/2013	ROSPA	Annual Inspection	474	78.00
01/05/2013	WCALC	Annual Fee	475	129.12
01/05/2013	Mr Williams	April lengthsman	479	198.00
30/05/2013	LA Garden Service	March & April Cuts	480	230.00
30/05/2013	Worcestershire Regulatory	Lottery Renewal	481	20.00
<b>Total Paid Out</b>				<b>702.33</b>

b) The following receipts were received:

Date	Description		Bank
15/04/2013	Wychavon Precept	1st half	2251.00
26/04/2013	WCC Lengthsman	Nov, Jan & Feb 2013	378.00
		<b>Total Income received</b>	<b>2629.00</b>

c) To consider request by Lengthsman for a new strimmer at the cost of circa £250.  
**Request Approved**

d) To agree renewal of annual insurance cover – It was agreed to take up the quotation provided by Allianz for the following year and decline renewal with Came & Co.

**11 Topics raised by Councillors, Committees, Clerk & Parishioners:**

a) **Harriet Baldwin Broadband Meeting** – The Clerk updated the Council following attendance with Cllr Gough at a meeting to discuss rural broadband in West Worcestershire. It was a very informative day and the Council need to continue to urge as many residents as possible to complete the online survey. The areas the County Council will be assisting should be announced in July. For the locations where fibre optic broadband is not going to be possible Airband will be the County Council's preferred suppliers.

b) **Variation of Days for Council Meetings** – The changing or alternating of the day of the week that Council Meetings are held was discussed and it was **agreed** to keep them on a Thursday.

**12 Councillors reports and items for future agenda:** No additional items were raised and the meeting adjourned for a break for refreshments prior to the Open Meeting.

**13 Date of next meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> August 2013 was the date set for the next meeting.

Signed: *Rebecca Abunassar*

Date: 26/06/2013