**Strensham Parish Council**

**Minutes** of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 30th March 2017 starting at 19:30 in Strensham Village Hall

## Present: Councillors: N P Guilding (Chairman) C White J Wescomb M Gribble G Sawyer Cllr Gough

**In Attendance:** Rebecca Abunassar (Clerk) CCllr A Hardman 2 parishioners

**11/17 Welcome & Apologies:** Apologies were received from DCllr R Davis

**12/17 Declarations of Interest & Dispensation Requests from Councillors:** None received

**13/17 Minutes:**  The minutes of the Meeting held on the 17th January 2017 had been circulated and the minutes were signed.

**14/17 Matters Arising and Progress Reports:**

**Play Area Improvements** – Cllr Gribble updated the Council on the Playground improvements. The last piece of new equipment had been installed and all that remain to be done was painting the lines on the basketball court. This would be done when the weather improved. The big oak tree by the slide was dripping sap onto the slide but the tree surgeon advised it was not worthwhile cutting it down. He had also inspected the ash trees which did require attention.

**Clerk Vacancy** – the vacancy had been advertised but there had not been any applicants to date. It was agreed to do a letter drop to all homes as a parishioner was preferred. The current Clerk agreed to prepare the financial audit information that was required to be submitted to the external auditor.

**ACTION: Cllr Guilding to draft a letter to be distributed.**

**Anti-Dog Fouling Signs** – The signs had been erected in the chosen locations through the parish.

**Broadband –** Cllr Hardman updated the council and explained that the superfast broadband team were unable to assist with increasing the broadband capability in Lower Strensham due to the distance from the green box in Defford. They had suggested that

**ACTION: Cllr Hardman to speak to the Superfast Broadband Team to see what they would do for Lower Strensham.**

**Casual Vacancy:** The vacancy had been advertised but no applications had been received. It was proposed to wait until the Clerk vacancy had been filled before actively recruiting the vacancy. All present were in favour of the proposal.

**ACTION: The position to be re-advertised when the Clerk vacancy is filled.**

**15/17 Planning:**

1. To consider any planning applications:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [**17/00185/FUL**](https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=90569) | Bp Filling Station Strensham, M5 Services (South Bound), Hill View Road, Strensham, Worcester, WR8 0BZ | Construction of a drive through kiosk and amendments to associated roadways. |

The application was discussed and concerns were raised regarding the location and the impact of cars backing up onto the entry road. The additional litter in close proximity to Church Road was also raised.

**ACTION: The Clerk to send comments to the planning officer**

1. Details of decisions: The following decision notices had been received: **None received**

 c) Details of enforcement action and updates: **None received**

**16/17 District & County Councillors Reports:** for information

1. **District Cllr Ron Davis** – Not Present but short report read out by the Clerk
2. **County Cllr Adrian Hardman** – Cllr Hardman advised the Councillors on the main County issues and advised about the looming local elections.

**17/17 Highways Matters –**

**Hill View Drains** – Cllr Gribble updated the Council on the problem with the drains on Hill View Road. He reported that cameras had been used to investigate and that it was confirmed that there was a blockage under no. 3 The Old Barns. It was felt that it was an old problem that had not been dealt with. Paul Green from Wychavon was the main contact but they had no budget to repair the drain. He was going to contact Gerry Brienza at Highways. Cllr Hardman said that the issue was it was under private property so it was either the householder’s or Wychavon’s problem. He said that he would continue to help try to resolve the matter.

**ACTION: Cllr Gribble to continue to liaise with the councils to clear the blockage. Cllr Hardman to contact Gerry Brienza.**

**18/17 Finance:**

1. Payments of Accounts: The Council approved the following payments of accounts:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  *Payee* | *Reason* | *Amount* |
| Ludus Leisure Ltd | Playground Equipment | **6364.80** |
| R Abunassar | Clerk Duties Jan- March | **348.40** |
| R Abunassar | Stationary | **18.20** |
| HMRC  | PAYE Q4 | **172.60** |
| John Barrett | Lengthsman Duties | **240.00** |
| Wychavon  | Dog Signs | **180.00** |
| John Barrett | Lawnmower Repair | **320.35** |

**19/17 Topics raised by Councillors, Committees, Clerk & Parishioners:**

1. New Homes Bonus - £3525 would be available from the 1st April. It was agreed that Councillors Wescomb, Gough & Gribble would review responses to the questionnaire and identify recommendations for the next projects.
2. Strensham Wood – Concerns were raised surrounding the location of the clearing work that was being undertaken. It was suggested that a site visit take place to review the work to ensure it was as the planning application.

ACTION: Cllrs Guilding and Gough to visit the site.

**20/17 Date of next meeting:** Tuesday **23**rd May 2017 was the date set for the next meeting which would be the Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council