

Stoke Bliss, Kyre and Bockleton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 1st September 2014 at 8pm

At Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Andrew Yarnold (Chair), Burgess Adams, Adam Berry, Michael Bowdler, Brian Farmer, Chris Rodgers, Oliver Turner, Jayne Williams

In attendance: Louise Gibbs (Clerk)

1. **Apologies for absence:** County Cllr Ken Pollock (holiday), Cllrs Jessica Middleton (holiday), Dave Clark (work commitments). Cllrs Peter Basford, Terry Powell and Charlie Rea were absent without apology.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** there were none
3. **Reports from County and District Councillors:** there was no District Council report and the County Council report is appended here.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting:** were agreed and signed
5. **Matters arising therefrom:**

Annual meeting point 5) The Clerk reported that the annual accounts have been audited successfully by the external auditor, Grant Thornton, and that as there were no queries, there would be no charge to the Parish Council.

Quarterly meeting point 5) The Clerk had asked the Planning Office about the land at The Fulhams but had not yet received a response from the Enforcement Officer.

Quarterly meeting point 9) Cllrs Clarke and Rodgers had met to discuss the proposed Parish Council website. Cllr Clarke wasn't able to work on any web designs due to pressure of work. A local web designer, Jennifer Fish, would charge circa £300 and it was resolved that Cllr Rodgers and the Clerk would meet her to make progress. The site would essentially be to provide information to the community, display Parish Council meeting Minutes and would link to other local groups. Paid advertising could come in the future.
6. **Update from the Highways meeting on 22nd August:** Senior Highways Liaison Officer, Gerry Brienza and County Cllr Ken Pollock met with Cllrs Rodgers and Farmer to view and assess the poor state of the road at Stokes Hill and Bannals Lane. At Stokes Hill the road surface had broken down at its edges and the drainage was poor. In Bannals Lane, the road surface is rough and stony, and there is a large 'rise' in the road causing cars to ground – one such recent grounding has resulted in a claim to Worcestershire County Council. There was a brief discussion about funding to do the work, but no positive outcome. The Clerk had asked Mr Brienza to look at

the Japanese Knotweed outbreak on Stokes Hill, but nothing was reported back. The Clerk will follow up.

7. Planning matters

- a) Sallings Farm, Bockleton 14/00814/FUL -the closing date for submissions and comments was on 29th August and the matter would now be dealt with by the Planning Committee at MHDC though it is now yet known when. Cllr Williams commended the Clerk for her reporting and accurate minute taking of the Public Meeting and Parish Council meeting concerning this application. All agreed.
- b) Meredith House, Stoke Bliss 14/00868/HOU – new plans for front pitched roof extension and detached garage. Councillors looked at the plans and asked the Clerk to recommend approval.

8. Finances:

- a) The bank balance as at the end of June was £440.99. The July and August statements had not yet been received from TSB
- b) Payments since the last meeting: Lengthsman £236 x 2, Bockleton Village Hall (hall hire) £15. Payments for consideration: HMRC £55, the Clerk £225, annual insurance £366.63, Lengthsman £236.

9. **Parish Plan update:** there were no updates other than those regarding the website in point 5 above.

10. Clerk's update:

- a) CALC future is in doubt after Worcs. County Council withdrew £25,000 grant funding. The County Council are looking at alternative ways of supporting CALC
- b) West Mercia police submitted their annual report after the annual meeting in June which was: theft of diesel at Bockleton from a lorry parked in a yard; a container at the rear of the Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall was broken into but nothing stolen; a few thefts of scrap metal and catalytic convertors from vehicles.
- c) The annual Parish Conference will be on 23rd October at the Council Chamber, Shire Hall. All those who would like to attend to let the Clerk know please.
- d) The annual precept is to be decided at the December meeting – the Clerk will update the cash-flow forecast to aid discussions.

11. Correspondence:

- a) The Clerk had received an e-mail from Tom Palmer at MHDC regarding a drainage problem on the main road near Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall. The Lengthsman had been asked to monitor the matter.

12. Any other business:

- a) Cllr Williams commented that the contact details for the Clerk are incorrect in the Bockleton parish magazine. The Clerk will contact the Editor.

13. **Date of next meeting:** Monday 1st December, 8pm, Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall

