

Stoke Bliss, Kyre and Bockleton Group Parish Council

Minutes of meeting Monday 4th March, 2013

At Bockleton Parish Hall

Present : Cllrs. Burgess Adams, Peter Basford (Vice-Chair), Adam Berry, Michael Bowdler, Dave Clarke, Brian Farmer, Jessica Middleton, Charlie Rea, Oliver Turner, Jayne Williams, Andrew Yarnold (Chair)

In attendance: Cllr Ken Pollock, Mrs Louise Gibbs (Clerk)

1. **Apologies:** Cllr. Chris Rodgers (away), Cllr Terry Powell was absent without apology.
2. **Declarations of Interest:** there were none
3. **Report from County Councillor, Ken Pollock:**
 - Cllr Pollock reported that Tenbury Police Station is to close. Officers will report to Leominster or Worcester. A 'drop-in' centre will be located in the town, location yet to be determined but possibly at the ambulance or fire stations in Burford.
 - The Public Realm work has been deferred again, pending confirmation of the Tesco project.
 - Broadband supply – after many delays, the West Worcestershire Consortium project is ready to roll out. Demand must be stimulated and Cllr Pollock suggested everyone completes the questionnaire that has been e-mailed round – it is also on the Worcs. CC website. Cllr Adams pointed out that the Airband service is expensive when compared to other available services.
 - Potholes – much discussion ensued. There are several key sites in the three parishes which need more attention – Bannalls Lane, Grafton, Birchley Bank, Romers Common, Bockleton by the church etc. Jet patching is deemed to be of no value. Some work that has been completed was not done well and holes have re-formed (notably Bannalls Lane).
 - The matter of 'no through traffic' in Stoke Bliss was discussed. There is a sign at one end of the village but not at the other. A certain amount of traffic such as the school bus and delivery lorries need to pass through. A sign at the Wigley Bank end will be erected.
 - A planning meeting this week at St Michaels will be held to discuss the housing estate plans at Oldwood. It is likely to be refused.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting** on 3rd December were approved and signed by the Chairman.
5. **Matters arising therefrom:** there were none.
6. **Finance:**
 - a) The current bank balance is £1,606.
 - b) Payments for consideration: Lengthsman £118.00 and £118.00; Clerk £200.00 ; PAYE £50; Stoke Bliss & Kyre Hall hire £25.25
7. **Planning:**

13/00075/HOU – Lodge Cottage, Kyre; to replace conservatory with a garden room, to demolish an existing porch, and to replace front and rear doors. Details had been previously circulated and there had been no objections.

- 8. Proposal by Cllr Chris Rodgers:** ‘that the Parish Council agrees to purchase a small number of grit bins to be placed at the most dangerous points in the parishes. These could initially be filled by the County Council and by us in future if we eventually have our own store of grit’. Grit bins would cost circa £150. The proposal was discussed at some length and it was resolved that as grit bins are expensive and become wrecked by hedge trimmers, that they would not be purchased. Instead, Council would pursue with the storage of grit on Kyre Bank and asked Cllr Basford to progress with the application to use a building on his premises.
- 9. Neighbourhood Planning:** four Councillors and the Clerk attended the recent training session at Stoke Bliss and Kyre Hall which was led by Richard Levett of CALC. Two neighbouring parishes were also represented. Although the session was of interest, it was thought that the process is long and complex and not worth pursuing. If any NP is not within the District Council structure and approved by them and multitude of other agencies following consultation, it will not be considered. Instead, it was thought more constructive to maintain a positive relationship with Planners at MHDC, and to continue to abide by the resolutions made in the Parish Plan which will be reviewed regularly anyway.
- 10. Parish Plan update:** Cllr Clarke has been under time pressure with work but now has availability to complete the Plan. He will circulate it to the PP committee before printing. The volunteers who distributed the questionnaires would be asked to help distribute the final Plan.
- 11. Clerk’s Update:**
The Clerk had received several calls from Mr & Mrs Blackmore at The Acorns in Sutton regarding a proposed ‘Airsoft’ range on land at The Fulhams, owned by Mr Mumford. The MHDC Planning Enforcement Officer was due to visit the site later in the week. Apparently no licence is needed and the activity can continue under the ‘28 Day Rule’. The Clerk was asked to write to the Planning Dept regarding noise, nuisance, access to the site and the proximity of a footpath and bridleway to the site. To be copied to Cllr Tony Penn.
- 12. Correspondence:**
- a letter from Bockleton Parish Hall committee asking for financial support for maintenance. Cllr Yarnold proposed that £100 is donated and the same sum to Stoke Bliss and Kyre Hall. Seconded by Cllr Farmer and agreed.
 - a letter from Community First regarding cheaper energy
 - An e-mail from West Mercia Police Authority regarding savings within the authority
- 13. Any other business:**
- Cllr Middleton commented that unauthorised commercial activity still takes place at Kyre Stables. The Clerk would follow up with the Planning Dept.
 - Gullies on Birchley Bank need clearing
- 14. Date of next meeting:** 20th May 2013 (Annual Meeting)

The meeting closed at 9pm

