

Stoke Bliss, Kyre and Bockleton Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting on 5th March, 2012, 8pm

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

In attendance: District Councillor Tony Penn, County Councillor Ken Pollock, Louise Gibbs (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence - there were none
2. Declarations of interest - there were none
3. Reports from County and District Councillors –
 - a) County Council (Cllr Ken Pollock)
 - Teme Bridge work is ahead of schedule by a couple of days. The verges will be reinstated, where practical, on the diversion routes around Eastham and Berrington. The temporary car park on the Burford side of the river will not remain because it is prone to flooding and is not substantial enough. English Heritage and Shropshire County Council are not supportive of it remaining open. English Heritage has been limiting in how the refurbishment was undertaken, including the decision not to remove one of the footpaths to widen the carriageway, and that no other bridges (including foot bridges) can be built within sight of Teme Bridge.
 - Public Realm work in Tenbury – the design work is almost complete and will be shown in an exhibition from April.
 - Localism Act – includes the intention to stimulate voluntary work – it is therefore possible that there will be a litter pick by Tenbury High School students in our parishes. The Clerk had previously asked Worcs C.C. to do this along the main road near Stoke Bliss but it has not been done yet.
 - Planning permission for a Class 1A food store (Tesco) – there will be a public meeting on Weds 7th March at Tenbury High School for a final decision. Part of the proposal is that Tesco will provide extra bus services to the community, contribute to the Public Realm work, and clear and widen the footpath from the bridge to the Burgage. Work will start soon, but the store is unlikely to be complete before Christmas 2012.
 - Verge markers at the bottom of Church Bank in Stoke Bliss – the Clerk had asked Cllr Pollock to check if it were to be possible for the Parish Council to be consulted on such matters before going ahead. He is still waiting to hear back from the Gerry Brienza, Highways Dept at Worcs CC. The markers have already been replaced once.
 - Cllr Adams mentioned the drain on Birchley Bank which has still not been cleared, despite being jetted. The Clerk will follow up.

- The barriers at the end of Bannals Lane – Cllr Pollock had previously asked if the Parish Council would prefer them to be re-instated or not. Following discussion and a vote, it was decided to ask that they not be replaced.

b) District Council (Cllr Tony Penn)

- Central government has reduced funding by 26.8%, resulting in spending cuts at MHDC such as staffing and vehicle fleets being reduced.
- The garden waste scheme and home insulation schemes have been successful and recycling quantities have increased.
- The Flicks in the Sticks programme continues and the funding levels for the swimming pool, the museum and Café 27 remain the same.
- There is no plan to increase Council Tax
- Public Realm work exhibition will be ready for viewing in April followed by a period of consultation. Cllr Middleton suggested that a colour scheme for shop frontages be included in the scheme.

4. The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

5. Matters arising/progress report:

- a) The previous Parish Plan meeting had been poorly attended. The questionnaire is almost complete and volunteers were sought for distribution. Cllrs Adams, Farmer, Rodgers, and Turner all offered to help. The Clerk will be looking into printing costs for the questionnaire and the final Plan. The next meeting will be on 20th March at Bockleton Hall.
- b) Barriers at Bannals Lane – see above.
- c) Notice boards – the Clerk had received quotations from John Mason of Kyre and Guy James of Tedstone Delamere. After discussion, it was decided to wait until after the Parish Plan consultation is complete as here may be suggestions from parishioners to take into account.
- d) Superfast Broadband – Cllr Rodgers, the Clerk and George Jarvis (Bockleton) had attended a meeting at Knighton on Teme in January with other local Parish Councils and Cheryl Perry from Worcs CC. The result was that an Expression of Interest for a grant for Superfast Broadband was submitted. Nothing has been heard since, so the Clerk will follow it up.
- e) Winter road clearance – following the previous meeting, the Clerk had offered the services of Cllr Basford to Worcs CC to store road salt and to clear roads locally. Information was then e-mailed to Cllr Basford and he will return the necessary paperwork. Cllr Powell had brought with him some information regarding grit bins to keep on file.
- f) Localism Act- see District/County Councillor’s reports above.

6. Planning applications had been received for:

- a) 12/00234/HOU The Old Police Station, Sutton – two storey side extension
 - b) 12/00175/LBC The Hyde, Stoke Bliss – internal works – to create an en suite bathroom.
- Cllrs had no objections to either application.

The Clerk was asked to contact MHDC to report the fact that building work was being carried out at Three Chimneys, Stoke Bliss apparently without planning permission.

7. Finance:
 - a) Bank balances are: £590.49 and £677.30. The next precept payment is due for receipt in April.
 - b) Payments since the previous meeting: Jeremy Moore £208 (December, January, February) Clement Keys £96. Andrew Yarnold, photocopying £26, Parish Hall hire, Newsquest (Parish Plan meeting advertisement) £31.50 £45 Payments to be paid: the Clerk, £200; HMRC (PAYE) £50; Jeremy Moore £208 (March, April, May).

8. Correspondence: there was none

9. Any other Business:
 - a) The Lengthsman's rates have increased from £13 to £14.75 per hour. No extra funding has been granted for the next financial year from Worcs CC. It was decided to keep the Lengthsman's hours the same at 16 pcm.
 - b) Cllr Rea suggested the Clerk ask Herefordshire CC to look at the potholes on Pinkey Green

10. The next meeting is on Monday 11th June at 8pm at Bockleton Parish Hall. This will be the Annual meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm