

STOKE BLISS, KYRE AND BOCKLETON GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting on Monday 3rd September, 2012

At Bockleton Parish Hall

Present: Cllrs. Burgess Adams, Adam Berry, Brian Farmer, Oliver Turner, Charlie Rea, Chris Rodgers, Jayne Williams

In attendance: Cllrs. Phil Grove, Ken Pollock, Mr Dave Clarke, Mrs Louise Gibbs (Clerk)

In the absence of Cllrs. Andrew Yarnold and Peter Basford, Cllr. Chris Rodgers took the Chair.

1. Apologies for absence: Cllr Middleton (at Paralympic Games), Cllrs Basford, Powell and Yarnold (harvesting). Cllr. Bowdler was absent without apology.
2. Declarations of Interest: there were none.
3. Reports from County and District Councillors:
 - a) District Councillor Phil Grove reported that car parking charges in Tenbury Wells will be reduced from 60p to 50p for the first hour (£1.20 to £1 for 2 hrs). Recycling provision will also change – kerbside glass collection will start as a plan to collect all recycling in wheelie bins will be rolled out in the District from April 2013 (all Districts must implement this by January 2015). The wheelie bins will be provided by MHDC. Restructuring of management at MHDC continues – signs from central Government are that there will be a further 10% reduction in grant. South Worcestershire Development Plan – the consultation on Tenbury Wells is taking place and 70 new houses are expected to be built around the town by 2030. The final plan will be endorsed by November this year.

A question was put to Cllr Grove about the new Register of Interests and the questions regarding partners of Councillors. He suggested that the Clerk contacts John Williams of Legal Services at MHDC to seek clarification.

Another question related to the issue of wheelie bins – how will elderly parishioners be able to get the bins to the kerbside? Apparently refuse collectors will be instructed to collect them from inside property boundaries.
 - b) County Councillor Ken Pollock reported that the West Malvern Consortium broadband project is progressing slowly and has been delayed by bureaucracy. The Contract will be signed by Worcs C.C. and the Consortium will be a 'sub agent'. Road improvements – Cllr Pollock had received concerns of speeding traffic on the bends just south of Stoke Bliss on the Bromyard road from a local resident. He will refer to the Highways Dept. The matter of a quantity of gravel (washed onto the road when it rains) on the lane by Barratts Bank was discussed. The Clerk will remind the Highways Dept that it needs attention – and more than just sweeping. Cllr Pollock stated that there were still monies available from the Divisional Fund if any local projects would like to apply. The amenity site (tip) in Tenbury will be moving to the Bromyard Road Business Park.

A question was asked about the cutting of verges – Kyre has been completed but not Stoke Bliss. The Clerk will ask Highways Dept. about verges and about potholes that need repairing before the winter.

4. Consideration of the co-option of Dave Clarke as Councillor: proposed by Cllr Rodgers and seconded by Cllr Williams. All in agreement. Mr Clarke was welcomed as a Councillor and completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
5. Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as a true record.
6. Matters arising therefrom: the Clerk was asked to check with Cllr Basford regarding the return of paperwork to Worcs C.C. about winter road clearance; to ask the Lengthsman to prioritise his work with clearing out grips checking drains and to remove the blue barrels from Bannals Lane and Cross Farm. The village sign on the Grafton side of Bockleton has been taken down again – the Highways Dpt are aware of the situation and will re-install it. The Clerk was also asked that the Highways Dept move the Romers Common sign to the other side of the road on the south side of the common as it impedes lorries turning. Broadband project – Airband will be the probable supplier. At the previous broadband meeting, Cllrs Rodgers and Yarnold had suggested that it would be a mistake for the project to be led at individual Parish Council level as it would be inappropriate for the Parish Councils concerned to handle the funding for the project. All Councillors agreed with their proposal.
7. Planning matters:
 - a) 12/00962/FUL – Three Chimneys, Stoke Bliss – plans for change of use from agricultural land to domestic. The Clerk had recommended refusal of permission following discussions with Councillors, and was asked to follow up with a strong letter of support for the refusal, referring again to the previously submitted affidavits – to be copied to Cllr Pollock, Cllr Penn, Harriett Baldwin M.P.
 - b) 12/01043/LBC – The Lodge, Kyre – demolish existing front porch, replace front and rear doors. Replace conservatory with single storey extension, and internal alterations. The Clerk had recommended approval following discussions with Councillors.
 - c) 12/01046/FUL – Stoke Bliss and Kyre Village Hall – conversion of village hall to two dwellings. cvAll present agreed to recommend approval.
8. Finances
 - a) Bank balances : £667.48 in Treasurer's account and £1170.18 in the Current Account (pending amalgamation)
 - b) Payments since last meeting: Stoke Bliss & Kyre Village Hall (Parish Plan meeting) £28.75; 3 payments to Lengthsman £236.00 each month. Payments for consideration: Aon Insurance £390.87; Clement Keys (auditor) £144.00; HMRC (PAYE) £50.00; Clerk wages & expenses £257.00 (£7 postage)
9. Parish Plan update : Dave Clarke has been collating all the section summaries from the group members. At the next meeting on 10th September, actions for each section will be discussed. All Councillors were invited to attend at 7.30pm, Bockleton Parish Hall.
10. Code of Conduct and Register of Interest: it was suggested that with several Councillors absent from the meeting, the Clerk circulates the revised Code of Conduct to them for discussion at the next meeting. Register of Interest – see item above on District Councillor report.
11. Clerk's update : nothing in addition to these Minutes.

12. Correspondence: the Clerk had received a copy of the South Worcestershire Development Plan which was circulated. Also received a letter from Geoffrey Gwilt, of Sweet Green, Stoke Bliss regarding Barratts Bank – the matter has been discussed – see above.
13. Any Other Business – Cllr Rodgers asked for as many Councillors as possible to attend the next Broadband meeting at Eastham Village Hall on Tuesday 11th September as possible (*this date was subsequently changed to 10th September*).
14. Date of next meeting: Monday 3rd December

Meeting closed at 9.15pm