

STRETE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Helen Darch

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MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF STRETE PARISH COUNCIL (PC) HELD IN STRETE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 16 MAY 2019 AT 5.45PM

PRESENT

Cllr Kate Gill, Chairman (KG); Cllr Ralph Clark (RC); Cllr David Rothwell (DR); Cllr Ian Cumberlidge (IC); Cllr Louise Newman (LN); Cllr Peter Hales (PH); Mrs. Helen Darch – Clerk; five members of the public.

0519/1 TO RECEIVE THE SEVEN ELECTED COUNCILLORS' DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Forms were duly handed out, **signed by the six Councillors present and received by the Clerk**. The acceptance of office by the seventh councillor, Graham Campbell, is dealt with at 0519/9 below.

0519/2 REGISTER OF PARISH COUNCILLOR'S INTEREST FORM

The above SHDC forms were distributed by the Clerk to the six councillors present, **completed by five councillors and returned to the Clerk**. The Clerk reminded councillors of the deadline of 30th May for the forms to be returned to the monitoring officer at SHDC. **One form would be completed once all information was to hand and one would be completed by the absent councillor when he met with the Clerk. The Clerk would make sure the forms were returned to SHDC.** Councillors were also reminded to complete and return their nil election expenses forms to SHDC.

0519/3 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2019/20

KG was eligible to stand again in accordance with Standing Orders. KG was elected Chairman for one year. All were in agreement.

0519/4 TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

KG duly signed her declaration of acceptance as Chairman **which was received by the Clerk** and took the remainder of the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

Five members of the public attended the meeting. Mr and Mrs. Hutton spoke on the planning application **[1206/19/FUL] The Old Vicarage**. They explained the existing house is structurally compromised and will need to be demolished. The replacement dwelling will sit within the same footprint. Councillors asked questions including the use of an air source heat pump and whether this might create some noise. They were assured the pump would be located under the existing garage.

Mr Peters spoke on the planning application **[1259/19/HHO] 8 Crestway, Strete TQ6 0SF**. He noted he had worked closely with SHDC planners to include feedback on previous applications and the size of the extension had decreased by around 20-30% on previous plans: a substantial decrease in the development. He also requested that the present application be looked at under planning only *[an appeal to the Secretary of State relating to the previous application was ongoing at the committee date]*.

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

There was no County Councillor report.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

There was no District Councillor report.

0519/5 APOLOGIES Cllr Graham Campbell (GC); Cllr Richard Foss, District Councillor, Allington & Strete Ward (RF); Cllr Julian Brazil, County Councillor, Kingsbridge Division (JB);

0519/6 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 18 APRIL 2019

The above minutes were AGREED as a true and correct record and were signed by the Chairman.

0519/7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Parish Councillors were invited to declare any unregistered or other interest, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have in any items to be considered at this meeting. PH asked to have noted that he had previously objected to the original plans submitted for 8 Crestway **[1940/18/HHO]** but now would abstain.

0519/8 PLANNING AND PLANNING MATTERS

1206/19/FUL – The Old Vicarage, Hynetown, Strete TQ6 0RS

Application for demolition of existing dwelling including detached garage and the construction of replacement dwelling. Discussion took place and IC asked if the new house would be taller than the original building. He was assured there would be no increase in height. **There was unanimous support for the application.**

1259/19/HHO – 8 Crestway, Strete TQ6 0SF

Householder application for extension and alterations to dwelling to form additional bedroom (Resubmission of 1940/18/HHO). Councillors were reminded to consider the planning application in front of them only *[an appeal to the Secretary of State relating to the previous application was ongoing at the committee date]*.

A letter from No 7 Crestway on this application previously received by councillors was acknowledged *[circulated to councillors on 07/05/19]*.

Open Forum

The meeting was closed for a member of the public to speak. Mr Peters observed the bedroom had gone back one metre but the upstairs terrace was not one metre back.

The meeting was reopened.

Councillors spoke on the plans. IC stated he couldn't support the new plans as they were nearly identical to those submitted previously. The planned works amounted to an invasion of public space. RC observed the plans represented an overdevelopment of the site. PH abstained from the discussion. DR noted the planned works were out of keeping with the rest of the neighbourhood [Crestway]. LN felt the plans represented an overdevelopment of the site. **It was resolved to object as the planning application represented an overdevelopment of the site which creates a privacy issue. There were five (5) votes in favour of objection with one (1) abstention.**

0519/9 CLERK'S REPORT

Conduct of business and resolution to carry over meeting

The Clerk advised councillors that it was intended to conduct the business on the agenda within the time set for this meeting of 5.45 to 7pm when the Annual Parish Meeting would then start. However, if the council meeting ran over, councillors could resolve to carry the business on after the Parish Meeting if necessary. The chairman would need to make an announcement at the start of that meeting also that the annual council meeting would carry on after that and that electors are welcome to attend.

Resolution on absent councillor

The Clerk informed councillors that they would need to resolve that Graham Campbell's declaration of acceptance of office is to be accepted at or before the next meeting of the council.

Resolved: that Graham Campbell's declaration of acceptance of office would be accepted before the next meeting of the council on 20th June 2019. The Clerk to meet with GC to complete paperwork.

Insurance quotes – renewal due 1st June 2019

The Clerk had sent information on the insurance renewal earlier in the week. Four quotes were received as originally one failed to reply. This table at 16th May updates the email and schedule of comparative quotes sent 15th May.

Insurer	£ quote	Notes
BHIB	£365.87	Blanket quote for authority based on three-year tie-in. This is the second year of that arrangement.
Norris and Fisher	£325.79	Based on asset register and inflation. Includes war memorial valued at £30,000 per BHIB quote. Quote for one year only.
Came & Co	£454.84	Based on asset register and inflation. Updated quote includes war memorial valued at £30,000 per BHIB quote. Received 16/5/19.
Zurich	nil	Could not match BHIB on blanket quote and advised would not quote.

After a discussion on the merits of a blanket quote and quotes based on the existing [ongoing] asset register councillors opted to retain blanket cover for assets. In addition, cover includes money, employer liability, public liability, fidelity guarantee, libel and slander, officials' indemnity and legal expenses cover.

LN noted the risks of excluding assets which then needed repair for instance in another authority damage to the milestones proved costly when these were excluded from cover. **Resolved: that the Clerk would contact BHIB and ask if they could match Norris and Fisher's quote. However, to go ahead with the cover offered by BHIB in the sum of £365.87 and arrange payment of the premium by the due date.**

The Clerk subsequently contacted BHIB and obtained a revised quote of £336.83 on the same terms which was then acted on.

The report was received.

0519/10 CHAIR'S REPORT

Slapton Line. The position is still the same as last month. The topic is where to place the memorial. This in itself is a difficult subject- each person asked has a differing viewpoint. Torcross have nowhere to put it – they have a car park. Slapton proposes to put it on the public footpath on Sands Road – they don't have a carpark- and the traffic congestion in Slapton is appalling. Strete could host it at Strete Gate – there are two possible positions: the strawberry field and also the level area just behind the wall which has pedestrian access through the existing doorway. We have a proper carpark.

Strete Gate. We have issues again! It was brought to my attention through email that unsuitable behaviour has recommenced toward Pilchard Cove. Sadly, our police force is very stretched and more so this year. So, it is unlikely we will have a willing member of the Force doing recces in mufti.

Planning. There are two applications this month.

WIFI. This has been installed but we are yet to sort the precise final position. But this is in hand and was discussed last night at the Parish Hall Committee meeting.

Playpark. This is still being enjoyed.

Trees. I'm sure that Ian will have already picked this up. It was reported to me yesterday that there appears to be an ash tree near Skerries which is suffering from dieback.

Bottle bank. This last month we have had issues with fly tipping of bottles. On the 24th April I had to ring SHDC to do a lift. This left a massive quantity of bottles to be put into the new bank. I had some very welcome help from the caretaker lady from the static site who brought bottles to be put in! Between us we cleared up the mess. Thank you.

VAS. Ralph has taken the baton and persuaded Westcotec to service the poorly machine. Thankyou Ralph.

The report was received.

0519/11 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

RC gave a brief report on the progress of the NP. Contact had been made with SHDC on the 8th May. The initial report by the examiner is expected in the next two weeks. New grant funding will be issued but the Strete NP may not qualify for this new funding.

The report was received.

0519/12(a)FINANCE

The Clerk supplied the meeting with a list of cheques for payment. A late cheque 1652 was added to the list on the agenda.

1648 – Ralph Clerk printing costs toward the Neighbourhood Plan £19.98 plus VAT	1649 – Actionwest installation of WIFI in Hall £257.45 plus VAT
1650 – Greenspace contract costs January to April 2019 inclusive £662.35	1651 – Clerk salary May 2019 £244.25
1652 – Clerk expenses March to May inclusive £37.94	

It was proposed and AGREED by all present to authorise payments as enumerated above.

Subsequent to the meeting cheque 1653 for £336.83 inclusive was raised and sent to BHIB Ltd for insurance cover for the council for the period 1st June 2019 to 31st May 2020. In accordance with minute 0519/9.

0519/12(b) FINANCE

A monitoring report for the second month of the new year [y/e 31st March 2020] had been circulated already along with a cashflow projection. The latest cash flow projection on the current account to the end of June is £6,128.35CR.

The latest budget for 2019/20 and activity to date was also sent to councillors. This was received and approved.
Resolved the Clerk provide the monitoring statements for the website.

0519/12(c) FINANCE

Cash at bank – £11,064.72CR Current account at 09/05/19, £10,275.03CR Business Reserve account at 09/05/19.

0519/13 TO APPOINT PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

The representatives on parish bodies was AGREED as follows.

KG (Chair) Playpark.

LN Transport and Roads. LN noted that transport included liaison with the local bus operator and she felt she could not commit time to attend meetings. PH offered to take on this responsibility.

Resolved: PH to take over responsibility for liaison with the local bus operator. LN agreed to continue with the other responsibilities of this role.

DR Health and Safety. DR agreed to continue with this responsibility. He was also open to another area of responsibility if one presented itself.

IC Rights of Way, tree warden and Strete Gate.

RC Planning and Neighbourhood Plan.

PH VAS monitoring and local transport liaison. PH agreed to take over responsibility for the VAS machine and take on local transport duties as already resolved.

GC Village Green. It was suggested GC might like to take on this responsibility. **Resolved: to confirm GC is happy to take on the Village Green.**

0519/14 TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

The representatives on outside organisations was AGREED as follows.

KG Slapton Line Partnership.

Strete Parish Hall. Resolved: DR become Parish Council representative on the Parish Hall Committee.

Dartmouth Caring. Resolved: GC represent the Parish Council at Dartmouth Caring meetings.

0519/15 CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from St Michael's PCC had previously been circulated. **It was resolved the Clerk would respond to the Honorary Treasurer of St Michael's.**

Subsequent to the meeting a reply was sent This included a suggestion that the PCC might want to write and request any increases around November so that these might be considered and included in budget setting for the following year.

An anonymous letter of complaint had been received by two councillors.

The Clerk had consulted the legal Department at the SLCC and a reply was read out.

Advice received from the Society of Local Council Clerks' legal advice line 8th May 2015

If this is a complaint against a Councillor it would not be the Council that takes action it as it is a Highways issue identified, the Council does not have any legislative power to take action with the Councillor on the issues advised nor put into place sanctions of any form.

It's for the Police or the Higher Authority if they are contacted by the complainant, it would not be for the Parish Council to forward such correspondence to either as it is unable to formally confirm their identification.

So, as the correspondence is anonymous Council is unable to correspond with the complainant and therefore unable to reply to the complainant so no action can be taken.

Messrs Savills had written on the passing of Michael Toll. **Resolved the Clerk would reply to this letter as well.**

0519/16 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS FOR THE COMING YEAR

The dates circulated in the agenda were noted.

0519/17 THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 20 JUNE 2019 IN STRETE PARISH HALL AT 7.00 PM.

THE MEETING WAS CLOSED at 6.50 p.m.

Signed: Cllr Kate Gill (Chair)

Dated: 20 JUNE 2019

ACTION POINTS:

Clerk: to ensure the register of interest forms were returned to SHDC; to meet with GC to complete paperwork; to contact BHIB and ask if they could match Norris and Fisher's quote. However, to go ahead with the cover offered by BHIB in the sum of £365.87 and arrange payment of the premium by the due date; to provide the monitoring statements for the website; to respond to the Honorary Treasurer of St Michael's; to reply to Savills.