

Minutes of Stathern Parish Meeting
7pm Tuesday 10th November 2020, held remotely via zoom

Present: Cllrs. Bray, Smith, Underwood, Ramsay, Plews, Steadman, Evans and Rhodes
Clerk: J Collins.

Members of the public: 9

Members of the public are given the opportunity to address the Council

Cllr Byron Rhodes reports the following;

Bottesford waste and recycling site will close mid Jan to late Mar for work on drainage.

School food, free school meals will continue through the holidays.

Covid infections growing in Melton area to 250 cases per 100000, aiming to bring it down to 150.

Cllr Steadman reports;

Large numbers of cyclists are congregating. Report to police if you see it around the café's etc.

MBC tasked with distributing the next round of payments to rateable business and support continues for self-employed.

MBC planning is under considerable pressure at the moment.

452. Apologies for absence

None

453. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 13th October 2020

The minutes of the meeting, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members.

Item 451 incorrectly states the PCC will cover the cost of the tree they require "removing", this should read "pruning" and not removing.

Proposed to accept as true and accurate with the above amendment by Cllr Bray, seconded Cllr Plews.

Resolved to accept and sign minutes as accurate with the amendment.

454. Minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on the 26th October 2020

The minutes of the meeting, copies of which had been previously circulated to Members.

Proposed to accept as true and accurate by Cllr Bray and seconded Cllr Plews. q

Resolved to accept and sign minutes as accurate.

455. Declarations of interest and dispensations

To be declared during the agenda item if applicable.

456. Councillor vacancy and process for Co-option

MBC have confirmed there will be no bi-election and the Parish Council are free to Co-opt.

Clerk will advertise and publish the person specification and eligibility details from NALC. The closing date for applications will be Friday 4th December. Candidates are required to provide 2 sides of A4 responding to the person specification and confirm in writing that they are eligible to apply as defined by the NALC LTN8 paper. This process is proposed by Cllr Underwood and seconded by Cllr Ramsay.

Resolved to advertise the vacancy and co-opt at the next meeting.

Actions; Clerk to advertise and publish

457. Stathern NHP update

Submission approved at the Parish Council extraordinary meeting. Reg 16 consultation is due to open today and close on 23rd December. Due to Covid, MBC are not able to publicise in the local paper. The PC have been asked to assist with hand delivery of letters and publicising via our website and social media. They have provided the letter that needs to go out to those identified in the consultation list. MBC will contact those with email addresses on the consultation list.

As referendums cannot take place at the moment, once the local authority publish their decision statement, the plan bears significant weight. *Resolved* to publicise reg 16 consultation as requested by MBC.

Actions; Clerk publicise reg 16 consultation via website and social media / Cllr Underwood to hand deliver the letters in the Parish.

458. Update from WMI

In September and October the WMI was open and covid secure. Hosting regular activities as well as a McMillan coffee morning and harvest lunch. More recently there was a socially distanced Remembrance Sunday gathering on the grass at the rear of the hall (a legal exception to the lockdown rules)

In line with national lockdown rules, it is now closed until at least Wednesday 2nd Dec

There are some painted pebbles with poppies on that the children have done and hidden around the village.

A "follow the star" treasure hunt and Christmas event are planned for December.

School are still using hall for PE.

459. Update from SRA

Minutes of meeting on 21st October 2020 have been received

At a meeting last week, s106 monies have been confirmed relating to STAT1. Further discussion on the timescale is needed. SRA charity will be maintained for now to ensure the 106 can be claimed.

Maintenance day on 14/11/20, with a review of the covid guidelines first.

There has been anti social behaviour in the park, resulting in the goalposts being damaged, replacement cost is in the region of £1000. They have requested insurance details from the clerk, and are looking into a possible insurance claim. The expected expenditure is £350 for a new bin then either excess costs of an insurance claim or the £1000 for the goal posts. Cllr Smith proposes these expenses are accepted, Cllr Ramsay seconds.

Resolved to accept the proposed expenditure.

Actions; Cllr Smith to look into an insurance claim.

460. Closed Cemetery maintenance programme

A letter has been received from Mr Codrington requesting payment for consumables for voluntary work carried out in the closed cemetery as well as concerns around the condition of the hedges, grass, boundaries and gate.

The Cemetery looks in the best condition it has been for a long time. Thanks to Mr Codrington for the work he has done.

Current agreement is a contractor provides 2.5 days work in the cemetery per year.

Maintenance to date has been ad-hoc and a management plan is required, providing a plan for Mr Codrington as a volunteer to follow if he would like to continue as a volunteer.

Cllr Plews will liaise with the clerk and volunteer to put a maintenance plan together specifically for this area.

Requirement for the plan are guidance for how often the grass, hedges, boundaries need cutting and to what level. More urgent is to erect some warning signs on the gate highlighting the uneven ground and potentially near the wall warning of the drop.

Concern is raised about the state of the fence and the drop into Mr Kennedy's new access track and the risk of erosion from the water running down it with the proximity of it to the nearest graves. This requires discussion.

Cllr Bray proposes that the H&S related warning signs are done as soon as practicable, the gate will need a sign warning of the inspection periods and to pay Mr Codrington his expenses of £111.96. Seconded by Cllr Underwood

Cllr Smith highlights the PSS software can be used to record the maintenance.

Resolved to produce a maintenance plan for the closed cemetery, to pay Mr Codrington his expenses and that any expenses going forward must be claimed on a more regular basis.

Actions; Cllr Plews to liaise with Mr Codrington and clerk to draw up the maintenance plan.

PC - Discussion on risk of soil erosion and fence.

461. Review of hedge maintenance

Following a complaint about a hedge under the PC control, not trimmed in an ecological way.

Cllr Bray proposes that after discussions with neighbours, users and residents that a hedge maintenance policy is drawn up before the next round of hedge cutting is due (next year) for each hedge that is under the control directly or indirectly of the PC. Seconded by Cllr Smith.

Resolved to draw up a hedge maintenance policy for all hedges under PC control.

Actions; Clerk provide a list of all the PC hedges.

462. Consider quotes for hedge cutting at Moor Lane Cemetery / Playpark hedge / remove ivy in hedge at allotments

Allotment hedge cutting and Tofts Hill cemetery hedge cutting quotes were agreed at the August meeting

Moor Lane Cemetery hedge not cut last year. M Robinson £276 / R Scarborough £60 / B Thompson £312 / J Faulks £144

Playpark hedge gateways and front top and side, was cut last year. They have an offer of cutting the roadside and the top FOC – R Scarborough £150

Remove ivy from allotment hedge R Scarborough £30, this has been carried out already on safety grounds. Quote accepted

Resolved to leave Moor Lane cemetery hedge until next year / Cllr Ramsay to follow up playpark hedge with volunteer, then address cutting the inside / Lay the area of hedge to cover the gap left by the removal of the ivy in the allotment hedge.

Actions; Cllr Ramsay to arrange playpark hedge cutting with volunteer.

463. Consider quotes for tree works in Churchyard

To remove deadwood / branches and reduce end weight on lower limbs T25 & 23

Greenfields countryside £1104 / Simon Price £440 / Joshua Tree Care £300. Not included is the cost of the planning application, this will be additional.

Cllr Ramsay proposes to accept the £440 quote and the cost of planning application, seconded by Cllr Bray.

Resolved Mr Price to do the tree work. Clerk to make planning application.

Actions; Clerk contact those who quoted. Then make the necessary planning application.

464. Wildflower verges programme

Applications must be in by 27th November having consulted neighbouring properties Mill Hill opposite the architects / top of Red Lion Street on the triangle / on left as you turn into Valebrook Road / bank opposite allotments on Penn Lane / outside Tofts Hill cemetery.
clerk ask if consulting via social media and key resident in each area is enough to cover the consultation. clerk put volunteers in touch with Cherry and get form done for 27th Nov

Actions; Cllr Underwood to work with volunteers / Clerk to submit

465. Correspondence / Planning Applications, including those received prior to the meeting

Correspondence

- 465.1** A resident has complained about the hedge cutting on PC controlled land
- 465.2** The PC have been informed that an application is being applied for to close Church Lane to connect a sewer for a new build property into the existing ST sewer. The dates given are TBC 15th – 18th Feb, although they hope for it to be sooner.
- 465.3** PKF Littlejohn have completed their audit and the notice of conclusion of audit has been published
- 465.4** LCC highways reminder to apply for a licence for seasonal decorations in the highway
- 465.5** A resident would like to thank the Council for their efforts to improve the STAT1 planning layout
- 465.6** LRALC are interested in Cllrs becoming “community champions” for housing, climate change, health and wellbeing, local transport and youth for the next round of elections.
- 465.7** MBC have launched a survey seeking views on the effects of Covid-19 on residents’ daily lives. Published on PC web and FB pages
- 465.8** Details of workshops on the proposals for acute and maternity services
- 465.9** Leics police – ASB in village over Halloween weekend, because the incident was not reported directly to them, they have logged the PC as the victim. 5 youngsters were identified and will be started on the antisocial behaviour incremental approach, with advice being the first step.

Planning Applications

465.1.1 20/01095/FUL – Field OS 50000 & 5812 Tofts Hill. Demolition of redundant barns and their replacement with a single dwelling house (class C3)
3 yrs ago inspector said do more harm than it will benefit
last week inspectors report on field below it, he concurred with the original inspector
A prepared objection is shared on the screen with all present and read out by Cllr Bray. The PC strongly object, the scheme is more intrusive and will have a greater detrimental effect on the landscape. It is significantly larger; the current barns disappear at night but this has large areas of glass facing down the hill. The scale and design will dominate for miles around and generate light pollution. In breach of SS1 / SS2, EN1, EN2, EN6. The NP have a policy (CFA4) to protect Tofts Hill.
Cllr Bray propose to object as set out above, seconded by Cllr Underwood.

Actions; Clerk to submit objection.

466. Payments and Receipts

Payments

Clerk salary (4 weeks)	£561.00	22696
SSE Aug & Sept	£196.00	D/D taken 06/11
HP Instant ink (clerk card)	£4.50	22697
Zoom Nov	£14.39	22697
R Scarborough Oct	£400.00	22698
R Scarborough Tofts hedge	£250.00	22699
PKF Littlejohn	£240.00	22700
Your Locale	£500.00	22695

Cllr Underwood proposes to pay these, seconded by Cllr Smith
Resolved that payments approved and cheques to be signed and invoices checked by Cllrs Underwood and Ramsay.

Receipts

Allotment rent	£117.00
Cemetery fees	£385.00

Playpark account

Payments

None

Receipts

None

467. Blacksmith End planning appeal – any update prior to meeting

Nothing to report

468. STAT1 development – Any updates prior to meeting

Davidsons will be working to sort out the section 106 wording to enable the decision notice to be issued.

Cllrs Steadman and Bray have a meeting on Thursday with Helen Prangley and one other to discuss how the process works for the next steps, including time scales.

Conditions, a fence panel for a resident on Walnut Close which will be in the landscaping conditions.

Actions; Ongoing communication with the developers.

469. Toft Hill development – Any updates prior to meeting

Dismissed at appeal, a copy of report has been circulated and added to PC website

470. Consider which street lamp to change to LED

Our inspections have highlighted 18 lights for replacement, we have budgeted for 5 replacement lights. Lamp 2 is out.

Lubenham PC have successfully claimed the SHIRE grant for replacement of sodium to LED's, the available grant is £3000, which would need to be match funded.

Cllr Ramsay proposes to replace No 2 now from the contingency budget and to make an application for the SHIRE grant to enable the change of up to 15 lamps, seconded by Cllr Plews.

Resolved to replace lamp 2 with LED and apply for SHIRE grant to replace lamps.

Actions; Clerk to arrange lamp replacement and make SHIRE application.

471. Review of Moor Lane field rental agreement

Change the start date due to the changes. 1.5 Change to 1 years notice to terminate on the last day of the term prior to the annual renewal. 4.4.5 Add in hedge maintenance to the agreed PC policy, 4.4.6 add in maintenance of ditches on the property to a reasonable standard.

Changes proposed are unanimously agreed

Resolved to make the changes and agree the hedge cutting policy when established with the tenant and to thank tenant for keeping it in good condition.

Actions; Clerk make changes and contact the tenant.

472. Hands Charity Christmas donation

There are 28 over 80's. Cllr Ramsay proposes to keep the donations at £20 each at a cost of £560 for the donations and £25 for the cards. Seconded by Cllr Smith.

Resolved to donate £20 to each resident over 80

Actions; Clerk apply to cash in £585 and purchase cards / Cllr Bray to sign.

473. 2021 Meeting dates

Resolved to continue with the 2nd Tuesday of each month, with the exception of July which will be the 1st Tuesday.

474. Village matters

- Weight restrictions signs at bottom of Moor Lane and Harby Lane are twisted and need reporting. Any breaches should be reported to trading standards.
- Thank Mr Kennedy for changing the gate to the footpath on Dalliwell.
- Get quotes for repair to the brickwork on the Gote for the next meeting.
- Application for £2000 funding for a traffic consultant has been confirmed – consult with Cllr Steadman and Davidsons to move this forward.

Actions; Clerk report signs / Write to Mr Kennedy / Quotes

Cllrs discuss consultation for traffic requirements with Davidsons.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8th December 2020

Meeting closed: 20.50