

Minutes of Stocking Pelham Parish Council Meeting held on 20 January 2022 Village Hall at 6.30pm

Present: Cllrs Daniel Horn, Michael Hutchins (Chairman) and Tony Southam
In attendance: R Berthoud, Parish Clerk

- 22/01 Apologies**
To receive and accept apologies for absence
Cllrs Balaam and Berthoud
- 22/02 Interests**
a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda
None
b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests; and
None
c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate
None
- 22/03 Minutes**
To confirm the Minutes of Stocking Pelham Parish Council Meeting held on 04 November 2021 as an accurate record of the proceedings.
Resolved that the minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed by the Chairman. Unanimously agreed.
- 22/04 Public Issues**
Members of the public can raise matters of concern. (This item is limited to 15 minutes) None
- 22/05 Updates from Councillors**
a) Chairman's update – Cllr Hutchins
The parish council has a vacancy following the resignation of Cllr Paul Lucas.
b) Village Hall – Cllr Hutchins
Pre-school activities continue in the village hall. They were given a fogger which is used regularly to deep clean the hall. Toilets in the village hall will be upgraded by the pre-school.
The chairman will investigate additional grant funding for the hall to help with maintenance costs.
c) Playground – Cllr Balaam
Dog fouling in playground
The Chairman put up a sign together with some poo bags requesting dog owners to clear up after their pets. The situation seems to have improved.

Weekly safety checks of play equipment are carried out by the Chairman and Cllr Balaam.

d) Footpaths and Common Land

Some minor repairs have been carried out.

e) Highways – Cllr Horn

Update regarding overgrown hedge at Bennills following consultation with Highways Department. (21/61e)

Cllr Horn has raised several tickets with EHDC and been in contact with EHDC Graham McAndrew. EHDC is investigating as it is unclear who is responsible for maintaining the hedge.

EHDC will also be notified of new potholes as well as the dangerous state of 90m of road surface in the Wash.

f) Planning – Cllr Southam

1. Update on current applications

Greens Farm BESS – Update from Chairman regarding noise recordings registered by Berden PC. (21/61f) – Ongoing.

Joint letter opposing Battles Solar Farm signed by the Chairs of Stocking Pelham, Berden and Furneux Pelham Parish Councils.

2. New applications

3/21/2776/FUL | Creation of new vehicular access way and erection of entrance gate. | Church End Stocking Pelham Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 OHT No comment.

g) The Cock Inn – Cllr Berthoud

Communication with EHDC ongoing.

22/06

Other village matters to consider

a) Defibrillator training

Following a discussion it was decided that further defibrillator training would be unnecessary as the equipment has clear instructions and prompts and the emergency services guide users through the process.

b) Policing in rural areas

Councillors to think of a list of priorities.

c) Village sign

Postponed until further notice.

d) Jubilee celebrations

Clerk to arrange a working party and zoom meeting.

e) Supervision and maintenance of phone box library

Kirsty Rolland has kindly agreed to supervise the maintenance and upkeep of the phone box library.

f) Memorial bench for Roger Reason on Crabbs Green Common

Planned to go ahead in February.

22/07

Finance

a) To approve budget for 2022/23

Resolved, proposed Cllr Hutchins, seconded Cllr Horn to approve the budget for 2022/23. Unanimously agreed.

b) To determine precept for 2022/23

Resolved, proposed Cllr Hutchins, seconded Cllr Horn to keep the precept at £3,000 for 2022/23. Unanimously agreed.

c) To approve repayment of £8,965.70 to SPVHC

- loan of £8,000 (grant to PC from EHDC)
- additional costs for storage and fencing of £965.70

Payment approved.

22/08

Clerk's notices

For information only

22/09

Next Meeting

To agree date and suggest agenda items for the next Meeting of the Parish Council

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 23 February 2022.

Meeting closed at 8pm.