

# Minutes of Stocking Pelham Parish Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019 Village Hall at 7pm

**Present:** Cllrs Robin Whitefield, Ruth Banks, Paul Lucas, Michael Hutchins, Andy Brown

**In attendance:** Mrs R Berthoud, Parish Clerk and one member of the public

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- 19/020 Apologies**  
To receive and accept apologies for absence  
Cllr D Nicholls
- 19/021 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
- 19/022 Minutes**  
To confirm the Minutes of Stocking Pelham Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 as an accurate record of proceedings  
**Resolved.** Minutes agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and duly signed by the Chairman.
- 19/023 Public Issues**  
Members of the public can raise matters of concern. (This item is limited to 15 minutes)
- 19/024 Planning**  
**a)** The Cock Public House – update on the Public Works Loan  
Cllr P Lucas reported that the Public Works Loan for £545,000 had been approved. Cllr P Lucas reported that he has met with District Councillors Geoff Williamson and Helen Standon to get an understanding of next steps. EHDC will hold a meeting in June to decide what enforcement action can be taken on the developer and subsequently review the case for commencing CPO proceedings. The Pub Action Group has been in contact with the owner

proposing a freehold purchase, and has also asked him to propose lease terms.

The Chairman expressed the Parish Council's thanks and appreciation for the hard work Jenny and Paul Lucas have done to ensure the return of the Cock Pub as a fully operational public house.

**b)** Other planning applications to consider

**3/19/0659/FUL - The Commercial units at the Oaks**

Application for 9 dwellings

**Resolved:** to object to this application on the basis of unsustainability and the lack of affordable housing.

**Action:** Cllr P Lucas will write to EHDC.

**19/025**

**Highways**

To receive an update from Cllr Banks on potholes and recent problems at the sewage plant

Potholes and road continuously wet outside Cockswood: the Waterboard have been to investigate and reported that the water is not from their sources. The Highways department 'mended' the potholes in an unsatisfactory manner.

**Action:** Cllr Banks will contact the highways department for further investigation and action.

Mead View Sewage Plant: it appears this is blocked or not operating properly.

**Action:** Cllr Banks will contact the housing association to rectify the problem.

**19/026**

**Finance**

**a)** Update on current financial position

Last bank balance £141,934.81 (27<sup>th</sup> Feb 2019).

Graham Mackrell will finish end of year accounts.

**Resolved:** repay the loans made to SPPC of £140,000, which are replaced by the Public Works loan (see 19/024).

**b)** To authorise payments

- HAPTC membership renewal £97.55
- The Hundred Parishes Society renewal - minimum £10

**Resolved.** Above amounts approved for payment.

**c)** To confirm and identify receipts as loans or donations

**Resolved.** Three large amounts confirmed as loans and all others as donations.

**19/027**

**Management of Common Land**

Cllr Brown would like to identify areas of common land and to establish who is responsible for their maintenance

Cllrs P Lucas and R Whitefield gave background information regarding the duty of the PC to safeguard public spaces for the benefit of the village.

Villagers are welcome to help maintain common land but this will not result in gaining possession of the land. Cllr D Nicholls has delivered letters on behalf of the PC to villagers whose properties border common land to remind

them of this legal position.

**19/028**

**Parish Council Elections 2019**

To receive an update from the Clerk

The Clerk updated the parish council on the results of the uncontested election.

**19/029**

**Departing councillors and officers**

To thank departing councillors and officers for their service.

Special thanks were recorded for many years of service to Cllrs Nicholls, Banks and Whitefield who are standing down, as well as Jenny Lucas who has resigned from the position of Parish Clerk and Graham Mackrell who has resigned from the position of RFO.

**19/030**

**Next Meeting**

To suggest agenda items for the next Meeting of the Parish Council, which must be held between 7th and 21st May

Next meeting will be held on 9<sup>th</sup> May.

Meeting finished at 7:55pm