

## STOCKLAND PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of Stockland Parish Council held in Stockland Victory Hall on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm.

- 1) **Public Participation Time** (SO 1e & f); six members of the Public present.  
One member of the public commented positively on the agenda being published on the Stockland Tree. This was due to the Clerk being off sick and access to the notice board being unavailable. It is currently unsure if publishing the agenda on the Stockland Tree will be continued.
- 2) **Reports from;** Police, EDDC/ DDC Cllrs Brown, Levine and Chubb  
Cllr Levine reported on attending a training event regarding taxi licensing rules. An increasing number of taxi drivers go private due to potential higher earnings.  
Cllr Brown reported on the following items:
  - New EDDC dogs on beaches order regarding dogs on / off leads,
  - Summer time parking charges starting in April,
  - Beer car park currently has reduced capacity due to drainage works,
  - A new exhibition has opened in the Thelma Hulbert Gallery, Honiton,
  - The costs to repair Exmouth sea wall are estimated at £1m,
  - All councillors have to be DBS checked,
  - A new housing officer is in post with the aim of reducing the number of empty homes,
  - New toilets are to be built in the Lace Walk car park, Honiton,
  - Police and Crime Commissioner elections are on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, polling cards have been posted.

Cllr Chubb reminded everybody that 4 years ago on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March the UK went into lockdown. Covid is still around and financial recovery is ongoing.  
The DCC Asset and Network Response Teams are working closely together. Over 5500 potholes were registered in January '24.  
The Stockland Straight (Stockland Hill) is due for resurfacing this year.  
Cllr Chubb will send a more detailed March report via email.
- 3) **Resolve to exclude members of the press and public.** Approved to discuss items 10 and 11 below as confidential items[Public Bodies(Admission to Meetings Act) 1960].
- 4) **To record those Present:** Cllrs Switzer (chair), Derryman, Drew, Durrant, Parris, Pearse, Smith and Thompkins; in attendance Cllrs Brown, Levine and Chubb  
**Apologies:** Cllrs Bright, Trott and Clerk, K Pearson
- 5) **Declarations of Interest:** No interests were declared
- 6) **Council Meeting Minutes-** the following minutes were reviewed:  
26<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – these require a further amendment, as the statement regarding the March '23 minutes is incorrect – **Cllr Switzer to amend the minutes for confirming and signing at the April '24 meeting.**  
17<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - the minutes were approved and signed by the Chair  
31<sup>st</sup> October 2023 -the minutes were approved and signed by the Chair  
28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 - the minutes were approved and signed by the Chair  
11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 Finance and Staff – these require an amendment as item 9, Clerk's objectives appraisal was not discussed due to the meeting taking too long – **Cllr Durrant to amend the minutes for confirming and signing at the April '24 meeting.**  
16<sup>th</sup> January 2024 - the minutes were approved and signed by the Chair

30<sup>th</sup> January 2024 - the minutes were approved and signed by the Chair

7) **Action Review Summary**, the following updates were received:

a) **Turbaries**

- i. Tree felling on Featherlake has been carried out, tree felling on Shore Bottom is due this week
- ii. The piped ditch near Blue Ball Lodge has been cleared but due to the badweather had to be cleared twice more since then. There are concerns regarding a potential Gigaclear fibroptic cable crossing which could be damaged during excavations for a larger pipe. To establish options to enlarging the pipe the nearby resident agree to check with their neighbour if they are connected to Gigaclear. Additionally **Cllr Durrant agreed to contact Gigaclear regarding network maps and wayleaves for crossing turbarly land.**
- iii. A letter is to be sent to the resident of The Bungalow, Shore Bottom regarding the gravel hard standing, as approved in the meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024. **Cllr Switzer to send the letter.**
- iv. Other turbaries:  
Work to some of the fences for the ponies is required. The person dealing with the ponies is retiring however they will deal with the ponies this year.  
FIPL are due to visit in April regarding scrub clearance.  
The Woodland Management Plan is up to date.

b) **Highways/Ditches and Footpaths**

- i. The condition of the highway at Temple Bar has been reported to DCC. The issue is too extensive to repair as a pothole. There is currently no money to address this problem, however it will be kept on record for future work planning. A drainage issue at Husseys Cross is causing water to flow along Temple Bar down to Horseplot contributing to the highway problems in this area.  
Roadworks on Yarcombe Road were completed this evening.  
There is a large pothole on Witch Lane. The entire road has been reported as being in very bad condition.  
Repair work was carried on some potholes near Park View but not all were addressed.
- ii. The Footpath Wardens submitted the required claim forms to DCC on behalf SPC. The email regarding footpath 13 was related to footpath 13 in Membury, not in Stockland. Cllr Thompkins looked into the contractor for the footpath works complying with the SPC financial regulations. The contractor is working for DCC, not SPC, so this is not an issue.

c) **Play Area, Car Park and Victory Hall**

- i. The pothole in the Village Hall Car Park has been filled
- ii. Locations for the play equipment have been agreed. These are to be installed when the weather allows.
- iii. The query regarding hearing loop was discussed at the Village Hall committee meeting. Insurance requirements for erecting marquees etc. for events was discussed. It was queried whether this needs to be written into SPC's contract with the Hall Committee. Stockland Fair used to have their own insurance. It was clarified that SPC support the usage of the outside area for events.

8) **Planning**

a) **Applications received:**

- i. 24/0391/FUL -Whitehayes, Stockland, Devon EX14 9DB  
The SPC has no comments
- ii. 21/2420/AGR -Broadhayes Farm, Stockland, Devon EX14 9EL

The application appears to be the same as submitted previously, therefore SPC's previous comments still stand.

b) **Update on previous correspondence**

- i. 24/0312/CPE – Broadhayes Farm, Stockland, Devon EX14 9EL  
Cllr Brown agreed to check if the SPC's comments had been submitted to EDDC and will update Cllr Switzer

9) **Submission of annual booking form for the use of the Victory Hall**  
***It was agreed that Cllr Switzer would submit the form on behalf of SPC.***

10) **Staffing and Recruitment- CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

Concerns were raised regarding bank signatories, as Cllrs Switzer and Derryman have not yet received confirmation of being bank signatories. Cllr Thompkins has access to the bank account and is a bank signatory. ***Cllr Thompkins to check to see that payments for play equipment had been received from the Fair Committee.***

The recruitment process to find a new Clerk was discussed. DALC can provide advice regarding advert, shortlisting and interview. ***Cllr Switzer to make enquiries and report back.*** DALC have a job advert facility which is free to use. The new Clerk needs to have Power of Competence.

11) **Handling Complains received by the Council - CONFIDENTIAL ITEM**

- 12) The use of 'Any other business' on the agenda is not unlawful and can be used in exceptional circumstances. No items for AOB were received by the Chair for this meeting.

- 13) **Items of future business** for the next agenda  
Report on the annual meeting of the Stockland Charities

Meeting closed at 10:45pm

Signed.....Chair

Date 30/04/2024