**STOKE & HURLESTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**www.stokeandhurleston-pc.gov.uk**

Minutes of Meeting held on 6th December 2021 @ 7.30pm

**Nantwich Vets, Hurleston .**

**Councillors Present**: Mrs Valerie Pickford (**VP**) (Chair), Robert Darlington (**RD**), Christine Bowen (**CB**)**,** John Doherty (**JD**), Mrs Helen Exley (**The Clerk**)

| **Point** | **Agenda point** | **Raised By** | **Action** | **Due Date** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. | A minute’s silence was held for Cllr Ken Hough, who has sadly passed away since the last meeting.  **Apologies: -** Mike Kosh (**MK)** (Vice Chair) Sarah Pochin (**SP**) | Chair | Clerk | 06/12/21 |
| 2. | **Declaration of Councillors Interests:**-  There were no declarations registered from any Cllrs present. | Clerk | Clerk | 06/12/21 |
| 3. | **Matters arising from previous Minutes & Approval:** -  The Minutes of 06/09/21 quarterly parish meeting proposed as accurate by **JD** and 2nded by **CB.**  Reference to Website in previous minutes point 9 – The Clerk & **JD** to meet.  **Matters arising:-** the Chair has asked for Cllrs to give regular updates on action points arising from Minutes. Cllrs are reminded that they can only reply to matters on behalf of the PC if it has been requested at a meeting. | Chair | Clerk/JD | 06/12/21 |
| 4. | **Open Forum:-**  Comment regarding how difficult it is to find the website. | General Public | Clerk | 06/12/21 |
| 5. | **Councillor Vacancy –** *The Parish of Stoke*  Stuart Field (**SF**) was co-opted onto the Parish Council after the recent advertisement of the vacancy. | Clerk | Clerk | 06/12/21 |
| 6. | **Borough Councillor:-**  Not present at the meeting. | Clerk | SP | 06/12/21 |
| 7. | **Highways Update**: -   * **Closure of A51 –** Weekly update from CEC Highways sent to Cllrs. Works should be finished before Christmas. * **Matrix signs** – No further forward from September. **MK** sent a lengthy e mail to the Police & Crime Commissioner, regarding the speeding issues. See Appendix * **Parishes on A51 meeting update –** neighbouring parishes have not replied to request for the meeting with **SP.** * **Meeting with SP/MK and tour of Parish regarding issues.**   Hedge at bridge 100. The Clerk has requested local farmer to cut hedge. Date to be agreed. **CB** will liaise with him.  Tree at Stoke Manor – still outstanding.  A51- sign by Barbridge has been cutback, but not enough.  Still not properly visible from the A51. The Chair is to report this to **SP** so that it can be redone. | Chair | MK/ JD/SP/  CB/VP | ongoing |
|  | * Request for a Right Hand Turn Sign into Stoke Manor off the A51. The quote from CEC Highways is £2,500 for the sign. CEC feel that there is not enough evidence of accidents to support this request and The PC have not got the funds to pay for the sign.   **Draft Speed Management strategy** – this has been released by CEC for the public to review. Consultation is now open until 04/01/22. Individuals are able to review and comment on the website. |  |  |  |
| 8. | **Lengthsman duties:-**   * Dog mess marking – still an issue with fouling in the Parish. More spraying of offending fouling to be carried out to highlight the issue again, but not until the Spring. Suggestion that a Facebook posting be done to highlight the issue locally, but under the Parish Council rather than the Village FB page. * Stickers now ready to put on the dog waste bins. | Clerk | Clerk/CB | ongoing |
| 9. | **Parish Council Noticeboard:-**  **VP** & **MK** viewed boards and ordered a suitable noticeboard. This will be delivered at an agreed time. **VP** to organise the siting of the board. | Chair | Chair | ongoing |
| 10. | **Clerk’s report:-**  All recent e mails to be forwarded to **SF.**  No further update on correspondence. | Clerk | Clerk | 06/12/21 |
| 11. | **Planning Matters :-**  Current:-  *21/5277N – Dog exercise area, Chester Road, Hurleston*  Past:-  *21/4643N – 3 Canal Cottages, replace outriggers – undecided.*  *21/3338N 19 Old Chester Court Barbridge, CW5 6AY – single storey dining room extension to back of house – Approved with conditions*  *21/0580N – Park Farm, Chester Road Hurleston. Use of existing goods access as overflow for vehicle exit. – undecided.* | Chair | Chair | 06/12/21 |
| 12. | **Cheshire East Governance issues and boundary changes:-**  Comments from the PC were submitted on behalf of SHPC by the Chair. | Chair | Chair | 06/12/21 |
| 13. | **Police and Crime Plan 2021-2024:-**  **MK** sent e mail regarding concerns about the speeding in the Parish on behalf of SHPC. See attached Appendix. | Chair | Chair | 06/12/21 |
| 14. | **Review of Cheshire East Taxi Policy:-**  Agreed to review this individually and respond on the website. | Chair | Chair | 06/12/21 |
| 15. | **CEC Bus Service Review:-**  **JD** updated on the bus service and he has spoken to the council about the service. There is the Silver Bus that is now available to local residents. This can be organised via phone bookings. | Chair | Chair | 06/12/21 |
| 16. | **Free Trees for planting:-**  This is for larger planting schemes, so not appropriate for the Parish. | Chair | Chair | 06/12/21 |
| 17. | **Review of Current Standing Orders:-**  Now corrected from September meeting, with follow up e mail on 12/10/21. | Clerk | Clerk | 06/12/21 |
| 18. | **Precept setting for 2022-23:-**  Councillors agreed that the precept should be increased by 5% for the next financial year. Increase to £2,885. Proposed by **VP**, 2nded by **JD** .  CEC proposed budget was discussed, following recent e mail to all councillors for review. | Clerk | Clerk | 06/12/21 |
| 19. | **Payment of accounts:-**  Cheques issued:-   * Helen Exley (clerks Fees) (554) £549.64 * Helen Exley (Dog Bins Stickers) (555) £40.80 * Nantwich vets room hire (556) £ 50.00 * Mike Kosh ( Noticeboard payment) (556) £432.00 * St Luke’s (Christmas tree donation) (557) £120.00     **Bank Mandate** now to be updated with new signatures and online forms to be completed.  **HMRC** Employers PAYE NI query. The Clerk to investigate why there is a charge. | Clerk | Clerk | 06/12/21 |
| 20. | **Items for next agenda:-**  **CB** – refresher training course for the Defibrillator**. CB** is happy to carry out the training again. Book the meeting room. Check insurance on Defibribrillator – is it covered?  **JD**  - Local Community Champion recognition. A thank you award. Any ideas to be sent to **JD.** | Chair | CB/JD  Clerk  CB  The Clerk | 07/03/22 |
| 21. | **Dates for 2022 meetings :-**  **7th March – 7.30pm**  **16th May (to include Annual meetings) 7.30pm**  **5th September – 7.30pm**  **5th December – 7.30pm** | Clerk | Clerk | 06/12/21 |

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed @9.05 pm

-------------------------------------------------------------------------**Chair** ------------------------------------------------------**Date**

**Appendix**

I am a parish councillor with Stoke and Hurleston Parish Council. The PC were very encourage by your focus on speeding as part of the The Police and Crime Plan and the follow up launch of an average speed camera pilot project. I contacted Steve Jones at the request of the PC seeking information and registering an interest for participation in the project. Sadly as you will know the scheme has been inundated with bids and we were not included. Nevertheless Steve has recorded our interest in any future rollout.

The very busy A51 runs through the parishes of Stoke and Hurleston and the village of Barbridge. The A51 is a route linking the M6 and North Wales carrying significant national and international freight traffic.  For a number of years I have been trying to arrange for some form of speed management in the 40mph section of the A51 through Barbridge and the rest of the parish along the A51. Unfortunately Cheshire East Highways had withdrawn their SIDS before I could arrange anything. Subsequently the Stoke and Hurleston Parish Council agreed to finance one Speed Indicator Device from our extremely limited budget, we couldn’t afford two!   Prior to purchase I became aware through my participation in the Stakeholder Group for the Wardle Airfield Development that planning approval included S106 monies to be made available for matrix signs for both Barbridge and neighbouring Wardle to be sited on the A51 as mitigation for the expected increase in traffic generated by the site development. The S106 monies have been available now for almost two years but so far we have no matrix signs

Average speed cameras are clearly a very effective way to impact on speeding and could have a major part to play in improving the lives of all residents living in villages along the A51.  
  
The recent traffic survey carried out for Cheshire East Council by TRACSIS demonstrates that there is a significant problem of speeding on the A51 Barbridge section to the point where over 40% of vehicles travelling in one direction along the A51 through the survey were speeding to the point where police action would normally be instigated, I.e. over 46mph in a 40mph area. This an area of high traffic volumes so it gives an idea of the scale of the problem.  
  
The traffic issues relating to the A51 are well known to the extent that a connectivity study to be funded by the LEP, CEC and Cheshire West and Warrington has been identified as a priority. Certainly the recent CEC commissioned traffic survey on our section of the A51 provides ample evidence to support the installation of average speed cameras. We believe that speeding is not only a road safety issue but it significantly contributes to  additional noise and air pollution.  
  
We as a parish council applaud the engagement of ChALK with Cheshire Constabulary in trying  to get to grips with speeding and would want to engage if possible in any future project.  Many small parish councils like ours however cannot consider an initial substantial outlay or ongoing costs without substantial financial support. Without support the initiative will only benefit those who can afford to pay rather than those who are in most need. There are a number of small parishes along the A51 who will be in the same financial position as ourselves.

We are pleased to read in your Policing and Crime Plan that you wish to hear from residents where speeding is an issue and there is intelligence to support action. The recent Cheshire East Highways traffic survey we believe very clearly sets out the scale of the problem [ as briefly outlined above] and the residents of the parish would be pleased if you could address their concerns with some enforcement action. I should add that at present the. A51 is closed near our parish to facilitate extensive road works thus there is little through traffic. However the work should be completed by mid December and the volume of traffic will vastly increased.  
Kind Regards  
  
Mike Kosh

Parish Councillor  
On behalf of Stoke and Hurleston Parish Council