

# STRATFIELD SAYE PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the AGM held in the Village Hall 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.00p.m.

*Meeting did not start till 7.30p.m due to late arrival of 2 Councillors.*

### **Present:**

Cllr I Pearson                      Cllr G Preston                      Cllr N Hall                      Cllr J Carruthers  
Cllr A Harborne                      Cllr A Speed                      Parish Clerk Mrs P Mayo  
3 parishioners.

### **1.17 Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Rhydian Vaughan and Marilyn Tucker.

### **2.17 Election of Chairman**

Chairman Ian Pearson stood down.

Cllr Harborne proposed Cllr Pearson be elected Chairman for 2017/8, seconded by Cllr Toosey & carried unanimously. Cllr Pearson accepted the nomination and resumed the position of Chair.

### **3.17 Election of Officers**

Cllr Pearson's proposal that the Officers continue with their area of responsibility, as per 2015/6, was unanimously accepted. Any alterations needed, due to a change of Council membership, are noted in red.

a. Vice-Chairman	Cllr G Preston
b. Village Hall	Cllr A Harborne
c. Basingstoke & Deane Association of Parish Councils	Cllr G Preston
d. Footpaths & recreation Ground	Cllr J Carruthers
e. Hampshire Association of Town Councils	Cllr G Preston
f. Trees, Environment & Pond	Cllr C Toosey
g. Media	Cllr I Pearson
h. Transport	Cllr A Speed
i. Mornington Cup Garden Competition	Cllr A Speed

### **4.17 Adoption of minutes AGM 9<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

Cllr Pearson proposed acceptance of the minutes AGM 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017 – motion carried unanimously – and signed them as accurate.

### **5.17 Reports for 2016/7**

#### **a. Cllr Pearson's report as Chairman**

This past year has seen some changes, some lows and some highs.

“Firstly, I am delighted to welcome Andrew Speed to the Council for his first meeting this evening, following James Hare leaving the Parish, and I would like to thank him for his service.

The pavilion and recreation ground has required more focus than in previous years. The installation of the new cesspit has not been trouble free, with ongoing remediation required by the contractors. A flood in the pavilion caused significant damage, with repair work still continuing. Hopefully this will be completed soon.

There is a possibility that the football club will no longer be using the field. If confirmed the Council will need to decide on how best to use this asset, as well as ensuring that future budgets reflect the loss of revenue and increased maintenance charges.

On the plus side, the decision of what to name the pavilion has been resolved, with the appropriately succinct Stratfield Saye Pavilion the decision.

The new bench at West End Green has arrived and arrangements are in place for its installation.

The coffee mornings continue to be well attended.

The issue of the lack of suitable broadband in the Parish unfortunately continues. Whilst there have been plenty of platitudes and understanding of the issues we face, the amount of actual help received so far from Superfast Hampshire, Superfast Berkshire, BDUK, Ofcom, the DCMS Select Committee and the DCMS itself is precisely zero. I continue to harass, cajole and lobby to get a satisfactory resolution.

On a more positive note to conclude, in April the Council hosted the ceremony to mark the unveiling of the memorial stone to Lance Corporal James Welch VC. I was delighted to see such great turn out, and the

support provided by the Council, the Parish and from further afield was much appreciated. The feedback we have received has been excellent, and the day is one for which we can be justly proud. I would also like to place on record my thanks to our Clerk, Penny Mayo, for the tireless work that she did in organising the many strands that needed to come together for the day to work. That the event went so smoothly is testament to her achievement. I would also like to thank His Grace the Duke for his kind donation towards the costs for the day.

The Council's accounts remain healthy and adequate for expected expenditure, and we have achieved a reduction in the precept for the coming year.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the Council for their work and support in the past year, and to the Parish at large for the support and feedback they provide.”

*Cllr Pearson supplied a hard copy by e-mail for inclusion in the Minutes of the Report he gave at the meeting.*

There were no reports available from the PCC, Village Hall (classes), Borough & County Councillors or the Police

### **6.17 Chairman's Allowance**

Cllr Pearson agreed that the £50 Chairman's allowance should again be donated to the James Christmas Charity of Stratfield Saye.

*Record of Councillor Attendance at meetings in the past year 2016/17:*

*Manser 1, Pearson 5, Nixon 1, Preston 1, Harborne 3, Toosey 4, Hall 3, Hare 0, Speed 0, Carruthers 5.*