

## STRATFIELD SAYE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in Stratfield Saye Village Hall Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

### Present:

Cllr I Pearson, Chairman	Cllr G Preston, Vice-Chairman	Cllr A Harborne	Cllr N Hall
Cllr C Toosey	County Cllr R Vaughan	Borough Cllr R Gardiner	
Penny Mayo Parish Clerk	PCSO Nathan Johnson		

### 77.17. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies were received from Cllrs M Tucker, A Speed & J Carruthers. Due to family problems Cllr Carruthers has requested a 6 months leave of absence. Proposed by Cllr Toosey and seconded by Cllr Preston.

### 78.17. Minutes of the Meeting & 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2017

The Parish Council unanimously agreed to accept the minutes of the meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> October ( with 3 amendments initialled by the Chairman). Proposed by Cllr Hall , seconded by Cllr Preston and signed as accurate by the Chairman Cllr Pearson.

### 79.17 Matters Arising from the Minutes.

- 41.17 Cllr Hall to send invoices for supplies to Parish Clerk for payment. **NH**
- 43.17b Despite there being no use the new cesspit is  $\frac{3}{4}$  full letting in ground water. The Parish Clerk has already contacted Hartley to investigate and will re contact. **PM**
- The Pavilion repairs have now been completed by CRL Fire & Flood. Parish Clerk to check. **PM**
- 55.17 Cllr Pearson has still to contact the residents at Morlands about their contractors blocking the road. See correspondence item below. **IP**
- 61.17 The Parish Clerk is still trying to contact the Pamber clerk to find out about joining the lengths man scheme. **PM**
- 65.17 Cllr Pearson has still to replace the pads in the defibrillator. **IP**
- 72.17. Cllr Pearson has still to post the Stratfield Saye Parish Council Constitution and Audit 2016/7 on the website. **PM**
- 73.17. The Parish Clerk has still to find out the costs to put barriers at the recreation ground and Village hall entrances. **PM**

### 80.17. Borough Councillors' reports

The resurfacing on Minchens Lane was reported as bad.

Cllr Gardiner advised the Parish Council to identify items for 106 monies or risk losing the monies.

Parishes will now be charged by BDBC for the costs for any bye elections held. Rather than holding a reserve in case it is needed Cllr Preston asked if any charges could be recouped in the following year. Cllr Gardiner suggested writing to BDBC Leslie Murphy to ask if this would be allowed. **GP**

The Borough is trying to abolish political assistants. While it was blocked by the labour party it is hoped it will be passed later in the year to save money.

Boundary review. There will be 54 Borough Councillors serving for 3 year periods. There will be 3 Councillors per ward with an equalisation of areas and electors although this is more difficult in rural areas. Consultations are taking place and new areas will come into force in 2019.

### 81.17. Hampshire County Council (HCC) Matters

There were no other matters to discuss.

### 82.17. County Councillor's Report

Cllr Vaughan's report already circulated is listed below in minutes.

BDBC 's Boundary changes review is an attempt to balance out the Borough. If Stratfield Saye is moved into North West Hampshire then it will mean a change of MP to Kit Mulhouse from Ranil Jayawardena.

K Thornber and K Chapman were made honorary Aldermen.

Bramley Road works will be completed by end December. There are still discussions about a footbridge over the railway line at the Bramley crossing for pedestrians and because of the length of time the barriers are down he is hoping to get signs put up to ask people to turn off their engines to limit the pollution.

He invited the Councillors to the reception 15.12.17 at 6.30p.m. At Sheffield School. Cllr Pearson will circulate the details to everyone. **IP**

### **83.17. Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council (BDBC) Matters**

There were no other matters to discuss.

### **84.17. Parish Matters**

- a. The Parish Clerk will write the next article for the Loddon Link and include requests for people to stop parking on the pavements in New Street and also that they must report any suspicious activity or vehicles/licences numbers to the police on 101 as without this the police are not aware that there is any problem. They need this information as it allows them to see if any pattern of activities is occurring. The Clerk will also ask residents to consider washing road signs near their homes as they are becoming difficult to read and with the cuts HCC is unlikely to be able to clean them regularly. **PM**
- b. There will be a Carol Service & reception at Brook Barracks, Reading on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 7.00p.m. to which Parish Councillors have been invited. They have installed a VC display with copies of L/Cpl James Welch's medals.
- c. Ratify Constitution. The constitution was unanimously accepted at 2.10.17 meeting see 65.17. Cllr Pearson to place copy sent by Parish Clerk on website. **IP**
- d. Standing Orders. These have been tabled at meetings 6.2.17, 8.5.17 and 3.7.17 and recorded as needing no amendments. Will be on agenda for ratification 5.2.2018 meeting and then placed on the website. **PM**
- d. New GDPR. Cllr Pearson will form a working party to review this. He will contact HALC, ICO and Ranil Jayawardena to get more information on what is needed and costs involved. **IP**
- e. Loddon Link Magazine deliveries. The Parish Clerk informed the Parish Council that despite many requests for volunteers to deliver the magazines no one had contacted her and it has become impossible to cover the parish adequately. She therefore proposed that magazines be placed in several places within the Parish – the church, New street telephone box and Fair Green bus shelter so people could stop and collect one if they wished.
- f. Cllr Toosey informed the PC that Cllr Speed had set up a whats app group. Cllrs Preston, Hall, Harborne & Pearson asked her to contact him to add them to the group. **CT**

### **85.17. Correspondence**

- a. Boundary changes BDBC – see 82.17 above.
- b. Green Road. There have been several complaints about the parking of contractors' vehicles at the junction of Green & Mortimer Lane –which is dangerous as it blocks visibility. The Chairman will again ask the resident to arrange for his contractors to park on his property. **IP**
- c. The work by the water company on Mortimer Lane has been delayed till 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

### **86.17. Highways**

Beech Hill Road to be reported to HCC. **PM**  
Several signs were noted s damaged.

### **87.17. Hampshire Constabulary Matters**

PCSO Nathan Johnson attended the meeting and presented his report. He is covering the area at present due to staff shortages but a new PCSO will be appointed for Stratfield Saye in the near future. The problem with travellers is ongoing, however under section 61 the police were able to move the caravans as they attempted to park on the Wellington Arms car park on the A33. The police have to make £15m savings. The Neighbourhood policing teams will stay but the Force support unit is being disbanded and the dog unit reduced by 50%. A further £20M has to be saved in 2020-25. He emphasised that the police were not getting reports so they were not receiving a realistic picture of any crimes etc to add to their data bases and asked that everyone reported anything suspicious to 101. To be put in Loddon Magazine article.

### **88.17. Planning Matters**

There were no plans to discuss.

### **89.17. Basingstoke & Deane Association of Parish & Town Councils (BDAPTC)**

Cllr Pearson attended the recent meeting at which Bramley reported on their work and costs re the GDPR which comes into force in May 2018.

## 90.17. Hampshire Association of Local Councils (HALC) Matters

There were no matters to discuss.

## 91.17 Finance

a. Payments. The Clerk issued the schedule, listed below, of all payments made on behalf of the Council which the Councillors signed as correct.

4.10.17	I Pearson	85.00
17.10.17	ICO	35.00
17.10.17	Pulpits	38.00
26.9.17	Castle Water	3.48
26.10.17	Castle water	3.48
	CRL vat element to be reclaimed	2494.41
	for Pavilion repair - paid once	
	refund received from Customs &	
	Excise	
SSE	electricity	112.95

b. Setting of precept. The Parish Clerk issued the Councillors with a budget of expenditure for period 12.2017 to 3.2019. However the Councillors decided they could not decide on a precept figure without trying to identify costs which will be attributed to the new GDPR ( identified as approx £2638 on the budget by the Parish Clerk to cover basic requirements). They will hold an extraordinary meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to make a decision.

## 92.17 Parish Councillors' Comments

Gigaclear communication to residents & businesses in the Parish sent by Cllr Pearson for comment. It was decided to send the communication to every house hold/business in the Parish. Cllr Preston suggested a stamped addressed envelope should be included. A date for return was to be included. *However although this was discussed the costs involved were NOT proposed or voted on by the Councillors.*

## 93.17. Open Forum.

There were no comments recorded in Open Forum.

## 94.18. Dates of Next Meetings

There will be an Extraordinary meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to discuss the precept and an ordinary meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

**95.17. Close** The meeting was closed by the Chairman Cllr I Pearson at 9.30p.m.

## County Councillor Rhydian Vaughan Report 23.11.17

I would like to share with you the highlights of our 'half-term' financial strategy. Hampshire is facing similar problems to most other upper-tier authorities—although we are probably better placed than many, largely because of good forward planning. For instance, Northamptonshire is contemplating a negative budget, only achieving a balance over a number of years. Somehow, I doubt they will get permission to do that, and are likely to get a negative auditor's report. The last time Hampshire got a negative auditor's report was back in 1997, in the days of the Lib-Lab pact, when the auditors said that the reserves were too low.

In essence, as a result of reductions in Government grant, coupled with inflationary pressures, such as salaries and the living wage (costing an extra £50 million) and also the demographic pressures of more elderly people and more children, we have to take £140 million out of our budget by 2019-2020. That £140 million figure was reported to us in February last year.

This further reduction comes on top of the £340 million that we have already taken out of expenditure. This is why it is so hard now to find the savings required through back office re-organisation.

By law, we have to set a balanced budget. This is non-negotiable. People tell us they are prepared to pay a bit more, so we will work on the assumption of the maximum permissible council tax increase next year, without a referendum, i.e. 1.99% plus 3% allowed for social care increases.

As an example, Children's Services increases are related to demand pressures, social work recruitment and retention, home to school transport, and special guardianship orders. We do not get many petitions or deputations concerning

'looked-after children,' but they are our statutory responsibility. Therefore, we are planning to give Children's Services an extra £20 million to cover these eventually.

Commercial activity helps, and is now extensive and wide-ranging. It contributes some £130 million to help us maintain services.

We are also asking our officers to continue their exploration of all viable options to revise or refine proposals with regard to service continuity in the following areas: - Community transport - School crossing patrols - Waste & recycling centres

If we can find solutions, we will implement them, but we have to find the money from somewhere.

We continue our contact with Government ministers by correspondence and face-to-face meetings, and through bodies such as the Local Government Association and the County Council Network. We are regularly stressing the difficult position our county councils are in, and that sometimes a small, even nominal payment, for a service can produce a significant income to avoid losing the provision. For example, a £1 charge per HWRC visit would produce close to £4 million, and if there was a £10 annual charge for bus passes, then over £400,000 could be raised to fund community transport schemes. If there was a 50p charge per journey, then that would produce £4 million, enough to keep contributions to commercial bus services that are uneconomic. The Minister of Transport has reacted well to these ideas. Prompted by his support, at the recent Full Council meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November we agreed the following additional amendment:

"Hampshire calls on the Government to permit councils responsible for administering the National Concessionary Travel Scheme, to levy modest charges on older person's passes e.g. 50p for each use and £10 for issuing and renewing permits, with the balance of revenue raised after costs, to be used to support un-commercial, public or community transport services serving vulnerable or disadvantaged residents or areas. " We are also recommending the allocation of £500,000 to town and parish councils to provide pump-priming for targeted, joint initiatives aimed at improving local services. For example, where the parish or town council may want to retain Verge Cutting, we want to be able to help by the possible purchase of equipment. Finally, please take any scare-mongering news reports of definitive council 'efficiency savings' to services with a grain of salt; decisions on the proposals will be made next year prior to the Annual Budget so NOTHING has been set in stone. We are keeping an open mind and looking at every option to minimise the impact on all Hampshire residents. County Councillor Rhydian Vaughan Member for Calleva Division Email: [rhydian.vaughan@hants.gov.uk](mailto:rhydian.vaughan@hants.gov.uk)

## **PCSO Nathan Johnson's Report**

### **Beat Report November 2017 Pamber and Silchester (BL02)**

**Burglaries:** Burglaries are a Local Beat Priority across the whole of Basingstoke. 4 reported burglaries reported over this month. Two of these from Stratfield Saye/ Turgis. One of these was a Vamoose Burglary where car keys were stolen. Other was a lawn mower being stolen from Stratfield Turgis Cricket Club.

**Anti Social Behaviour:** There have been 2 reports of ASB this month.

**Suspicious Incidents:** There have also been 12 suspicious vehicle/ person reports.

Three of these reports have been from the Stratfield Saye/ Turgis area. One involved quad bikes being driven up and down the road, one report of possible poachers and another is where three males were seen in a remote location. No signs of attempted burglary to any outbuilding and no signs of damage caused.

**Other:** Two drink drive incidents in Stratfield Saye. One female arrested for being over the prescribed limit, when providing a sample of breath on the evidential machine in custody, she blew under the legal limit so was released without charge. The other incident involved a male who blew over the prescribed limit in custody and is now waiting a court date.

Over the Pamber and Silchester section of the ward, there have been 43 total occurrences this month, this area covers: Pamber Heath, Pamber Green, Pamber End, Silchester, Stratfield Saye, Stratfield Turgis, Mortimer West End and Hartley Wespall. 12 of these incidents were in the Stratfield Saye or Stratfield Turgis area. To put this in comparison, the Bramley and Sherfield section of this ward, only covers Bramley and Sherfield but has seen 60 occurrences reported this month.

I have also looked at the overall reports for the year. Pamber and Silchester have 473 reported incidents since 01/12/16 through to 01/12/17. Only 49 of these incidents were reported in the Stratfield Saye or Stratfield Turgis area. These include 15 suspicious incidents, 11 Burglary other than Dwelling and 2 Dwelling burglaries. For comparison only, Bramley and Sherfield have 678 reported incidents over the same time period, 12 Dwelling Burglaries, 18 non Dwelling Burglaries and 82 suspicious incidents.

### **Monthly Crime Stats for Stratfield Saye**

ASB – 2	Assault – 2	Burglary Dwelling – 1	Burglary non-Dwelling – 1	Concern for Welfare – 0
Criminal Damage – 1		Driving Complaint – 1	Drink Driving – 2	Road Traffic Collision – 1
Suspicious Incidents – 3				

