

ST STEPHEN PARISH COUNCIL

In the District of St.Albans, County of Hertfordshire



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE PARISH CENTRE, STATION ROAD, BRICKET WOOD, ST ALBANS, HERTS ON 15 JUNE 2017 AT 7.30 pm

Present: Cllrs. Dorothy Kerry (Chairman), Nicholas Tyndale (Vice Chairman), John Bell, Wendy Berriman, David Brannen, Martin Doyle, Mick Freeman, Ian Getley, Karen Hurford, John Parker & Bill Pryce.

In attendance: Mrs C Hardy (Clerk)

The Chairman opened the meeting by thanking the Deputy Clerk for preparing the agenda notes, the necessary documentation and clerking the meeting as she was far from well. She went on to say that the Clerk, Mrs Pienaar, was on long term sick leave and that the Council wished both the Clerk, and the Deputy Clerk, well very soon.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Eileen Whittaker.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None received.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 MAY 2017

RESOLVED: *Proposed: Cllr Getley* *Seconded: Cllr Freeman* **Motion Carried**
That the minutes be approved as a true record.
Votes in favour: unanimous

4. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman accepted an item from Cllr Freeman regarding the Cavalier Hall timbers.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

6. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Clerk stated that she had not received a report from District Councillors.

7. REPORTS: FINANCE, POLICY AND RESOURCES

7.1 To approve the payments schedule

Members referred to the payment schedule for June 2017

RESOLVED: *Proposed: Cllr Brannen* *Seconded: Cllr Pryce* **Motion Carried**
That the payments schedule be approved.
Votes in favour: unanimous

The Chairman, Cllr Berriman and Cllr Hurford agreed to sign the cheques.

7.2 To receive and consider a progress report, together with final cost summary for Greenwood Park Pavilion extension

Two Members reported on the pavilion work whilst another Member provided an explanation on the final cost summary sheet. Members noted that the project was close to completion.

RESOLVED: *Proposed: Cllr Freeman* *Seconded: Cllr Getley* **Motion Carried**
That the final cost summary was accepted.
Votes in favour: unanimous

7.3 To approve the proposed improvements for Park Street Recreation Ground as part of the devolvement agreement

(Continued on page 2)

The item was deferred until the July Main Council meeting.

7.4 To consider S106 and Rights of Way requirements relating to the Rail Freight development

The company planning the Rail Freight Interchange have suggested building a pavilion, car park and football pitches for Section 106 requirements. Considerable discussion surrounded this item with Members suggesting that the items put forward were not required. Members commented that in order to remain consistent with the views that this was an unwelcome development, the decision should be made that the Council did not wish to determine on what or where Section 106 should be allocated. The Clerk reminded Members that the deadline for response was 16 June 2017 and that if Members did not request Section 106 funding for the parish, then it was likely to be allocated elsewhere or for items that the parish did not need.

RESOLVED: *Proposed: Cllr Pryce* *Seconded: Cllr Berriman* **Motion Carried**
That Section 106 funding from the development of the Rail Freight site should be allocated to improve St Stephen Parish with the following:

1. Medical Centre.
2. School.
3. Sports Complex which must include an Olympic size swimming pool and a running track.
4. Re-development of Woodbury Field, Bricket Wood as a state of the art play area.
5. An underpass under the A414 linking Bridleway 3 by Burston Garden Centre with Bridleway 3A extension on the Chiswell Green side of the road.
6. The re-instatement of the passing loop at Bricket Wood to allow the Abbey Line railway to run an enhanced service.
7. Improvements to Park Street roundabout to construct an A414 to A414 flyover to alleviate traffic congestion should the development of the SRFI proceed.

A copy of a letter sent to SADC dated 28 May 2017 from The Ramblers Association had been received. The content consolidated comments previously sent by the Association to SADC relating to Rights of Way diversions and improvements as part of the SRFI development.

RESOLVED: *Proposed: Cllr Kerry* *Seconded: Cllr Bell* **Motion Carried**
That the Council fully support the content of The Ramblers Association letter dated 28 May 2017 to Martin Westwood at SADC.

7.5 To consider renewal of the Council's Health and Safety Consultancy

Members considered the three proposals put forward.

RESOLVED: *Proposed: Cllr Kerry* *Seconded: Cllr Hurford* **Motion Carried**
That a twelve month contract is awarded to Myatt Safety Ltd at a cost of £3000

7.6 To note the Chair's nominated charities

The Chairman informed Members that her nominated charity would be BLESMA, an Armed Forces charity that supported limbless veterans.

7.7 To note deferred date for approval of the year end accounts

Members noted that due to the Clerks long term sickness, the earliest date put forward would be 20 July 2017.

7.8 To receive a progress report on the Council's projects/activities

The item was deferred until the July Main Council meeting.

7.9 To consider awards of grants and discretionary discounts

Members considered the application from Butterfly Conservation and noted their accounts. A Member put forward that the application should be refused whilst another Member considered that the Council should offer a 50% discount on the hire.

PROPOSED: *Cllr Tyndale* *Seconded: Cllr Berriman*
That the application for a grant by Butterfly Conservation is declined.
Votes in favour: 7 *Votes against: 4* *Abstentions: 0* **Motion Carried**

COUNTER- *Cllr Bell* *Seconded: Cllr Brannen*
PROPOSED That Butterfly Conservation are offered a 50% discount on their hire charge.
Votes in favour: 4 *Votes against: 7* *Abstentions: 0* **Motion Unsuccessful**

8. REPORTS: GENERAL

8.1 To agree a response to the Consultation on preserving the free use of public parks

Cllr Bell and Cllr Berriman were issued with the document. Cllr Berriman stated that she had not received it. There was some discussion regarding the response with Members agreeing that the Council should be in a position to make a charge for the facilities at a park if it was deemed appropriate. As the closing date for responses was 5th July, Cllr Bell agreed to comment on the consultation and Members agreed that the comments were ratified at the next Main Council meeting.

8.2 To review the Annual Parish meeting format

The item was deferred until the July Main Council meeting.

8.3 To receive brief progress reports and recommendations from the:

- A. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**
- B. Parish in Bloom Working Party**
- C. Events Working Party**
- D. Festival Working Party**

These items were deferred until the July Main Council meeting.

8.4 To note recent and planned media communications

The item was deferred until the July Main Council meeting.

9. DOCUMENTS RECEIVED

9.1 To receive consultations, invitations, training opportunities and notifications

The item was deferred until the July Main Council meeting.

10. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

10.1 To receive and approve the minutes of the Council's Committees

RESOLVED: *Proposed: Cllr Freeman* *Seconded: Cllr Bell* **Motion Carried**
That the Minutes are accepted.

10.2 To receive notes taken at the Council's Working Parties and Forums

RESOLVED: *Proposed: Cllr Pryce* *Seconded: Cllr Tyndale* **Motion Carried**
That the notes are accepted.

10.3 To note the minutes of Joint Committees and Associations

RESOLVED: *Proposed: Cllr Brannen* *Seconded: Cllr Pryce* **Motion Carried**
That the Minutes are accepted.

11. OTHER URGENT IMPORTANT BUSINESS

Cllr Freeman informed Members that he had found a possible use for the Cavalier Hall timbers. He went on to explain that one of the Dunkirk Little Ships, The Elizabeth Green was in desperate need of renovation. Elizabeth Green was built around 1938 and is currently located on the Thames. Her pitched pine deck was in need of replacement and the Cavalier Hall timbers would provide a replacement like for like.

Members agreed that Cllr Freeman investigate the use further.

12. MEETING CLOSED

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.55pm

NOTE: These minutes are to be considered as 'draft' until the Council has resolved to approve them.