

**STOCKTON-ON-THE-FOREST PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD REMOTELY  
ON WEDNESDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2020 AT 7.30PM**

**Councillors Present:** John Coldwell David Crossley  
Russell Dowson Rosie Dunn  
Ken Sawyers Chris Small

**In Attendance:** Fiona Hill - Parish Clerk  
CYC Strensall Ward Councillor Tony Fisher

**Public Present:** 1

**21/18 To receive apologies for absence and reasons given:**

Parish Councillor Roger Wood  
CYC Strensall Ward Councillor Paul Doughty

**21/19 To record declarations of interest in items on the agenda: None**

**21/20 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 26 August 2020:**

Resolved - The minutes were approved

**21/21 To discuss matters arising from previous minutes:**

Stockton-on-the-Forest & Hopgrove Local History Group – Village Sign Repair  
In response to the Parish Councils response last month the group said “The History Group will of course not raise expenditure prior to gaining approval going forward and is grateful to the Parish Council for its consideration of this matter”  
The Parish Council agreed the sign now looked good.  
Resolved – The Parish Council would pay 100% of the sum requested = £100 (Unanimous)

Cllr Wood had sent a written report as follows – “I want to keep you in the picture regarding an issue I took up and registered with the CYC on 7 September. This was concerning blocked gullies and drains, one in particular, causing pools of standing water on the road which then also flooded on to the footpath next door and elsewhere.

You will know that for some while I have been concerned about the poor condition of the roadway and footpath travelling NW beyond Barr Lane - in other words at this end of the village. Yesterday, after pressing YCC once again for a response to the matter of 7 September, a vehicle shortly afterwards arrived to flush out the drain. I spoke with the man in charge who remarked on the upward slope of the road which inhibited proper drainage and he also noted the volume of road dressing thrown up on the footpath blocking the gullies and the general condition of the road edges all of which presented hazards especially for footpath users! He took a number of photos. He queried if I was aware of Road Sweepers and I told him of the last occasion that I had seen one in this vicinity was just before the last York Marathon Run which went through the village!!

Whether or not anything further develops from this I suspect is a matter for the Gods. But maybe, just maybe yesterday might trigger some more meaningful YCC response/action to

our concerns and maybe, also just maybe, this could be further linked to the related issue of speeding through this end of the village. Perhaps yesterday might also offer an opportunity for Paul/Tony to push for something to be done?!"

**21/22 To discuss long-standing matters:**

- Appearance of the parish

Overall OK, some litter and Cllr Fisher would report the fly-tipping on Barr Lane. The Alley near the shop, had been cut back, although the standard of work was poor. Aspects Horticulture would be chased up about strimming around village furniture.

- Yorkshire Marathon

Cancelled this year

- City of York Local Plan

Cllr Fisher reported that officers were addressing concerns raised by the inspectors regarding the methodology used regarding the green belt and inner-city boundaries

- Strensall with Towthorpe PC Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Fisher reported that the working group had met with the CYC Officers and after a few small changes it would be ready for submission to inspectors

- Speeding

Cllr Fisher reported that along with Cllr Doughty, he has written to the Commissioner, asking for increased speed checks, but was awaiting a response.

- Hopgrove Lane South – Left Filter Lane

Cllr Fisher reported that this would be on the agenda of the CYC Executive on 20Oct20

Resolved – The Parish Council would write a letter of support for this scheme (Unanimous)

- Barr Lane – NTR

- A64 Proposed improvement scheme - NTR

**21/23 To receive any matters raised by members of the public: None**

**21/24 To discuss matters raised with/by representatives of following outside bodies:**

Footpaths – NTR

Foss (2008) Internal Drainage Board – NTR

North Yorkshire Police – The Parish Clerk had contacted Insp. Lee Pointon to ask about the monthly reports and was advised as following – “Due to the Covid pandemic the lady who normally creates these who is a volunteer and isn’t/can’t come into the police station. I am trying to look at alternative ways of creating these that don’t impact on taking officers off the streets but it is quite challenging”.

Stockton Hall Hospital – There hadn’t been a meeting. The Parish Council would write to them to say thank for the recent litter pick.

**21/25 To report and make relevant recommendations on new planning application: None**

**21/26 To report planning decisions by City of York Council:**

- 20/01182/FUL - Single storey rear extension, erection of detached garage and 2m high screen fence to rear @ 9 Kings Moor Road – Approval

- 20/01257/TPO - Draw back canopy and reshape by 2-3m Oak protected by Tree Preservation Order no. 184/1992 @ 12 The Limes – No Objections

**21/27 To discuss the Stockton-on-the-Forest Play Area:**

Cllr Dunn had conducted the inspections last month and Cllr Small will conduct the inspections next month. Cllr Dunn had repaired the damage on the wobbly bridge.

The member of public present raised the issue of anti-social behaviour with teenagers, but it was hoped that the winter weather would bring this to an end

A resident had emailed as follows:

*"I live on Gay Meadows and my garden backs onto the Stone Riggs play area. I have to get something into my garden and this would be eased by having the play area gate unlocked for 20 minutes or so. No damage to the play area will occur, no vehicles to be taken in, I just need to lift one of my fence panels for access and lift an item into the garden with help from a neighbour. The item is too bulky to take through the house or garage". Would access to the padlock key be something that could be possible?"*

Resolved – The Parish Council would agree to this, as a one-off, not hindering any users at the time and the play area should be left as it was found. Cllr Fisher will bring his CYC Std Key to the parish to see if the lock could be removed from the gate.

The Parish Clerk had circulated the RoSPA report, following the inspection on 15Sep20. The report listed issues, which fell into four broad categories:

- Surface/Grading issues
- Strimmer damage/timber decay
- Caps missing
- Minor damage, wear and tear

Cllrs would monitor where advised, but obtain quoted for works necessary

**21/28 To report any new correspondence received by the council:**

- City of York – Footpath reconstruction – The Village

The Parish Council welcomed this work, but noted the comments in an email from a resident as follows –

"We have just seen the warning signs placed in the village roadway that the 2nd phase of village footpath renewal is soon to start in Stockton-on-the-Forest over 7 weeks from late September to mid-November. This is very good news for Stockton and it appears that the pavement along the northern side of The Village from west of the school to the end of the footpath near Stockton Hall will be repaired.

Are there any further phases for footpath renewal due in the near future for other parts of the warn-out pavements of Stockton? Two more sections, at least, are definitely in need of urgent renewal.

One is the pathway on The Village and Sandy Lane from opposite the Village Garage eastwards as far as and in front of Stockton Village Hall. This currently is a narrow path that is in poor state of repair and being over grown by the grassed areas at the side of the road. The full width of the path needs to be re-exposed by removing the competing grass over the tarmac and renewing the damaged tarmac surface.

The second stretch of pavement that needs repair is the stretch east of Barr Lane, again on the northern side of the road, as far as the end of the path near Westfield House – about 200 yards long. The surface of this path is damaged with cracks and holes and large patches of it have received a thickness of gravel and stones sprayed up by traffic from the badly worn road edge in this area. During ‘lockdown’ It has been particularly dangerous to see villagers who need to exercise but also need to walk with wheeled walking frames having to walk in this busy road rather than using the pavement in this area because of the very rough unpredictable and dangerous nature of the damaged pavement. For these villagers the risk of being hit by speeding vehicles on this stretch of lane is seen by them to be much less than the risk of slipping or tripping on the damaged pavement surface. If this stretch is repaired it would also be very useful if the pavement could be extended eastwards, by about 20 yards, to reach the bus stop for the Coastliner and School-run buses just east of Westfield House”.

Cllr Fisher reported that he hoped that Ward Funding could be used for footpath works from the Village to Barr Lane

**21/29 To receive matters raised by members**

Parish Councillors were concerned that the untidy state and the unauthorized wall at The Old Chapel. Nigel Adams MP would be contacted with photos, which could be forwarded to the York Press if the issued were not resolved.

Cllr Fisher left the meeting

**21/30 To discuss matters raised with/by Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer**

- Bookkeeping records for year ending 31 March 2020
- Cllrs noted receipt of the spreadsheet circulated by email

- Financial Management

The bank statements were viewed by Cllrs on screen, which agreed with bank reconciliation

- Policies to adopt/re-adopt

The Parish Clerk is currently reviewing all the policies for adoption/re-adoption at a future meeting

- Payment Approval

Aspects Horticulture	Grass Cutting	£165.00
Flowers for widow of a recently deceased former Councillor		£35.00
ROSPA	Play Area Inspection	£120.00

**21/31 To confirm the dates of the future meeting on Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m. in the village hall as:**  
28Oct20, 25Nov20, 16Dec20, 27Jan21, 24Feb21, 31Mar21, 28Apr21, 26May21, 30Jun21,  
28Jul21, 25Aug21, 29Sep21, 27Oct21, 24Nov21, 15Dec21