



LEONARD STANLEY

P A R I S H C O U N C I L

Minutes of the Leonard Stanley Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12th April 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present:- Councillors R Bayliss (Chairman), C Connett, G Davies, S Davies, S Craddock and S Lydon

Also Present:- District Cllr Nigel Studdert-Kennedy, Cllr Lawrie Hall, Stuart Beard (Neighbourhood Warden), Kate Harrison and Mr Fletcher (for Public Time only).

Public Time:

Mr Fletcher wanted to bring to the Councils attention the inferior work carried out on the dropped kerb; corner of Bath Road and Mankley Road. Cllr Steve Lydon will investigate the issues. **SL**

Stuart Beard introduced himself to the Members and gave them a brief presentation on the work of the Neighbourhood Wardens. He confirmed that the service was now back up to a full complement of 7 Wardens covering the district.

The Chairman also welcomed Kate Harrison who will be joining the Council as a new Member in May.

27/16. Apologies for absence: Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Jan Bogdiukiewicz and Phil Herbert.

28/16. Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items

There were none.

29/16. To approve the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1st March 2016

The Chairman stated that the tree referred to previously as the Jubilee Tree should actually be known as 'The County Centenary Tree'.

Subject to the above, the minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

30/16. To receive an update / reports from the County and District Councillors

A report was received from Cllr Steve Lydon and circulated to Members prior to the meeting. (see Appendix 1)

District Cllr Steve Lydon also reported that work has begun in working with families wishing to relocate back to Mankley Road/Sandford Close. The remaining houses will be allocated via Homeseeker.

District Cllr Nigel Studdert-Kennedy reported that the Strategy and Resources Committee are meeting this week and will seek approval for a new Procurement Strategy.

31/16. To receive an update from the Clerk:-

i. **Gypsy Lane – Meeting with Highways.** In attendance was – Andrew Middlecote from GCC Highways, Adrian Boyle from Amey, Cllrs Chris Connett, Sue Davies, Phil Herbert and Irena Litton (Clerk). There was an exceptional torrent of rain a few weeks ago; which resulted in water flowing from Gypsy Lane into Church Road and Seven Waters. However, it was noted that repairs already carried out to the broken culvert were a success as the Church did not flood.

Andrew and Adrian listened to the issues and various suggestions. Highways did agree to ask their drainage experts to take a look but said it would not be a priority.

Clerks Note:- Since that meeting it has emerged that a scheme to cut back some trees and increase the size of the pipe has already been approved and will be carried out this month.

ii. **Clean for the Queen** – took place on Saturday the 2nd April. This was kindly organised by Maggi Mukasa and ably assisted by a group of volunteers.

iii. **Verge on the corner of Church Road/Bath Road.** The verge was damaged by a bus from Stage Coach; their insurers have agreed to pay for the repairs.

iv. **On forthcoming elections.** There were nine candidates for the nine vacancies; therefore the elections will be uncontested. All eight Members at present on the Council will be returning joined by Kate Harrison.

32/16. To receive an update on the Mankley Field Village Green Application

The Inquiry was held in December 2015, the Inspector will now recommend to the Registering Authority that the Application should fail.

The Mankley Field Action Group is disappointed with the Inspectors findings but is extremely grateful for all the support shown.

33/16. To receive a report from Cllr Jan Bogdiukiewicz in regards to a recent meeting of the Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Jan Bogdiukiewicz was absent; it was therefore agreed to defer this Agenda Item.

34/16. To consider a report from the Playing Field Committee regarding potential repairs to the field

The Chairman reported on a meeting with Cllr Phil Herbert and made some recommendations.

The Members had a lengthy discussion on the recommendations and agreed to the following:-

1. *To ask Sports Ground Maintenance to quote for repairs to the surface of the 'old football playing pitch'.*
2. *To remove the shrub borders in the Memorial Garden.*
3. *To cut back a small part of the overgrown border between the play area and The Street.*
4. *To carry out repairs as necessary to the holes in the hedge; Bath Road end of the Playing Fields.*

CLERK

35/16. To consider a proposal to include additional items on the community recreational Project List

It was suggested that the following additions be included on the Project List:-

1. Replacement of safety surfacing; with grass matting for the older items of play equipment
2. Replacement of roundabout; with a flush roundabout (more suitable for use by disabled users).
3. Replacement slide; should be replaced by something very similar.
4. Update the seats for the swings.
5. New Storage Unit - in addition or to replace garage.

The Council approved the full list of recommendations (as above) to be added to the project list.

36/16. To receive an update and agree a way forward; with regards to the Community Design Statement

The Chairman gave the Members a detailed brief on what work had been completed and the vast amount of work that would still be required to complete the Community Design Statement. It was estimated that it could take a further two years to complete, given the current resources.

The Council discussed the limited scope the Community Design Statement would have and whether that warranted with its continuation. The Members appreciated that the Mankley Field development is imminent and therefore this document would certainly not be ready in time to influence the design etc. for that particular scheme.

The Chairman recommended that the information that had been gathered for the Community Design Statement could be put to good use in adopting a Pre-Application Protocol (a template of which is available from Stroud District Council). The Pre-Application Protocol has an addendum to allow for the Parishes to adapt it; to ensure its own requirements are given due consideration. The advantage with this recommendation is that it is achievable in the very near future and could then hopefully be used to influence the development at Mankley Field, as well as future developments. The Chairman gave examples of other Parishes who had adopted this Protocol.

The Council agreed to dis-continue with the Community Design Statement and adopt a Pre-Application Protocol instead.

It was noted by the Council that Hayley Holland had worked extremely hard on the Community Design Statement and that they would like to show their appreciation. It was felt that her contribution had exceeded the remuneration she had received.

The Council agreed to send Hayley Holland a thank you card with a £100 gift voucher.

CLERK

37/16. To consider allowing 'Kick off Stroud' to hold a club for 2 days; over the May Half Term Holidays

The Council approved a two day camp during the half term holidays, subject to the conditions as previously applied.

38/16. Financial Issues

i) To authorise payments in accordance with the RFO Report

Summary of expenditure for April 2016:-

Description	Total Paid Out	Power of Authority
Administration	£1393.29	LGA 1972 s.112(2), LG (FP)A 1933 s.5, LGA 1972 s134(4) & LGA 1972 s.143
Playing Fields	£355.40	LG(MP)A 1976 s.19(3)
Village Maintenance	£465.00	Litter A 1983 ss.5,6 & Highways A 1980 s.96
Total Payments	£2213.69	

The Council approved the accounts for payment.

ii) To approve a proposal to contribute up to £3,000 towards improvements to Ryeford Road

The Chairman circulated a report to the members prior to the meeting, following his meeting with The Chairman of Kings Stanley Parish Council and their subsequent joint letter to the County Councillors concerned.

It was suggested that the works could be given the go ahead to get the proposals for improvements agreed if both Parish Councils used the community match funding scheme.

The Council agreed to provide up to £3,000 towards improvements to Ryeford Road and apply for Community Match Funding.

iii. To review the Financial Risks and Internal Controls.

The Clerk circulated the Financial Risk and Internal Control report to the Members prior to the meeting.

It was agreed to approve the Financial Risks and Internal Controls report.

39/16. Planning

i. To consider any plans received:

S.15/2590/OUT Brunsdon Yard Hybrid Planning Application for full planning permission for demolition of existing buildings and erection of a single storey Class A1 foodstore with parking spaces, access and landscaping. An outline planning permission for Class A1 retail terrace, drive through, access and landscaping.

No further information on potential retailers has yet been made known. It was noted that Highways England are not able to support the application at the moment and have recommended that no permission is granted for a further 6 months; to enable the developers to provide sufficient information and address the concerns raised.

The Council agreed to defer their decision.

S.16/0297/VAR Land to the rear of Jimuir, Bath Road. Variation of condition 2, approved plans for application S.14/1459/FUL. To retain garage to Jimuir and amend access.

The Council agreed to object to this application; as they did not consider the proposed access satisfactory, they questioned whether if the demolition of the garage had not been included in the original application whether permission would have been granted and they considered it would adversely affect the neighbouring property.

ii. **To receive a progress report from the Clerk on applications already responded to**

The following plan has been approved:

S.16/0054/HHOLD Rose Cottage, Bath Road - To widen existing drop kerb - To improve road safety in entering/exiting existing drive.

40/16. Correspondence – The following items were highlighted:-

- Request to pay for the Public Liability Insurance for the Village Fair. (To be considered at the next meeting). **CLERK**
- Crime report from PCSO Liz Ward

41/16. Councillors Submissions

There were none.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9 pm.

The **Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council** will be held in the Village Hall on Tuesday 10th May 2016 at 7.00pm – followed by the **Annual Parish Meeting** at 8pm.

Appendix 1

Mankley Field Village Green

It's with great anger and sadness to learn that the Inspector has not recommended to the County Council Commons Rights of Way (CROW) committee for the application for a Village green to be granted. I have asked a public question to the committee reference possible vested interest by the County in wanting the development to go ahead. I intend to raise this and other points with the Committee. Many thanks to Irena, Graham, Diane and all those people who have worked so hard on this matter.

Woodside Lane

Stroud District Council have now an agreed Local Plan, however this came to late to prevent the application for the [50 houses at Woodside Lane](#) going ahead. Local cllrs and the parish council have met with Lioncourt (the developer) raised and will continue to monitor the following- traffic to and from the site, noise, wildlife protection (partic. Badgers) and public rights of way. There is a police prosecution pending ref. interference with one of the Badger setts, and a local resident has broken her wrist after falling down on one of the moved footpaths. Again many thanks to Diane Odell for her work and support on this matter.

'Coxit'

As many of you have are aware Cotswold District Council has announced plans to formally merge with West Oxfordshire to create a new unitary authority, this has some potential severe effects on the County Council. Firstly it means that the Council's plans for Devolution are on the back burner, many of their ideas were predicated on the idea that the Council could work within the County boundaries. Ironically, Gloucestershire is one of two Counties in England which have all key public services based solely within the County boundary. This means that now questions are being raised over the future of the Fire Service, the Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS commissioner of services) the Police, Ambulance Service and many other services. If the Cotswolds leave the County (it makes up 45% of the landmass) it will have devastating effects on the ability of the County Council to deliver services. There are few reasons why this has taken place, but many believe that it is because of a falling out between the Conservative Leader of Oxon County Council and the Prime Minister. There is also pressure from Government for devolved areas to have an elected mayor.

Highways

Still a major concern of residents and businesses are the amount of potholes and the progress in mending them to a standard which means they do not have to be repaired almost straight away.

This financial years highways together funding for each County Council division, is now going to be £30k. Please could you identify any particular projects you want funding for. I am looking to allocate some of the money to support a number of days in a locality to undertake kerbside weeding and gully clearance, so it would help if you could identify areas which need this.

Also the latest version of the "Highways-Your Way" (Big Community Offer) is saved here on the GCC Extras website:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/extra/highways-yourway

There is also a link from the main website on this page www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/roadworks

The documents on the web consist of:

- "Highways-Your Way" brochure
- Top up products price list
- Application form
- 3 videos showing examples of how the offer can help.

Ref. Local works many thanks to Rob for the work he did to allow the scheme for Ryeford Bridge to be supported by Kings Stanley and Leonard Stanley Parish councils. Also to Irena for making the application for matched funding. It is hoped that the road works being undertaken at Stanley Downton which have caused the road to be closed will be completed by April 15.

Reshaping Services for Families with Young Children

This is the consultation exercise that will help determine the future siting and role of Children's Centres in the County. The exercise finishes on 11 of April 2016 details below

https://gloucestershire-consult.objective.co.uk/public/children/reshaping_services_for_families_with_young_childre/reshaping_services_for_families_with_young_children

I alongside other Labour cllrs have met with the Stroud District based Children's Centres who are very concerned about the proposed closure of some the centres and a reduction in the services they supply.

Older Persons Health and Housing Strategy

With an ageing society and growing pressures on services for older people Stroud District Council is keen that housing and health work closer together to meet needs that can prevent or ease long term health problems eg fuel poverty.

Stroud is one of the few Councils in the country that still run bespoke sheltered housing with staff support. Most other Councils have cut completely all staffing support, and no longer look to provide specialist housing. The Council is considering investing approx £5m in improving the stock, meeting future needs of our ageing population.

Falls Service

As part of the older persons work we are considering what services could be offered to support and assist people in their own homes. In Herefordshire there is an excellent bespoke service which will go out to a persons home to pick people up who have fallen down. At present people have to rely on the ambulance or other emergency services who are already under pressure with other emergencies. Friends and relatives often help but are not trained properly to undertake this task. I have asked the County Council and Clinical Commissioning Group to consider supporting a pilot scheme in Stroud for this service.

Active Together, Young Persons Funds and Community Chest

Projects that have been supported include, Leonard Stanley tennis courts, Dursley rugby club women's changing facilities, St Dominic's school Nympsfield sporting activities, Dursley Ladies football team, the vale hospital gardening project, all sorts out of school activity club and more recently a cardiac care fitness club. Projects under consideration include study support sessions at the Vibe in Dursley and for the work on the Greenway - **Dursley - cam and dursley station cycle way.**

The Active Together funding has now ceased . The Young Persons Funds is aimed primarily at young people u 18 If you know of organisations or projects that might benefit from support please ask them to contact me. There is £5k for the whole division.

A new fund is the Community chest this is to support grants of between £500 and £5000 for groups working with vulnerable communities. The Council are particularly interested in local solutions that enable people to become more involved in their community, improve the viability of places where communities can come together, promote community cohesion and tackle digital exclusion. For more details see

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/community-chest-grant>

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)

An ESIF committee has also been formed in each English Local Economic Partnership area to advise on local project calls, applications and some aspects of

implementation while each LEP has also been notionally allocated funding, for

Gloucestershire LEP this totals around £38 million. Supporting investment in

innovation, businesses, skills and employment, funds require co-financing and

must be used in addition to existing national funding. I represent the Gloucestershire District Councils on this group.

Gloucestershire has published calls related to Tourism, Manufacturing support, Export support, Environment and Resource

Efficiency and Information and Communications Technology.

Thanks Steve Lydon County Councillor for the Dursley Division and District Councillor for the Stanley's