



# 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 21st January 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present:- Councillors R Bayliss, G Davies (Chairman), S Davies, P Herbert and S Lydon

Also Present:- District Cllr Nigel Studdert-Kennedy and 12 Members of the Public

### **Public Time:**

#### **Gypsy Lane Flooding:-**

Julia Bogdiuliewicz, the churchwarden for St Swithun's reported to the Council that Gypsy Lane has flooded 3 times this year. In the early hours of the 1st January, volunteers spent nearly two hours clearing the drains to ensure that the Church was saved from flooding. The Gypsy Lane entrance to the Church is currently shored up with sandbags, but this is causing difficulties for the elderly and disabled to access the Church.

Several suggestions were put forward to rectify the problem, which have all previously been passed to Highways. The Members expressed their dissatisfaction with how Highways have ignored their concerns raised with regards the flooding in Gypsy Lane, and assured the public present that the Council are in constant contact with Highways. (The Chairman suggested that a copy of this communication is published in the village newsletter). **CLERK**

#### **Village Green Application:-**

It was asked how the application was progressing?

The Clerk responded, that the application is not through the Parish Council, however it is understood that the application is being processed by the legal department, at Gloucestershire County Council.

#### **Local Plan:-**

A question was asked reference the weight given to the Emerging Local Plan.

Cllr Steve Lydon explained the timelines with regards Stroud District Council's Emerging Local Plan and the issues relating to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

It was also confirmed that the Clerk has drafted a letter to The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government requesting an urgent amendment to the NPPF.

Diane O'Dell reported that Neil Carmichael MP has confirmed that the Planning Minister Nick Boles had agreed to visit the Stroud area.

**1/14. Apologies for absence** were received Cllrs Chris Connett and Stuart Craddock

#### **2/14. Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items**

Cllr Graham Davies and Cllr Sue Davies declared an interest in Agenda Item 4/14 Mankley Field (and left the room whilst this was debated).

### **3/14. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 3rd December 2013**

*The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.*

### **4/14. To consider the Planning Application S.13/2678/OUT for Land South of Bath Road (known locally as Mankley Field)**

Cllr Phil Herbert took the Chair whilst this item was discussed.

The Council thanked Diane O'Dell and the Mankley Field Action Group.

*The Council agreed to object to this application (and approved a letter of objection drafted by the Clerk).*

### **5/14. To receive updates from the County and District Councillors**

District Cllr Nigel Studdert-Kennedy reported that the District Council had agreed that there will be no increase to the District Council's Precept.

County Cllr Steve Lydon reported:-

- That the County Council have also agreed that there will be no increase to the County Council's Precept.
- The Contract for Gloucestershire Highways will be changing in April.
- Free School - there is concern that this could impact on the other local schools.
- Ambulance performance - concerns are being investigated.

### **6/14. To consider the recommendations from the Clerk regarding general maintenance of the old Play Equipment and installing signs**

The Clerk recommended that the old play equipment is repainted and that the seats from the baby swings be replaced. That signs should be installed at each of the entrance gates to state 'No Dogs' and 'Children should be supervised'.

The Clerk suggested that instead of the agreed additional bench for the park, that a picnic table is installed instead. This would cost an additional £250.

The Clerk stated that an opportunity has been offered by Stroud District Council for ROSPA training. The Clerk asked if the Council would approve paying half of the training course for Steve Marshall, at a cost of approximately £250.

*The Council agreed to the Clerk's recommendations for the old play equipment to be repainted, the baby swing seats to be replaced, signs to be installed at each of the park's entrance gates to state 'no dogs' and 'children should be supervised', the approval of the additional funds needed to purchase a picnic table and to pay half of the training costs for Steve Marshall to attend the ROSPA training through Stroud District Council.      **CLERK***

The Clerk also reported that she has a meeting planned with HAGS with reference some 'wear and tear' on the new equipment, later this week.

## **7/14. To consider the recommendations from the meeting with the Football Club and agree the terms of a new Hire Agreement for the use of the Pavilion**

Cllr Phil Herbert updated the Council on a productive meeting with the Football Club (those that attended were; Phil Herbert, Chris Connett, Rob Bayliss, Stuart Craddock and Kenny Roberts).

- The Football Club will continue to talk with the Cricket Club with reference outstanding costs owed to them.
- The Football Club have requested a 3 year hire agreement.
- The Football Club requested an amendment to the termination clause.

The Council were in principle in favour of a 3 year hire agreement and amendments to the termination clause. The Council also wanted to ensure that the junior football team (The Sharks) could have access to the toilets in the Pavilion for training and match days.

The Council wanted to ensure that there is a separate Hire Agreement for the Playing Field.

The amendments should be drafted and forwarded to the Football Club, so they can be formally agreed in the March Meeting. **CLERK**

The Clerk is to write to the Cricket Club and ask if they intend to continue as a club. The Clerk is to make it clear that the terms and conditions for use of the Playing Field do not allow for sub-letting and a copy of their Public Liability Insurance is required prior to use. **CLERK**

## **8/14. Financial Issues**

### **i) To authorise payments in accordance with the RFO Report**

Summary of expenditure for January 2014:-

<b>Description</b>	<b>Total Paid Out</b>	<b>Power of Authority</b>
Pavilion and Playing Fields	£ 110.72	LG(MP)A 1976 s.19(3 )
Administration	£1218.18	LGA 1972 s.112(2) & LG (FP)A 1933 s.5 LGA 1972 s134(4) & LGA 1972 s.111
Village Maintenance	£ 200.00	Highways A 1980 ss.43 & Litter A 1983 ss.5,6
Grants	£ 830.00	S.137
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>£2358.90</b>	

*The Council approved the accounts for payment.*

The Clerk reported that Cllr Sue Davies had carried out a check on the Bank Reconciliation and an audit on the following cheques; 002364 for £17.98 made payable to D Odell, 002370 for 979.54 made payable to T W Hawkins and 002374 for £59966.76 made payable to HAGS Ltd.

The Council agreed to accept the quote (for a 3% increase) from TW Hawkins and Sons for gang mowing and hedge cutting.

### **ii) To set the rent for the use of the Pavilion and Playing Fields**

*It was agreed that the rent for the Pavilion remain as a £1 peppercorn per year.*

*It was agreed that there should be no increase in rent for the Playing Fields for the 2014 season.*

### iii) To set the Precept for Financial Year 2014/2015

*It was agreed to set the precept at £19,500.*

### **9/14. Planning**

#### **i. To consider any plans received:**

**a) S.13/2643/HHOLD** 21 Broad Meadow - Single storey extension, loft and garage conversion

*The Council agreed to object to this planning application; the loss of the garage could cause parking problems in the area, especially if this set a precedent for the other properties in Broad Meadow.*

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

The following application is still pending:-

**S.13/2190/FUL** Chapel House, The Street – Erection of one dwelling.

### **10/14. To consider a response on Electoral Changes (as a result of a Boundary Review for Stroud District Council)**

The Clerk reported that under the current system, the District Councillors are elected for a term of 4 years. Elections are held in years one, two and three for a third of all Council seats, with the County Council elections held in year four. If the Council were to move to full council elections every four years, the potential saving would be £275K over the four years.

If the Council remained with elections in thirds, then each Ward would have to have 3 Councillors, and elections may not coincide with Parish Council elections, therefore the Parish Council may have to pick up the cost of these elections.

*The Council agreed to respond to the consultation requesting 'Full Council Elections'.*

**CLERK**

### **11/14. To consider writing to the Secretary of State, Mr Eric Pickles, to ask for amendments to the NPPF, to ensure that Local Plans have primacy over Planning Matters**

The Clerk circulated a draft letter to Members prior to the meeting.

*The Council approved the letter to be sent to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, requesting amendments to the NPPF.*

**CLERK**

### **14/14. To consider allowing the school to hold a cross country competition in the Recreation Ground**

The Clerk asked the Council if they would consider allowing the school to hold a cross country competition for them and other schools, if the school has adequate insurance to hold the event.

*The Council agreed to allow Leonard Stanley School host a Cross Country Competition (on the Recreation Ground) provided they have the necessary insurance and risk assessments for such an event.*

**13/14. Correspondence** - The following items were highlighted:

- A thank you letter from Ring and Ride
- An invite to work with Stonehouse Town Council on Youth initiatives

**14/14. Councillors Submissions –**

i) The Clerk updated the Council on the meeting with Highways:-

- Highways will consider giving permission for the finger post (Mr Gray expressed some doubts about allowing it for the pub).
- Highways have shown a reluctance to cut back the hedge, although discussions are still ongoing.
- Gypsy Lane -The Clerk to confirm that flooding still occurs.
- Church Road - Highways will contact the contractors to advise them of the surfacing failings.
- Lambs Triangle - Mr Gray will feedback the issues raised with the designers.

ii) Cllr Rob Bayliss requested that the correspondence on Food Grants be advertised on the Notice boards.

**CLERK**

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.30 pm. The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 4th March 2014**, in the Village Hall.