



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 2nd February 2010 in the Village Hall.

Present:- Councillors W Bevan, C Connett, R Gaunt, J Graydon, P Herbert (Acting Chair), D Targett & J Taylor

Observing:- District Cllr N Studdert-Kennedy

Also Present:- David Newton

1. Apologies for Absence – Cllr L Williams & District Cllr R Apperley

2. Declarations of Interest in Agenda Items – Item 6iii – Dianne Targett

3. Minutes – It was proposed by Cllr Gaunt that the minutes of Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 1st December 2009, be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Targett and carried unanimously.

4. Public Time:

- District Cllr Nigel Studdert-Kennedy confirmed that Waste Collections should all be back to normal, following the disruptions caused by the severe weather we had suffered recently. He also stated that the re-cycling issues (following the loss of the food waste collections) were still being investigated.
- District Cllr Nigel Studdert-Kennedy stated that the owner of Brookside has now blocked off the windows and was trying to cover the roof, although is experiencing problems due to the lack of internal support for the roof.

5. Parish Plan:

The clerk confirmed that several councillors have completed their section of the analysis but there was about half the sections still to be done. The clerk has sought advice from GRCC on how to move the project forward and whether it is acceptable to pay someone to complete the necessary work. Work that is still required includes completion of analysis, holding a public event to show feedback received on the questionnaire, and then putting the information received into a policy document and producing the actual plan.

The clerk stated that there was still over £1000 of the grant money received to produce the plan, as yet not spent or allocated and that this money would have to be returned if not used on producing the Parish Plan. It was agreed that some of this money would be required for printing costs of the plan, and the clerk will investigate on how many plans they will need to print and estimates of the costs involved.

The Parish Council were in favour of paying someone to manage and produce the plan, the clerk stated that Heather Pass maybe interested, as she has already put in lots of voluntary time to get the plan to its current stage. The clerk will contact Heather.

It was proposed that an initial £300 be authorised to allow the plan to be managed, this was proposed by Cllr Graydon and seconded by Cllr Taylor and unanimously agreed.

6. To receive reports from the Clerk on:

- I. Update on Tree Surgeons Report** – The clerk confirmed that the report was completed in January, and Cllr Connett has the hardcopy to contemplate its findings.
- II. Update on Walkers are Welcome** – The clerk confirmed the required amount of signatures and letter of support have been submitted. Also Heather and David Longworth have kindly agreed to act as Footpath Wardens for Leonard Stanley.
- III. Update on the Pavilion** – (Cllr Targett left the room for this item) The Pavilion Cleaner Ruth Biddle has decided she no longer wishes to continue, and finished last week, the clerk has sent a letter of Thanks. Dianne Targett had put herself forward as a possible replacement and this was agreed as she could commence immediately. The hourly rate and hours were agreed and the Parish Council gave the clerk authorisation to permit overtime when deemed necessary.
Cllr Herbert stated that there is a lot of furniture stored in the Main Hall of the Pavilion and he is investigating this issue with the Clubs.
The Clerk stated that there are lights in the pavilion requiring attention, so she has spoken to Mike Wyman to fix and for a full electrical inspection to be carried out.

7. Financial Issues

i) The clerk sought approval to pay for the following items to be paid. (The clerk stated the cheque numbers are out of sequence due to a cheque book being delayed in the post).

| DATE | PAYEE | PURPOSES | AMOUNT | CHQ NO/REF |
|----------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| 18/12/09 | Steve Marshall | Play equipment inspection | £ 9.00 | 001959/ 86 |
| 18/12/09 | The Poppy Appeal | Wreaths for Remembrance Sunday | £ 33.00 | 001960/ 87 |
| 18/12/09 | Selsley Scout Group | Donation | £ 50.00 | 001986/ 88 |
| 18/12/09 | CAB Stroud | Donation | £300.00 | 001987/ 89 |
| 18/12/09 | St Swithuns PCC | Donation | £100.00 | 001988/ 90 |
| 18/12/09 | The British Heart Foundation | Donation | £100.00 | 001989/ 91 |
| 18/12/09 | Monday Club | Donation | £150.00 | 001990/ 92 |
| 05/01/10 | LS Village Hall | Hire of hall, Oct, Nov & Dec 09 | £ 42.00 | 001991/ 93 |
| 05/01/10 | Steve Marshall | Inspection of Play Equip & gritting | £ 69.00 | 001992/ 94 |
| 05/01/10 | R Biddle | Cleaning, holiday & relief cleaner | £120.00 | 001993/ 95 |
| 05/01/10 | Mrs I Litton | Clerk fee | £295.77 | 001994/ 96 |
| 05/01/10 | GCC | Pension Contribution | £ 78.65 | 001995/ 97 |
| 05/01/10 | Mrs I Litton | Litter pick & Cleaning products | £ 76.32 | 001996/ 98 |
| | | CHEQUE NO 001997 VOID | | |
| 05/01/10 | Mrs M Forder | Chair Allowance | £ 10.00 | 001998/ 99 |
| 02/02/10 | R Biddle | Cleaning & Holiday | £100.00 | 001999/ 100 |
| 02/02/10 | Steve Marshall | Inspection of Play Equip | £ 9.00 | 002000/ 101 |
| 02/02/10 | I Litton | Litter pick, stamps & cleaning stuff | £107.60 | 002001/ 102 |
| 02/02/10 | I Litton | Clerk Fee | £295.77 | 002002/ 103 |
| 02/02/10 | GCC | Pension Contributions | £ 78.65 | 002003/ 104 |
| 02/02/10 | Mike Gregory | Tree Surgeon Report | £195.00 | 002004/ 105 |

These payments were proposed by Cllr Bevan and seconded by Cllr Connett and passed unanimously.

ii) Discuss and Agree Contracts for Gang Mow and Village Maintenance –

- The clerk stated she had received a quote from the current contractor Sports Ground Maintenance and Supplies (SGMS), to gangmow the playing field, cut field hedges yearly and trim pavilion hedges twice yearly, for an increase of 3% on last year.
Cllr Gaunt proposed to accept this quote and it was seconded by Cllr Connett and unanimously agreed.
- Village Maintenance – the clerk will obtain a quote from the current contractor Steve Marshall, but for using his own equipment. Alternative quotes will be sought if new rates are judged unreasonable – to be discussed and agreed in March.

8. Planning

i) Planning Applications

Since the December meeting the following has been received:

Permissions Received:

S.09/1729/LBC Tannery House
S.09/1887/LBC Stable & Cartshed, Poplar Gate Lane
S.09/1675/HHOLD Grange Farm

Refusals:

S.09/1676/LBC Weavers Cottage, The Street

ii) The process for responding to Planning Applications was discussed. It was agreed that the clerk will continue to issue an email to all the Parish Councillors and that they could respond to this. In addition the Clerk will take the Paper Plans to Cllr Herbert and he will return them with a response within a two week period. The clerk can then reply to SDC online.

9. Correspondence

Details of the correspondence received during December and January had been circulated and the schedule forms an integral part of these minutes. The correspondence files were available for inspection at the meeting. The Clerk highlighted the following items:

- Resignation letter received from Mair Forder, the clerk stated a Thank you letter had been sent and the Chair has presented Mair with some Leonard Stanley commemorative mugs. The clerk stated that she will advertise to fill the Casual Vacancy.
- Thank you letters for the donations received from Citizen Advice Bureau, St Swithun's PCC, The Monday Club, Lorna Mankee and Lorraine Niblett on behalf of the British Heart Foundation.
- The Post Office – confirming receipt of our letter in support, reference the application for the Co-op in Kings Stanley to take over the service.
- Resident – concern of the lack of lights between Downton Stanley and Leonard Stanley. It was discussed that it would be too costly for the Parish Council but agreed to contact Gloucestershire Highways.

10. To Discuss and Agree response to the Core Strategy

The clerk had already distributed copies of the results of Section J "Housing and Heritage" of the Parish Plan questionnaire and copies of the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). The SHLAA shows areas in the Parish that could possibly be developed and by the number of potential dwellings.

The chair invited David Newton to join in the discussion. The clerk stated that the second phase of consultation begins on the 8th February 2010 and runs until the 22nd March 2010, and that Stroud District Council would like to discuss their proposed 7 Alternative Strategies for dealing with development in the District up to the year 2026, and the proposed policies to guide that development. It was agreed that the clerk should email those who provided their details at the Grange Farm meeting as well as publicize the Core Strategy Consultation in the newsletter, and any feedback could be used to help formulate the Parish Councils response. There will be an opportunity for Councillors to attend a cluster meeting, but dates and venues are not yet known.

It was noted that from those who completed the Parish Plan questionnaire (which was approximately half the Parish), 161 stated they "do not think the village needs more houses to built", 56 who stated they "felt more houses were needed" and 52 "Don't knows". In response

to the question “What sort of housing do you think there is most need for in the village?” 50% stated Affordable Homes, 23% stated Family homes and 24% stated Homes for the elderly.

It was commented that the District Council are not in control of building houses, and for Social Housing to be built, it had to be subsidised. One way of getting affordable homes built is by allowing Developers to build a mixture of houses. A further problem with just building starter homes is that it doesn't provide for when a family grows. The District Council had met their previous quota for building new homes mainly by building outside the district for example Quedgley, and major developments at Dursley and Bussage. However, it was noted all infill plots in the village had been used leaving only greenfield sites for future development.

It was discussed that the Parish Plan could be used more widely, to ascertain what people in the village actual value about living in the village, ie peace and quiet. It was noted that the village did have a large age range and a sense of community spirit. These issues should be seen as a democratic way of representing the views of the villagers and should be used to help formulate the Parish Councils response to the Core Strategy. Cllr Herbert stated that the Parish Council would have overall responsibility to form a response and are not necessarily bound by the consultations for the Parish Plan.

The clerk will advise the councillors on the details of the cluster meetings and that more information should be available on the SDC website from the 8th February. The response to the Core Strategy will be formulated in the March meeting.

11. Councillors Submissions –

- The clerk stated that the Digital Switchover commences on the 24th March 2010. 

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 9.20 pm. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 2nd March 2010 in The Village Hall at 7.30 pm.