**Stanton Lacy Parish Council Minutes**

**Draft Minutes of the meeting in the Village Hall on Thursday 21st November 2019 at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Chairman: Cllr Finch, Councillors: P Cowles, P Jones, P Parker, C Radnor, J Whittaker and P Williams.

**In Attendance:** H Coonick (Clerk),

**1. Apologies:** Cllrs R Gatehouse, E Gatehouse and Cllr Motley (Shropshire Council)

**2. Declarations of Interest:** Cllrs Williams (item 5e),

**3. Public Forum:** No members of the public

**4. Approval of Minutes for Ordinary Meeting Held on 19th September 2019:** **Resolved (unanimous) MF/PW**

**5. Items to Action:**

1. **Broadband:** SWS are working on a solution for Broadband on The Hope and will report on progress to the clerk in January 2020.
2. **Place Plan:** The Council agreed to adopt the Place Plan entries.
3. **Community Infrastructure Levy:** Cllr Finch hopes to have plans ready for the January meeting.
4. **Flooding on the Hope:** Cllr Whitaker reported that she had met with Rhian Townsend (Shropshire Council) and Peter Foster (Downton Hall) to discuss drainage.
5. **Mulberry Lane Sign:** This has now been fitted at a cost of £57.72.
6. **Highways Maintenance Contract:** The clerk reported that no decision on this year’s grant will be made by Shropshire Council until March/April 2020. Cllr Motley has been informed of the difficulty this will cause the Parish Council in budgeting. The grant will not cover the Clerk’s time in managing this contract.
7. **Telephone Box Vernold’s Common:** BT have informed the council that this box has not been used again this year. There is good mobile coverage in the area. It was decided not to challenge the decision to remove.
8. **Next Year’s Meeting Dates:** Agreed for distribution
9. **Scam Prevention:** Coffee Morning and WI organisers to be informed of the offer.

**6. Finance:**

1. **Finance Report:** The accounts were presented to the council. As of the 21/11/2019 the council were within budget with a Current Account balance of £4709.78 and Savings Account balance of £3772.36.
2. **Clerks Pay Rate:** Due to an error the Clerk’s pay rate was incorrect in the previous minutes. The Council agreed it should be £9.77 per hour as per SP15 (LC1). **Resolved (unanimous)** (MF/PW)
3. **Budget Preparation:**  The prepared budget was discussed including an estimated 6.4% increase in precept. Year 2020-21 will require a much larger precept increase due to the costs of the Lengthsman. Cost saving were proposed such as moving to a free web site provider and Cllr Cowles offered to carry out any notice board repairs for free and was thanked by the Council.
4. **Forthcoming Expenditure:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Paid** | **Cheque Signed**  | **Expected****& Approved** |
| **Village Hall** |  |  | **120.00** |
| **Lengthsman** | **85.00** |  | **300.00** |
| **Sign Mulberry Lane** | **57.72** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

**Resolved (unanimous) CR/PP**

**7. Reports From Representatives:**

1. **Shropshire Council** Cllr Motley reported on the Rural Strategy and the idea of setting up a county rural strategy has been adopted by Shropshire.  Youth activities will be supported through a combination of outreach workers and youth clubs in future. The new housing company (Cornovii) is dedicated to using surplus council land to build housing but the Council will have to buy in land in the South for development.  The final council budget has to be presented to Council in February.  There’s the usual worry about being able to balance the books. She will call a Chairs/ Clerks’ meeting in the New Year as more parish boundary issues are cropping up.
2. **Footpath Warden:** A report from the warden was read, issues have been reported to Shropshire Council

**8. Planning Applications and Associated Matters:**

1. **18/02529/FUL** Upper House Farm, Hopton Cangeford Erection of three dwellings in a courtyard arrangement with access drive and parking – Awaiting Decision
2. **Affordable Housing Local Connection:** The request for support for a local connection was discussed and it was decided that the criteria had not been fulfilled and the Clerk was asked to inform the applicant.

**9. Any Other Business:**

1. **Winter Preparations:** Cllr Cowles requested that checks are made on salt bins. Clerk reported that the Lengthsman had already reported all were full.
2. **Damage to Signs on Whitbatch:** Cllr Cowles has reported these to Shropshire Council.
3. **Cars Illegally Parked:** The Clerk will report any illegally parked cars to the police.
4. **Christmas Gifts for Volunteers:** It was agreed a small gift of thanks would be made.

**(unanimous) MF/PW**

**10. Agenda Items for Next Meeting to be held on the 16th January 2020 at 7.30pm**

1. **Boundary Review:** The Chair will report on the meeting with Cllr Motley and other Corvedale Chairs on boundary changes.

**Meeting Closed at 9.05 pm**

Signed: ……………………………… (Cllr Martin Finch, Chairman) Date:…………………