

Stretton Parish Council
Extraordinary Meeting on Thursday 8th March 2018
8.00 pm held in the back room of The Jackson Stops

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Richard Foster (Chair), John Leefe, Molly Hayns, Nick Begy (Ward Cllr); Greg Harker (minute taker)

Before the meeting started, the Chairman requested that the meeting reflect on the passing of Mrs Ann Williams.

1. Public questions and comments on the agenda

2 members of the public were present.

- A member of the public questioned whether the council was aware of the Government Data Protection Requirement (GDPR) coming into force in May. The chairman said that the council was aware and that training was planned but not yet implemented.
- A member of the public questioned whether the promised emergency committee to cope with risks faced by the village had been formed. The Chairman said that it had and exercises had been conducted with street wardens, where they had come forward. The leader of the emergency committee was John McCarthy, who was also the NW leader. In a supplementary question, the member asked why the team had not been activated during the recent bad weather. The chairman replied that the situation was under constant review, but it was decided that the situation was not sufficiently serious to convene the committee. However, there had been regular communication between members and vulnerable village members had been contacted to ensure safety. There was a further discussion on the definition of vulnerable, ie those without a family member to support them. It was suggested that if, for example, a regular family carer was going to be absent during a period of bad weather, they should contact the leader of the emergency committee or their street warden (if they have one).

- A member of the public asked whether next year's fete would be for the whole village or whether it would be by invitation. The Chairman replied that it would and all village members were encouraged to attend and support.
- A member of the public asked why the proposed Ram Jam development had been added to the agenda of an extraordinary meeting. Should this not be raised at a full meeting? The Chairman explained that a public consultation was currently taking place and, as yet, no planning permission had been requested. There would be plenty of future opportunity to form a parish view. Today's was a preliminary discussion to identify key issues. The member of the public was keen to ensure that the Greetham to Stretton cycle path was raised with the developers. Members of the Parish Council had attended the public consultation and he could be assured that the point was put directly to the developers.

2. To receive declarations of unregistered disclosable pecuniary interests in agenda items and to receive and approve requests for dispensations from members on matters in which they have a registered Disclosable Pecuniary Interest.

- a. For Agenda item 4. Cllr Foster declared that he had a non-pecuniary interest in that Helen & Johnny Hall were close personal friends. He would, therefore, recuse himself from discussion.
- b. Cllrs Harker, Hayns and Leefe also declared that Helen and Johnny Hall were friends. However, they felt that their judgement in this case would not be affected.

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Brian Lester and Parish Clerk Sally Skyrme.

In the absence of the clerk, the chairman asked if a volunteer would be prepared to act as minute taker. Cllr Harker said he would. The meeting agreed unanimously.

4. Planning application ref 2018/0035/FUL. Proposed steel framed tractor shed. Highfield Farm, Rookery Lane, Stretton, OAKHAM, Rutland, LE15 7RA.

- a. Cllr Leefe led the discussion. There were no objections to the proposal. Cllr Harker noted that there were no letters of objection posted on the web site. Cllr Leefe proposed, Cllr Hayns seconded and the meeting unanimously agreed that there were no objections to the proposal.

5. To consider the new development at the Ram Jam site

- a. 3 members of the council had joined many others from both Stretton and Greetham to discuss the proposed development of the Ram Jam Inn during the public consultation on 28th Feb. The consultation had ended on 7th March and it was known that several villagers had expressed their views via the feedback sheets.
- b. Key issues identified were:
 - i. There was an historical element to the Ram Jam, including association with Dick Turpin. However, without development the site would continue to deteriorate.
 - ii. The development would need to give consideration to the amount of rubbish being generated.
 - iii. The development appeared to be heavily focussed on the A1 customers, with little benefit to the local community . For example, it is understood that 3 fast food outlets are planned and more local benefit would be gained with a high quality food outlet.
 - iv. The Greetham to Stretton cycle path would benefit local people as well as providing benefit to employees at the Ram Jam.
 - v. The ingress to the petrol station was short as was the egress, particularly for lorries. There could also be a problem with locals gaining access to the petrol station.
 - vi. If access was given to southbound traffic, there would be an impact on the traffic entering and leaving the site, particularly southbound traffic wanting fuel.
- c. Ward Cllr Begy said that, so far, no planning application had been received. The feeling in Greetham was similar to that in Stretton and it would be important to form a ward view of the proposals once the planning application was received.

6. Any other business

There was no further business.

7. Next meeting time and place

8pm Thursday 15th March 2018 the Jackson Stops back room.