

St Peter the Great County Parish Council

Minutes

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Monday 26th February 2018 at 7:45pm** in the **Village Hall, St Peter's**.

Present: Chairman Cllr. Mr. A. Tidy, Cllrs. Mr. A. Tucker, Mr. R. Knight, Mr. M. Johnson, Mrs. P. Clayton, Mr. M. Steele and County Cllr. Mr. S. Mackay. Five members of the public, three members of the Safer Communities Team and the local PCSO were also in attendance.

1118 Apologies for Absence: Council had received apologies from Cllrs. Dr. P. Thorlby & Mr. J. Kemp.

1218 Declarations of Interest: None received.

1318 Adoption of Minutes: Council agreed to adopt the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 29th January 2018.

Public Session: The Chairman granted members of the public the opportunity to speak. Five members of the public were present to raise the recent increase in reported crime and the ongoing issue of antisocial behaviour taking place in St Peter's, focused at the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) near the Baptist Church. Several key issues were raised, including persistent litter and antisocial behaviour and criminal activity in the area as highlighted on the St Peter's Facebook group. Potential remedies were discussed including improved signage, CCTV and participation in a Neighbourhood Watch scheme. The Safer Communities Team and local PCSO were in attendance and called for any antisocial or criminal behaviour to be communicated to the local Police team on 101 as soon as possible in order to allow Police to deploy the required resources.

1418 Reports from District and County Councillors:

a) County Cllr. Mr Mackay presented a written information report to Council including information that there are planned lane restrictions in place on the southern link road between Whittington and Norton roundabouts from 5th March to 22nd April inclusive to enable essential strengthening work to take place to the northern abutment of the existing railway bridge.

b) City Cllrs. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Knight updated Council regarding City Council matters including recently obtained information that the landing site of a proposed pedestrian bridge over the A4440 into Power Park may not be positioned as previously suggested. Council requested County Cllr. Mr. Mackay urgently seek clarification of the proposed bridge landing site from the relevant department within the County Council.

1518 Financial Report:

a) The Clerk presented a verbal report on the current financial position of Council with the most up-to-date bank statements confirming a balance of £73,159.20 in the current account and £48,018.10 in the Money Market account.

i) The Clerk gave a verbal preliminary end of fiscal year report to Council. This included tentative confirmation that Council is largely on target to adhere to budget but expressed concern regarding a continuing reduction in Newslink revenue. Cllr. Tucker requested an alternative financial report format and agreed to meet with the Clerk to create a new format.

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ii) The Clerk confirmed to Council that the VAT reclaim for 2016/2017 had been agreed and processed at a total of £2,456.09.

iii) Following identity verification with HSBC, the new mandate for current signatories has been accepted and is in place. The Clerk has been advised by the bank to recruit a further three signatories to form a total pool of six Councillors. Therefore, Council unanimously agreed to add Cllrs. Mr. Knight, Mr. Steele and Mr. Johnson to the mandate as soon as possible. Council also unanimously authorised the Clerk to begin the process of transferring accounts from Coop to HSBC.

(b) Council agreed payment of accounts as presented at the meeting as follows:

Cheque Number	Amount	Payable To	Reason for Payment
200414	£200.00	Ms. A. Donaldson	Newslink Advertising management
200417	£1,082.00	ABC Print	Newslink print
200418	£330.00	Dor2Dor	Newslink delivery
200416	£325.00	Mr. G. Walker	Newslink edit
200419	£5,700.00	Worcester City Council	Warden Scheme October – March 2018
200415	£206.40	Worcester City Council	Supply of Daffodil bulbs

1618 Clerks Report: The Clerk presented recent correspondence and addressed administrative items including:

a) Ongoing modification work to Area 51 play area as previously authorised by Council. Work will be completed throughout March to ensure adherence to the recent play inspection report.

b) A recent Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) consultation received from the City Council regarding dog fouling in public spaces. Council confirmed agreement with the principles of the order and requested the Clerk contact the City Council to confirm agreement.

c) Communication from Worcestershire County Council regarding Phase 4 of the A4440 road works. Council have previously communicated concerns regarding phase 4 during the consultation period. Council again confirmed the position on this consultation has not altered.

d) Communication from Worcester City Council regarding an opportunity for St Peter's Parish Council to be represented at an upcoming South Worcester Urban Extension meeting. Council have previously commented on this consultation and again agreed the position of Council has not altered. Clerk to communicate position to relevant City Council department.

e) Confirmation that St Peter's Parish Council will continue to be a member of Worcester Arts Council during 2018 following payment of the required membership fee in November 2017.

f) Communication from Worcestershire County Council regarding potential flood alleviation works on the Duck Brook corridor. A County Council representative has requested a site meeting with the Chairman and the Clerk to discuss the potential involvement of the Friends of St Peter's Parks advisory group in flood alleviation works.

g) An update from a recent Festival working party meeting including a written proposal from the Festival Organiser regarding the theme of the event 'To be beside the seaside' and likely attractions on the day. Council were supportive of the plans provided the chosen theme does not impact on workload for volunteers or the Wardens.

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1718 Portfolio Holder Reports: The following portfolio holders provided reports to Council:

a) Green Spaces: Cllr. Tidy updated Council regarding the latest environmental issues, including:

i) Council noted the City Council Parish Warden report.

ii) A brief review of recent FoStPP volunteer events to plant replacement specimen trees in Power Park to help screen the park from the A4440.

(b) Newslink: Cllr. Knight updated Council regarding the Parish Council publication, including:

i) A verbal review of a recent working party meeting.

ii) Following concerns regarding falling advertising revenue as reported by the Clerk, Cllr. Knight called for a meeting of the Newslink working party to address the situation as soon as practicably possible.

1818 Other Matters: Following comments and concerns raised previously by members of the public regarding antisocial behaviour in the Parish, including observations from Councillors, Safer Communities team, local residents and the neighbourhood Police team, it was agreed Council would investigate the possibility of forming a St Peter's wide Neighbourhood Watch scheme and to make enquiries to that end. Council suggested the Clerk may look to engage with local businesses to ensure a coordinated approach by all involved parties.

1918 Date of Next Meeting: Confirmed as Monday 26th March 2018 at 7:45pm in St Peter's Village Hall.

Signed.....

Chairman

Date.....