



THE CAUSEWAY

STEVENTON PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs. Angela Einon, Parish Clerk

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Minutes of a Meeting of Steventon Parish Council held on Tuesday 4th October 2011 at 7pm in the Village Hall Millennium Room

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

2 PRESENT

Mr R Bosley(Chair), Mr J Bennett, Mrs C Denton, Mr S Fisher, Mr R Green, Mrs S Rees, Mr M Toplis, Mr R Tyrrell and Mr R Wilkinson. Mrs A Einon (Parish Clerk) and Mr M Murray (VWH) were in attendance. There were eleven members of the public present.

3 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT [AND SECTION 106 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992]

The whole Parish Council had an interest in the Level Crossing alterations. Mr Tyrrell has an interest in the planning application for 39 The Green.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

4.1. Railway crossing modifications

The Parish Council was again disappointed that although Network Rail had been asked to attend the meeting they had declined. A letter had been circulated to a large part of the village concerning the lack of information and many residents had contacted Network Rail, Carillion, Ed Vaizey and their District Councillors and as a result there will be a public meeting organised on 28th October, more details will be distributed when available. There was great concern in the village about the safety and feasibility of using Castle Street and Stocks Lane as an alternative route for all traffic while the Causeway crossing was revamped at present a gas main was being installed and had reduced the carriageway at a number of points to a single passing place. The Clerk would email this information to Network rail.

Action 11/10/01: Clerk

In a report from British Rail it was noted that closed circuit tv was the best option for vehicle observation but not pedestrians.

Having some sort of communications with head office of fire and ambulance does not help when the vehicle is stuck at the crossing. They need the information in advance of committing to a direction. Ideally there would be they type of information that is now available at bus stops, on when the next train is due and even how long the gates are likely to be closed. The gates are closed for longer periods of time as the trains get faster and that can only get worse.

4.2. Environment Agency and the Ginge

A survey by the Environment Agency of levels in the Ginge was being carried out. The Parish Council would ask if they could have a copy of our area.

Action 11/10/02: Clerk

4.3. Mill race railings

The centre post of the railings by the waterfall was loose and required replacement. Mr Bosley would have a look to see what action was required.

Action 11/10/02: Mr Bosley

4.4. Planning application 39 The Green

Letters of objection from neighbours had been received and considerable discussion ensued concerning the over development of the area which has already achieved planning permission to modify the old walled garden in the conservation area, this application seeks to demolish more and create another driveway and access. The new house in the old garden area, the demolition of the coach house and replacement with a further new house and now a request to considerably extend the original property all in a small area that is clearly visible from the village green and conservation area. Concern was also expressed that the plot size was insufficient for the property envisaged. Previous applications to extend the gardens of the surrounding properties into the field at the rear had been refused but it was felt that this would be the next application.

Item 13 Planning applications was taken at this point of the meeting to enable those interested to hear the discussion.

5. REPORT FROM ANY DISTRICT OR VALE COUNCILLOR IN ATTENDANCE

Mike Murray urged the Parish Council to pursue its planned revision of the Parish Plan as it seemed likely that future planning applications would be referred to the Parish Council and a robust well thought out plan would be extremely useful.

6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th September 2011 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair. Proposed: Mr Green. Seconded: Mr Bennett

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – REPORTS ON ACTIONS.

7.1.Registration of Parish Council Land

A reply was still awaited from Mr Escreet.

7.2. Dog bins

Mr Murray offered to pass the enquiry to the Vale regarding additional bins. The Clerk has been unable to make contact with the appropriate person.

7.3. Lantern development

The Clerk had received a reply from the Planning Department with regard to the colour of the bricks, they agreed to look at the brick samples provided and pursue the matter if they proved not to match.

7.4. Traffic survey by Coop

Mr Green had spoken to the Manager of the Coop who had been very helpful and supported the idea of the survey. He had offered use of their toilets and drinks to the volunteers. He had also offered to display posters in the window and Mrs Denton would ask the school children to design and make them.

Action 11/10/03: Mr Green/Mrs Denton

7.5. Future of the Youth Shelter Site

A catalogue was in circulation with some suggestions of the type of erection that may be suitable. This would be discussed at the next meeting when everyone had the opportunity to examine the proposal.

Action 11/10/04: Parish Council

7.6. Waste bin at St Michael's play area

Sarinc had not met since the last meeting but recently there has been no litter by the allotment bench. Should the youth shelter be replaced the litter bin would be required. It was agreed to keep this under review.

Action 11/10/05: Mr Wilkinson

7.7. Letter re Causeway from School to level Crossing

The Clerk had reported the state of the road to the Highways and written to Miss E Burras to explain that the allotment warden would look into clearing the runnels.

7.8. Charity Commission

Mr Bosley had yet to write a report for the Charity Commission regarding the Trustees of the Recreation ground.

Action 11/10/06: Mr Bosley

8. MODIFICATIONS TO LEVEL CROSSINGS

This item has been dealt with under public participation. Provisional arrangements had been made by Iain Brown to hold a public meeting on 28th October with representatives from Network Rail and Ed Vaizey. A poster would be designed and flyers distributed when full details were confirmed.

9. REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee along with the risk register that would meet on 14th October.

10. WORKING GROUP, SUB-COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES ACTIVITIES

10.1. Finance and General Purposes Committee JB, RB, RG, SR, Clerk

Nothing to report

10.2. Planning Committee RB, CD, SF, MT, RW, Clerk

Nothing to report

10.3. Burial Ground CD, RT, SR, Clerk

Nothing to report

10.4. Village Waterways, ditches and Flooding JB, RB, RG, MT, RT, RW

Ditch clearance day on the weekend of 29/30th October volunteer required to run as Dick Bosley not available. Joe Bennett agreed to check his diary and liase with Mr Bosley. The culvert by the North Star keeps blocking but clearance involves pushing the rubbish down the pipe so that it blocks again. Report and ask Highways for a proper clear out and a new grating to stop rubbish getting in.

Action 11/10/07: Clerk

10.5. Footpaths RB, SF, RT

Rev Patching had made some attempt to trim the trees but they needed some professional attention. The Clerk to write to the Diocese saying the incumbent had tried but failed and the trees were blocking the road end signage.

Action 11/10/08: Clerk

The footpath outside the Coop has a dangerous drain and also one in the path outside 5 The Causeway require reporting and by the postbox at Hanney Road/Stonebridge road the curb is broken and a manhole cover is dangerous.

10.6. Trees and Greens RB, SF, RT, RW

Nothing to report

10.7. Parish Plan RG, SR, Clerk

The working party is ongoing with the review of the last Parish Plan. They are trying to find out who owns and is responsible for Station Road. To obtain details of the social housing in the village and results of the last housing survey. Mr Murray said he would have information from the Vale shortly on some of the housing questions.

10.8. Playground CD, RG

Report from Rospa still awaited.

10.9. Sarinc

Nothing to report

11. FINANCE

11.1. Accounts 2011-12

The accounts were discussed and agreed. Proposed: Mr Green. Seconded: Mr Fisher

The bank mandate had still not been updated. Mrs Rees expressed concern that she was the only person able to sign cheques, which was not complying with financial regulations.

11.2. Cheques for Signature

	Payable	Description	Net amount	vat	Total	cheque no
1	Mrs. A Turton	Litter collection September £160	£160.00	£0.00	£160.00	1925
2	Angela Einon	Clerk's salary September net 346.72 . Office expenses 16.67June.	£363.39	£0.00	£363.39	1926
3	SLCC	Membership	£95.00	£0.00	£95.00	1927
4	BDO LLP	External audit 2010-2011	£310.00	£62.00	£372.00	1928
5	Angela Einon	Talk Talk July, August, Sept £23.83 x 3	£71.49	£0.00	£71.49	1929

11.3. External Auditors Report

The external audit report raised the question of the statement of internal audit they considered that insufficient detail had been reported. As with effect from 31 March 2011 the statement of internal audit requirement had been replaced by a governance statement it was felt that no further action was required.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

12.1. Received

10/9/11		VWH	11/01774/FUL 128 The Causeway. Addition of mono pitched roof detail to front elevation, balcony terrace over existing ground floor lounge/utility, addition of continental folding doors, new external door opening, removal and addition of windows, associated internal alterations.
12/9/11	E	M Dach	Review of Subsidised bus services
14/9/11	E	Faye Anderton	Who owns land behind Barnett Road would like to contact re access
14/09/11		VWH	Planning application 11/01751/FUL 39 The Green Proposed demolition of rear single storey structure to make way for proposed extension, internal alterations and car port to rear of the property
15/9/11	E	Deborah Bennett	Copies of emails to a all regarding level crossing
15/9/11		Two Saints	Involve newsletter
16/9/11	E	Marie Ann Giddens	Comments on the level crossing work
16/9/11	E	Liam Bateman, Network Rail	Response to letter saying no problems envisaged away on holiday until 27 th September. Suggests anyone telephoning national help line.
18/9/11		CPRE	Planning reform
20/9/11		BDO LLP	Return of audit, invoice and comments
20/9/11		VWH	11/01931/FUL The Old Bakery, 6A Castle Street, erection of rear conservatory
22/9/11		Michael Robson	Copy of letter to network rail

23/9/11	E	Laura Hudson, VWH	Re brick on Lantern development, will check the plans and the original samples provided. They do appear more cream than expected.
4/10/11	E	C Wilding	Correspondence regarding level crossing
4/10/11	E	M Habermehl	Comments on planning application 39 The Green
4/10/11	E	M & M Read	Comment on planning application 39 The Green
4/10/11	E	P & D Gentle	Comment on planning application 39 the Green

It was pointed out that two emails were missing from this list

1/10/11	E	Sara Collins	Housing – plans for future affordable
1/10/11	E	Annelise Denton	Charging to park in village hall car park

12.1.2 Charge for parking at village Hall

This had been an error on the part of the visiting team who charge their supporters to park at matches to raise funds for their team.

12.2. Sent

7/9/11	E	VWH	Return on planning application
7/9/11	E	VWH	Letter re brick colour used on Lantern development
12/9/11		Letter to Residents	Re lack of information from Network rail on crossing changes
19/9/11		E Vaizey	From chair re level crossings and lack of communication
19/9/11		Oxford Times	Copy of letter to Ed Vaizey
19/9/11		Network Rail	Copy of letter to Ed Vaizey
19/9/11		Environment Agency	Ginge silting up
22/9/11		Mrs M Malin Parochial Chairites	Support for continued representation by Brig Thompson and Mrs Silk and a new representative Mrs Menna Murray
22/9/11	E	Highways	State of road Causeway from North Star to Church
24/9/11		Ms L M Denton	Exclusive Right of burial
24/9/11		Ms L E Smith	Exclusive Right of burial
24/9/11		Ms E Burras	Causeway surface and ditches
27/9/11	E	Liam Bateman Network Rail	Request attendance at October Parish meeting
28/9/11		Bill Jones	Minutes and Agenda
28/9/11		I Brown	Minutes and Agenda
28/9/11		M Murray	Minutes and Agenda

13. PLANNING MATTERS

13.1 Planning applications

13.1.1 11/01751/FUL 39 The Green Proposed demolition of rear single storey structure to make way for proposed extension, internal alterations and car port to rear of the property

Object: Strong feelings within the village against further development in this area, which is a conservation area and affects the view from the Village green it has already got permission to demolish and replace the Coachhouse in close proximity. More of the original wall is to be removed to create access and the line of the wall not even maintained. The plot size is small and will lead to further applications to convert attached meadowland to garden. The neighbouring properties feel over dominated and some have issues with loss of light

13.1.2 11/01774/FUL 128 The Causeway. Addition of mono pitched roof detail to front elevation, balcony terrace over existing ground floor lounge/utility, addition of continental folding doors, new external door opening, removal and addition of windows, associated internal alterations.

Object: The mono pitch roof on front elevation significantly detracts from the character of the original building

13.1.3 11/01931/FUL The Old Bakery, 6A Castle Street, erection of rear conservatory

No objection

14. MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION

A new access to the field on the Hanney Road by Mr Gregory is on a bend.

North Way further problems with resident complaints about the work he is doing and the atmosphere created by his attitude to neighbours.

15. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING.** 1st November 2011.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.

APPROVAL Signed as a true record of the Meeting:

Name: Mr Richard Bosley

Position: Chair of the Parish Council

Signature:

Date: **1st November 2011**