

**Stoneleigh & Ashow Joint Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021**  
**via Zoom (online meeting)**

**PRESENT:**

Chairman Cllr R Hancox (joined 19:09)  
 Cllr J Astle  
 Cllr A Bianco  
 Cllr D Jack  
 Cllr L Rolli  
 Cllr P Redford  
 Cllr W Redford  
 Cllr T Wright

There were 5 members of the public present.

**137. Apologies**

There were no apologies.

**138. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Hancox declared an interest in the planning application for 9 Stoneleigh Close.

**139. Minutes of the last meeting**

Minutes of the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021 were approved.

**140. Public Session**

**Standing Orders suspended at 19:08**

A question was raised about how the funded artwork that the Parish has been offered will be progressed. Ideas were discussed regarding what the artwork would be, where it could be placed, whether the Parish Council (PC) should contribute towards the cost and whether it should be split between the two villages. Issues raised included:

- Residents who have expressed an opinion have been split, with some in favour and others against.
- Security issues were raised, as the piece of artwork may be attractive to thieves.
- Planning permission may be required and / or agreement of highways authority
- A village sign would be good but the cost is likely to significantly exceed the level of funding available

It was agreed that:

- Further discussions would need to take place to decide on what is wanted and where it should be placed
- Consultation should take place with at least those living in the proximity of the artwork, and ideally with all residents

- Clerk to contact Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and ask for additional time for further discussions and consultation in the parish.

A question was raised regarding the status of the Birmingham Road closure. Cllr Hancox confirmed that there is no further update and that the PC are waiting on Warwickshire County Council (WCC) to present their solution. It was agreed that the PC would invite WCC to the next meeting to give an update about this.

- Clerk to invite Adrian Hart to next meeting.

A resident raised a range of issues expressing frustration and annoyance about the general state of repair in the village, affecting pavements, roads and road signs, steps, telegraph poles, lamp posts and verges. It was asked that these concerns be noted and asked what could be done.

It was agreed that the following actions would be taken:

- Cllr W Redford to ask highways about footpath deterioration due to parking and survey the area to find out what can be done. Cllr Redford confirmed that WCC has renewed stretches of pavement in Stoneleigh and repaired some of the granite steps. He stated that he will ask the Locality Officer to carry out a site visit to inspect the road, pavement and steps. The resident confirmed that the length of Vicarage Road was affected.
- Cllr Hancox will contact BT regarding the telegraph poles. Cllr Bianco contacted BT regarding these poles earlier this year and they confirmed that if a request was formally made, they could look at replacement in the next financial year.
- Cllr P Redford asked for the reference number of the lamp columns that need replacing, but warned that it will take some time for these to be replaced due to financial constraints.
- Cllr W Redford will ask the Highway Department why they haven't replaced the signs that were struck and broken a number of weeks ago and have been left in pieces. Cllr Redford confirmed that the new Locality Officer has been given a list of outstanding issues which includes broken road signs which he is looking into. Cllr Redford will contact him to raise the concerns from the Parish.

Cllr W Redford expressed his frustration that the signs placed near the crossroads are not what he requested for the area. He has raised this issue and has visited the site and witnessed cars parking on the verge between the signs. Cllr Redford has contacted the Officer responsible again to inform him of the ongoing parking in the area. WCC will be informing the police that signs are in place and police will be asked to issue fixed penalty tickets for vehicles parked on the verge. If this is not successful in stopping the parking issue, the signs will be reconsidered. Residents are asked to inform Cllr Redford if they see cars parked there as he will continue to put pressure on WCC to resolve this issue.

The parking issue is strongly felt by residents with over 100 comments on social media in regards to this. Cllr Hancox stated that the PC should try the WCC solution and then if it doesn't work, Cllr Redford will take this matter further.

A further road issue was raised regarding HGV traffic for HS2 driving through the village. Cllr Hancox stated the need to identify that HGVs were from HS2 and using the village as a cut-through, rather than legitimate delivery vehicles accessing homes in the village. Cllr Bianco requested that signs are provided stating "No construction traffic beyond this point" to be placed at relevant points in the village.

- Cllr W Redford to request that HS2 organise appropriate signs relating to construction traffic

Standing orders reinstated at 20:00

**141. Finance****Finance Report 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021****Income / Expenditure**

<b>Balance brought forward from 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020</b>	£46,119.67
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**Payments to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

H Watts salary & expenses (January)	£608.39
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**Income**

Bank Interest	£92.65
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<b>Balance</b>	<b><u>£45,603.93</u></b>
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**Funds at Unity Bank**

Current Account 1	£25,603.93
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Instant Access account	£20,000.00
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	<b><u>£45,603.93</u></b>
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**Online payments to be authorised**

H Watts salary & expenses (February)	£608.59
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- a) The finance report was accepted and agreed
- b) Payments were agreed and authorised
- c) Following her annual appraisal, it was proposed that the Clerk receive the annual incremental pay increase. This was unanimously agreed.

**142. Planning****March 2021****New Planning Applications****Application No:** W/20/1934 & 1935LB**Description:** Proposed demolition of an existing garage in the garden and erection of a larger garden room/ home office on the plot.**Address:** 10 Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh, Coventry, CV8 3DH**Applicant:** Mr and Ms Storer and Lowe**Closing date:** 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021**Planning Officer:** Jonathan Gentry

The Parish Council support this application

**Application No:** W/20/2050

**Description:** Full planning application for the laying out of grass reinforcement mesh and the construction of a temporary link road

**Address:** National Agricultural Centre Showground, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, CV8 2LZ

**Applicant:** MARS Pension Trustees

**Closing date:** 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Planning Officer:** Debbie Prince

Cllr Astle expressed concern that the changes in the application may be used to enable events which create more noise and traffic. Cllr Bianco stated that the planned changes were beneficial to enable parking off of grassed areas. It was agreed that the PC would like to have more information about how the area would be used.

The Parish Council do not support this application but would like to support it if they can have information to understand more about the use of the area affected, and whether this will have an impact on the level of traffic using the Showground.

**Application No:** W/20/2013

**Description:** In conjunction with the scheduled Warwickshire County Council alignment of the A46 Link Road Scheme, this application proposal seeks highway improvement works along a section of Stoneleigh Road. The highway works proposed includes the construction of a 4-arm roundabout to provide two additional access roads. One to access the proposed relocation of the Rugby Farmers' Market; The other to a HS2 46/Ashow Road Main Works Civils Contractors compound.

**Address:** Stoneleigh Road, Stoneleigh

**Applicant:** High Speed Two (HS2) Limited

**Closing date:** 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Planning Officer:** Debbie Prince

A number of issues were raised regarding this application:

- Links to the Stoneleigh bypass and whether this will be a permanent roundabout
- Need to ensure that the development is future-proofed and identify which elements are temporary
- This will impact on the one-way system on the Ashow Road
- Large number of anomalies in the application
- Road into compound is likely to remain in place and be part of the bypass
- Roadworks on the Ashow Road are currently embargoed due to the road being a COVID19 vaccination route, which is likely to be the case until the vaccination centre at Stoneleigh is closed.

Cllr W Redford stated that the contact at WCC Highways will be Dave Pilcher

- Cllr W Redford was requested to get formal information from highways about the works on the B4115. Works traffic is using the road, and more traffic could cause more of a risk.
- Clerk to contact planning to request an extension for comments until after the next PC meeting, and seek assurance that the application won't be agreed in the meantime.

Cllr Jack stressed that the PC will not give up over the one-way system without a fight and is hopeful that the roundabout will provide an option meaning that the road will not have to be made one way and widened.

*Cllr Hancox left the meeting due to a declaration of interest*

**Application No:** W/20/2036

**Description:** Erection of proposed rear roof balcony

**Address:** 9 Stoneleigh Close, Stoneleigh, Coventry, CV8 3DE

**Applicant:** Mr Jim Brooks

**Closing date:** 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021

**Planning Officer:** Thomas Fojut

The Parish Council takes a neutral position on this application.

*Cllr Hancox rejoined the meeting*

Progress of planning applications

**Application No:** W/20/1214

**Description:** Application to separate existing dwelling into two units. Change of use of the existing garages and store to residential accommodation.

**Address:** The Granary, Dial House Farm, Ashow Road, Ashow, Kenilworth, CV8 2LD

**Applicant:** Ms. L. Rolli

**Closing date:** 28<sup>th</sup> September 2020

**Planning Officer:** Andrew Tew

The application has been withdrawn

Progress of planning applications (Not outcome yet)

**Application No:** W/21/0072 LB

**Description:** Renovation of old Store

**Address:** Church Meadow Cottages, Vicarage Road, Stoneleigh, Coventry, CV8 3DH

**Applicant:** Mr. Harrower

**Closing date:** 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Planning Officer:** Zoe Herbert

**Application No:** W/20/1883

**Description:** New roof cover over existing garage and convert to annex.

**Address:** Tantara Lodge, Coventry Road, Stoneleigh, Coventry, CV8 3DR

**Applicant:** Mr. J. Reay

**Closing date:** 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**Planning Officer:** Emma Booker

**Application No:** W/20/2020

**Description:** Hybrid planning application comprising: Full planning application for 98 dwellings (Class C3) served via two new vehicular / pedestrian / cycle access connections from Leamington Road, pedestrian and cycle access to Thickthorn Close; strategic landscaping and earthworks, surface water drainage and all other ancillary infrastructure and enabling works Outline planning application for demolition of existing buildings and structures; residential development of up to 452 dwellings (Class C3); primary school (Class F.1); employment (Class B2); Class E development; hot food takeaway (sui generis), community centre (Class F.2); strategic landscaping and earthworks, surface water drainage and all other ancillary infrastructure and enabling works with means of site access (excluding internal roads) from the new junction into the detailed parcel of development and access junction off Glasshouse Lane; all other matters (internal access, layout, appearance, scale and landscaping) reserved for subsequent approval.

**Address:** Land at Thickthorn, Kenilworth

**Applicant:** Barwood Development Securities Ltd

**Closing date:** 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**Planning Officer:** Dan Charles

**Application No:** W/20/1829 HS2

**Description:** Realignment of B4115 Ashow Road and construction of associated overbridge and underpass. (HS2 - WDC - SCH17PS - B4115 Ashow Road Overbridge and underpass)

**Address:** B4115 Ashow Road, Stoneleigh

**Applicant:** Nominated Undertaker High Speed Two (HS2) Ltd

**Closing date:** 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020

**Planning Officer:** Debbie Prince

**Application No:** W/20/1483

**Description:** Application for the approval of reserved matters (details of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to condition 1 of planning permission ref: W/16/0239 for the construction of a new office building with associated parking arrangements at Whitley South (within Development Zone 3 on the parameters plan).

**Address:** Land to the north and south of the A45 (between Festival and Tollbar junctions) and land at the A45/Festival Roundabout, the A46/Tollbar Roundabout and at the junctions of the A444 with the A4114/Whitley Roundabout.

**Applicant:** Segro

**Closing date:** 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**Planning Officer:** Lucy Hammond

**Application No:** W/20/0020

**Description:** Reserved Matters application pursuant to condition 1 of planning permission W/17/1631 [variation of original outline W/16/0239] for details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for a car showroom and ancillary workshop, repairs and valeting areas with associated external car parking, storage and display areas, and hard and soft landscaping (Zone 2 on the parameters plan). W16/0239, as varied by W/17/1631, was for a comprehensive development comprising offices, research & development facilities and light industrial uses (Use Class B1), hotel accommodation (Use Class C1), car showroom accommodation and small scale retail and catering establishments (Use Classes A1, A3, A4 and/or A5).

**Address:** Land to the North and South of the A45 (between Festival and Tollbar junctions) and land at the A45/Festival Roundabout, the A46/Tollbar Roundabout and at the junctions of the A444 with the A4114/Whitley Roundabout.

**Applicant:** Sytner Group Limited

**Closing date:** 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020

**Planning Officer:** Lucy Hammond

**Application No:** W/18/1635

**Description:** Demolition of existing farmhouse and agricultural buildings and outline planning permission for residential development of up to 640 dwellings (Use Class C3) and community hall (Use Class D1) including means of access into site (not internal roads), parking and associated works, with all other matters (relating to appearance, landscaping, scale and layout) reserved.

**Address:** Land east of Kenilworth, Glasshouse Lane/ Crewe Lane, Kenilworth

**Applicant:** Catesby Estates Plc

**Closing date:** 12<sup>th</sup> April 2019

**Planning Officer:** Dan Charles

NOTIFICATION OF AMENDED PLANS:

- Amendments Proposed: Reduction in numbers from 640 dwellings to 620 dwellings.
- Addition of proposed primary school.
- Omission of community hall

**Application No:** W/18/0522

**Description:** Outline application including details of access for the comprehensive redevelopment of land South of Coventry Airport, comprising demolition of existing structures and the erection of new buildings to accommodate general industrial uses (Use Class B2) and storage and distribution (Use Class B8), ground modelling works including the construction of landscaped bunds, construction of new roads, footpaths and cycle routes, associated parking, servicing, infrastructure and landscaping and the creation of open space in a Community Park. Provision of new sports ground including the creation of new sports pitches and a club house.

Address: Gateway South, Land to the South and West of Coventry Airport and Middlemarch Industrial Estate, Coventry

**Case Officer:** Rob Young

**143. Matters arising:**

- a. Casual vacancy – no applications as yet
- b. Funded artwork installation – discussed in the public session above

**144. Closure of footpath between Stareton Bridge and Stoneleigh Park**

There has been no further progress on this issue.

Cllr P Redford stated that the latest update from HS2 was that using the road verge was an acceptable alternative to the footpath. Cllr Redford has raised this with the Planning Officer and are working on finding the conditions in the Act that relate to Stoneleigh.

Cllr W Redford stated that he has been met with a blank wall from HS2. He has made it clear that the road verge is not acceptable.

Councillors agree that the use of the road verge is not acceptable and expressed that any accidents or injuries to pedestrians being forced to use the thin muddy verge would be the responsibility of HS2.

**145. HS2 update**

Discussed earlier – LM / HS2 have offered a meeting with Councillors and interested parties.

The Site Gate 1 work is still in progress

Cllr Bianco expressed difficulty in getting engagement from an appropriate person from BBV, a major contractor in the area, who has the necessary engineering and local knowledge.

There is still no site plan for Chesford Crossroads. Cllr W Redford confirmed that HS2 have not submitted an amended application and therefore this remains refused by WCC.

HS2 Grant applications:

There are a number of applications currently being progressed, including:

- Changing room facilities in the village hall
- Cllr Bianco proposed submitting an application to replace, repair, refurbish and repaint the iron railing and fencing for the Meadow and Churchyard. The project could be completed within 3-6 months and within the £70k funding limit. The PCC and Meadows Society request that the Parish Council agree to support the application in principle. The PC unanimously supported the application

Cublington PC acquired funding for playground equipment, and have offered support in making an application.

**146. Broadband upgrade – Ashow and Crewe Lane area**

There is no new information on this. Cllr Bianco stated that Ashow / Crewe Lane areas are not on the master list so there is still some way to go.

**147. Neighbourhood Plan**

Councillors have met, but one of the main attendees was unable to attend, so are currently arranging another meeting.

**148. Updates:**

**Update from Police:** None

**Report from Cllr W Redford:**

- There have been 2 COVID deaths in the last 7 days in the county. Infection rates are falling, including for the over 60s.
- Kenilworth & Southam area is top of the county for vaccinations, and other areas are not far behind
- Four Leamington wards and Whitnash are in top 10 local areas for infection rates, but rates are dropping
- The lateral flow test centre in Pound Lane has the highest testing rates in the county. Cllrs P & W Redford have been attending for weekly tests and have been informed that due to relaxations in lockdown, recommendations are now for residents to be tested twice a week.
- The WCC laptops for disadvantaged children project has given out more than 3,000 devices.
- The New Locality Office is Ryan Machin, so all highways issues should be directed to Ryan.

**Report from Cllr P Redford:**

- A review is currently underway of the joint local plan with Stratford and is likely to take a couple of years to complete. The PC is advised to bear in mind that neighbourhood plans have to sit alongside local plans. The PC is advised to talk with the district planning team to understand where the Warwick District Council plan is going in order to save unnecessary alterations to the neighbourhood plan later on. Andrew Crowfoot has taken over Ragu Sittambalam's role, so should be able to assist with the neighbourhood plan.

**Report from Cllr T Wright**

- The cut-off date for the latest grants is tomorrow. Businesses can put in a retrospective grant application for earlier grants until March 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The countdown clock has started on top of Leamington Town Hall for Commonwealth Games

**149. Correspondence**

No correspondence received.

**150. Questions to Chairman**

Cllr Bianco expressed thanks to Cllr Hancox and members of the village who recently helped to support an elderly lady found wandering in the village at night. Social services were contacted and a support package put in place. Her neighbours are also helping to support her. It was noted that it was good to see residents helping one another out and it is good to be aware of vulnerable people in the village.

Cllr Astle noted that the litter is very bad on the A46 at the moment on both the verges and in the centre. Cllr Hancox will check about this with Highways England.

**151. Date of next meeting: April 8th 2021, 7pm, via Zoom**

- It was agreed that the May meeting (Annual meeting and Ordinary meeting) is brought forward to Thursday, May 6th to enable it to be held online. Summer meetings may have to be held outdoors to enable appropriate social distancing.
- Stoneleigh Village Meeting will be held online on April 22nd.

**152. Closure**

The meeting was closed at 21:28