



**Minutes Meeting of Stoke Hammond Parish Council at the Community Centre,
Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond on Tuesday 5th February 2019 at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllr Greg Noble (Chair), Cllr Mavis Berrow, Cllr Karl Johnson, Cllr Geoff Lane, Cllr Mike Robinson, Cllr Hazel Turner, Sue Severn - Parish Clerk, District Cllr Neil Blake, and members of the public

1. Apologies for absence. Cllr Donna Page, District Councillor Ben Everitt, County Councillor Janet Blake

2. Declarations of interest None

Public Participation Session

- A resident raised the subject of Brookfields. He felt that it was aggressive building which encroaches on the building line. He thought it was an eyesore and a hazard for traffic coming in and out of the main road. The Chair said that Highways and AVDC had been happy with the plans. Plans in future needed to be looked at more carefully to make sure they are correct. Cllr Johnson stated that he thought the homes being in front of the building line were a main concern. Cllr Lane said that in the past the bus shelter had had to be altered for vision splay. It was agreed that the matter should be referred to the enforcement officer. District Councillor Blake said that he would like the correspondence relating to this subject and he will follow it up.
- The resident from Papermill Farm told the meeting that he was extremely disappointed that the hydro application, which was supported by Great Brickhill Parish Council, has still not been determined. District Cllr Blake said that there was now a full team in place in the planning department. The resident told District Cllr Blake that it was a time critical application and he had not been given a revised determination date. He said that he may need to go to appeal on determination.
- A Newton Road resident asked what has happened on the development of Latrigg, as the previous owners have now moved out. The Chair told the meeting that he had checked on the AVDC portal and the application is 'still pending'.
- District Cllr Blake gave County Cllr Blake's apologies, and he asked that a line be dropped to her with regard to any issues that are raised.
- District Cllr Blake told the meeting that he had resigned from the Conservative group at AVDC as he was unhappy about how it was dealing with the unitary issue. He has remained as an Independent Councillor hoping to continue to support the parishes. All control will be passed to County. The work that has been carried out in the past year will have been for nothing he said. The Executive members both come from the County Council. This may impact on the New Homes Bonus. £10 million has been given to parishes already but this may not occur in future. District Councillor Blake said he was confused about the addition of The Old Dairy Farm on the agenda. The Clerk said this was an error. District Cllr Blake said that he was concerned about the parking issue. Cllr Blake left the meeting at this point.

3. To approve the minutes The minutes of the parish council meeting held on Thursday 3rd January 2019 were approved and signed as a correct record.
Cllr Johnson asked who writes the minutes. Cllr Turner stated that she did. The draft minutes are passed to the Clerk for checking of facts before being forwarded to councillors for comment.

- **Land Maintenance**

The Chair reported that the Green Team were not continuing in their role for this coming year due to lack of people available. Tenders for the job have been advertised and any company wishing to tender for the job will have to do so by Friday 22 February 2019. The Clerk has written to the Green Team thanking them for the work they have done. Cllr Lane reported that some of the footpaths in the village are becoming narrower as the grass has grown over the tarmac. The worst one is from Moat Farm along past Phoebe's Orchard to the bus shelter opposite the Dolphin. Cllr Berrow also reported that the holly bush along the pavement opposite the shop and from just beyond the Pedestrian crossing has made the pavement very narrow. It is thought AVDC is responsible. It will be reported to Fix My Street, but it was felt nothing would be done about it. The Clerk may write to them if nothing is done soon, stating that the Parish Council will carry out the work and will bill AVDC for it.

- **Finance**

a) To agree the payment run: The payment run was agreed as circulated

| Payee | Method | Detail | £ |
|----------------------------|--------|---|------------------|
| Mrs S Severn | BACS | Net salary & expenses | £485.82 |
| G Noble | BACS | Expenses: January | £43.11 |
| Rush & Warwick | BACS | SH News Print February Inv. No. 30676 | £493.92 |
| Berryfields Parish Council | BACS | Share of SLCC/ALCC subscription: Clerk | £33.72 |
| Marcus Young Landscapes | BACS | Dog bin emptying 1.5.2018 to 1.4.2019 48 weeks £840 | |
| | | Litter bin emptying 48 weeks £960 | £2,160.00 |
| Cuisine Excellence | BACS | PC annual dinner | £587.30 |
| A Payne | BACS | Bulbs and pansy plants for planters | £18.00 |
| | | Total payments | £3,821.87 |

Cllr Johnson asked why the detailed expenses claim for Cllr Noble was missing. The Clerk confirmed that this was an error, she had left it on her printer. She will ensure all invoices are present in future.

b) To agree the accounts to 31st December 2019. The accounts were agreed.

6. Planning

18/02634/APP Old Dairy Farm House Orchard Mill Lane Stoke Hammond Buckinghamshire MK17 9BF

Retention of two flats (retrospective). The Clerk reported that this had an end date of February, the Council had been neutral. Cllr Johnson said that the parking issue was set by AVDC set the parking requirements so there was no need to comment.

7. Highways, Footpaths & Footways, Lighting

Cllr Noble mentioned that he had looked at the pedestrian crossing light and despite it being stated in last month's minutes that it had been fixed it is still out. He had rung Highways who had told him that it was the Parish Council's responsibility. He told them the light was on top of the Belisher Beacon pole so it was theirs! The person rang back quickly and said it was the County Councils light. The Chair asked them to carry out the repair rapidly as the light has been out for several months. Cllr Turner reported that there was a large pothole at the bottom of Old School Lane by the first bungalow. A photograph will be taken and forwarded to Fix My Street. It was reported by Cllr Robinson that a lorry has been in the village clearing the gutters and drains. Apparently they were so bad the machine couldn't cope! He further reported that a friend of his wife's had got a speeding ticket while travelling through the village.

It was reported that the bottom of Bragenham Side is extremely muddy caused by Anglian Water working in one of the fields. Cllr Turner will contact a resident that works for AW and ask him to ask his superiors if they would clean the area up when they leave.

8. Welcome pack

Cllr Mike Robinson told the meeting that he had looked at the general insert. Much has changed with regard to village organisations, refuse collections etc. and so a reprint is needed. Cllr Robinson will reproduce new copy on his computer. 150 copies are needed. He asked the Clerk where the previous one had been printed. She thought it had been done in Aylesbury but Rush and Warwick may be able to do it. It was resolved that the amount that could be spent was up to £300. Motion was proposed by Cllr Robinson and seconded by Cllr Noble all in favour.

9. Community Centre

The Chair told the meeting that the Centre had been booked out during Christmas; in fact, it had been difficult one day as there had been three bookings following each other. There are to be new cupboards and a new disabled access. The SHCA has asked if they could apply for a New Homes Bonus. They had received a positive reply. The amount is going up in March to £2000 from £1000, so the application will go in then. The window in the meeting room by the sink will be removed; the brickwork cut away and the door inserted there the Chair reported. It is hoped the total cost will be £2,000.

10. Parish Council Public Surgeries

The first Surgery in Newton Leys will take place on March 7 in the new Pavilion in Newton leys. Two councillors will go. Cllr Johnson stated he will attend. Cllrs Noble, Robinson and Lane said they may be available. The March edition of SH News will continue with the Newton Leys advertisement. The Clerk told the meeting that she had put a picture of the front cover on the website for the first time. Informal meetings will be held with no minutes, but notes may be taken. It was decided that in the April edition of SH News a daytime surgery will be advertised to take place in May. The Clerk will try and book Newton Leys pavilion for then, a charge will be made to hire it on this occasion.

11. Speeding & Speedwatch

Cllr Lane said there was no update. It would be interesting to know when and where the local resident had been caught speeding. A comment was made about the possibility of traffic calming in the village purchasing it via Section 106. Unfortunately the money can only be spent on Recreation and Leisure. The Community Spedwatch signs are available to erect. Cllr Lane would like the signs to go where the MVAS goes. The Clerk will check with the police to ensure this location meets with their approval. Cllr Lane told the meeting that all the villages are having the same problem. (Some time ago a question was raised regarding putting in 20mph speed limits). Cllr Lane called for volunteers for speedwatch. A resident put himself forward to assist. The equipment is readily available the councillor told the meeting. It does slow the traffic down,

12. Best Kept Village

Cllr Johnson thought that last year it had been too much of a rush; we need to do the jobs in a methodical way. How do we get volunteers to do it was the question put to the council. Cllr Lane stated that he had cleaned and tidied the bus shelters, did the strimming and picked up rubbish last year. However, it is not a pretty village and despite all the work the result was that we only gained two extra points. It was stated that some villages have a dedicated team for the competition. The Gardening Club members might help perhaps. Cllr Turner told the meeting that a resident wanted to see fencing back along Bragenham Side to stop cars parking and driving on the grass. In addition, while walking recently on a windy day two branches had come off the trees narrowly missing her. The Council had budgeted for an expert to come and survey the trees. It was agreed that new posts were needed (see last month's minutes) around the garages.

Cllr Johnson reported a new post was needed on the edge of the Common Land by the Dolphin. It was noted that Mr Simonds has not yet carried out the work requested on raising the planters due to the death recently of his mother. The Clerk has sent a message of sympathy to him on behalf of Councillors. A question was raised about marking out parking places. Cllr Lane said this has been looked into in the past with the addition of yellow lines; however, it requires a traffic warden to enforce this.

13. SH News

Cllr Noble reported that a discussion has taken place at a SHCA meeting about the possibility of making SH News bi-monthly. It was agreed that the first bi-monthly edition should be April's. All advertisers have been informed about it and advertising rates will remain the same. SH News is a SHCA publication but because the Parish Council takes several pages of the newsletter the Parish Council helps fund it. Many villages now have bi-monthly magazines. Stoke Hammond news may also be found on the Parish Council's Facebook feed and the website. However, to remain transparent a paper copy is required.

14. To report on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Clerk reported that she had attended the Strategic Committee Meeting at AVDC regarding Fenny Road. Both Mr Ed White and Mrs Lynda White had spoken at it.

15. To agree the date of the next PC meeting – **Tuesday 5th March**

Mrs Turner gave her apologies she will be unable to attend.

There being no other business the meeting the public meeting was declared closed at:8.35pm

RESOLUTION Due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed members of the public and press were asked to leave the meeting under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960). Proposed by Cllr Robinson and seconded by Cllr Noble. Cllr Lane voted against the resolution. Cllrs: Berrow, Johnson and Turner were in agreement.