

**Minutes of a Meeting of Stoke Hammond Parish Council held on
Tuesday 2nd November 2021 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Malcolm Newing (Chair), Cllr Alan Humphreys, Cllr Stephen McNally, Cllr Greg Noble, Cllr Fran Sharkey, Cllr David Venn, Cllr Damian Willingale, Joanna Simonds, Clerk & RFO & 11 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence

Unitary Cllr, Phil Gomm

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Update from Unitary Councillor, Phil Gomm, received by email as follows:

- *The drains/cleaner has been operating within our Ward and Stoke Hammond has been visited by the team. If any councillor or clerk has complaints with any not working/flooding please keep me informed. Please note some need further inspection and attention.*
- *The Winslow and Villages Community Board is extremely busy with various projects, and I can't say enough please make sure Stoke Hammond receive a good share of the funding, so please connect with me if you have any further ideas that might need funding.*
- *The has been a large campaign launched via BCC "See something, Say something, Do something. Help us protect adults at risk in our community from abuse and neglect." If any councillor would like further info I would be happy to guide, as I also sit on the HASC select committee (Health and Adult Social Care)*
- *Please can we see an update that was being tasked and agreed by the PC to include Newton Leys Community, a great deal more in PC business.*
- *Covid is on the rise in Buckinghamshire, so please help by promoting safety in your community and promoting the FLU jab too.*
- *There have been reports of drugs misuse in the Stoke Hammond area and TVP are monitoring and patrolling. If you see anything suspicious, please report on 999.*
- *Some very sad news. At present our two deputy Leaders Angela Macpherson & Gareth Williams are looking after County business, as our Leader Martin Tett sadly lost his wife.*

In the interest of making the meetings smoother and quicker, the Chairman confirmed that going forward he intended to dispense with the formalities of Proposing and Seconding items 4 & 5, as everyone has already had the opportunity to look at them. Instead, Cllrs will go straight to a vote.

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 5th October 2021

Agreed unanimously

The draft minutes circulated were approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

5. Finance

a) To agree the November payment run

STOKE HAMMOND PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN November 2021		
Payee	Detail	Amount
Mrs J Simonds	Clerk salary and any related expenses	£856.00
RTM Landscapes	Invoice 3112	£432.00
CS Maintenance	Invoice CSM0468	£180.00
Brunel Engraving	Brass plaque for St Luke's Church to commemorate the RAF Wireless station in Dorcas Lane	£156.54
St Luke's Church	Annual Church Grant	£500.00
BMKALC	Clerk's CILCA Training	£300.00
RBL Poppy Appeal	Wreath for laying at St Luke's Church	£19.25
Brian Ambler	Strimming of weeds in alleyway by Tyrells Gardens and clearing of footpath on Newton Road	£120.00
Greg Noble	Expenses related to the SH/NLS News	£32.65
	Total	£2,596.44

Unanimously agreed

- b) To agree the accounts to 30th September 2021
Agreed unanimously

6. Update from the Clerk on matters arising

The Clerk gave an update on matters of public interest she's been working on this past month:

- The Newton Road nettles have been cleared allowing wheelchair and pram access again.
 - A quotation for the Fenny Road hedge work has been approved by the developer. We are just waiting on a date from their contractor, Heritage.
 - Progress has been made with the Rights of Way issues previously raised; the two bridges reported have both been added to the works team list of bridges to be replaced; the fence bordering the bypass is actually Highways so has been reported separately; a work team has been issued to clear the bridleway; and, the footpath areas have been added to the Area Officer's inspection list.
 - Devolved Services have confirmed they are carrying out background work in relation to the size of Scotts Close and Manor Close grass areas to try and move this one forward in the next round of devolved agreements.
 - There is a large "self-set" tree in the Flogas compound on Manor Close that I've been trying to get cut back on behalf of neighbouring residents. After many months, a quotation has now been approved, so work should commence soon.
 - TVP updated that with the evenings drawing in, they've seen an increase in burglaries. Two key themes are houses with nice cars and bungalows of elderly and wheelchair bound residents who are less able to defend themselves. TVP are urging people to keep their car and home doors locked and if anyone sees anything remotely suspicious, residents should report the activity to 101 or 999 in an emergency.
 - Possible drug related activity was reported on Bragenham Side. TVP are patrolling the area when they can but many of the officers are female, so they can only patrol when they are double crewed.
- 7. Planning:** To discuss planning applications and make recommendations on any planning applications received after this agenda is published, if urgent.

21/04120/APP & 21/04121/ALB– STOKE HAMMOND

Stoke Lodge, Lodge Lane, Stoke Hammond MK17 9BU

Cllrs resolved to OPPOSE this application due to the overbearing nature in this conservation area which would be quite visible from the Newton Road.

Proposed: Cllr Noble

Seconded: Cllr Venn

Cllr Willingale abstained from voting / All other Cllrs resolved to OPPOSE

21/04238/APP – STOKE HAMMOND

Oakwood Grove Farm, Church Road

Some months ago, Cllrs agreed that the PC would always ensure a yellow planning notice is put up alerting neighbouring properties, however, upon inspection today, nothing could be found. In addition, this is a building that put forward an application earlier in the year which the PC didn't have any concerns about, however, BC refused the application as it wasn't in keeping with the area. The determination date being 29th November, Cllrs agreed to hold off their decision until we have further information from Heritage on the materials to be used. The Clerk to monitor. **Action Clerk**

8. To report on any Highways, Footpaths & Footways and Lighting matters

Cllrs approved the purchase of 5 additional bollards; one to replace the broken one on the Newton Road/Church Road junction, and 4 to keep in stock for future breakages. **Action Clerk**

Once delivered, the Clerk to reach out to PW Landscapes to install the broken one **Action Clerk**

9. To provide any updates on the Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

There was a lengthy discussion on the Neighbourhood Plan, the highlights being:

- Cllr Willingale has produced a good first draft of the Community Survey, and following feedback from this evening, an updated draft will be circulated to Cllrs and any members of the public in attendance this evening that would like to give their input, in order to do a dry run before rolling it out to the parish. Three members of the public expressed an interest; their details were noted.
- Based on feedback of that dry run, the survey will be finalised for parish distribution during the last week of November.

- To raise awareness of the survey and its importance, Cllrs will attend coffee mornings and other events, to get the opportunity to sit and explain to people what this is all about and provide guidance on completion of the survey.
- A scoping session is required to plan out as a group how we want to draft policies that will support what we want in regard to planning in the future.
- The NP survey will look at what's important to the people in this parish, for example, biodiversity, open spaces, sensitive landscapes, and community facilities.
- The survey will ask people who care enough to make this work, if they would like to put themselves forward for the Steering Group.
- Survey responses to be collated throughout December, and numbers reported back at the January PC meeting.
- Our Consultant, Neil Homer, will join the first Steering Group meeting and a blended mix of communication methods will be put in place, including a dedicated page on the PC website.

10. To report on any Parish Improvements and Enhancements

At the last meeting, the PC were asked to consider the purchase and installation of a new litter bin by the shop. The Clerk having researched and put forward a costed proposal, Cllrs voted to purchase a 120Ltr Broxap Derby bin in Green, popularly used by many Councils. The Clerk to process the order and determine its exact installation point. **Action Clerk**

Proposed: Cllr Venn

Seconded: Cllr Sharkey

Agreed unanimously

11. Community Centre - to report on any matters for the Council's attention

Now have a fully monitored fire alarm system throughout the whole of the building, and the electrics have been brought up to current standards, the CC receiving a 5-year compliance certificate.

The CC and Sports Club both now have fibre broadband via the Community Gigaclear plan. This is free for an initial term of 12 months and will be reviewed annually.

A parishioner asked whether consideration could be given to some additional lighting at the back of the building, adding that the marginal cost of putting up a light would have a significant impact on a safety issue and could be addressed quickly. Cllr Noble confirmed that the patio area does have lighting, but beyond that, it is Parish Council land. The Chairman confirmed this would be noted.

12. RAF Dorcas Lane Remembrance event

The Chairman confirmed that the unveiling of a new remembrance plaque to those who served at RAF Stoke Hammond, would take place on The Green on Sat 13th November. RAF Stoke Hammond operated as a secret wireless station for thirty years, initially constructed in Dorcas Lane to serve Bletchley Park during the Second World War, and then RAF Stanbridge across the Cold War and through its closure in 1973. The plaque will be unveiled by our honoured guest Greg Smith, the MP for Buckingham, in the presence of the Herts & Bucks Wing of the RAF Air Cadets.

13. 2022 Queen's Platinum Jubilee

On June 2nd, in collaboration with the Sports Club and Scouts, our beacon will be lit, the bar open and the Scouts will be running a BBQ. Then on the Friday, a "big lunch" with entertainment will be held at the Community Centre, open to all the parish to enjoy. This being such an important event, Cllr Noble said that the Community Centre would be funding some of it and asked whether the Parish Council would also consider some financial supporting, as the plan is to make it a free community celebration event. The Council were minded to support Cllr Noble's request but would await a formal request when more was known about the numbers.

14. Community Fund Application

Cllrs reviewed the policy and application process put forward by the Clerk and voted unanimously in favour of launching the fund with immediate effect.

Cllrs subsequently reviewed and unanimously approved a £200 funding application from The Scouts.

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

None

16. Public Participation Session

The Chairman opened the floor to members of the public to raise any items they may have:

- A resident from Harrup close mentioned that they don't get a copy of the SH News delivered. Cllr Noble said he would look into this. **Action Cllr Noble**
- A parishioner asked whether any traffic calming measures were being planned to tackle the speeding issues throughout the village. Cllr Gomm had said some months back that he was setting up a Speeding Taskforce across the Ward which would be good as the problem is not going away. Councillors fully accepted Parishioners concerns and promised this would be an item that would be given attention in the future.
- As Cllr Gomm was not present this evening, two parishioners asked if the Clerk could email him regarding the new Great Brickhill bus company and how sadly they are very unreliable and it's just not working as it should with children regularly turning up at school late. **Action Clerk**
- A resident of The Green said that in order to get his Gigaclear installation, access to the Dolphin carpark was required, and asked if there was anything the PC could do. The Clerk said she would get this actioned. **Action Clerk**

17. To agree the date of the next Parish Council meeting - Tuesday 11th January 2021 at 7.30pm

18. To agree the dates for the 2022 PC meetings

Agreed

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution and declared the meeting closed at 21:28

Chair: Date:

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