

**Minutes of the Stoke Hammond Parish Council Meeting held on  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Newing (Chair), Cllr Champion, Cllr Noble, Cllr Venn, Cllr Sharkey, Kelly Harris, Clerk & RFO  
& 9 members of the public (MoP)

**1. To elect a Vice-Chair**

Cllr Noble was elected Vice-Chair of the Parish Council.

Proposed: Cllr Venn / Seconded: Cllr Sharkey / Agreed unanimously

**2. To receive apologies for absence**

None received.

**3. To receive declarations of interest**

Cllr Champion declared an interest in the Firstport Management discussions, agenda item 8.

**4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022**

The draft minutes were agreed unanimously and approved and signed as a true record by the Chair.

Proposed: Cllr Noble / Seconded: Cllr Champion / Agreed unanimously

**5. Finance**

a) To agree the January payment run as circulated

Payee	Detail	Amount
Mrs K Harris	Clerk salary for December and any related expenses	£846.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£846.00</b>

Proposed: Cllr Venn / Seconded: Cllr Sharkey / Agreed unanimously

b) To re-approve the December payment run as circulated

Payee	Detail	Amount
Mrs K Harris	Clerk salary for November and any related expenses	£846.00
BMKALC	Planning Framework online course -Cllr Champion & Cllr Venn	£90.00
BMKALC	S106 & CIL Monies training - Cllr Champion	£45.00
Oneil Homer	Neighbourhood plan	£2,640.00
Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council	NLP Community Hall Hire (November PC meeting)	£33.75
Lamps & Tubes Illuminations Ltd	Christmas Lighting Display 2022 - Stoke Hammond	£822.00
Greg Noble	Expenses for November	£35.40
BCQ	Printing costs - SH & NLS News	£805.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£5,317.15</b>

Proposed: Cllr Champion / Seconded: Cllr Noble / Agreed unanimously

- c) To agree the accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> November as circulated  
Proposed: Cllr Noble / Seconded: Cllr Champion / Agreed unanimously
- d) To approve the draft budget for 2023/24  
Proposed: Cllr Venn / Seconded: Cllr Champion / Agreed unanimously
- e) To approve the 2023/24 precept figure  
Proposed: Cllr Venn / Seconded: Cllr Champion / Agreed unanimously

## 6. Update from Unitary Cllr, Phil Gomm

Cllr Gomm was unable to make the meeting. He sent the following update to be read out to parishioners:

- 1) *Potholes due to weather are at their highest as always please report on FIX MY STREET but also if bad report to me direct to so I can influence a speeder repair. Cllr Venn picked up on FB recently about one pothole and directed them to FmS but didn't include me, in future can we make sure my details are given to please.*
- 2) *The Lay-by project is progressing, although slowly due to legal implications and homeless people but will give update when better news.*
- 3) *Cllr Noble will give update on Community Center funding.*
- 4) *The S106 meeting was interesting, and it will be good for the whole community to see how the money will be divided up.*
- 5) *and lastly I'm very sad to report that one of our Speed team parishioners passed Geoff Culverhouse, I sent a message to his wife expressing our caring thoughts at this sad time and that we are there, if required.*

Councillors discussed their frustration that Cllr Gomm had missed another meeting and that a lack of updates from him were hindering progress being made in certain areas. Councillors agreed that a communication would be sent to the three Unitary Ward Councillors expressing their disappointment in the support the Parish Council receives and requesting a change to our Unitary Councillor. **Action: Cllrs**

- 7. **Planning:** To discuss planning applications and make recommendations on any planning applications received after this agenda is published, if urgent.

### 22/04214/APP – STOKE HAMMOND Dolphin Inn Ph, Leighton Road

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTIONS to this application; however, it was felt that the timber storage out building should have been included in this application. There were also concerns regarding the space between the timber storage building and the stairs, and Cllrs felt this might need to be checked for safety.

Proposed: Cllr Champion / Seconded: Cllr Sharkey / Unanimously agreed

### 22/04138/APP – STOKE HAMMOND 38 Willis Street, MK3 5RE

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

Proposed: Cllr Champion / Seconded: Cllr Venn / Unanimously agreed

## 8. To discuss Firstport Management of Newton Leys South (Bovis side)

- Cllr Champion has been looking into the possibility of residents on the Bovis side of Newton Leys South taking over the current management company, Firstport.
- Either the Parish Council would take over the running of the company or the PC adopt the land and the management company ceases.
- Cllr Champion is to put together a full business case to the PC on how this would work.
- To do this, Cllr Champion will set up a small working group with the aim to report back to the PC at the March 2023 meeting. He hopes to be able to hold an extraordinary general meeting with Firstport in May/June 2023. **Action: Cllr Champion**

- Cllrs were supportive of Cllr Champion's approach but require a full business case and with everything to be conducted out in the open and by the book.

#### **9. To report on any Highways, Footpaths & Footways and Lighting matters**

- The Clerk confirmed a streetlight on Tyrells Gardens is not working and has been reported to the engineers. The Clerk will chase this up to be fixed as soon as possible. **Action: Clerk**
- The tree outside 18 & 20 Phoebes Orchard was mentioned. Cllrs have been unable to confirm ownership of the tree, despite speaking to the residents of both properties. The Clerk will now write to both to advise the PC will be instructing their contractor to either cut back the tree or to remove it completely at the expense of the PC. **Action: Clerk**

#### **10. To provide any updates on the Neighbourhood Plan**

- Cllr Newing confirmed the end date for the Parish Council submission to Bucks Council will be September 2023.
- In March 2023, a presentation is to be made to the community with the possibility of displays being made and parishioners being invited to view them over the course of a weekend.
- PC sign off of the draft plan pre consultation in May 2023.
- Formal consultation will take place throughout June/July/August 2023.
- If the PC land adjoining the Stoke Hammond school is to be included in the plan, the PC will need to include a draft proposal, as per the letter received by the Clerk on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022. The advantage of this will be that the PC have ownership and can choose the type of housing to be included on this site. **Action: Cllrs**

#### **11. To provide any updates on S106**

- Cllr Champion advised that the first working group meeting is to take place in January/early February 2023.
- He is currently looking into outside funding/grants to supplement S106 money.
- Cllr Champion confirmed he is currently speaking with landowners about the possibility of purchasing land.

#### **12. To report on any Parish Improvements and Enhancements**

- The Clerk advised the broken post on Newton Road/bottom of Church Road is due to be fixed on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January.
- A Christmas tree and lights for Newton Leys South have been budgeted for in 2023.

#### **13. Community Centre: to report on any matters for the Council's attention**

- Cllr Noble confirmed the Stoke Hammond Community Association has been successful in obtaining a £10,000 grant from the Winslow & Villages Community Board for improvement works to the Community Centre.

#### **14. Sports Club: to provide any updates/report on any matters for the Council's attention**

- No update from the Sports Club was provided.

#### **15. To discuss grit bins within the Parish**

- Cllr Champion proposed that once Newton Leys South residents gain control of Firstport Management company, the PC provides a grit bin. Location to be confirmed, but possibly located at the bottom of Dickens Lane.

Proposed: Cllr Champion / Unanimously agreed.

#### **16. To discuss preferences/requirements for the replacement bus shelter on Fenny Road**

- Cllrs believe residents living close to this bus stop are unaware that the layby is being removed and a new bus shelter is being installed.
- Before a decision is made, Cllrs want to send a letter to these residents to inform them of the changes and to have them vote on their preferred style of bus shelter. **Action: Clerk**
- Cllr Newing and Cllr Venn will raise this at their meeting with Hills on 10<sup>th</sup> January.

**17. To provide an update on the Fenny Road development**

- Cllr Venn confirmed regular meetings between the PC and Hills has been established and Hills are keen to work with the community. Hills' welfare officer is attending the next coffee morning to offer help with grants to assist with electricity payments, for example.
- Hills are keen on working with local schools to offer work experience and apprenticeships.

**18. To report on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council**

No meetings attended.

**19. Public Participation Session**

- An MoP expressed his frustration that the speeding group is no further forward and he feels eventually, someone will be seriously injured or killed due to the speeding issues in the village. He questioned whether the PC is able to approach highways direct to deal with the issue.
- An MoP raised his concerns regarding litter around the village, specifically by the village shop, around benches and on Newton Road. The PC confirmed bin collections have been increased for bins by the shop and on Newton Road.
- An MoP raised concerns regarding a dead tree being held up by a power cable outside of the village by Willows Lodge. The PC confirmed this is the responsibility of Soulbury Parish Council and the Clerk will contact their Clerk to advise. **Action: Clerk**
- An MoP raised concerns around the graffiti by the railway bridge and through the railway tunnel.
- An MoP expressed their disappointment that trees and bushes have been "hacked down" on Dorcus Lane and wanted to know who had agreed to this. The PC was unaware this had happened and has not been involved.
- An MoP wanted to know if planning permission had been granted for a white barn on Common Farm. Cllrs believe planning permission has been granted but Cllr Newing will check what was agreed. **Action: Cllr Newing**
- An MoP wanted to know if the speeding group will look into the issues on the bypass. Cllrs believe this could be a policing issue. Cllr Champion will revisit his notes from a community speed watch meeting he has attended to find contact details and to see if they can do anything. **Action: Cllr Champion**
- An MoP asked whether there is any budget available to look into installing solar panels to reduce the PC energy costs.
- An Mop mentioned the streetlight on the edge of her property in Newton Leys South has not worked for 6 ½ years (Hall Road/Coleman Road). Cllr Champion suggested she contact Bovis Homes as the streetlights are yet to be adopted.

**20. To agree the date of the next Parish Council meeting - Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023, to be held at the Community Centre on Bragenham Side**

Cllrs agreed unanimously to this date and venue.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution, and declared the meeting closed at 21.35.

Chair: .....

Date: .....