

**Minutes of the Stoke Hammond Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 4th October 2022 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr McNally (Chair), Cllr Champion, Cllr Noble, Cllr Venn, Cllr Sharkey, Cllr McCann, Kelly Harris, Clerk & RFO, Unitary Cllr, Phil Gomm & 13 members of the public (MoP)

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr Newing.

2. To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Venn declared an interest in the sports club discussions.

Cllr Sharkey declared an interest in the Tyrells Road planning application.

Cllr Gomm declared an interest in the Brook Farm planning application.

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th September 2022

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

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

4. Finance

a) To agree the October payment run as circulated

STOKE HAMMOND PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN October 2022

Payee	Detail	Amount
Mrs K Harris	Clerk salary for September and any related expenses	£846.00
SLCC	Membership fee for Clerk	£183.00
DD Lighting and Signs	Replace broken streetlight in Olde Bell Close	£1,310.00
RTM Landscapes	Flail over hanging vegetation on Newton Road	£180.00
O'Neill Homer	Costs associated to the Neighbourhood plan	£2,118.25
RTM Landscapes	September grass cutting	£1,200.00
Mrs K Miles	Expenses for planters at entrance to Stoke Hammond	£82.00
Mr C Champion	Expenses relating to neighbourhood plan, postage, and resources	£132.00
	Total	£6,051.25

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

b) To agree the accounts to 31st August 2022

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

5. Update from Unitary Cllr, Phil Gomm

- Cllr Gomm confirmed that due to Her Majesty the Queen's death, at County level it had been fairly quiet.
- In March the highway contracts change, and it is hoped this will improve works. Cllr Gomm will be able to provide an update on this nearer the time.
- Cllr Champion has contacted County regarding S106 and Cllr Gomm would like to be included. He has asked to see a copy of our S106 questionnaire. **Action: Cllr Champion**
- The Clerk contacted Cllr Gomm regarding ownership of the drains on The Green and he confirmed this is under investigation and an inspector will be coming out to look at them.
- The hedging by the pedestrian crossing has been cut back and it is hoped we will have LED lighting sometime during the winter.
- A questionnaire has been sent out to the parishioners who expressed an interest in joining the speeding team.

- We need to wait on the next council budget before a decision can be made on where to place the EV charging units.
- Cllr Gomm once again requested contact details for Taylor Wimpey Newton Leys South regarding the grass cutting. **Action: Clerk**

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

22/01767/APP - STOKE HAMMOND

30 The Green

It was noted that no objections were raised to the previous application. Highways had requested clarification for the entrance to the parking area and it has made no difference to the application.

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

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

22/00613/APP – STOKE HAMMOND

Brook Farm, Leighton Road

Cllrs resolved to OPPOSE this application on the following grounds:

- All previous grounds for opposing this application, submitted by Stoke Hammond Parish Council, remain.
- No green space shown on the site plan and the distance to closest space being 800m away with the need to cross a main road to access it. Concerns raised that children will be tempted to play near the railway line.
- Concerns remain with the proximity to the railway and it was noted that Network Rail have also raised a number of concerns about this.
- Site traffic for residents is a major concern with the increased construction traffic through the village and along Brook Farm Close. Brook Farm Close is a narrow road and with cars parked out on the road, often on both sides, it makes access incredibly difficult.
- Only 15 visitor spots allocated for 42 houses. Parking is already an issue on Brook Farm Close with residents and visitors from Brookfields using Brook Farm Close for additional parking. Concerns were raised that parking from this new development will also spill out onto Brook Farm Close.
- It was noted that there are already over 30 objections in place for this proposed development.

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

22/02564/APP – STOKE HAMMOND

7 Tyrells Road

Cllr Noble confirmed we supported the previous application. Amended plans have been submitted but the originals have been removed and cannot be compared against.

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

Proposed: Cllr Champion / Seconded: Cllr McCann / Unanimously agreed – Cllr Sharkey abstained from voting.

22/02996/APP – STOKE HAMMOND
Orchard End, Hillersdon Chase

Cllrs resolved to OPPOSE this application on the following grounds:

- Hillersdon Chase is a narrow, single-track road and there are concerns regarding construction traffic getting to the site. It is a private road, which is already in bad condition.
- The houses are out of keeping with the area.
- Too much is being added to a small space and there is no provision for visitor parking.
- The area is prone to flooding and should be investigated for species such as the Great Crested Newt.

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

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

- Cllr Gomm confirmed he will keep pushing for the LED lights for the pedestrian crossing.
- Regarding the 3 x VAS, the information from these has been submitted but it is taking longer as we are trying to avoid paying £1500. One has been authorised and we are awaiting authorisation for the other two.
- Cllr McNally asked about an enforcement van and Cllr Gomm confirmed it is currently out and about and will be in Stoke Hammond soon. He was unhappy with notices being posted on Facebook warning people of its presence.
- A lamppost on Phoebes Orchard is currently engulfed by a large tree and the PC are trying to establish ownership of the tree. The resident at number 20 has been spoken to and does not believe the tree belongs to him and there is currently no answer from number 18. Cllr Gomm confirmed he can investigate the ownership on our behalf. **Action: Clerk to contact Cllr Gomm**
- Cllr McNally mentioned that the Arc (Oxford – Cambridge expressway) has reared its head again. Cllr Gomm confirmed County are completely opposed to it and there are better things to be spending money on.

8. To provide any updates on the Neighbourhood Plan

- Cllr Champion confirmed the call for sites has taken place and responses are starting to be received. 30 letters have been issued and the project team will start looking into the responses.
- There was no update from the heritage team.

9. To provide any updates on S106

- Cllr Champion confirmed there will be two projects, one for Stoke Hammond and one for Newton Leys South.
- He has provided community groups with a questionnaire and has had meetings with several of them. It is hoped that responses to the questionnaire will start arriving this month so that a working group can be formed in November.
- Discussions have been held with a Councillor from Fenny Stratford for advice.
- MoP asked whether groups who use the Sports Club have also been contacted. Cllr Champion confirmed this has not happened and asked Julia (Sports Club Treasurer) to provide him with details of these groups.
- Cllr Gomm again requested the minutes from the Sports Club S106 meeting. **Action: Councillors**
- Cllr Gomm requested he be included in S106 discussions. He confirmed Newton Leys have £1.1 million and Stoke Hammond currently have £150,000, although this should increase with the planned new developments. The Newton Leys S106 money could have gone to the north or the south but was given to the south, however, Cllr Gomm advised the north wants to be involved and careful discussions are needed, and we need to be working as a tight team.

10. To report on any Parish Improvements and Enhancements

- Cllr McNally confirmed the Dolphin pub is due to open in November.
- The Clerk confirmed that permission has been granted by the council to crown lift 3 trees on The Green which are starting to block the main pathway and the work is scheduled to take place later this month.
- The bin by the shop is now being emptied twice weekly and seems to have improved the issue with it overflowing with rubbish.
- The broken lamppost on Olde Bell Close has now been replaced.
- Overhanging branches and vegetation on Newton Road has been cleared.

- Clearing of the brook on Bragenham Side was started, but the contractors have left and not returned. **Action: Clerk to find out when they are due to return to complete the work.**

11. To consider planting a Christmas tree, installing electricity and the purchase of lights at Newton Leys South

The Clerk advised she had been in contact with Taylor Wimpey to find out which sites they could recommend for planting a tree and where access to power would be available. Taylor Wimpey have replied asking where we want it to go. They do not recommend the park as this falls under the care of a separate management company. **Action: Cllr Champion to send the Clerk a map of the area highlighting suitable sites.**

12. Community Centre: to report on any matters for the Council's attention

- Cllr Noble confirmed the senior citizen Christmas lunch will be held on 10th December and he will need to know numbers soon.
- Regarding the resurfacing of the children's play area, Cllr Noble has been advised that they should receive approval from Winslow Community Funding for their grant application. Cllr Gomm will help to push this through.

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

- Julia provided a social update. The 6 aside fundraiser went well, and they have a bingo evening with fish and chips coming up and will be holding a sweepstake for the World Cup.
- Cllr Champion asked when he could expect to receive the Sports Club's S106 questionnaire. Brij is currently away, and he will return it to the PC when he is back.
- Julia wanted to know if they could advertise the 'overflow car park' on the field (currently used when cricket is on). It was advised that the PC would need to approve this. Cllr Noble confirmed he would consult with the Sports Club if the resurfacing work at the community centre goes through as they could use this for extra parking if it is available when needed.
- Julia and Mel confirmed that Cllr Gomm could speak on their behalf with regards to the new mower. Cllr Gomm had asked for an agenda point to be added to this meeting to discuss paying for the mower, but the Clerk advised that as documentation that had been requested from the Sports Club had not been received, it would be moved to the November meeting. Cllr Gomm confirmed he had been able to supply these documents.
- The Sports Club are asking the PC to pay for the mower under the PC obligations. In the 2015 agreement it states it is PC mowing equipment, hence the reason they are asking for it to be replaced. Cllr Gomm advised he did not therefore understand why it needed to be ratified or what the issue is. Cllr Gomm also confirmed he had asked the Clerk to add to the agenda reviewing the £500 maintenance agreement as this needs increasing to £1000 per year.
- Cllr McNally confirmed at the September meeting the PC had requested prices from the Sports Club and he felt the current agreement "was not worth the paper it is written on". The PC now need to review the information we have and thrash out a new agreement. The PC still needs a full breakdown of the mower costs.
- Cllr Champion highlighted there are several issues that need to be addressed; what equipment the Sports Club have, who owns what and the prices involved to replace equipment. He also advised that the documents we have seen are draft documents, they are not signed documents. He believes this is more complicated than just looking at the issue with the mower and that obligations from both parties needs looking at.
- It was agreed that a meeting should be set up week commencing 17th October between the Sports Club and the PC to get to a position everyone agrees with which can then be brought back to a PC meeting to be ratified.
- Cllr Noble highlighted that any new agreement would need approval from the National Playing Fields Association.
- Julia confirmed she will speak with Cllr Gomm, and he will come back to the PC on their behalf.

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

- Cllr Champion has attended various S106 meetings (see point 9. S106 updates for details).

15. Public Participation Session

- MoP requested the new bin on Newton Road be emptied twice weekly. **Action: Clerk**
- MoP requested the hedging/vegetation on the bridleway on Newton Road be cleared. **Action: Clerk**
- MoP mentioned a stopcock had burst on The Green. It has been repaired but is now buried under soil.

- MoP highlighted he feels frustrated by how the stream in the village looks due to the railing and because the banks need strimming, and he feels the village has so much potential to look a lot better. Cllr Noble confirmed this is owned by the Rivers Trust. It was agreed that the Clerk will write to Rivers Trust about the concerns, and to open dialogue with them about the tree next to the Dolphin pub with the aim of getting it cut back or removed completely and to tidy up the area around it.
Action: Clerk
- The village pond was mentioned, and Cllr McNally confirmed it is currently with the environmental team. He has received no response to the various emails and calls he has made. Cllr McNally advised that until we hear back from them, there is no point in carrying out a risk assessment.
- Concerns were again raised with the Fenny Road development in terms of the CDM regulations being contravened due to parking on footpaths and queuing cement mixers on the road. Cllr Venn confirmed he has been liaising with the site manager and issues are brought to his attention to be rectified.

15. To agree the date of the next Parish Council meeting - Tuesday 1st November 2022, to be held at the Community Centre on Newton Leys.

Cllrs agreed unanimously to this date and venue.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution, and declared the meeting closed at 20.50.

Chair:Date:

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