

**Minutes of the Stoke Hammond Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 5th November 2024 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Ajaz (Chair), Cllr Noble, Cllr Champion, Cllr Newing, Cllr Sharkey, Cllr Venn, Kelly Harris, Clerk & RFO & 4 members of the public (MoP)

1. To receive apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

2. To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Noble declared an interest in agenda item 6.

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1st October 2024

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

1. To agree the November payment run as circulated

STOKE HAMMOND PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN November 2024

Payee	Detail	Amount
Cloudy IT	Migration to gov.uk email addresses	£1,170.00
Aubergine	New website set up, transfer of existing domain and new domain set up	£634.80
Staff costs	October salary and any related expenses	£1,341.84
BMKALC	Biodiversity training - Cllr Noble	£10.00
Cloudy IT	Windows Pro upgrade	£144.00
Cllr Venn	Hunters farm shop - plants for pump at bottom of Church Road	£23.95
RTM Landscapes	Grass cutting	£2,322.00
	Total	£5,646.59

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

2. To agree the accounts to 30th September as circulated

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

5. Update from Unitary Councillor

Cllr Jilly Jordan was in attendance. She had provided Cllrs with a report earlier in the day (see attached) and read out a prepared statement advising that she had been put forward as a candidate for the new Newton Longville Ward, which Stoke Hammond Parish falls into, at the upcoming election in May 2025. She now intends to attend every other meeting moving forward.

6. Planning: To discuss the following planning applications

24/02734/APP - Pennhurst Church Road

Householder application for front porch and single storey rear extension

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

Proposed: Cllr Champion / Seconded: Cllr Newing / Agreed unanimously
Cllr Noble did not take part in the discussion or voting on this application.

23/02652/FUL - Employment Land 2 & 3, Newton Leys, Milton Keynes , MK3 5SD

The erection of 81 residential dwellings with access, parking, landscaping and associated works along with provision for 8 traveller pitches and the construction of a store ancillary to Taylor Wimpey offices - Cllrs to discuss whether to submit a response to this application and agree next steps

Cllr Ajaz had attended Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council's meeting, where Cllrs there had requested Stoke Hammond Parish Council raise an objection to this application, even though it falls outside of our Parish. The land in question is next to the landfill site. Cllr Champion had circulated a draft response to all Cllrs and it was agreed that this response would be used which the Clerk will send. **Action: Clerk**

Cllr Champion is to provide the Clerk with contact details for Milton Keynes Council's planning department. **Action: Cllr Champion**

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

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

- The Clerk advised that the damaged streetlight on Olde Bell Close is still awaiting repair as our contractor has been poorly.
- The dog waste bin in Newton Leys South will be moved shortly as no objections to the new location have been received.
- Cllr Noble confirmed a speedwatch took place a few weeks ago. 200 vehicles passed through and 4 were logged as travelling faster than 35mph.

8. To report on any Parish Improvements and Enhancements

- The Clerk confirmed we are waiting for our contractor to clear the fallen tree in the playpark and the broken tree limb by the garages on Bragenham Side.
- The Clerk is still awaiting an installation date for the new village entrance signs from Bucks Council and will chase this up again.
- Cllr Ajaz will circulate the survey he plans on sending to residents regarding the outdoor gym in Newton Leys South to Cllrs for feedback. Cllr Jordan advised that it would be worth applying for funding from the Community Board as it is exactly the type of project they like to support.
- Once Cllr Ajaz knows how many gym items are required, he will inform the Clerk who will liaise with Taylor Wimpey for permission to install them prior to us adopting the area. **Action: Cllr Ajaz/Clerk**

9. To provide updates on the S106 project

- Cllr Champion advised that 4 working groups are to be set up to investigate demand and what is wanted on the land. He is hoping to start the groups this week with output by January 2025.

10. To provide updates on the Neighbourhood Plan

- Cllr Newing confirmed the 6-week Bucks Council regulation 16 consultation began on 24th October. Any feedback received by Bucks Council is passed onto an examiner who will determine whether the plan meets the basic conditions.
- The Parish Council can choose which examiner is used and O'Neill Homer will advise us on this.
- There are 3 possible outcomes – recommended the plan proceeds to referendum, make changes to the plan prior to referendum or decide the plan is not suitable.
- Any changes made will be publicised under Regulation 18 and at this stage, we can no longer withdraw the Neighbourhood Plan.
- Bucks Council pay for the consultations and cost of an examiner.

11. To consider the Community Funding Application received from High Ash Scout Group for funding towards their 2024 group camp

Cllrs were in full support of this application and agreed to provide the £200 requested.

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

12. To consider the Community Funding Application received from the Sports Club for funding towards fireworks

Cllrs were in support of this request and agreed to provide the £350 requested.

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

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

- Cllr Newing attended a meeting with Bucks Council regarding planning across the county. A consultation was held on changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and a new document will be available by the end of the year. There are to be no specific changes to the Neighbourhood Plan element. Housing needs methodology has changed, and 65,000 additional houses are needed. The Government will be issuing house building targets. There will be a task force created for new towns (10,000+ houses) and the government is supportive of wind and solar farms. There is no strategy for infrastructure to support these new houses.
- Cllr Newing also attended a meeting regarding the Local Nature Recovery strategy. His last meeting with them was 9 months ago where ideas were shared. They are now at the stage of producing a statement of priorities and Cllr Newing will attend the next workshop on 18th November. This group may have experts we could consult with regarding our fields purchase.

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

- Cllr Noble stated that the gin tasting night had been a successful event with 40 people in attendance.
- 60 people are now booked for the Senior Citizens Christmas lunch.
- Hire rates are to be increased in line with inflation for 2025.

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

- Julia Walker was in attendance and provided the following update:
 - The firework event was a success, but it highlighted the club's lack of toilet facilities.
 - Youth pool restarted this week.
 - There will be a Christmas prize draw on 14th December.
 - There will be live music and a pizza van on 20th December.

16. Public Participation Session

- A MoP asked if the PC knew anything about the expired planning applications near to where he lives on Harrup Close. It was recommended that he contact the Planning department at Bucks Council for an update.
- A MoP advised that the unadopted road on Harrup Close is to be handed back to the seller of the land and this will happen within 10 years of the purchase date. The MoP wanted to find out if the PC knew anything or could offer any assistance. It was recommended that he speak to a solicitor for advice.
- A MoP mentioned antisocial behaviour on Bragenham Side, with electric bikes and scooters being used. Cllr Noble will contact our PCSO to report this. **Action: Cllr Noble**
- A MoP mentioned there is a smell of sewage by the brook on Bragenham Side. It was questioned whether the smell could be coming from the drains, but the Clerk will report the smell to the Bedford Drainage Board. **Action: Clerk**

17. To agree the date of the next Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 3rd December or Tuesday 7th January 2025

Cllrs agreed unanimously to hold the meeting on Tuesday 7th January 2025 at the Community Centre on Bragenham Side.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution, and declared the meeting closed at 20.54.

Chair:

Date: