

Minutes of the Stoke Hammond Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 7th June 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Stephen McNally (Chair), Cllr Craig Champion, Cllr Greg Noble, Cllr Fran Sharkey, Cllr David Venn, Joanna Simonds, Clerk & RFO, Unitary Cllr, Phil Gomm & 13 members of the public (MoP).

Before commencing the main meeting, the Chairman said he had two announcements to make: Firstly, he confirmed that the Clerk & RFO tendered her resignation last week and that earlier today, Cllr Alan Humphreys, stepped down as a Councillor.

The Chairman thanked both Alan and Jo for their time on the Parish Council and confirmed that the Clerk would be starting the process of advertising the Cllr vacancy with a view to filling the position by way of co-option, and that she was already in the process of seeking a replacement for her role.

The Chairman also asked that thanks be minuted to all those involved in the Jubilee Committee, who made our 4 days of celebrations the great success it was.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Malcolm Newing's apologies were noted and approved

2. To receive any declarations of interest

Cllr Noble declared an interest in items 6a and 11 on the agenda

3. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd May 2022

The draft minutes were agreed unanimously and approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman. Proposed: Cllr Noble / Seconded: Cllr Venn / Agreed unanimously

4. Finance

a) To agree the June payment run as circulated

STOKE HAMMOND PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN June 2022

| Payee | Detail | Amount | Notes |
|--------------------|---|------------------|-----------|
| Mrs J Simonds | Clerk salary for May and any related expenses | £846.00 | |
| Greg Noble | SH/NLS News expenses | £30.40 | |
| Playsafety Limited | RoSPA Annual Inspection | £237.60 | |
| R.P. Brightman | Roof repair of Garage 1 | £1,206.00 | Paid 24/5 |
| Brijesh Valambhia | Jubilee Fireworks | £399.36 | Paid 27/5 |
| RTM Landscapes | Removal of tree on green and grinding out of stumps on entrance to Bragenham Side field | £318.00 | |
| BMKALC | New Councillor training for Cllr Craig Champion | £40.00 | |
| BCQ Group Limited | SH & NLS News | £565.00 | |
| RTM Landscapes | Grass Cutting | £720.00 | |
| Vali Construction | Dig out entrance to BS field, lay membrane and top with 6 tons of MoT | £490.00 | Paid 30/5 |
| Neil Homer | Neighbourhood Plan professional fees | £1,410.00 | |
| PW Landscapes | Concrete base and installation of Jubilee bench | £384.00 | |
| Bouncy Macs Ltd | Games for Jubilee Event | £235.00 | Paid 2/6 |
| Sports Club | Annual donation towards grass cutting and maintenance of equipment | £500.00 | |
| St Luke's Church | Annual grant towards footpath repairs | £500.00 | |
| | Total | £7,881.36 | |

Proposed: Cllr Sharkey
Seconded: Cllr Venn
Agreed unanimously

b) To agree the accounts to 30th April 2022

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

5. Update from Unitary Councillor, Phil Gomm

- Whilst the issue of speeding Ariva busses has now been dealt with, if MoP do witness further incidents, could they record the time and date and report directly to Cllr Gomm.
- Covert cameras are planned for Dorcas Lane, but Cllr Gomm asked if the PC might put something on their website reminding residents to only use licenced contractors for domestic rubbish collection.
- Cllr Gomm asked whether the rotten bridge at the footway behind the church had been repair. Residents confirmed not, so Cllr Gomm said he would follow up on this. **Action Cllr Gomm.** He added that following previous requests for parishioners to help with some of the smaller Rights of Way jobs, nobody has come forward.

- Business cards handed out last month had the wrong phone number so are being re-issued
- Community Board funding starts in the next 2 – 3 weeks with a big focus on £1k microgrants. Other grants will be available up to £15k but will need to be partially subsidised and non-highways related.

Clerk's Update

- The new bin outside the shop was installed last week.
- The two new planters at the bottom of Old School Lane are scheduled for installation next week.
- Our three VAS applications are finally with the right team and being fast-tracked.
- The PC year-end bundle was submitted to the External Auditor on 20th May.
- The new Queens Jubilee bench on the Sports Ground received much use over the weekend and whilst not in time for the Jubilee celebrations, Taylor Wimpey have now laid a concrete base in NLS and the second bench will be installed in the coming days.
- New concrete posts were put in last week for the broken Church Road sign.
- One of the posts on the entrance way to the garages on Bragenham Side has broken. We have spares so PW Landscapes have been instructed to get this replaced asap.
- Following the resignation of Cllr Humphreys earlier today, a formal request has been submitted to Buckinghamshire Council to request permission to co-opt.

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

22/01433/APP – STOKE HAMMOND

Barn, Brageham Side, Stoke Hammond, MK17 0EB

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTIONS to this application **Action Clerk**

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

22/01463/APP – GREAT BRICKHILL

Paper Mill Farm, Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond MK17 9DB

The Clerk pointed out that whilst not consultees for this application, as it sits within the village, Cllrs may want to submit a comment. Cllrs expressed some concern about the increased use of the single-track road and suggested a condition that the applicants not be allowed to go for retrospective planning in that the remaining two barns should not be converted at a later date. **Action Clerk**

22/01512/APP – Fernbank, Lodge Lane, Stoke Hammond MK17 9BU

Cllrs resolved to SUPPORT this application **Action Clerk**

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

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

- Cllr Noble referenced the recent visit of the drain sucker machine, and whilst most were cleared, the one by the zebra crossing remains outstanding. Cllr Gomm will follow this up. **Action Cllr Gomm**
- Cllr Champion commented on how high the grass has grown as you come out of Newton Leys, by Lansbury Road. Cllr Gomm said although this is still the developers responsibility, having arranged for it to be cut last year, he would see if he could get another cut arranged. **Action Cllr Gomm**
- Cllr McNally asked whether there was any update on a resurface for Tyrells Gardens. Having checked the status of this road, Cllr Gomm confirmed Tyrells Gardens is on a future programme list, internally referred to as a "Members Wish List", but as with all jobs, it is subject to financial resources.
- Cllrs agreed it would be helpful to get the very overgrown mass of weeds and brambles at the top of the concrete path on Newton Road cleared before the new litter bin is installed. **Action Clerk**

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

The Chairman confirmed a draft letter has been produced to send to all local landowners, and Cllr Champion confirmed he was able to determine who the landowners are at a minimal cost.

9. To report on any Parish Improvements and Enhancements

An Anglian Water technician has visited the old Church Road duck pond suggesting we contact the environment agency and reach back out to the Newt Trust to see if they can guide the PC any further.

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

- The Community Centre AGM will be held tomorrow evening, Wednesday 8th June
- Pilates are due to return to the Centre next week
- The Senior Citizens Afternoon Tea event is confirmed for Saturday 23rd July

11. Community Funding

A £100 funding application was received from the Village Show to be put towards cleaning the Centre after the Village Show, and before it is re-let. The application was approved with a score of 28.

12. Insurance Renewal

The Clerk having earlier in the month negotiated a reduction in premium, Cllrs resolved to approve the insurance renewal with Hiscox on a 3 year long-term agreement at £1,862.22 per year.

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

13. Speeding

Cllr Venn proposed forming a speeding working party, the aim being to come up with recommendations for presentation to parishioners by the end of the year. Cllr Newing will investigate average speed cameras and Cllr Noble was asked to dig out some of the historical data. Cllr Champion commented that in his experience, average speed cameras were one of the most effective measures.

Cllr Gomm strongly suggested chicanes were the way to properly slow traffic and suggested installing some temporary chicanes that could be moved around to determine the overall best location. Parishioners liked this idea and asked for possible timelines. Cllr Gomm said he could not pinpoint when this might be possible but he would aim to get them in place before the Winter.

A few suggestions from MoP were to follow in Stewkley's footsteps with a "20 is plenty" scheme and to issue 20mph bin stickers to all residents. Speed humps and rumble strips were also discussed, along with a suggestion of putting a note into nursery children's school bags, asking parents to lower their speed on Bragenham Side, one resident confident that parents dropping their children at the nursery were major contributors. He quickly added that he didn't think there were many people exceeding the speed limit on Bragenham Side, simply that 30mph is too fast for that road. Others agreed.

After lengthy discussion, the Chairman asked that the discussion be brought back to whether Cllrs would like to form a working group, as per Cllr Venn's agenda item. Cllr Gomm suggested that working alongside Cllr Noble, he should Chair the group and that anyone wanting to put themselves forward to join the group should email the Clerk, who would then pass this information to Cllr Gomm.

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

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

None

15. Public Participation Session

- A MoP expressed thanks to everyone that made the 4-day Jubilee celebrations such a success.
- A MoP mentioned sewer issues at the bottom of Tyrells Road where it can block anything from one to four times a year. A couple of residents go out with their 24m of pipe rod but have had to call Anglian Water out several times when they've been unsuccessful. With the sewer unable to cope at the moment, residents are concerned what the proposals are for the upcoming 64 new homes and where they will be connected. The resident was expecting a call from Anglian Water in the next few days and said he would follow up with the Clerk after that to discuss how the PC might be able to assist.
- A MoP asked whether there was anything new to report on the pub; Cllrs had no new information.
- A MoP asked if the overhanging tree on the Green which is encroaching on the footpath going up towards the shop could be cut back. **Action Clerk**
- A MoP suggested the speed camera could do with a clean up to make it look a bit more professional. He and Cllr Venn kindly agreed to action this together.

16. To agree the date of the next Parish Council meeting - Tuesday 5th July 2022

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution, and declared the meeting closed at 20:54

Chair: Date: