

**Minutes of the Annual Stoke Hammond Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 7th May 2024 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Ajaz (Chair), Cllr Noble, Cllr Venn, Cllr Champion, Cllr Newing, Cllr Sharkey, Cllr Julier, Kelly Harris, Clerk & RFO & 12 members of the public (MoP)

1. To elect the Chairman

Cllr Venn proposed Cllr Ajaz; this was seconded by Cllr Champion. There being no further nominations, Cllrs voted unanimously to elect Cllr Ajaz as Chair.

2. To elect Vice-Chair

Cllr Noble proposed Cllr Champion; this was seconded by Cllr Venn. There being no further nominations, Cllrs voted unanimously to elect Cllr Champion as Vice-Chair.

3. To receive apologies for absence

None received, all Cllrs were present.

4. To receive declarations of interest

Cllr Champion declared an interest in agenda item 8, planning application 24/01200/APP.

Cllr Venn declared an interest in agenda item 8, planning application 24/00919/APP.

5. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd April 2024

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

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

6. Finance

a) To agree the May payment run as circulated

STOKE HAMMOND PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN May 2024

Payee	Detail	Amount
BMKALC	BMKALC & NALC annual membership fees	£312.27
Bletchley & Fenny Town Council	Room hire for April PC meeting	£41.26
RTM Landscapes	Remove broken tree limb - Bragenham Side	£180.00
RTM Landscapes	Grass cutting	£1,548.00
B Fludgate	Internal audit for 2023/24 financial year	£55.00
Clerk	Clerk salary for April and any related expenses	£993.60
Marcus Young Environmental Services Ltd	Supply & install dog waste bins in Newton Leys South	£957.60
	Total	£4,087.73

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

b) To agree the year end accounts to 31st March 2024 as circulated

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

c) To agree and sign the Annual Governance and Accounting Statement for the year ended 31st March 2024

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

- d) To agree the dates *Monday 3rd June 2024 – Friday 12th July 2024* for Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance and Accountability Return

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

7. Update from Unitary Councillor

There were no Unitary Councillors in attendance and no update was provided.

8. Planning: To discuss planning applications

24/00919/APP – The Warren Grove Farm, Church Road

Demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of workshop and stable block

Cllrs resolved to OBJECT to this application for the following reasons:

- More detail is required regarding the safeguarding of the Church wall.
- There does not appear to be a party wall agreement in place.
- The distance between the wall and the new building remains the same as it was in a previous application that the Parish Council objected to.

Proposed: Cllr Newing / Seconded: Cllr Julier / Unanimously agreed. Cllr Venn did not take part in the vote.

24/01200/APP – 12 Larner Close, Newton Leys

Householder application for part conversion of existing garage and erection of rear orangery extension

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTION to this application.

Proposed: Cllr Sharkey / Seconded: Cllr Julier / Unanimously agreed. Cllr Champion did not take part in the vote.

24/01131/APP – 9 Harris Close, Newton Leys

Householder application for single storey rear extension

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTION to this application.

Proposed: Cllr Noble / Seconded: Cllr Newing / Unanimously agreed.

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

- Cllr Venn confirmed the bridge behind the church has been repaired and the pathway by Tyrells Manor has been widened and the brambles cleared.
- Highways have promised to repair the pathway along Fenny Road near Scotts Close and Cllr Sharkey said it has already been marked up. Highways will be resurfacing part of Fenny Road but we have yet to receive dates for when this will take place.
- The PC has been advised that Bragenham Side is next on the list to have the potholes repaired.
- Vistry Homes have repaired two broken streetlights in Newton Leys South. These lampposts will be adopted by MK Council so the PC has been told we cannot fit a defibrillator as planned.
- A kerb on Dickens Lane in Newton Leys South has also been repaired.
- There has been a complaint received about a broken streetlight on Willis Street. Cllr Ajaz will confirm the location and the Clerk will report it to Taylor Wimpey who are responsible for the repair. **Action: Cllr Ajaz/Clerk**
- A complaint has been received regarding a pile of woodchips near to Fairview Farm and a drainage ditch has been filled with stones. Cllr Venn will take photos and send to the Clerk for her to report this via Fix my Street. **Action: Cllr Venn/Clerk**
- The new sign along Stoke Road advertising Southlands Auto Centre has been reported via Fix my Street to establish whether the owners have permission for it to be on display.

- A proposal was made by Cllr Champion to contact Bucks Council to find out if they would be willing to sell the land on the right as you enter the village from the Bletchley end (Old School Lane). The PC would like to change this into a parking area and install EV chargers for residents of the village to use. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Newing and unanimously agreed. The Clerk will contact the Highways team at Bucks Council about this. **Action: Clerk**
- Unfortunately, the area the PC had hoped to install EV chargers on Dickens Lane in Newton Leys South is not possible as this area will be adopted by MK Council.
- The Newton Leys Management Company is working on having streetlight heads replaced prior to the PC adopting them and this should be completed in the next 2 weeks.

10. To provide any updates on the Neighbourhood Plan

- Cllr Newing confirmed the PC received 38 responses to the recent consultation from residents (30 in Stoke Hammond and 8 in Newton Leys South), 4 owners/contractors responded, and we had responses from 5 consultees.
- 81% of those who responded were supportive of the plan.
- 50% had comments to make regarding the plan.
- 7 did not support the plan – 6 due to the PC land next to the community centre being included and one due to a site in Newton Leys South being included in the plan.
- The Steering group has reviewed the comments received.
- The plan will come to the PC for sign off at the June 2024 meeting and if approved, it will then go to Bucks Council for review. They will issue the document and another 6-week consultation period will begin. Feedback from this consultation will go direct to Bucks Council and it will be for them to decide how to use the feedback.
- An inspector will then be appointed who will need to sign off on the plan.
- It will then go to a referendum and 50% need to agree to the plan for it to pass.

11. To report on any Parish Improvements and Enhancements

- The Clerk confirmed the 3 x dog waste bins have been installed in Newton Leys South and a large broken tree limb has been removed on Bragenham Side. Cllr Champion has been approached by 2 residents asking for one of the bins to be moved and he proposed that the PC agree to the costs for doing this. Cllr Venn seconded, but all other Cllrs were against, so the motion was denied.
- The Clerk was asked to chase Highways regarding the proposed locations of the grit bins in Newton Leys South. **Action: Clerk**
- Cllr Champion recently walked the village with a resident looking at the drains, with the view to the PC possibly paying to have them cleared due to the time it is taking Bucks Council to do anything about them. However, Bucks Council has advised that we are not allowed to touch the drains, and we will need to be patient and wait for them to clear them.

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

- Cllr Newing, Cllr Noble, Cllr Venn and the Clerk all attended a meeting at the layby on Stoke Road with representatives from Bucks Highways, Anglian Water, Canals and Rivers Trust, the Epic Boating Company and Old Dairy Farm. It was confirmed that responsibility of the layby falls to Bucks Council. The representative from Canals and Rivers Trust was very unhappy with the condition of the layby and he is checking licenses for the boats currently moored there and he will try and get these moved on.
- It was agreed that the only way to solve the issues at the layby is to close it, but the Bucks Highways representative believes it will be far too expensive to do this. However, he is escalating the issue internally to see what can be done. The PC will escalate to Bucks Council if we get no response.
- The PC has been advised that there are websites promoting the layby as a place to stay and the Clerk was asked to find these websites and write to them to have the listings removed. **Action: Clerk**
- In the meantime, Cllr Venn and Cllr Newing will work to gather evidence on a daily basis to show the constant poor condition of the layby.
- Cllr Champion met with Vistry Homes to discuss the two parcels of land that need to be transferred to the Management Company. They will put in the transfer and send to the solicitors the PC use. Some of this land still belongs to Taylor Wimpey.
- Cllr Champion has been speaking with Hightown who own 50 of the properties in Newton Leys South. Firstport say they have not paid any management fees for 2 years, but Hightown say they

do not owe any money, so Cllr Champion is trying to establish the facts to get it resolved. He has received 57 payments so far from residents in the area.

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

- Cllr Noble had nothing else to report. He had already presented his report at the Annual Parish Meeting held prior to the Annual PC meeting.

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

- There were no representatives from the Sports Club in attendance.

15. Public Participation Session

- A MOP mentioned the owner of the land where the sign has appeared on Stoke Road. Tyres have been dumped outside her gate and she does not know where to dispose of them. The MOP was advised to log this via Fix my Street.
- A MOP mentioned that there is confusion amongst residents regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and S106 money and that there is not enough transparency around how the money will be used and the benefit to the community. Cllr Newing explained the importance of the Neighbourhood Plan and the benefits it will bring to the community, and Cllr Champion advised that he will be working with local community groups to make sure the S106 money is spent wisely.
- A MOP said that the Neighbourhood Plan consultation form was difficult to use and with the low return, should the PC look at the way it communicates with the community.

16. To agree the date of the next Parish Council meeting - Tuesday 4th June 2024, to be held at the Community Centre on Bragenham Side.

Cllrs agreed unanimously to this date and venue.

17. To resolve to close the meeting

Cllr Ajaz thanked everyone for their contribution and the meeting was closed to the press and public at 21.20.

18. Council to receive an update on S106 and agree next steps

Cllrs Champion provided an update on S106 and it was unanimously agreed to work with O'Neill Homer and to pay £1130+ VAT in upfront costs.

The meeting closed at 21.38.

Chair:

Date:

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