

**Minutes of the Stoke Hammond Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 7.30pm**

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

1. To receive apologies for absence

No apologies received.

2. To receive declarations of interest

No interest declared.

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 3rd October 2023

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

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

4. Finance

a) To agree the November payment run as circulated:

STOKE HAMMOND PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN November 2023

Payee	Detail	Amount
BMKALC	Neighbourhood Plan training course - Cllr Venn & Cllr Noble	£140
BCQ Solutions Ltd	SH/NLS News printing	£841.00
RTM Landscapes	Cut back trees Bragenham Side/bus stop Leighton Rd & cut bushes entrance to Phoebe's Orchard	£420.00
Miss S Mahoney	Expenses for plants - Leighton Rd end of village planters	£60.00
Mr D Venn	Expenses for plants - village pump	£37.95
Clerk	Clerk salary for October and any related expenses	£884.40
Gallagher	Increase to insurance to include 3x MVAS machines	£31.92
Mr G Noble	October expenses - SH/NLS news/trave/parking	£53.20
RTM Landscapes	Grass cutting - October	£1,290.00
	Total	£3,758.47

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

b) To agree the accounts to 30th September 2023 as circulated

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

5. Update from Unitary Councillor

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

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

23/02168/APP - STOKE HAMMOND

Dolphin Inn Ph

Single storey rear extension to accommodate additional seating

Councillors resolved that they OBJECT to this application. Although the report submitted by Highways concludes there will be no additional issues with parking because of this application, Councillors believe a traffic and parking survey should be carried out at peak times to properly

assess the impact given there are significant concerns being raised with respect to parking safety within the village, arising from the current pub operation.

Proposed: Cllr Venn / Seconded: Cllr Noble / Agreed by 5 councillors / Cllr Champion abstained from voting

23/03198/ALB – STOKE HAMMOND

Stoke Lodge, Lodge Lane

Listed building application for removal of existing air conditioning unit fixed to external wall and relocated on the ground adjacent to existing position. Existing wall to be made good.

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

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

23/03199/ALB – STOKE HAMMOND

Stoke Lodge, Lodge Lane

Listed building application for timber gate/ fence post fixed to the side of the existing building (retrospective)

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

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

23/03088/APP – STOKE HAMMOND

Stoke Lodge, Lodge Lane

Removal of an existing electric vehicle charging point to the external wall of the existing house and erection of a new free-standing electric vehicle charging post adjacent to the existing house

Cllrs resolved they had NO OBJECTIONS to this application.

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

Councillors agreed that applications 23/03302/APP and 23/03281/APP would be considered at an extraordinary meeting to be held in December and that the Clerk would apply to Bucks Planning for an extension to the deadlines for commenting. **Action: Clerk**

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

- A MoP raised concerns regarding the footpath from the village to the Lakes Estate and that the bridges are rotting. Cllr Newing asked the MoP to raise this under the public participation part of the agenda.
- Cllr Noble advised that the MVAS on Leighton Road is not working, and the fault is being investigated.
- The PC received 56 responses to its traffic survey. Of these 56, 71% agreed there are parking issues in the village and 100% of these were related to parking at the Dolphin Pub. Cllr Noble is working through the responses and these will be shared in due course.

8. To provide any updates on the Neighbourhood Plan

- Cllr Newing confirmed the grant we have been waiting for has been received and we can continue the work with our consultant. The steering group is working on the policies that go into the pre-sub document which is sent to Locality, and they advise if anything needs to be amended. This should be completed in December. There will be a 6-week consultation in January/February so that everyone in the parish has a chance to vote on the plan. 50% in favour is needed for the plan to pass. An exhibition will be held in January so that residents understand what is in the plan. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and to make sure residents are clear on what they are voting on.

9. To provide any updates on S106

- Cllr Champion has been looking at some sites across the parish and discussions around funding options have taken place. He is hoping to speak with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) in the next few weeks.

10. To report on any Parish Improvements and Enhancements

- The Clerk confirmed the play park and gym repairs have been completed.
- A new dog waste bin has been ordered for outside the Sports Club.
- The alley between Bragenham Side and Manor Close has been cleared.
- The branches popping through the railings at the entrance to Bragenham Side has been cut back, along with the bush at the entrance to Phobes Orchard.
- RTM have been asked to quote to cut back the brambles by the brook on Bragenham Side.
- The new Christmas tree for Newton Leys South is being planted week commencing 13th November.

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

There were no meetings to report on.

12. To approve the Council's Biodiversity Policy

The new policy was agreed by councillors.

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

13. To consider the quote received for new planters at the Leighton Buzzard end of the village and agree next steps

Cllr Newing advised he felt we should be looking at something much more professional looking for both the Bletchley and Leighton Buzzard entrances to the village. Highways would need to be consulted if the signs are changed.

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

14. To consider the Community Funding Application received from the High Ash Scout Group

Councillors resolved to provide the £300 requested by the High Ash Scout Group for their camp taking place in December 2023.

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

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

- Cllr Noble mentioned there is an open evening taking place on Friday 17th November for residents to attend to ask any questions they have/provide ideas for the centre.
- There are currently 50 names on the list for the Senior Citizens Christmas lunch.

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

No updates/report provided and no members in attendance.

17. Public Participation Session

- A MoP confirmed she will re-submit her report to the PC regarding the state of the bridges/footpaths. The Clerk advised that she can report these to Bucks Council using Fix My Street.
- A MoP raised her concerns with how the village currently looks due to parking on the main road, mud on the footpaths etc. Cllr Venn advised the reasons for this.
- A MoP raised her concerns about the works taking place at Latrigg and the old Methodist Church on Newton Road. Cllr Newing advised the PC would look to build a relationship with the workmen, like we have done with the team at the development on Fenny Road.
- A MoP asked whether grass cutting could be moved to another day to avoid bin day.

18. To agree the date of the next Parish Council meeting – Tuesday 9th January 2023

Cllrs agreed unanimously to this date and the meeting will be held at 7.30pm at the Community Centre, Bragenham Side.

19. To resolve to close the meeting

Cllr Newing explained that the next agenda point was closed to the press and public due to the sensitive nature of the business and thanked everyone for their contribution.

20. Council to consider options for deployment of S106 funding, to agree areas for further investigation and to agree allocation of tasks

Councillors considered and agreed options for deployment of s106 funding, agreed areas for further investigation and agreed allocation of tasks.

The meeting was closed at 21.25.

Chair:

Date:

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