



Minutes of a Meeting of Stoke Hammond Parish Council at the Community Centre, Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond on Tuesday 2nd October 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Greg Noble (Chair), Cllr Mavis Berrow, Cllr Donna Page, Cllr Karl Johnson Cllr Mike Robinson, Cllr Hazel Turner (Minutes) 3 members of the public

1. **Apologies for absence.** Cllr Lane, Mrs Severn (Clerk), District Councillor B Everitt
2. **Declarations of interest :** None

Public Participation Session

- The continuing problem of the motor homes in the lay-by was again raised at the meeting. Some are on the highway and some on canal land. There are a set of vehicles that have made an enclosed area, they disappeared for a while but left bags of rubbish. This matter has been reported on several occasions to the authorities, both to Highways and the Canal and River Trust. The Chair will contact the Canal and River Trust and find out about the regulations. Cllr Noble commented on a letter that had been in reply to his piece in the Village Link re parking provision for boaters in Bragenham Side. He told the meeting he wasn't going to directly reply but has commented by saying it is all very well but who is going to pay for it?
 - Cars are still being sold on the verge opposite the lay-by.
3. To **approve the minutes** held on Tuesday 4th September 2018. The minutes were approved and signed.
 4. **New land & other land**
The Chair reported that the architect has now provided a vision plan including the items requested by villagers in the questionnaire. It will now be put to the working group (Cllrs: Noble, Robinson, Lane, and Johnson). A meeting will be arranged and once discussed the group will put it forward to the public.
To report any other issues regarding other village land. Cllr Berrow asked who the owner was of the land between the Dolphin and Clematis Cottage this land is Common Land and can't be built on. Cllr Johnson then queried where the other common land was. The Green, the village pump area, the old duck pond in Church Road and the old village dump site in Bragenham Side he was told.
 5. **Finance**

a) To agree the payment run as circulated. This was agreed and signed by Cllrs Johnson and Page.

| Payee | Method | Detail | £ |
|-----------------|--------|-------------------------------|---------|
| Mrs S Severn | BACS | Net salary, office & expenses | £463.10 |
| G Noble | BACS | Expenses: September | £49.76 |
| | BACS | | |
| C S Maintenance | BACS | Grass verge cutting £160 x 2 | £320.00 |

| | | | |
|---|------|---|------------------|
| Marcus Young Landscapes | BACS | Invoice 2778: Grass verges March £120, Rec x 9 cuts £810, Rec & Community Centre March one-off £380 | £1,572.00 |
| S H Community Centre | BACS | SH News July/August net of advertising income | £743.24 |
| AVALC | BACS | Annual subscription | £25.00 |
| Direct debit/standing order payments | | | £3,173.10 |
| Sage Accounting | DD | Payroll software | £7.20 |
| Survey Monkey | DD | Monthly direct debit survey software & hosting | £35.00 |
| NEST pensions | DD | PC and Employees' contribution to pension | £24.60 |
| E-on | DD | Monthly charge electricity | £82.18 |
| HMRC | SO | Income tax deducted/NI | £84.00 |
| Total payments | | | £232.98 |

b) To agree the accounts to 30th August 2018. The accounts were approved.

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

18/02634/APP Retention of two flats (retrospective)

Old Dairy Farm House Orchard Mill Lane Stoke Hammond Buckinghamshire MK17 9BF
Neutral. Councillors made no comment.

7 Highways, Footpaths & Footways, Lighting

Cllr Turner reported that the tree overhanging the pedestrian crossing and Belisher beacon has been cut back. Cllr Johnson reported that the traffic on the main road caused mayhem on the previous Saturday with tailbacks and drivers becoming really abusive. The comments on Facebook had been appalling, abusive and unnecessary, they were over the top the Chair reported. It was also reported from the floor that the roundabout at the Bletchley end of the bypass by Tommy's is still becoming flooded after rain. Cllr Noble will report it to Highways. Cllr Page reported on the situation with regard to the drains.

8 Community Centre

The Chair reported that Mark Ringland has resigned from the committee partly because of what happened on Facebook. The Senior Citizens lunch has been moved to 8 December. Mr Webber has cancelled that days Community Breakfast. Village Show: Chair of the Village Show committee, Chris Page, reported that it had been a very successful event with 10% increased attendance. The weather had stayed dry and they had received good feedback. The committee had held a thank you party for the volunteers but more young people are needed for fresh ideas on the committee. Changes for next year may include just piped music instead of bands. The accounts and money raised at the event will be announced at a later date.

10. **Speeding** It was agreed to go ahead with the speedwatch sign the cost was within the budget agreed at a previous meeting. MVAS had been placed at the Fenny Road end of the village. It is recording the traffic numbers and speed through the village while the bypass is closed. Stoke Hammond currently share the sign with Drayton Parslow. There are only two locations in the village that have been approved by the police. The numbers of vehicles travelling through the village on the main road and speed are reported in SH News, the LBO, and on the PC website. 90,000 vehicles per month was the average before the bypass was closed for repairs. Cllr Robinson told the meeting that before the village had the bypass the number of recorded vehicles was 20,000 a day. The Chair told the meeting that the average speed past the recording equipment was between 32 and 34 mph. HGVs are currently coming through the village causing problems in some cases.

11. SH News The question was raised as to whether the newsletter should go on being delivered to Newton Leys. There are now 170 houses there that fall within the parish of Stoke Hammond with a further 176 new homes planned. There is never any feedback or comments received from Newton Leys South residents. Once the estate is adopted the Parish Council is likely to be responsible for street lighting, dog bins etc, The newsletter is due to be reviewed at the end of the year.

12. Parishioners' surgeries

The Chair told the meeting that some people didn't want to air their concerns in public. Cllrs Johnson and Lane had had a discussion about the matter. Cllr Noble told the meeting that the Methodist Church is happy with the idea for councillors to stay on after the coffee morning to hold such a surgery. Cllr Johnson said he was happy to do them in the evenings and weekends. Details need to be firmed up and then the Council can begin them.

13. Battle's Over – commemoration of the end of World War I

The Chair stated that the evening will start at 6.30pm Revd Waller will conduct a short service. The Last Post will be played at 6.55pm followed by the lighting of the beacon at 7.00pm. The Church has offered to serve refreshments. Power will be needed and Cllr Turner asked permission for the supply of electricity to be taken from the power point on The Green. This was agreed. The two Silent Soldiers will be removed from the entrance of the village and placed on The Green. The event will be advertised on the notice board and the SH News.

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

Cllr Page reported on a Planning Forum meeting she had attended with Cllr Lane. She had found it disappointing. There are 22 planning posts. Currently they have 2 vacancies left to fill, 12 having been filled in this last year. Targets to turn around the planning decisions (set by central government) including extensions of time: - Major applications 60% within 13 week time frame in 2018/19 that was 89% the two year rolling average equalled 78%. All others 70% within 8 week time frame in 2018/19 79% and 2 year rolling averaged 78%. Many people there disagreed with the figures Cllr Page stated. In addition, the meeting was told that the waste team currently have 70 fly tipping collections a month. This is a decrease. Cllr Noble had attended a conference about Community Led Housing, which he found very interesting. He told the meeting that the UK was really behind in self build projects compared to other countries. The average was around 50% with Austria as high as 80% but the UK lagged behind at just under 10%. Finding land is the biggest problem because individuals and community led projects can't compete with developers. It is sometimes possible for land not previously deemed suitable for housing to be granted permission for community led housing. Affordability is very much the 'name of the game' and for example the houses at the bottom of Lodge Lane just released to market have a top price of £800,000 and therefore not suitable or affordable for the village young people, so they end up moving away. He suggested that the Parish Council should look into the feasibility of a Community Led Housing scheme.

Cllr Robinson stated that the Community Transport Scheme was looking for a new co-ordinator, and an advertisement will be put in the SH News.

15. To agree the date of the next PC meeting – Tuesday 6th November 2018.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.15pm there being no further business.

The above is a correct record of the meeting.

