



**Minutes of the Meeting of Stoke Hammond Parish Council at  
Stoke Hammond Community Centre, Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond  
on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 starting at 7.30pm**

In attendance: Cllr Greg Noble (Chair), Cllr Mike Robinson, Cllr Mavis Berrow, Cllr Donna Page, Cllr Hazel Turner, County Cllr Mrs Janet Blake, Sue Severn - Parish Clerk 6 members of the public. 8.23pm: PCSO Tina Hobson

1. **To receive apologies for absence** Cllr Geoff Lane Cllr David Rutland, DC Neil Blake
2. **Declarations of interest:** To receive any declarations of interest. None.
3. **Public Participation Session**
  - Mr Kirk asked if the flooding on the roundabout on the bypass had been reported. It had. Mr Kirk was unhappy about the state of the village's footpaths and the potholes. He reported he had had two flat tyres because of the holes. The Chair reported that correspondence has been received from parishioners on this subject. Potholes should be sealed around the edges but this is not now being done the Chair told the meeting.
  - Mrs Corrall also complained about the footpaths deterioration. Pictures have been submitted and sent to BCC.
  - Mr Richard Taylor reported that there was yet more rubbish dumped in the lay-by, including a sofa. It would assist the Council if everyone reported the waste. Cllr Page stated that there were still huge holes in the lay by filled with water. Construction lorries have been parking there although the lay-by is unofficially closed due to the holes.
  - Cllr Berrow reported that people were parking on the small green adjacent to Ivy Cottage. This is because there are no posts protecting this part of the green. The Chair explained that an agreement had been reached with residents that there would be no posts there to improve access to the cottages.
  - County Cllr Janet Blake gave a full report. Currently there is a shortage of money and there is only 1 Local Area Technician (LAT) dealing with a huge area. He has told Cllr Blake that he is fighting a losing battle with potholes. The sealing of potholes is not being carried out because the slippery surface that is produced by the seal is causing claims from motor bike and bicycle riders following road accidents. However those potholes that have been repaired are breaking up again. The LAT is hoping to resume the walk round of the villages but it will not begin again until next month. There will be work on the bypass between 9.30am and 2.30pm each day from 8<sup>th</sup> March until 28<sup>th</sup>, which may cause delays. The bypass was built by contractors no longer in business, and is not fit for purpose as the potholes keep reappearing. Deep coring investigations have been taking place. Cllr Blake went on to tell the meeting about the increase in home to school transport charges. This is increasing by 5% from this September, to £629 pa an increase of £30. There will be no consultation process the decision has already been made. Council tax: BCC is increasing this by 5%. 3% of which is ring-fenced for Adult Social Care. However this is barely sufficient as the minimum wage is rising for carers.
  - Cllr Blake also reported on AVDC on behalf of Cllr Neil Blake. The AVDC increase in Council Tax will be 1.99%. Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP). Recent White Paper was singularly unhelpful, and after the Councillors had met several local MPs they have been told to press ahead with the current plan. However the VALP will have to be reviewed after 2 years. AVDC is introducing digital technology that will connect everything people need, this will

make a significant cost saving when in place, AVDC is working with Amazon Alexa, this will be the future. Government departments have invited AVDC along to discuss the project. Cllr Blake went on to update the PC on the progress of the Unitary Authority discussions. The Minister is due to look at the proposals and on 27 March will provide his 'Minded to' decision. Then further work will be needed. There has been tremendous support from PCs for the Vale to remain as a separate entity. Mrs Blake was thanked for attending the meeting.

- The Chair reported that Gallagher Homes have withdrawn the plans for 1200 homes at Eaton Leys in the AVDC area. However MK Council has approved 600 homes. They didn't however put in for Section 106 money expecting AVDC to cover this benefit. MK C will therefore receive no benefit from the construction of these homes. It is noted that there is time for Gallagher Homes to reapply to AVDC.
  - Cllr Page commented that a bus stop shelter is required at the entrance to Newton Leys as is a street light as it is pitch black there and there is an island in the road that could be hit in the dark. The Clerk has reported it.
4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017. The minutes were approved and signed as a true and proper record.

5. **To report on outstanding matters** arising from previous minutes by exception. None

## 6. Finance

a) To agree the cheque run and electronic payments list.

STOKE HAMMOND PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN 7TH MARCH 2017			
Payee	Chq / BACS	Detail	£
Mrs S Severn	BACS	Net salary £288, Office £50, Telephone/software £31, Mileage & expenses £66.85	£435.85
AVDC	BACS	Dog Waste service April 16 - March 17	£638.12
Bucks Best Kept Village	727	Competition entry fee	£20.00
Buckinghamshire Playing Fields Assoc	BACS	Annual membership fee	£20.00
		<b>Total payments this cheque run</b>	<b>£1,113.97</b>
		Current account balance at bank at 7.3.17	£8,607.14
		Less: Cheque run	-£1,113.97
			£7,493.17

The cheque and electronic payments list was agreed and signed as authorised for payment by Cllr Robinson and the Chair.

- b) To agree the accounts to February 2017. Not yet available awaiting bank statement.
- c) To agree the provision of a Stoke Hammond PC pension scheme into which the Parish Clerk and any other employees from time to time would be enrolled. Proposed by Cllr Page, seconded by Cllr Turner, agreed unanimously.

## 7. Planning

**17/00588/APP Igguldon Farm, Fenny Road, Stoke Hammond** Erection of permanent equestrian worker's dwelling and new stallion barn. Cllr Turner asked for confirmation that the house would have an agricultural tie; the applicant confirmed that it would. The application statement had been full and concise. Currently there is 65 acres connected to this farm and twenty eight horses in total kept there. Cllr Mike Robinson proposed that the PC supported the application. Cllr Page seconded the proposal and the motion was carried unanimously on condition that an agricultural tie was put on the property by AVDC.

## 8. Highways, Footpaths & Footways

**PCSO Tina Hobson** presented her report to the meeting. Two security signs (Smart Water) were given to the Council to be placed at the entrance to the village. She reported on the reduction of the police force. All police will be connected to a hub, including CID. However there will be proactive teams that will be out and about. She told those present that police cars and vans in lay-by were not only watching for speeding vehicles but were on intelligence gathering, following information tip offs. There will be Tasking Patrols in the villages for about quarter of an hour. Since January this year there has been one house burglary, 2 other thefts and one anti social behaviour incident. Currently the night shift are keeping a visible presence outside all the churches to try and prevent any more lead theft. She asked whether a NHW group could be set up.

LITTER Pick: Cllr Robinson will organise a litter pick, and a date will be put in the SH News asking for volunteers. The question of the reinstatement of Bragenham Side following the development of Meadow Brook was raised. Unfortunately the contractors cannot be forced to repair the damage made by the large contractors lorries. The developers have made small repairs to the pavement.

Cllr Berrow thanked Mr Kirk for providing the snowdrops they had looked beautiful this year. Mr Kirk urged the council to ask the mowing contractor to refrain from cutting the grass until the snowdrops had died down as not many had come up.

## 9. Stoke Hammond Community Association

Newton Leys Community Centre has lost its roof in Storm Doris and has been condemned as unsafe. Cllr Page reported to the meeting. Many of the bookings have transferred to the SHCC so the building is being heavily used. Cllr Page went on to advertise the Vale Lottery as the SHCA wish to purchase new chairs and tables and asked those present to support it and put Stoke Hammond CA in the support box.

## 10. Playground and Community Centre Land

Installation of the MUGA and gym equipment is now complete. It has been signed off by RoSPA and is being used. The slide is still fenced off because the area has been seeded and the grass needs to establish itself. In three weeks time the lines will be drawn on the surface of the MUGA. The zip wires works Cllr Robinson reported but it does have an automatic break on the wire, so the equipment needs to be pulled in a downwards motion and held down and at the

moment it doesn't run very fast. The hydraulic system can be altered as needed he said. There are instructions on the gym equipment.

**11. Communication**

The Parish Council newsletter is nearly complete and will be available shortly. SH News went into Newton Leys South this week. There are yet more new houses the Chair said so there will be a need for up to 575 copies required per month in future. Cllr Berrow thanked Cllr Noble for producing a much improved newsletter, there had been more editorial this month. Mr William Kirk also congratulated the Chair on the improved communications and Cllr Turner for her many years involvement.

**12. Report on meetings**

The Clerk and Chairman had attended one planning meeting.

**13. Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2017 in the Stoke Hammond Community Centre.

The meeting was declared closed at 8.35pm.

**The above is a correct record of the meeting.**

**Chairman.....**

**Date.....**