



**Minutes of a Meeting of Stoke Hammond Parish Council at the Community Centre, Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** : Cllr Greg Noble (Chair), Cllr Mavis Berrow, Cllr Karl Johnson, Cllr Geoff Lane, Cllr Mike Robinson, Cllr Donna Page, Cllr Hazel Turner, Sue Severn - Parish Clerk, District Councillor Ben Everitt and 4 members of the public.

1. **Apologies for absence.** District Councillor Neil Blake, County Councillor Janet Blake
2. **Declarations of interest** Cllr Turner declared an interest in the planning application for Mallaig.

**Public Participation Session**

- The owner of Mallaig stated she was in attendance and available to answer any questions on the planning application.
- A resident asked about the source of funding for the New Land/Village Hall project. Other than Section 106 funds already secured or in the pipeline the Chairman advised that the PC would also be bidding for additional Section 106 monies from development in Newton Leys South. The resident also asked where the money is going to come from for maintenance. The Chairman advised that the Community Centre is self-financing through hire fees, and it was anticipated that the new building would be similarly sustainable without requiring funds from parish precept.
- District Councillor Everitt told the meeting that AVDC was now in budget season. There will be a full council meeting to approve a budget then a council meeting to discuss the Council Tax will follow. As is known a cap is put on the money that may be raised by BCC and AVDC and they will be raising it as high as they are allowed. More has been spent on services than has been received in tax. There will be a 2.99% increase for AVDC (approximately £5 per annum). The County Council is expected to be adding 2% on top to cover adult social care costs. The Police have recently carried out public consultation to ask whether an increase of £25 per household would be acceptable. The costs of rural crime, 'county line' and other organised crime is increasing.
- Cllr Lane expressed his deep concern over the closure of household waste facilities, tax payers are expected to pay more and more but public services are being reduced. Cllr Johnson was concerned about increased fly tipping in the countryside as people have to travel further to dispose of their rubbish.

3. **Approve the minutes** The minutes of the parish council meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2018 were approved and signed as a true record.

**4. New land & other land**

a) Strong winds during the Christmas period had caused branches to come down off a tree on the Community Centre land to the rear of the bungalows on Bragenham Side. The tree surgeon had advised that a lot of the tree was rotten and it has now been pollarded. The Canal and River Trust had been informed that some of their trees were also suspect, but nothing has been heard from them as yet. Cllr Lane suggested a tree survey be carried out, which the Chair advised had been budgeted for in the new financial year.

b) An email with regard to prices has been received to provide lighting for the garages in Bragenham Side was discussed. The overall cost to install Solar Powered lighting to the 8 Individual garages lighting will cost £500 plus VAT. An additional £80 plus VAT will be required for materials. This does not include the actual cost of the Solar Lighting equipment which would in the region of £150 - £200 per garage. Cllr Lane asked if electricity could be taken from a nearby lamp post/pole, that doesn't appear to light up any area around it. The Clerk has been in contact with Aylesbury Mains requesting a site visit to ascertain the practicality of sourcing power from this lamp post and a cost for same. She will ask the contractors to contact Cllr Lane to arrange this site visit.

## 5. Finance

a) To agree the payment run as circulated.  
This was agreed.

Payee	Method	Detail	£
Mrs S Severn	BACS	Net salary & expenses	£1,266.38
G Noble	BACS	Expenses: December	£29.91
Rush & Warwick	BACS	SH News Print November	£587.76
		SH News Print January	£486.08
T A Machon	BACS	Tree surgery	£650.00

b) To agree the accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The accounts were agreed.

c) To agree the budget for 2019/20 and to agree the Parish Precept for 2019/20.

Following review of the budget for the parish which was undertaken at a working group meeting in December it was proposed that the precept for Stoke Hammond parish for the financial year 2019/20 be £42,500 which represents a modest increase of 0.65%. It was Proposed by Cllr Page and Seconded by Cllr Berrow, that the precept be set at £42,500 for the coming year. **Unanimous.**

## 6. Planning:

**18/04512/APP Land Off Newton Leys Gateway Land South Of Newton Leys Drayton Road Stoke Hammond Bucks MK3 5FJ** Amendment to Reserved Matters permission ref 14/00102/ADP to change elevational treatment of flat blocks containing units 26 - 36, 97 - 104, 109 - 127 including replacing unit 127 with a new unit type.

Cllr Page commented that she had been unable to access the planning portal. The Council resolved that no comment should be made but that the Clerk would advise the planning officer that they had not been consulted originally.

**18/04448/APP Mallaig Church Road Stoke Hammond Buckinghamshire MK17 9BP**

Demolition of garage and erection of a single storey side extension with side access path to rear.

Cllr Turner declared an interest and took no part in the discussion. The Parish Council resolved to support the application.

## 8. Highways, Footpaths & Footways, Lighting

The Councillors thought the lighting has been fixed on the pedestrian crossing. Cllr Turner stated that there was rubbish in many of the hedgerows and along the pavements, it was agreed that a litter pick take place in the spring. It is further noted that the drains along the main road have still not been dealt with despite the assertion from Highways that no work is needed!

**9. Community Centre**

Cllr Noble said that various events have taken place over the last month. There was nothing else to report.

**10. Newton Leys South**

Cllr Johnson stressed the need that a surgery takes place at Newton Leys South to make sure residents know who their parish councillors are, and to offer residents of Newton Leys South an opportunity to talk to councillors, ask questions, raise issues and ask for any help they need. The new village hall (Pavillion) is now open and can be utilised. The Clerk will contact the hall manager for details of the hire charges and availability of a small meeting room.

Since the last PC meeting in Newton Leys South (NLS) which was attended by only three residents, the Clerk has been unable to make any progress with requests for street lighting, bus shelter and timetable case for the local bus service. Cllr Everitt suggested that there were many issues for residents of NLS, some of which would benefit from help from the PC / Clerk liaising with the development consortium. It is hoped that the first surgery can take place during March 2019. It can be advertised in the SH News and/or via leaflet drop to the roads within NLS which are in SH Parish. Cllr Lane asked whether it would be possible to increase the number of councillors to cover the additional homes in NLS. The Clerk and Cllr Everitt explained that this is a matter for a boundary review, unlikely to be held until 2021/22 and that at that time the PC can consider requesting changes to its membership. Cllr Everitt confirmed there was currently no appetite to make Newton Leys a separate parish. The Clerk also advised councillors that new developments inevitably result in much additional work for the parish, this must be borne in mind for future planning.

**11. Parish Council Public Surgeries.**

It was agreed that a Parish Council surgery in Stoke Hammond should take place in September or October this year, in addition to the March surgery planned in Newton Leys South.

**12. Speeding & Speedwatch**

Cllr Lane asked about the Community Speedwatch signs, clips will be required to erect them on existing MVAS posts. He asked what format the police at Winslow need for the MVAS results. The Clerk told him that results should be presented on an Excel spreadsheet., however she will check the position with the local policing team and advise Cllr Lane.

**13. Best Kept Village**

The bulb planting has been completed, the meeting was asked to acknowledge with thanks the work Mr Simonds has done clearing the vegetation around the 30mph signs in Newton Road. The planters on the old duck pond are still to be done, Mr Simonds had quoted £1000 a year ago the Chair told the meeting. The work now needs to be ordered. It is further noted that the planters at each end of the village need to be raised to show off the flowers more. It was agreed by Councillors that Mr Simonds be asked to produce the new planters with a budget available of up to £1,000. The area around the garages needs upgrading Cllr Lane told the meeting. He suggested a picket type fence between 18" and 24" high to prevent parking on the grass. A quote is required. Further suggestions included bat and owl boxes. Cllr Turner stated that Jed Faber could and does make and provide these boxes in areas around the village. The Bucks Owl group would assist to District Councillor Everitt said.

**14. SH News**

Cllr Noble stated that Canon Saunders can no longer deliver SH News in Newton Leys anymore. Many do not read it as they receive Milton Keynes News free. The cost for these copies is £158 per month. Cllr Noble has put an advertisement on the back of SH News asking for comments/requests for an electronic copy, but has heard nothing back as

yet. Cllr Johnson said he had an issue with stopping delivering up at Newton Leys, it would isolate them even more. The Council are required to be transparent and be in contact with all the people in the parish. A discussion took place over whether SH News could become bi-monthly thereby reducing the cost of publishing and pay a delivery company to deliver in Newton Leys South. Advertisers' requirements need to be considered too. However, it is a legal requirement for transparency and communication with all residents in ways which allow all to benefit.

Following a full debate on the subject the consensus of opinion was that the PC would continue to distribute the magazine to NLS. The Community Association will have a meeting soon when a review will take place about advertising rates and when a review of the publication dates can take place.

**15. To report on meetings** attended on behalf of the Parish Council. None attended.

**16. To agree the date of the next PC meeting – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019.**

The Clerk raised the possibility of cancelling the December 2019 meeting as most other councils do not meet in December. This will be added to the next agenda. Cllr Page gave her apologies in advance for the February meeting as she is unable to attend.

***Meeting dates for 2019:***

- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May
- Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July
- August: No meeting
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September
- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November
- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

Due to the confidential nature of the matters to be discussed Councillor Noble proposed, Cllr Robinson seconded and it was agreed unanimously that members of the public and press were asked to leave the meeting under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960). The public meeting then closed at 8.45pm.

The above is a true and proper record of the meeting.

Chair .....

Date.....