



Minutes of a Meeting of Stoke Hammond Parish Council at the Community Centre, Bragenham Side, Stoke Hammond on Tuesday 2nd April 2019 at 7.30pm.

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

1. **Apologies for absence** District Cllr Neil Blake, County Cllr Janet Blake, Cllr Mavis Berrow,
2. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Noble declared an interest in Item 9 and would take no part in the discussion.

Public Participation Session

- Two residents introduced themselves to the meeting. They were attending because they had a planning application up before Councillors. They were welcomed to the meeting and village.
- District Councillor Ben Everitt took the floor and explained to those present about the current unitary situation. The new council, after many hours of discussion and argument will be known as the Buckinghamshire Council. The Judicial Review the previous week has been thrown out by the High Court. The first Shadow meeting has been held. An Act of Parliament is awaited. The First Executive Shadow Meeting will take place next week. County Cllr Blake and District Cllr Neil Blake have become Independent members and have left the Conservatives. District Cllr Everitt went on to tell the meeting that there may be a Boundary change in the future to reduce the number of members as it is going to be too big to manage. The new agenda will have Infra Structure at the top as the county and this parish will be affected by the Oxford Cambridge Expressway. The County is now effected by: Heathrow expansion, HS2 and the Expressway. It has been announced that one million new homes are to be built between the two towns by 2050. Unfortunately due to the rural nature of our parish and the farmland as a rural area we do not have the protection against further development. However, any growth must be sustainable. It needs to be done in a positive and constructive way.
- VALP District Councillor Everitt then updated the meeting on the plan. The independent Planning Inspector has agreed AVDC's proposal to reduce by 1400 the number of new homes to be built up to 2033 in the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan (VALP). VALP is the blueprint that will shape the size and locations of housing and other developments over the next 14 years and beyond in the Aylesbury Vale. This latest development brings the end of a thorough and complicated process in sight, with modifications to the plan being considered by the Inspector and, it is hoped, a public consultation to follow this spring.

The biggest change that the Inspector has agreed is to reduce the numbers of homes that need to be built within the Vale to 30,100 homes from the 31,500 he asked for previously.

AVDC is working on the detailed modifications to VALP, which involves gathering a significant amount of new evidence and revising large numbers of policies. When these alterations have been made and sent to the Inspector, The council hopes that the plan will then be adopted for use by mid-2019, although this depends on the Planning Inspector. He finished by saying that it is really important that this plan is passed as currently there is a backlog in planning he said.

3. **To approve the minutes** of the meeting held on Tuesday 5th March 2019. The minutes were approved and signed as a correct record.

4. **Land Maintenance**

The Chair told the meeting that seeds would be sown to make a wild flower meadow around the garages in Bragenham Side and posts would be placed around it. Councillors then considered the quotations supplied by RTM and Phil Wheatley to place recycled plastic marker posts from Filcris around the garages in Bragenham Side and prepare the land for future planting. The question was raised by Cllr Page as to whether the posts needed to be concreted in. The land may crack in dry weather, but Cllr Johnson suggested that if required the Council could purchase ready mix concrete and pour it in. It was proposed by Cllr Page and seconded by Cllr Turner that the quotation from Phil Wheatley be accepted. Unanimous.

5. **New Land**

The Parish Council will be paying, by cheque, Buckinghamshire County Council £600 to look at and give advice on the proposed access to the new land in Bragenham Side. The Clerk said that she was working with Mr Mark Shaw on the proposal.

6. **Finance**

a) to agree the payment run as circulated. The payment run as listed was agreed. The Direct Debits and Standing Orders are also recorded below for the year.

STOKE HAMMOND PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN 2nd April 2019			
Payee	Method	Detail	
Mrs S Severn	BACS	Net salary & expenses	£514.37
		Expenses: One third cost of phone (£29.99) & additional line charge for Parish use £3	£32.99
G Noble	BACS	Expenses: March	£23.42
Rush & Warwick	BACS	Invoice 30761: SH News April-May £609.84, Inserts for welcome booklet £20	£629.84
Bucks County Council	CHQ	Planning fee: Access new land	£600.00
C. Simmons	BACS	Planters: Fenny Road	£80.00
Sign Wizzard	BACS	Community Speedwatch signs x 3	£207.28
T.A Matchon	BACS	Tree surgery damaged tree	£120.00
Best Kept Village Competition	BACS	Entry fee 2019	£25.00
BALC	BACS	Annual subscription	£220.95
Bucks Playing Fields Assoc	SO	Annual subscription	£20.00
		Total	£2,473.85
Direct debits: Lloyds Bank Treasurer's Account at April 2019:			
Bucks Community Action	January		£50.00
E-On	Monthly	Variable : £94.70 last payment	
Information Commissioner	September		£35.00
NEST Pensions	Monthly	Variable : 5% gross salary Parish Clerk	
Public Works Loan Board	Half yearly	October/April	£1,148.05
Sage Software Ltd	Monthly	Payroll software	£7.20
Standing orders: Lloyds Bank Treasurer's Account at April 2019:			
Bucks Playing Fields Assoc	April		£20.00
HMRC Cumbernauld	Monthly	PAYE : Variable last payment £150.40	

b) To agree the accounts to 31st March 2019. The accounts were agreed.

c) To appoint Mr Gus Orchard as internal auditor. It was agreed to reappoint Mr Orchard for one more year as the internal auditor. Unanimous.

d) To agree timeline for internal audit and submission of governance statements to external auditors. The timeline for the internal audit was agreed by Councillors. It was noted however that Mr Orchard is away and the timing will be tight. Mr Orchard is retiring next year and moving to Somerset so this will be his last year as the Council's Internal Auditor. A new one will need to be found.

7. **Planning:**

19/00862/APP Single storey rear and first floor side extensions **Little Orchard Hillersdon Chase Stoke Hammond Buckinghamshire MK17 9DH**

The Parish Councillors supported the application.

19/00874/ADP Approval of Reserved Matters pursuant to outline permission 16/03698/AOP for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of a residential development of 16 dwellings and associated works **The Mellows Hillersdon Chase Stoke Hammond Buckinghamshire MK17 9DH**

The PC objects for the same reasons as already given by other consultees, Police and Highways there is insufficient turning space and some visitors' parking spaces will block resident parking and some visitor parking is too near to the highway, leading to increased parking on the highway.

There are also concerns about security.

The PC agrees with the EA comments on drainage.

19/01081/APP: The Nook, Newton Road. Double storey infill extension, double storey garage extension, Front porch extension and attic conversion

The PC objects to the plans as submitted and suggests the applicant is encouraged, as offered, to re-submit more suitable plans. The reason for the objection is that the proposed building is over height and will affect the skyline. (Proposed Cllr Johnson seconded Cllr Lane, unanimous)

8. **Highways, Footpaths & Footways, Lighting**

Cllr Noble met with Aylesbury Mains with regard to lighting in the garages and a quotation is awaited. Cllr Johnson complained about the first cut there was grass all over the pavement and road. The matter will be taken up with the contractor. Cllr Turner commented that the hedge along Fenny Road, past Tyrells Manor and before the gateway into the Mears building site needs cutting back. A child had been scratched by a branch. Cllr Johnson commented that trees had been cut down by the wall that lines the Dolphin car park. The wall is unstable now and could fall into the brook. The Chair reported on the non progress with regard to reopening the Dolphin. The owner had gone away and work had been carried out without his knowledge without planning permission. Work needing planning is as follows: change of windows and new Fire Exit. As it is in a conservation area work has now stopped for the time being. It is envisaged that it will reopen in July.

9. **Community Centre**

Cllr Noble took no part in this discussion having declared an interest and Vice Chair Cllr Robinson told the Councillors that the grant application to provide a disabled access to the Community Centre required PC approval. It was proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Page that approval be granted. All in favour.

10. Parish Council Public Surgeries

Cllr Noble reported that three Councillors and the Clerk had attended the new pavilion in Newton Leys for the first Parish Council public surgery. Despite advertising the date and place in SH News for three consecutive months no one came. This was disappointing. Various reasons were discussed perhaps because the area is remote from the village itself. It is purely a commuter area. The Clerk does however receive emails from residents which she deals with. The Clerk suggested inviting the residents to the Village Show, and to post events on the Newton Leys Community Facebook page.

11 Speeding & Speedwatch

The Community Speedwatch signage has been received and payment made. The Chair told the meeting that MVAS was returning this week. Cllr Page told the meeting she had reported the car that looks abandoned on Fix my Street, but because it has a note on it saying it's broken down nothing will be done for another two weeks. It is however blocking the farmer's field.

12. Best Kept Village

The subject of the nonexistent War memorial was raised once more, discussion ensued about the best way forward as ten marks are at stake despite the Clerk pointing out that the Village is a Thankful Village and thus doesn't have one! A number of suggestions were put forward: erecting the Silent Soldier once more, doing up the memorial benches on the green and opposite the shop as neither is in very good condition. Cllr Lane said that there are special benches available and that he had seen one in Bournemouth. The Clerk suggested that she applies to the War Graves Commission for any memorial to be recognised as at Watermead where a Remembrance Garden was established in 2014. The prayer on the memorial, which is modern, remembers all lost, in all conflicts as a prayer for peace.

13. SH News

Cllr Noble told the meeting that the first bi-monthly magazine had been published. Copy date for the next one for the June/July issue is 20 May.

14. Land at Newton Leys South

The Chair and Clerk met the Land transfer manager at Taylor Wimpey to confirm their offer to transfer the open spaces around Newton Leys South, which they own, to SHPC. All the verges would be covered. £25K was requested to cover the next ten years. Cllr Lane asked if the land would be checked before the Parish Council takes it over. The Clerk had told Councillors in an email there may be remedial works required, which either will be completed before transfer, or covered by a Warranty from the developer. There are no drains or ditches in the area. There is no play equipment in this case, just land. The Clerk will also speak to Milton Keynes to discuss the land immediately adjacent which is not well kept, they may wish to transfer this which would allow the area to be improved over time and make it more uniform for residents of NLS. This land is for public amenity so will not be suitable for development.

Cllr Johnson raised the question of the resident who had a bund near his house. When it rose the water ran down into his driveway. The Councillors were told that this is not on the Taylor Wimpey site and is not a problem the Council will face. It was proposed by Cllr Lane and seconded by Cllr Page that we accept the transfer of the open spaces around Newton Leys South at a cost of £25,000. Unanimous.

15. Methodist Church

The Methodist Church is closing and the Parish Council had seen it as an opportunity to turn it into flats for villagers. An architect and surveyor had looked at the property. The Methodist Church then provided a sale figure. The Council had asked an architect and letting agencies for help in ascertaining whether or not it would be a viable proposition. The sale price had been circulated to councillors but unfortunately with the sale price of the next door property being higher than anticipated, the project was not viable. As a Parish Council the project would be too uncertain. The Chairman advised that the PC should now write to the Church confirming that they were unable to proceed. It had, however, been worth investigating.

16. To report on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council. None to date.

17. To agree the date of the next PC meeting –

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - Tuesday 7th May 2019 7.00pm preceding the

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING which will follow

The meeting was declared closed at 8.35pm there being no further business.

The above is a correct record of the meeting

Chair.....

Date.....