

STOKE MANDEVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Copley

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**Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held at the Community Centre,
Eskdale Road, Stoke Mandeville on Tuesday 27th January 2015.**

PRESENT: Cllrs: M Rogers (Chair), J Hunt, D Starr and P Wood.

Mr J Reed (co opted)

CLERK: Sarah Copley

E15/1	APOLOGIES All committee members were present.	
E15/2	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST There were no declarations of interest.	
E15/3	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING The Minutes of the Meeting held on 18 th November 2014, previously circulated, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.	
E15/4	MVAS (MOBILE VEHICLE ACTIVATION SYSTEM) a) The Chairman reported that he and Cllr Swinney had attended the demonstration and training for the MVAS and data collection software. They would meet later this week in order to fully familiarise themselves with the software and operation of the equipment before it is set up at the roadside for the first time at the location on Lower Road, near the school. b) Publicity for the new MVAS equipment had been discussed with Bucks CC and the Chairman suggested that joint publicity for the Parish Council, GALAF, Wendover LAF and County Council be considered. This was AGREED . c) The GALAF had agreed to fund additional ground screws in the parish and potential sites were discussed. The sites identified were: Wendover Road (near junction with Eastcote Road), Wendover Road (between Station Road and Hampden Hall), Lower Road near island in centre of road and Anton Way. The Clerk would ask Transport for Bucks for advice on these areas.	Clerk
E15/5	DEVOLVED SERVICES FROM BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL a) The Clerk reported that she and the Chairman of the Council had met with the Local Area Technician and had raised queries regarding the maps. These had been referred back to the Localities team to include areas that had been missed off the maps. b) The Clerk had approached BALC regarding legal advice on the devolved services agreement that parishes would be asked to sign. BALC had advised that NALC provide a legal advice service at no cost. It was agreed that the agreement would be sent to NALC for their advice once the final version was available. The Clerk would contact Bucks CC to ask for timescale. c) Village Green – Cllr Hunt suggested that as the maintenance of the green was being devolved to the Parish Council, it may be an opportune time to approach Bucks CC to ask if they would be willing to hand over the management of the village green to the Parish Council, whether this be by transfer of ownership or a 99 year lease. It was agreed to recommend to the Council that Bucks CC be approached.	Clerk JH
E15/6	GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT a) The specification for the grounds maintenance contract was agreed at the December Parish Council meeting and the contract had been advertised on notice boards and the Stoke Mandeville column in the Bucks Herald. One expression of interest had been received to date from the current contractor. b) Grass cutting at Queen Elizabeth II field. The cost for grass cutting for 2015-15 provided by AVDC would be £4,164.05. The Council would need to seek quotes for 2015-16.	

E15/7	<p>STREET LIGHTS</p> <p>a) Upgrade of street lights</p> <p>One quote for three new LED lights to be trialled in the village had been received to date from Aylesbury Mains. Forde & McHugh had been asked to provide a quote and it was agreed to approach CU Phosco for the third quote.</p> <p>Cllr Starr suggested that the structural testing of all street light columns be included as part of the project plan for the street light upgrade. The Clerk was asked to get quotes for this work.</p> <p>b) Overgrown vegetation around street lights</p> <p>Cllr Starr had reported that two street lights were obscured, one outside the Limes on Station Road and the other in the alleyway between Station Road and Brudenell Drive. TFB had been approached but were unable to carry out this work as the trees were not on highways land. The Clerk was asked to identify and write to both property occupiers.</p>	Clerk Clerk
E15/8	<p>STREET FURNITURE</p> <p>a) A complaint had been received regarding the bench at the junction of Lower Road and Kynaston Avenue which was leaning back and difficult to get up from. The Clerk had asked Amersham Town Council to quote to re-site this bench and to install the new bin for the skatepark which was due to be delivered shortly. The quote was £220 plus VAT for both jobs, it was AGREED to recommend to the Parish Council that this quote be accepted.</p> <p>b) Bus shelter – There were currently no bus shelters on Hawkslade, which had a well used bus route through it. It was suggested that the bus stop by Hawkslade Community Centre may be suitable to have a shelter. The Clerk would approach Transport for Bucks in the first instance.</p> <p>c) Noticeboards – The Clerk had contacted AVDC for permission to replace the notice board at Hawkslade Community Centre with the oak board and was awaiting their response. The owners of the shop on Station Road had also been approached. Once written authorisation had been received the order for the three new notice boards would be placed.</p>	Clerk Clerk
E15/9	<p>HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND FOOTPATHS</p> <p>a) A local resident had contacted the Council regarding motor bikes racing along Eskdale Road and commuter parking in Eskdale Road and Hampden Road. Cllr Wood reported that parking on and near junctions on Hawkslade was causing an obstruction for road users. After discussion it was agreed that :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clerk would contact the PCSO regarding the bikes. • The Clerk would write to the PCSO for Hawkslade about illegal parking on junctions • Parking issues would be raised at the GALAF and County Councillors would be asked how the Parking Toolkit could be applied to alleviate the parking issues throughout the parish. <p>b) Lower Road Roundabout – As raised at the previous full Council meeting, the Clerk had contacted Transport for Bucks regarding the position of the roundabout following the recent road resurfacing. The LAT said that historical photos confirmed that the roundabout had been moved closer to the church. TFB had received three other complaints regarding the positioning, including one from the lollipop lady. The issue had been referred to Alan Owen of the Capital Maintenance Team.</p> <p>c) It was noted that the speed limit reduction application had been drafted and was ready to be submitted to Bucks CC. The initial application fee would be £450. Cllr Hunt had asked the Wendover LAF for their support for the project at their last meeting but this had been turned down as it was considered to be outside their boundary.</p>	Clerk MR

E15/10	<p>CHURCHES AND BURIAL GROUND</p> <p>a) Future provision of burial facility – Cllr Hunt reminded the committee that there were only a few spaces left in the current cemetery and that the Council needed to turn its attention to finding a new plot of land. This had been considered in the past by previous Councils without success. Councillors were asked to look out for potential sites so that the Council could approach the land owners.</p>	All
E15/11	<p>ALLOTMENTS</p> <p>a) The Clerk provided all committee members with an up to date plan of the allotment plots.</p> <p>b) One plot had recently been vacated and would be offered to the next person on the waiting list.</p> <p>c) Two of the water troughs had leaking pipes between the trough and the tap. Aylesbury Town Council who had originally installed the troughs had attended that day to repair the pipes.</p> <p>d) It was agreed to review the tenancy agreement at the next meeting of the Environment Committee.</p>	Clerk
E15/12	<p>ANY OTHER ISSUES (FOR INFORMATION)</p> <p>Cllr Rogers said that the Secretary of State had dismissed the appeal by developer for the Hampden Fields planning application.</p>	
E15/13	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The Environment Committee would next meet on Tuesday 24th March 2015</p>	

Signed: _____

Date: 24th March 2015

Actions

Ref	Action	By whom	Update/Complete
E15/4	Notify BCC of sites for ground screws and request advice from Transport for Bucks	Clerk	√
E15/5	Ask BCC for estimated date of the final devolved services agreement will be ready and refer to NALC for advice once available	Clerk	√
E15/5	Approach BCC regarding transfer of village green	JH	
E15/7	Write to properties with overhanging trees	Clerk	√
E15/7	Get quotes for structural testing of street light columns	Clerk	√
E15/8	Contact TFB regarding a bus shelter for Hawkslade	Clerk	√
E15/8	Order notice boards once authorisation received from AVDC and shop owners	Clerk	√
E15/9	Contact Wendover PCSO re bikes in Eskdale Road	Clerk	√
E15/9	Write to PCSO for Hawkslade regarding parking on junctions	Clerk	√
E15/9	Raise parking issues at the GALAF	MR	√
E15/10	Identify potential sites for new cemetery	ALL	
E15/11	Include review of allotment tenancy agreement on next Environment Committee agenda	Clerk	