

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 23rd July 2013**

PRESENT: Cllrs: Duncan, Kennedy (Chair), Starr and Wood
Mr J Reed (co opted) and Mr R Jones (co opted)

E13/17	APOLOGIES Apologies were accepted from Cllr J Hunt.	
E13/18	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST NOT REGISTERED Mr Jones declared that he was an allotment holder.	
E13/19	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING The Minutes of the Meeting held on 28 th May 2013, previously circulated, were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.	
E13/20	TERMS OF REFERENCE The draft terms of reference had been circulated and were discussed. With one minor amendment it was unanimously agreed to adopt the terms of reference.	
E13/21	CAR PARKING IN THE VILLAGE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chiltern Rail had agreed to meet with the Parish Council and Bucks CC to discuss parking issues caused by commuters parking around the village. A date was yet to be arranged.• The clerk reported that Cllr Hunt had raised concerns regarding vehicles parking on the road outside the shop resulting in queues of traffic on Station Road. This was not considered to be a major issue as most cars parked off the road on the hard standing area outside the shop.• Cllr Duncan reported that there had been further problems with hospital visitors and staff parking in residential roads in the area. One car had been towed away after it had been parked across a driveway leaving the resident unable to get their car out of their drive.• The Council had been approached by the village school requesting support for a disabled parking space to be provided in the layby. The Clerk reported that traffic management at Bucks CC had advised this would not be possible and suggested that the school make provision in their car park. This had been fed back to the head teacher.	
E13/22	STREET FURNITURE – AUDIT The results of the street furniture audit to date were noted, the audit of the village ward was still to take place.	
E13/23	STREET FURNITURE – BINS The Clerk reported that the missing bin in Lodden Close would need to be replaced by the Parish Council. The cost would be £48.83 plus VAT to supply and fit the bin. It was agreed to recommend to the Council that this is done.	
E13/24	STREET FURNITURE – BENCHES The bench in the field by Stoke House Farm was not on the Council's asset list and the Clerk had been unable to ascertain who it belonged to.	

	The bench opposite the hospital had sunk so it is leaning back and would need to be re-sited. The Clerk would obtain a quote for this work.	Clerk
E13/25	STREET FURNITURE – NOTICE BOARDS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Clerk reported that the notice board at Dalesford Road had been removed as it was unsafe due to rotting support posts. The Clerk would provide costs for a replacement for the council to consider at their September meeting. Mr Reed had repainted the notice at the Old Church Site but reported that it was very shabby and in poor repair. The Clerk was asked to obtain a quote from SignWizzard for a replacement sign. 	Clerk Clerk
E13/26	TREES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents in Ravensbourne Road had contacted the Council regarding over grown trees on an access road behind their gardens. Enquiries had been made into who was responsible for this area but it does not appear to be highways or AVDC land. It had been suggested that residents check the deeds to their properties as other properties on Hawkslade with similar access roads were responsible for these areas. The Clerk had advised the residents of this. It was noted that several trees along Risborough Road had been cut back to clear the pavement, however there was still an issue from Spencer Cottage onwards and the Clerk was asked to report this to Highways. 	Clerk
E13/27	FOOTPATHS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Kennedy said that the pavement had become very uneven and unsafe between the entrance to Stoke House and the bus stop. The Clerk would report to the Local Area Technician. Cllr Starr reported that there was a damaged stile on footpath 9 which the Clerk was asked to refer to the Rights of Way team. 	Clerk Clerk
E13/28	SWALLOW LANE BURIAL GROUND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggested amendments to the Burial Ground regulations and policy were discussed and it was agreed to recommend to the Parish Council that these be adopted. The Clerk produced draft text for a notice to go on the website and noticeboard advising that the Council would be undertaking improvements to the burial ground. It was agreed that the notice would also be sent to local undertakers. Cllr Wood said that a grave owner had reported to her that some turf had been stolen from the top of their relative's grave. They had since put down top soil and grass seed. The area of the burial ground that Mr Haines used for grass cuttings had become very full and Mr Jones' kind offer to remove some of this was accepted with thanks. 	
E13/29	ALLOTMENTS <p>The Clerk reported that four plots had been looking untended, the Clerk had written to all tenants, three of whom had requested to keep their plot and advised that recent personal issues had prevented cultivation. There had been no response from the fourth. It was AGREED that the tenant would be written to again giving 10 days to respond, after which the tenancy would be terminated.</p>	Clerk
E13/30	BEST KEPT VILLAGE <p>The Clerk reported that the Best Kept Village results had been announced and that unfortunately Stoke Mandeville had not won. Feedback from the judges had not yet been received.</p>	

E13/31	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The date of the next meeting would be 17 th September 2013 at 7.30pm.	
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Signed: _____

Date: 1st October 2013