

STOKE MANDEVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Copley

Telephone: (01296) 613888

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12th November 2013 in the
Committee Room at the Community Centre, Eskdale Road**

PRESENT:

Clrs: B Adams, R Butler, D Starr, S Watson, P Wood

Clerk: Sarah Copley

Two members of public

13/107 APOLOGIES Apologies were received from Parish Councillors A Clark (unwell), M Duncan (train cancelled), B Ezra (holiday), J Hunt (holiday), D Kennedy, M Palmer (business), B Tyndall (AVDC meeting). Apologies were also received from District Councillors C Paternoster and S Chapple. Vice Chairman Cllr Starr chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chairman.	
13/108 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION No requests for dispensation had been received.	
13/109 OPEN FORUM FOR PARISHIONERS Two residents of Roblin Close attended to raise the issue caused by new lighting installed at the ASDA site which is very bright and shining into neighbouring residential properties. The residents also asked whether the volume of the new pedestrian crossing could be lowered as it is very loud and can be clearly heard in nearby houses. Cllr Wood agreed to visit the area and report back to the Environment Committee the following week.	PW
13/110 MINUTES The Minutes of the meeting held on 8 th October 2013 had been previously circulated. It was unanimously agreed that the Chairman sign the minutes as a correct record. The table of actions was noted.	
13/111 FINANCE a) Payment of Invoices – the list of payments tabled was AGREED . b) Bank reconciliation and finance report – the bank reconciliation and finance report were noted. The Clerk advised that the two cheques to the Co-operative Bank to open the investment accounts for the council were on the list of uncleared cheques as they had not yet been sent due to a delay by Lloyds Bank in moving the required funds from the 30 day notice bank account to the Treasurers account. A discussion then took place regarding the wisdom in placing money with the Co-operative Bank due to recent press reports about the stability of the bank. The Clerk and Cllr Starr would look at alternative providers for the next meeting when a decision could be taken on where to invest the Council's reserve funds. c) Quotation received to install new roadside bins – it was proposed by RB, seconded by BA and unanimously AGREED to accept the quote from Amersham Town Council of £129.50 to install the new roadside bins and remove the old concrete bins on Risborough Road and install a new bin by the bus stop opposite Hampden Hall. d) Quotation for signs for the Old Church Site and the bus shelter at Hampden Hall – it was proposed by RB, seconded by SW and unanimously AGREED to accept the quote from SignWizzard of £41.98 for an A2 notice for the old church site and £5 for the sign at the bus shelter. e) Quotation received to relocate the dog waste bin in Orchard Close – it was proposed by RB, seconded by SW and unanimously AGREED to accept the quote of	Clerk / DS Clerk Clerk

<p>£120 from Aylesbury Vale District Council to relocate the dog bin in Orchard Close, provided a suitable location could be found to move the bin to. Cllr Starr offered to visit the area with the Clerk and report back to the Environment Committee the following week.</p> <p>f) Quotation received to repair the tennis court fencing - it was proposed by BA, seconded by SW and unanimously AGREED to accept the quote from Amersham Town Council of £201.22 to repair the tennis court fencing.</p> <p>g) Quotation received to install wooden posts at the allotment entrance – quotations had been received from Amersham Town Council for two options: (a) to install wooden posts at a cost of £93.70 or (b) to install a 2’ high post and rail fence around the grass to prevent cars driving across neighbouring drives at a cost of £419.70. After discussion, it was proposed by RB, seconded by PW and unanimously AGREED to accept the quote of £93.70 plus VAT to install wooden posts.</p> <p>h) Pay Scales – It was noted that the National Joint Council pay scales had been increased by 1% with effect from 1st April 2013. The Clerk’s contract was based on NJC rates and it was unanimously AGREED that her salary be increased by 1%, backdated to 1st April 2013, in line with NJC scales. The Clerk’s November pay would include a sum for the back dated increase.</p>	<p>DS / Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>13/112 CONSULTATION ON BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL PRIORITIES</p> <p>This consultation was discussed and it was agreed that the Council should respond that the most important area for the County Council to deliver and support on behalf of the Parish Council was Transport for Buckinghamshire, which includes highways, footpaths and rights of way.</p>	
<p>13/113 HS2</p> <p>a) Consultation on Compensation – Cllr Starr provided copies of a postcard response which had been funded by SMAG. Copies of the postcard had been delivered in the village and Hawkslade and SMAG were encouraging residents to sign and send the postcard to HS2 as their response to the consultation. After discussion, it was agreed that the Council’s response should be based on its response to the earlier consultation carried out in January 2013 and include the points raised on SMAG postcard. Cllrs Starr would draft the response with Cllr Hunt, the deadline for responses was 4th December 2013.</p> <p>b) Chiltern Tunnel – Cllrs Starr and Hunt had met with the engineer for the Chilterns Ridge Action Group (CRAG) who explained the noise impact of the proposed bored tunnel portal. Cllr Starr provided maps showing the location of the proposed tunnel. An independent sound engineer had advised that should a bored tunnel be installed through the Chilterns with the portal at 55.400 chainage, there would be no significant increase to noise impact for Stoke Mandeville. This is due to the train’s lower speed and the lower level of the tunnel portal in the landscape. Cllr Starr advised that SMAG had retained the services of Walker Beak Mason to establish the noise levels of different types of tunnel portals and was due to meet with them the following week. Cllr Starr also provided a map showing the position of the maintenance loops in Stoke Mandeville with the proviso that they did not take into account the proposal to remove the bridge from Risborough Road so may change slightly in the hybrid bill. After discussion it was agreed that any decision on changing the Council’s position regarding the tunnel portal be deferred until the next meeting, when it was hoped that the report from Walker Beak Mason would be known.</p> <p>c) Funding for noise modelling – Cllr Starr advised that SMAG were funding the tunnel portal noise modelling but that the Parish Council may wish to consider funding further work in the future.</p> <p>d) Hybrid Bill Documentation – The Clerk reported that HS2 would be delivering copies</p>	<p>DS/JH</p>

<p>of the hybrid bill documents over the next two weeks. Some would be in paper format and the rest be provided electronically, HS2 would be providing a computer for members of the public to view the electronic documents on.</p>	
<p>13/114 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE</p> <p>a) The minutes of the meeting held on 17th October were noted and the recommendations therein considered. It was agreed that the financial regulations would be updated at the same time as the standing orders to ensure consistency.</p> <p>b) There would be a meeting of the Finance and Governance Committee on 26th November to discuss the budget and precept requirements for 2014-15, all councillors were encouraged to attend.</p>	
<p>13/115 LEISURE COMMITTEE</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 29th October were noted and the recommendations therein discussed.</p> <p>It was unanimously AGREED that the adult exercise equipment project was done in two stages – stage one, the provision and installation of the equipment, stage two being improvement of accessibility to the adult gym, skate park and tennis courts.</p> <p>On behalf of Cllr Hunt, Cllr Starr gave thanks to the Community Association and volunteers for organising the excellent firework display and event which is done annually to raise money for the Community Centre. A tremendous amount of work is required to undertake and man this function which gave pleasure to so many people. Cllr Hunt also thanked Parish Councillors and the Clerk who attended and helped on the night.</p>	
<p>13/116 PLANNING COMMITTEE</p> <p>a) The minutes of the meeting held on 7th November were noted.</p> <p>b) 13/02999/ACL – 17 Castlefields, Stoke Mandeville – this application was considered and NO OBJECTIONS raised.</p>	
<p>13/117 CLERK'S REPORT</p> <p>The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with Sharps Electrical regarding upgrading the street lights to LEDs. Further advice would be sought from Bucks County Council with regard to the upgrade and provision of street lights.</p>	
<p>13/118 CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>The list of correspondence was noted and discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was unanimously AGREED to fund two “Play around the Parishes” dates in 2014 at a cost of £130 each. The Clerk would book the dates. • It was agreed not to take up the salt bag offer as there was insufficient storage space for this. 	Clerk
<p>13/119 POINTS OF INFORMATION</p> <p>Cllr Starr had represented the Parish Council at the Remembrance Service held at St Mary's Church on Sunday 10th November.</p>	
<p>13/120 DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS</p> <p>The next Parish Council meeting would be Tuesday 10th December 2013 at 7.30pm.</p>	

Signed _____

Date: 10th December 2013

Appendix 1

	Action	By whom	Update/Complete
13/32	Invite Anne Eden to a future meeting of the Parish Council	Cllr Hunt	
13/38	Audit of street furniture	All	Still outstanding – Stoke Leys Stoke Mandeville village
13/57	Contact the three pubs regarding listing pubs as community assets	Clerk	
13/64	Arrange meeting with AVDC and Hawkslade Parish Councillors re the Community Centre at Hawkslade	Clerk	On hold
13/83	Speedwatch exercise for Station Road	Clerk / trained councillors	
13/111	Investigate alternative investment account for reserves	DS/Clerk	
13/111	Arrange for installation of roadside bins	Clerk	✓
13/111	Place order for signs for Old Church and bus shelter	Clerk	✓
13/111	Identify new location for dog bin in Orchard Close	DS / Clerk	✓
13/111	Arrange for repair of tennis court fencing	Clerk	✓
13/111	Arrange for installation of wooden posts at the allotment entrance	Clerk	✓
13/113	Draft the Council's response to HS2 compensation consultation	DS/JH	✓
13/118	Book "Play around the Parishes" dates for 2014	Clerk	