

STOKE MANDEVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Copley

Telephone: (01296) 613888

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 9th June 2015
at the Community Centre, Eskdale Road, Stoke Mandeville**

PRESENT:

Cllrs: R Butler, B Ezra, A Garret, J Hunt, M Rogers, S Pluckwell, R Swinney and P Wood

Clerk: Sarah Copley

Cllr B Adams (District and County Councillor)

15/94	APOLOGIES	Apologies were received from Cllrs Clark and Starr and District Cllr C Paternoster.	
15/95	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION	There were no declarations of interest made or written requests for dispensation received.	
15/96	OPEN FORUM FOR PARISHIONERS	Cllr Adams reported that the petition for Wiseman Way was submitted to Persimmon Homes and within two weeks the roads and paths were repaired and the portaloo and skips removed. Cllr Adams also offered to assist with the lease of AVDC land for a playground where he could. The Chairman thanked him for his kind offer.	
15/97	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	<p>a) The minutes of the meeting held on 19th May were confirmed as correct and duly signed by the Chairman.</p> <p>b) The Actions list was reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Clerk to finalise the text of a flyer advertising the two councillor vacancies. • The Clerk reported that it would be possible for all councillors to have a stokemandevilleparishcouncil.org.uk email address and she would make arrangements for these to be set up. • Sign for tennis court – The Clerk had contacted SignWizzard who could add the colour logo to the sign which was agreed. The sign would state “Tennis Courts Provided by Stoke Mandeville Parish Council”. 	<p align="center">Clerk</p> <p align="center">Clerk</p>
15/98	FINANCE	<p>a) Payment of invoices - the list of payments tabled was AGREED.</p> <p>b) The bank reconciliation and finance report had been circulated and were noted.</p> <p>c) Purchase of projector – it was unanimously AGREED to purchase an EPSON EB-X03 XGA projector from Amazon at a cost of £309.99 (incl of VAT)</p> <p>d) Request for Grant – A request had been received from Stoke Mandeville Action Group HS2 (SMAG) towards Petitioning costs. After discussion RB proposed, seconded by PW, that a grant of £1000 be made recognising the considerable work undertaken by SMAG in connection with the HS2 campaign. Cllrs Rogers and Hunt abstained. (Paid by cheque number 2103)</p> <p>e) Repair to noticeboard at Dalesford Road – The Clerk reported that one of the glass panes on the notice board at Dalesford Road had been broken by vandals. The Clerk had obtained a quotation of £120 to replace with safety glass, RB proposed, second by TG, that this be accepted which was unanimously AGREED.</p>	<p align="center">Clerk</p> <p align="center">Clerk</p>

<p>15/99 DEVOLVED SERVICES</p> <p>The final version of the agreement for devolved services had been received that day and would be signed by the Chairman and Clerk and returned to Bucks CC.</p> <p>The payment for devolved services from Bucks CC would be made direct to Aylesbury Town Council as the lead authority in the cluster carrying out the work.</p>	
<p>15/100 HS2</p> <p>a) Visit by Select Committee MPs to Stoke Mandeville on 11th June 2015</p> <p>As the Council's Parliamentary Role B Agent, Cllr Rogers reported that the Select Committee of MPs would be visiting the area by coach on 11th June in connection with the HS2 Petitioning process including the Parish of Stoke Mandeville. Cllr Rogers outlined the timetable and planned stops when MPs would be meeting with members of the community. He went on to say that the PC/SMAG working group would be meeting the next day to finalise details of presentations. He had circulated briefing papers to those involved.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked MR for his continuous work during the past week and in finalising the arrangements on behalf of the PC.</p> <p>b) Progress with Petitioning to the Select Committee</p> <p>No further details had been received concerning presentation of the Council's Petition to the House of Commons Select Committee. It was still thought that petitions for the area would be heard in autumn.</p> <p>c) Chiltern Long Tunnel</p> <p>MR reported that the Select Committee would be hearing a number of Petitions requesting tunnels along the route shortly which included the Extended Chiltern Tunnel. The Chairman referred to the decision of AVDC in agreeing to support the PBA report and the Council's earlier decisions of resisting an extension of the green tunnel from Wendover to Stoke Mandeville.</p> <p>Considerable discussion followed when it was considered that the extension of the tunnel as outlined in the PBA report would have a seriously adverse effect on Stoke Mandeville bringing the portal to the edge of the village along with a large construction site which would seriously affect Aylesbury town and the surrounding area for several years. Concern was also expressed by PW that by the Council currently remaining silent it could be assumed that it was supportive of the report. Whilst remaining supportive of a tunnel through the Chilterns in principle the view was held that this should terminate at the position given within the ES of January 2012. The cost of £400m was excessive and could be spent on better mitigation elsewhere. A proposal was made by JH and seconded by RB that the Council oppose the extension of the Chiltern Bored Tunnel as contained within the Peter Brett Associates' report of February 2015 and this should remain as outlined in the ES Statement of January 2012. Upon a show of hands the proposal was unanimously AGREED.</p> <p>d) Any Other Issues from Councillors concerning HS2</p> <p>It was noted that the Additional Provisions were due to be deposited week commencing 13th July.</p>	
<p>15/101 RESLIENCE PLAN</p> <p>Cllr Clark had given apologies and this item deferred to the next meeting as the working group had not met recently. A call for volunteers had been placed in the Bucks Herald and a link to the survey was on the Council's website.</p>	
<p>15/102 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE</p> <p>a) The minutes of the meeting held on 26th May were noted and the recommendations therein discussed:</p>	

<p>Minute E15/32 – It was unanimously AGREED to reimburse the two residents for the cost of a replacement food waste bin accidentally damaged by the Council’s grass cutting contractor at a cost of £20</p> <p>Minute E15/33 – It was unanimously AGREED that the upgrade to LED street lights be rolled out over a 4 year period. JH suggested that a further trial be carried out at Claydon Path and other areas of Stoke Leys where dwellings were along a pathway with little space between the street lights and residents’ homes. Complaints had in the past been received about lights shining into bedrooms. This would be factored into the rollout. The Finance and Governance Committee would be considering financial aspects of the project at their next meeting on 7th July.</p> <p>Minute E15/34 – It was unanimously AGREED to adopt the revised burial ground fees as discussed by the Committee with effect from 1st September. MR thanked the Clerk for carrying out the benchmarking exercise.</p> <p>Minute E15/35 - It was AGREED to adopt the revised allotment agreement as tabled. The Clerk would check whether there is a requirement to consult with existing tenants before change.</p> <p>b) Streetlights The Clerk reported on an email received from the contractor carrying out the structural testing of street light columns that morning. He had notified the council of three street light columns that were in urgent need of making safe due to being at risk of collapse or falling. In consultation with the Chairman the Clerk had instructed the contractor to make these safe at a cost of £120 per column, total expenditure £360 plus VAT. The action of the Chairman in agreeing expenditure for this work was agreed in retrospect. The columns would need to be replaced in due course along with others identified in need of replacement within the next 12 months and the Clerk had requested a quote from the contractor for this work.</p> <p>c) A resident of Carters Ride had complained that the LED pilot lights were intrusive into his property. The contractor had angled the light away as far as possible but it was still causing a nuisance to the householder and he had requested that a shield be fitted to the light. The contractor had given a price of £90 to fit a shield should the light be suitable for this but was yet to confirm whether or not it could be fitted. It was AGREED to fund the shield provided the light was suitable.</p>	F&G
<p>15/103 PLANNING COMMITTEE</p> <p>a) The minutes of the meeting held on 4th June were noted.</p> <p>b) Application No. 15/01619/AOP – the recommendation of the Planning Committee to OPPOSE this application was accepted. A draft response had been circulated to councillors and it was AGREED to submit the response subject to amendments as discussed.</p>	
<p>15/104 CHAIRMAN’S REPORT</p> <p>The Chairman suggested that the committee structure be reviewed at a meeting of the Council as a suitable date for a separate meeting had not been possible. The Chairman proposed that the Staffing and Finance and Governance committees are merged in order to reduce the number of meetings and this was AGREED. The Staffing committee scheduled for 18th June would be cancelled and agenda items added to the next Finance & Governance agenda.</p>	
<p>15/105 CLERK’S REPORT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The diseased ash tree at the QEII field had now been removed by P Kernan Tree Surgeons. 2. The table tennis table was installed by Amersham Town Council the previous week. 	

<p>3. The consultation on lowering the speed limit for Risborough Road and Lower Road had been put back and would now start on 10th June and run for 6 weeks. Information would be circulated to residents urging that they respond to the consultation. The Clerk was asked to contact Weston Turville PC to arrange for the MVAS to be sited on Lower Road during the consultation period. The Clerk was asked to produce a leaflet to bring the consultation to the attention of residents and local councillors would assist with delivering them.</p> <p>4. The Clerk had attended the following events since the May PC meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning portal training on 20th May which AVDC organised for Clerks • SLCC Bucks Branch AGM which included training on the new audit regulations <p>5. The Clerk advised Council that she had been offered and accepted the post of part time Clerk to the Weston Turville Parish Council. She confirmed this would not conflict with her role as part time Clerk to SMPC and that both would be separately contained. The Clerk was offered congratulations from Councillors on her additional post.</p>	Clerk
<p>15/106 CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>The list of correspondence was noted:</p> <p>Letter from BCC with details of road works planned for June-August, including Wendover Road and Lower Road.</p>	
<p>15/107 POINTS OF INFORMATION</p> <p>No matters were raised.</p>	
<p>15/108 DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 14th July at 7.30pm.</p>	
<p>15/109 Due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, it was AGREED to close the meeting to press and public in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960</p>	
<p>15/110 UPDATE ON LEGAL CASE</p> <p>a) The response from Bucks Law Plus in relation to the Council's request for compensation was noted.</p> <p>b) The Clerk provided an update on the legal proceedings being handled by Bucks Law Plus on behalf of the Council with respect to its land in Marsh Lane.</p> <p>c) The Clerk reported that documentation relating to the Council's Allotment Land and Burial ground was being handed over to Bucks Law Plus on Friday in order to progress the registration of both.</p>	

Signed _____

Date: 14th July 2015

Appendix 1 – Actions

	Action	By whom	Update/Complete
14/202	Apply to Land Registry with respect to allotments and Marsh Lane land	Clerk/JH	Bucks Law Plus dealing
15/76	Text for flyer to advertise casual vacancies for Stoke Grange Ward	AC	
15/79	Consider Council's response to ETRO consultation	Env Committee	
15/97	Arrange for email addresses to be set up for all	Clerk	✓
15/97	Place order for sign with Signwizzard	Clerk	✓
15/98	Instruct contractor to repair the noticeboard	Clerk	✓
15/97	Arrange for grant to be paid to SMAG	Clerk	✓
15/99	Signed devolved services contract to be returned to BCC	Clerk	✓
15/102	Funding of streetlight upgrade to be added to next F&G agenda	F&G	✓
15/102	Progress fitting of shield to light if possible	Clerk	
15/103	Submit Council's response to planning application 15/01619/AOP	JH/Clerk	✓
15/104	Arrange for MVAS to be returned to SMPC	Clerk	✓
15/104	Design flyer to be circulated to raise awareness of the speed limit consultation	Clerk	✓