

**STOKE MANDEVILLE PARISH COUNCIL**

*Clerk: Mrs Sarah Copley*

*Telephone: (01296) 613888*

**Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Committee held at the Community Centre,  
Eskdale Road, Stoke Mandeville on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2017.**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: M Rogers (Chair), S Pluckwell, D Starr, P Wood, J Hunt, P Wood

**CLERK:** Sarah Copley and Trainee, J Knowles

<b>E17/13</b>	<b>APOLOGIES</b> No apologies, all persons present.	
<b>E17/14</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> There were no declarations of interest.	
<b>E17/15</b>	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b> The Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 <sup>th</sup> January, previously circulated, were agreed as a correct and duly signed by the Chairman. It was reported in the allotment at plot 1, the School have done work during the Easter break to clear brambles ready for delivery of compost. Cllr Starr stated he had not actioned emptying the roadside salt bins but will do so in the next two weeks.	
<b>E17/16</b>	<b>DEVOLVED SERVICES</b> a) The Clerk reported on a complaint of overgrown hedges in Ligo Avenue. The conifers were growing over the footpath by around a metre. The work to clear the path space will be completed by June. b) The Clerk reported that cutting the grass verges started in March and are due again the week commencing 17April. c) The Clerk reported that the footpath along from the Woolpack PH to Stoke House on the Risborough Road needs siding out. A local groundsman has been asked to provide a quote for this work.	Clerk
<b>E17/17</b>	<b>STREET LIGHTS</b> a) The Clerk reported that the light in Lower Road is being reconnected on the 1 <sup>st</sup> May and documents have been forwarded to the insurance company. b) Cllr Starr had been asked, at the last meeting, to look into the area lit by a new LED light in Brudenell Drive and he reported on the outcome. Cllr Hunt reported that she had reported that a resident had raised that the replacement LED light at the end of Brudenell Drive did not shed sufficient light to illuminate the walkway gate entrance between Brudenell Drive and Station Road. There were several suggestions and it was agreed the action was for the Clerk to contact M Sharp (electrician) to see if there was an alternative to help light the area, i.e. solar or something reflective. c) It was reported the lights in Marsh Lane were moved to the telegraph poles in the School grounds but were not connected. They were set too far back for the light poles. A quote is due in to extend the lights on metre long arms. It was discussed that the road will be closed in the next two years because of HS2 but pedestrians will still require access, and required light for safety. It was unanimously agreed that UK Power Networks should pay something towards the cost of this as they were the company that moved the lights. The action was for the Clerk to write to UK Power Networks. The Clerk reports that she contacted them and was advised to send an email with a map of where the lights are positioned, what work needs doing and any photographs that could assist in the identification so UK Power Networks could make a site inspection and investigate.	DS/JH  Clerk
<b>E17/18</b>	<b>STREET FURNITURE</b>	

	<p>a) It was reported by the Clerk that the Perspex window in the Bus Shelter in Risborough Road was broken. A quote to replace was obtained for the cost of £45.00 but it was agreed for the Clerk to obtain a quote for toughened glass. The Clerk has contacted Steve Webb and he will provide a quote in the coming weeks.</p> <p>b) The benches were reported to be adequately maintained but were thought to require a varnish. The action for the Clerk was to speak to Roger Haynes to obtain a quote.</p>	Clerk
		Clerk
<b>E17/19</b>	<p><b>HIGHWAYS, RIGHTS OF WAY AND FOOTPATHS</b></p> <p>a) A resident living in Station Road has contacted the Parish Council reporting an issue of commuter parking in Swallow Lane, and requested signs be erected to deter this. There was discussion around the subject and it was agreed that the Clerk should reply to the email explaining that yellow lines would prevent local residents and their family and friends being able to park and that this would also affect the burial ground and those visiting the church. The Council will continue to work with Network Rail to keep commuter parking minimised.</p> <p>b) The Clerk reported that the footpath along from the Woolpack PH to Stoke House on the Risborough Road needs siding out. A local groundsman is going to provide a quote for this work.</p>	Clerk
		Clerk
<b>E17/20</b>	<p><b>BURIAL GROUND</b></p> <p>a) The Clerk reported that a funeral is taking place at the Church on the 25 April by a person who purchased a burial plot in 1997. The Clerk reported she has met the grave digger at the graveyard on the 21 April and the grave plot has been identified. The grave digger confirmed he would dig the site on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April.</p> <p>b) There were discussions around the new burial ground requirements and it was agreed the Clerk was to contact the planning department in the coming weeks and obtain an update on this progress, and ask for a preapp meeting.</p>	Clerk
<b>E17/21</b>	<p><b>TREES</b></p> <p>There was nothing to report but there was discussion about the Old Church Site. A large old tree has fallen down following the recent storms. The state of the other trees was a concern.</p> <p>The points of action were;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To write to HS2 and obtain a date they want to start work.</li> <li>2. Contact a tree specialist for a quote for work to the trees on the site.</li> <li>3. Contact Gareth Bird, the tree officer at AVDC for advice.</li> </ol> <p>At the Annual Parish Meeting it had been advised by the HS2 representative that work at the Old Church site would begin at the end of this year as there was further ongoing discussions.</p>	DS/PW
<b>E17/22</b>	<p><b>ALLOTMENTS</b></p> <p>a) The Clerk reported that KW had requested a further plot and this was agreed.</p> <p>b) The Clerk also reported that PF made a request to take on another plot. It was agreed this could go ahead.</p>	
<b>E17/23</b>	<p><b>ANY OTHER ISSUES (FOR INFORMATION)</b></p> <p>No other matters.</p>	
<b>E17/12</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The Environment Committee would next meet on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30pm.</p>	

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 21<sup>st</sup> April 2017