

STOKE ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19TH JULY 2018

PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING ON THURSDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2018

Present: Keith Holder (Chair), Anna Mearns, Amanda Taylor, Keith Hambly, John Johnston, Bridget Banwell (Clerk), 1 member of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Sebastian Wolf, Kim Gibson, Kirsty Hayes, Philip Ham and Alan Townsend.

2. Declarations of interest

As the resident of the property, Cllr Taylor declared an interest in Item 7 – Planning.

3. Public Session

Cllr Taylor left the meeting at 7.35pm

Cllr McEntee arrived at the meeting at 7.40pm

Nick Taylor, the planning applicant, was in attendance to discuss the planning application (Item 7). He explained that he had been granted a licence from MDC to home board up to 4 dogs. A proportion of the new development will be built into the natural slope. The property is not overlooked or in direct sight of neighbours, from whom there have been no objections. The natural stone will be in keeping with the existing property and will actually improve the present appearance.

Cllr Taylor returned to the meeting at 7.45pm

4. County & District Councillors' Reports - None

5. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st June 2018 were agreed to be a true record and signed by the Chair.

PROPOSED BY: Amanda Taylor **SECONDED BY:** John Johnston
AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Minutes arising not on the Agenda - None

It was agreed to bring forward Item 7 – Planning

Cllr Taylor left the meeting at 7.50pm

Planning

7. Application No. 2018/1570/HSE – Pond Cottage, Susanna's Lane to Dark Lane, SSM – New garage with dog/utility room; dog wash off; WC and hobbies room

PC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL

PROPOSED BY: John Johnston **SECONDED BY:** Anna Mearns
AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

Cllr Taylor returned to the meeting at 7.55pm

8. Playing Field

1. Pavilion/Football Club

There have been donations of paint for the plasterboard and stonework, etc. The windows are in place, but the plumbing has yet to be done. Cllr Taylor has 10 spare pots of pastel pink Sandtex. Cllrs Johnston and Hambly have kindly agreed to do the painting. The scaffolding will be put up next week and the roof will be finished in time for the festival on 18th August and the first football match.

(a) Floor paint for pavilion: The floor needs to be painted before the season begins. It was proposed that Cllr Johnston should purchase the paint which should cost approx. £30.

PROPOSED BY: Amanda Taylor **SECONDED BY:** John McEntee
AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

It was agreed that since the pavilion is a community amenity, everyone who uses the building, including the football club, will be charged £15. This will be reviewed annually. There will be no charge for training evenings. Clerk will contact Hannah Snow to inform her of this decision.

PROPOSED BY: John McEntee **SECONDED BY:** John Johnston

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

2. 2018 Annual Inspection Report: This will require an action plan. The only major problem is the spring on the rabbit. Cllr McEntee will tighten this. The Report also states that the play bark is just wood chip and it needs to be deeper. The edging of the rubberised area is a trip hazard. Cllrs Johnston and Hambly will look at the points and report back.

Cllr Taylor contacted Mant Leisure who came to inspect the site. They said that a lot of the equipment needs replacing since it does not satisfy the safety criteria. It will cost approx. £12,000-£14,000 to replace the slide alone and re-lay the surface. The company has drawn up a plan for the whole area and Cllr Taylor proposed that this should be broken down into smaller areas before sourcing some grant funding. It was agreed that there is a need to look at improving the recreational area for all ages since many funding sources require involvement from all age groups. It must be shown that there are organised groups who regularly use the playing field.

- (a) Paint for skate board ramps: It was agreed that Cllr Johnston should purchase black paint for the ramps at a cost of approx. £15.

PROPOSED BY: Anna Mearns **SECONDED BY:** John McEntee

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Tennis Court: Cllr Taylor said that the surface has cracks in the sub-structure so it is not a case of simply being resurfaced. The work needed would cost approx. £30,000-£40,000.

It was agreed that there is a need for a staged project to improve all the facilities and it is important to gain community interest and support. A working party will be set up in September for anyone who is interested, but the PC will make any decisions. A public meeting will be held in the Hall on 13th September. This will be promoted at the village festival. Cllr Taylor agreed to prepare some sort of display of plans for the playing field.

The Duck Race takes place on 2nd September at 2.00pm.

The problems with anti-social behaviour need to be addressed and this can only be solved by increased usage. Cars who park along the small length of hedge believe that they cannot be seen. One solution would be to remove the hedge completely; this would open it up to Frog Lane so cars can be seen more easily. Clerk will contact the PSCO explaining the problems and invite her to the next meeting.

9. **Millennium Wood**

The contractor made a very good job of cutting the grass. The picnic benched has completely collapsed. Cllr Johnston will contact Rowena Kinsman regarding archive material.

10. **Defibrillator**

The first training took place last week. The machine is battery powered so does not need to be connected to an electricity supply. The Hall will be responsible for the machine and will invoice the PC for its contribution.

11. **Silting of rivers** – A report from the Working Party

Cllr Hambly reported that there had been no update from the Environment Agency. Wainwrights is looking at installing automated equipment. He said that Dave and Jan Cullen own the land by the stream and will look at their deeds. Cllr Hambly does not know whether there has been a second inspection of The Bridge. He has seen the deeds for The Mill and believes they own the land in question. The owner of The Mill is happy in principle to carry out some maintenance work. The PC cannot take any action and Geoff O'Sullivan cannot carry out work on land belonging to someone else. Cllr Hambly will visit the solicitors to inspect the deeds they hold on behalf of the PC.

12. 1. **Pedestrian Road Safety Enhancement Scheme**

Cllr Mearns will contact Cllr Ham to arrange a meeting.

2. Mill Lane: There has been an improvement, but some cars are still using the lane. Cllr Taylor complained to MDC after a Somerset Waste lorry got stuck a few days ago.
13. **Traffic speeds at Church Street, Tower Hill and Coalpit Lane**
Clerk has contacted Highways regarding a 20mph limit and is awaiting a response.
14. **Constitution of Memorial Hall Committee**
Cllr Holder said that he has been looking at the Charity Commission website for both the hall and the playing field and it would seem that the PC needs to look at the constitution and plan a way forward. Cllr Johnston said he may have the documentation and, if this is the case, Cllr Holder will peruse these. The hall re-wrote its constitution a few years ago and Cllr Hambly will look into this. It was agreed that Cllrs Holder and Hambly will meet with Teresa from the hall committee and report back.
15. **Repairs to bus shelter**
Clerk has contacted the Insurers to confirm that the PC does not wish to pursue its claim since Cllr McEntee has kindly agreed to carry out the repairs on behalf of the PC.
16. **Replacement bench in the Millennium Garden**
It was proposed that Cllr Taylor should go ahead and order a 4' bench from Amazon for £275.00 + £30 delivery. This will need to be secured to the ground.
PROPOSED BY: Anna Mearns **SECONDED BY:** Keith Hambly
AGREED UNANIMOUSLY
17. **Gardeners for the path from Field Close to Stoke Hill**
Cllr Johnston reported that this access path from Sweetleaze has become very overgrown. He has cut it for the past couple of years. It was agreed that the Clerk should ask Primrose Garden Maintenance to cut it.
18. **Finance**
1. Bank balances: Current A/C £36,081.49 Reserve A/C £50.43
2. Cheques for authorisation:
EDF Energy – Parish lighting
Primrose Garden Maintenance Ltd – Grass cutting – Inv. 3785
Primrose Garden Maintenance Ltd – PF grass cutting - Inv. 3879
SSM War Memorial Hall – Rental
Fae Clements – Website Maintenance – Inv. 022
SALC – Councillor training
A H Hoddinott & Son – Millennium Wood grass cutting
PROPOSED BY: Anna Mearns **SECONDED BY:** John McEntee
AGREED UNANIMOUSLY
19. **Correspondence**
Correspondence to note was emailed to all PCs prior to the meeting. Clerk read out a copy of a letter from an anonymous resident to the Planning Enforcement Officer at MDC regarding planning issues.
20. **Date of next meeting:** Thursday 6th September at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed at 9.43pm

Signed _____

Dated _____

