

STOKE ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7TH SEPTEMBER 2017

PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 19TH OCTOBER

Present: Keith Holder (Chair), Anna Mearns, Amanda Taylor, Kirsty Hayes, Sebastian Wolf, John Johnston, John McEntee, Philip Ham, Alan Townsend, Bridget Banwell (Clerk), 11 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Tanya Squire.

2. Declarations of interest

Cllr Mearns declared a precuniary interest in Item 7(1) Wainwright Planning Application.

3. Public Session

Members of the public were in attendance to discuss Item 7(1). Concerns were raised over the following issues:

- Overall scale, aspect and permanency of change to the landscape
- Hydrology needs further investigation. There is no mention of controlling contamination of water
- Ecology
- Proximity to Three Ashes – the nearest tip will be 140m from residents' properties
- Traffic movement and noise
- Soil and grit levels – there is no explanation of what this will be used for and whether it will be recycled
- Safeguarding and security regarding aftercare
- The Stability Assessment raises major concerns. This has now been removed from the SCC website

4. County & District Councillors' reports

Cllr Ham said that the highways improvement scheme is due to start in 3 weeks. He will undertake training on Monday and will then have the necessary forms.

Mells and Leigh-on-Mendip are working on tidying up finger posts. SCC has re-written the plan regarding this. Cllr Ham will forward the paperwork.

Proposed 3 weekly emptying of bins is on hold for the time being, but may come into force next spring.

The Open Space Protection Order will be going to cabinet. This can include dog fouling which means a Protection Order could be put in place on the playing field and anyone whose dog is caught fouling can be instantly fined.

Cllr Townsend talked about the licensing board and the committee meetings he has attended.

5. Minutes of previous meeting

After amendment the Minutes of the meeting held on 24th August were agreed to be a true record and signed by the Chair.

PROPOSED BY: Anna Mearns

SECONDED BY: Sebastian Wolf

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Matters arising from the Minutes

1. Item 3 –Siltng of rivers: Cllrs Mearns and Taylor have met with Mr Massey to view the river. Clerk is still trying to obtain the report from the Environment Agency.
2. Item 6(2) – Dog bin: Cllr Johnston confirmed that the Lengsthman will install the dog bin this week.
3. Item 6(5) – Millennium Wood: Clerk has been unsuccessful in obtaining a valuation of the wood. Cllr Ham suggested contacting a member of the NFU at Stratton-on-the-Fosse who may agree to carry out a free valuation.
4. State of notice boards: Cllr Johnston confirmed that Tim Brook is happy to replace the Perspex in the notice board. A price has been obtained from Right Price, but Cllr McEntee will obtain a price for polycarbonate which is cheaper.
5. Memorial Hall – Vacancies for committee members: Someone has offered to act as booking clerk, but they still need a chair and vice-chair. Vacancies could be advertised on the website.

4 members of the public left at 8.20pm

7. Planning

1. Application No. 2016/0665/CNT – Construction of 3 replacement tips at the Moonshill Quarry Complex

Having declared an interest, Cllr Mearns left the meeting.

PC has taken into account all verbal and written comments from members of the public. The Stability Assessment is a very important issue and the PC should question whether it is to be considered since it has been withdrawn from the SCC website. Wayne McKeown from Wainwrights said that SCC is taking advice as to the content. The PC is not technically qualified to analyse the information and cannot summarise parishioners' views as things stand. It was proposed that a draft letter be written to SCC saying that the PC is aware of the complexities of this application and there is a lot that still needs to be considered. The letter will be circulated to all PCs and it may then be necessary to call a special meeting to discuss this further.

PROPOSED BY: Keith Holder

SECONDED BY: John Johnston

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

Cllr Mearns returned to the meeting at 8.45pm

2. *4 members of the public left at 8.46pm*

Application No. 2017/2163/CLE – New Blakes Farm, Fosse Road, SSM – Application for a certificate of lawfulness for the existing use of a barn as a residential dwelling (C3) use with associated curtilage

There are numerous questions arising from this application. The issue of concealment could be explored because no one knew that part of the building was being used as a dwelling.

PC RECOMMENDS REFUSAL

PROPOSED BY: Anna Mearns

SECONDED BY: Sebastian Wolf

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Cllrs Ham and Townsend said that as Ward Members they supported the PC's decision
Application No. 2017/2272/VRC – Phippens Farm, Fosse Road, SSM – Variation of Condition Number 2 (approved drawings) of planning permission 2016/1922/FUL for change of use of agricultural barns to 3 dwellings and erection of garages

The previous application related to dividing the main house into 2 dwellings, but it is unclear what they are asking for in this application. Both the letters and drawings are of poor quality and the information supplied is very confusing and poor.

PC RECOMMENDS REFUSAL

PROPOSED BY: Sebastian Wolf

SECONDED BY: Anna Mearns

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Pedestrian Road Safety Enhancement Scheme

Cllr Mearns is still waiting for a response from SCC regarding Mill Lane. Neil from Vectos believes that the TRO is a good idea, but it would be good to have a physical restriction at Partmans Hill. Cllr Mearns will ask SCC about a height restriction. She will contact Cllr Ham next week for the application to get small improvement scheme funding for the pedestrian road safety enhancement scheme.

Cllrs Ham and Townsend left the meeting at 9.10pm

9. Playing Field

1. Pavilion renovation work: The Wainwrights Trustees will visit the pavilion next week. A lot of work is in place, but the electrics have still to be finished and signed off. Cllr Johnston thinks that the pavilion will be approved by the League for home fixtures.
2. Annual Inspection Report: Matthew Emery will send a quote in respect of the rusted bolts. The treads on the steps can be replaced by wider ones. Cllr Johnston will contact Matthew regarding the work on the slide. The gate is a crush hazard and something needs to be put there temporarily to stop it slamming.

It was proposed that the Clerk should place an order with G. B. Sports and Leisure for 2 large flat swing seats and 1 cradle seat, together with new chains. These will be delivered to Cllr Hayes and she will ask her husband to fit them.

PROPOSED BY: John Johnston

SECONDED BY: Anna Mearns

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

10. Finance

1. Bank balances: Current A/C £3,531.67 Reserve A/C £29,545.58

2. Cheques for authorisation:

Primrose Garden Maintenance Ltd – Grass cutting – Inv. 3113

Primrose Garden Maintenance Ltd – PF grass cutting – Inv. 3090

A Brooks – BG Clerk's salary – Sept Qrt

Fae Clements – Website maintenance – Inv. 012

M. Butcher – Lychgate cleaning – Sept Qrt + 6 replacement quarterly cheques

B Banwell – Clerk's salary – Sept Qrt

B Banwell – Admin expenses – Sept Qrt

L Caple – Internal Auditor's fees

Somerset Playing Fields' Association – Annual Inspection fee

PROPOSED BY: John Johnston

SECONDED BY: Anna Mearns

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Transfer of funds: It was agreed that the sum of £9,545.58 be transferred from the Current to the Reserve account.

PROPOSED BY: Sebastian Wolf

SECONDED BY: Anna Mearns

AGREED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Change of signatory: Due to the resignation of John Sainsbury, it will be necessary to add another signatory. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

11. **Procedures**

This will be an agenda item for the December meeting.

12. **Correspondence**

- Email from Geoff O'Sullivan regarding gas and electricity costs for the Memorial Hall. Since the hall has not yet formed a committee, this will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Notices of Planning Approval from MDC for App. No. 2017/1789/FUL – Erection of agricultural livestock building and App. No. 2017/2052/NMA – Ashton, Stoke Hill, SSM – Inclusion of opening roof lights in lean-to type roof above new ground floor utility extension at rear of property.

13. **Items for next Agenda/Matters to report**

1. Co-option of Parish Councillor
2. Silting of rivers
3. Memorial Hall
4. Cheque signatory
5. Millennium Wood – Clerk will invite Simon Clark to attend the meeting

Meeting closed at 9.43pm

Signed _____

Date _____