

STOKE ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes from the meeting held on 30th September 2021 in the War Memorial Hall

Present: Cllrs Simon Farnsworth, John McEntee, Keith Hambly (Chair), Nicholas Corbett and Amanda Taylor

Also, in Attendance – Kate Egan – Parish Clerk

Items were taken out of order from the agenda

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1. Welcome by the Chairman

2. Apologies for absence

Cllrs David Richardson-Aitken, Kim Gibson, Matthew Rice and Keith Holder

3. Absent

All Councillors were present or had sent apologies

4. (a) To receive declaration of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda

There were no declarations of interest received.

(b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests

There were no written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests.

(c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

Cllrs Keith Hambly, Amanda Taylor and John McEntee requested a dispensation in regard to item 10 (b)

5. Public Session

There was one member of the public in attendance and they spoke in regard to item 11 (b), planning application 2021/1942/OTS. Councillors asked a couple of questions and replies were given.

6. County and District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Alan Townsend and County Councillor Phillip Ham were not in attendance and had sent their apologies. A very brief report was forwarded before the meeting.

Stoke Bottom – good to see more progress on repairs to the edges and the centre of the highway at the east end under further contact with Highways. Planning – Mendip's updated Local Plan Part 2 is being presented to Cabinet on 4th October with a recommendation to accept. The Yellow gate field site is not identified as a development site. A joint response to the Planning Inspectorate for the appeal ref 2020/1362, the dwelling at Cook's Farm.

7. To confirm the minutes of the previous meetings held on 26th August and 9th September 2021, previously circulated

After correcting the numbering sequence for the pages, the Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes for 26th August and 9th September 2021 be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair

8. Matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda

There were no matters arising from the minutes but on the agenda

11. Planning Applications – If other planning applications are received between the date of this notice and the date of the meeting, they may be considered.

(a) 2021/1498/FUL New access road, land at 366759 148272 Green Lane, Holcombe **Update** Mendip District Council have approved the application.

(b) 2021/1942/OTS Application for outline planning permission with some matters reserved for conversion and extension of 2no. existing barns into holiday use with details of access, layout and scale. Barns at Dunfords Farm, Edford Hill, Holcombe **Update** Whilst Stoke St Michael Parish Council didn't have any objectives in principle, they recommended refusal as it was felt that an outline application was invalid. One of the barns is listed and the other is within the curtilage of the listed buildings. This being the case, an application for full planning permission and listed building consent should have been submitted.

(c) 2021/1981/HSE Erection of single storey detached double garage. 1 Field View Cottages, Edford Hill, Holcombe **Update** Stoke St Michael Parish Council recommended approval although there were inconsistencies within the application. The application form states that the building will be clad in timber whereas the drawings state render, stone and brick for the finish.

9. Policies

(a) Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

Following a slight amendment, the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy

(b) Equal Opportunities Policy

Following the correction of a spelling mistake the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Equal Opportunities Policy

10. To Be Resolved

(a) Discussion on the updates regarding the traffic issues

County Councillor Phillip Ham has been contacted again regarding updates but nothing as yet is forthcoming. Another vehicle had become stuck in Mill Lane earlier today. A draft plan has been sent from Highways for positioning of the lockable bollard with the question who will be key holders. Meanwhile permission has been given from Highways for the Parish Council to purchase some temporary road closure signs and sandbags to hold it down. The Council **RESOLVED** Cllr Keith Hambly contact Somerset Highways to ask where they can be purchased from and to place an order.

(b) Proposal to approve the CIO documents and lease for the Millennium Wood

The CIO documents and lease were sent to Councillor prior to the meeting, there are no real concerns but there are a couple of queries. This will be brought back to the next meeting where hopefully answers will have been received.

(c) Suggestion of possible dates for Councillors to arrange an informal meeting with a Mendip Planning Policy Officer to discuss the possible production of a village design code for Stoke St Michael.

Several Councillors were interested in attending an informal meeting to discuss the production of a village design code for Stoke St Michael. Cllr Keith Hambly will contact the Mendip Planning Policy Officer to arrange a mutually convenient date.

(d) Approval of the letter to be dropped off to residents in Moonshill Road in relation to the parking issues.

Following a slight amendment, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the letter to be dropped off to residents in relation to the parking issues. Cllr Amanda Taylor will arrange for printing and Cllr John McEntee will arrange delivery.

12. Planning Applications being Monitored

- (a) **ENF/2021/0090** Construction of stoned farm tracks across 35 hectares of agricultural farm land to be used for walking, cycling, and bridleways. Cooks Wood Quarry, Bector Lane, Stoke St Michael. The application was withdrawn on 1st March 2021 and an enforcement case was requested due to part of the application was for retrospective planning. The Enforcement Team have confirmed a case has been opened and that discussions are taking place regarding a resubmission.

13. Clerk's Report

- (a) Report following the Clerks attendance at a meeting concerning the formation of the Unitary Council on Tuesday 21st September, this was forwarded as a separate document. **Update** Cllr Keith Hambly is attending a conference in regard to the Unitary Council on 7th October
- (b) Councillors have been offered an opportunity to work in partnership with Mendip District Council in the production of a village design code for Stoke St Michael. Councillors have accepted the invitation and an initial meeting will be arranged.
- (c) A report has been sent to Somerset Highways regarding the contents of the road side salt bins in the parish to help them with programming the annual grit bin filling operation.
- (d) The grant application for Opening Up Safely and Reconnecting Communities was submitted on 16th September 2021. **Update** The Parish Council has been informed that they were successful in the grant application and were awarded the full £1500.
- (e) Two grant applications were submitted to Mendip District Council, the first one was from a Climate and Ecological Emergency Fund and the second one was from a Communities Fund. Cllr Amanda Taylor was thanked for completing the grant applications.
- (f) Councillors have been invited to a Quarry Liaison Meeting on 20th October. Cllr Simon Farnsworth is hoping to attend.
- (g) The area around the school will be reduced to a 20mph zone, the works for this has been programmed into the fourth quarter of the year by Somerset County Council, this is between January and March 2022. Somerset County Council will be contacted in advance of this to clarify the extent of the proposed zone.

14. Finance

Bank Balances as at: - 31st August 2021

Reserve Account - £41,437.87

Current Account - £276.00

Receipts

(a) Western Power Distribution – Wayleave Payment - £30.15

Payments

(b) Contribution to the SLCC Conference - £75.00

(c) Transfer of £5,000 from the Reserve Account to the Current Account

(d) Clerks Salary – September - £293.76

(e) Ionos monthly payment – September - £12.00

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the above payments and receipts and approval of the additional invoice below.

(f) Primrose Garden Maintenance Ltd - £651.43

15. Correspondence

(a) No vehicle idling – promoting the message in Mendip – forwarded 28.08.21

(b) Councillor Training Events in September – forwarded 03.09.21

(c) Stoke St Michael Design Code Opportunity – forwarded 07.09.21

(d) Mendip Local Plan Part 2: Sites and Policies – forwarded 09.09.21

(e) Mendip District Council Parish Bulletin – forwarded 16.09.21

(f) Invitation to Parishes Unitary Meeting hosted by Frome Town Council – forwarded 16.09.21

(g) Slides from the Parish Forum held on 14th September – forwarded 17.09.21

(h) Link for next Parish Forum meeting on 12th October – forwarded 17.09.21

(i) Findings from engagement on the early thinking about future community health and care services for people in Somerset – forwarded 20.09.21

(j) Levels Climate Forum on 6th November – forwarded 20.09.21

16. Matters to report/items for next agenda

(a) Quarterly Budget review

(b) Recruitment of a new Burial Clerk

17. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 11th November in the War Memorial Hall starting at 7.30pm

Meeting Closed 9.20pm