

STOKE ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes from the meeting held on 13th October 2022 in the War Memorial Hall

Present: Cllrs Amanda Taylor, Nick Corbett, John McEntee (Vice - Chair), Matthew Rice and Anna Mearns

Also, in Attendance – Kate Egan – Parish Clerk

Items were taken out of order from the agenda

1. Welcome by the Chairman

Cllr John McEntee acting as Chair for the meeting welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Keith Hambly

3. Absent

No Councillors were absent

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

No declarations of interest were received from Councillors on items on the agenda

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

Cllr Nick Corbett has a written request for dispensation in relation to War Memorial Hall Matters for four years (expires June 2026) and Cllrs Amanda Taylor and Keith Hambly have written requests for dispensation in relation to the Community Playing Field for one year (expires June 2023)

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

There were no requests for dispensation as appropriate

5. Public Session

There were three members of the public in attendance. Matters discussed were

- an update on the appeal for the outline planning application for the residential development of up to 47 dwellings.
- Anti-social behaviour in the village, this was also discussed later in the meeting
- Parking Issues at the entrance to Mill Lane and access to the Church, this was also discussed later in the meeting.

11. To Be Resolved/Discussed

(b) Proposal for the Parish Council to provide guidance for dealing with issues relating to anti-social behaviour in the village.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the guidance sheet for dealing with issues relating to anti-social behaviour in the village, this will be posted on the Website, Parish Council Facebook Page and the Noticeboard

6. County and District Councillor Reports

District Councillor Alan Townsend sent his apologies but had sent a report prior to the meeting, this is attached as appendix A.

County Councillor Barry Clarke sent his apologies, County Councillor Phillip Ham was in attendance and gave a verbal report.

7. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st September 2022, previously circulated

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st September be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Vice Chair

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda.

9. 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) 2022/1731/FUL Change of use to outbuilding from B1 Use to residential annexe to main house Use C3. Work Barn, 1 Moonshill Farm, Frog Lane, Stoke St Michael **Update** Stoke St Michael Parish Council recommended approval, as there was no reason to object.

10. Planning Applications – Responses to be noted from Mendip District Council and others.

Due to number of responses to be noted, these are attached as appendix B

11. To Be Resolved/Discussed

(a) Update following a meeting with Somerset County Traffic Management about parking issues outside the church affecting access to Mill Lane.

A meeting was held between Cllrs Amanda Taylor, Keith Hambly, District Councillor Alan Townsend, and a representative from Somerset County Council Traffic Management Road Safety and Parking team. Lots of options were discussed but no real solutions were found. The situation will be monitored for the time being.

(c) Proposal for the Parish Council to cover costs of a strimming course for members of the Millennium Wood Working Party at a cost of £310.00 + VAT

The Council **RESOLVED** to cover the costs of a strimming course for two members of the Millennium Wood Working Party at a cost of £310 + VAT. Cllr Anna Mearns on behalf of the Millennium Wood will advise Simon Clarke to book the course for the members.

(d) Proposal for the Parish Council to approve the current fees and Rules for the Burial Ground

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the current fees and Rules for the Burial Ground.

(e) Proposal to discuss and approve the response to the Local Community Network Consultation.

The Local Community Network consultation was discussed. County Councillor Phillip Ham carried out a survey which was also asked by other Parish Councils. Councillors were asked to send their individual comments to the Clerk, where they will be compiled and submitted before the deadline of 17th November.

12. Clerk's Report

(a) Update on the Stoke St Michael Village Design Code **Update** Cllr Amanda Taylor gave a brief update. Rob Palmer the lead Planning Officer from Mendip District Council has now left, but the project team are continuing to develop the Design Code and we expect to see a draft in the next few weeks. This will go for internal review in Mendip before further public consultation.

(b) The appeal hearing for the outline planning application for the residential development of up to 47 dwellings will be held at Mendip District Council Offices on Tuesday 8th November.

13. Finance

Bank Balances as at: - 6th October 2022

Reserve Account - £42,551.01

Current Account - £4,582.93

Quarterly Review of the Budget the Quarterly Review of the Budget was noted by the Council.

Approval of the Quarterly Bank Reconciliation the Council approved the Quarterly Bank Reconciliation and it was signed by the Vice Chair

Receipts

(a) Annual Wayleave Payment - £30.15

(b) Memorial Fee - £135.00 – received 21.09.22

(c) Bank Interest - £2.12 – received 09.09.22

Payments

(d) Ionos – website hosting - £12.00 – pd by DD

(e) Purchase of flowers to be placed by the condolence book – £50.95

(f) Primrose Garden Maintenance – Grass Cutting - £666.52

(g) Cheque to open Unity Bank Account - £500.00

(h) Clerks Salary – September - £303.84

(i) HMRC – September £49.40

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the above receipts and payments and also **RESOLVED** to approve the additional receipt below.

(j) Receipt from Mendip District Council for refund of hall hire - £230.00

14. Correspondence

- (a) Councillor Training sessions provided by SALC in September and October – forwarded 03.09.22
- (b) Invitation to the Mendip Rural Parishes Liaison Group Meeting on 29th September – forwarded 18.09.22
- (c) Minutes from Moons Hill Quarry Liaison Meeting an invitation to the next meeting being held on Wednesday 19th October – forwarded 27.09.22
- (d) Mendip District Council Monthly – September 2022 – forwarded 03.10.22

15. Matters to report / items for next agenda

- (a) Mendip District Council greenspaces consultation
- (b) Trimming of the cemetery hedge along Mill Lane
- (c) Quotes for removing the graffiti in the Lychgate.

16. Under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The Council **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business, this was proposed by Cllr Anna Mearns and seconded by Cllr Nic Corbett

(a) Location of Parish Council Meetings

The Council **RESOLVED** to try a different location for the next two Parish Council Meetings.

17. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 24th November 2022 at Stoke St Michael Primary School starting at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed 9.28pm

Appendix A

STOKE ST MICHAEL PC REPORT OCTOBER 2022

PLANNING

Leigh on Mendip – application at Quarry Lane for 40 dwellings – Cllr Ham attended the Informal Appeal Hearing starting on 4 th October to support the Parish Council’s objections.

Stoke St Michael – We still have no formal confirmation that the Informal Appeal hearing for the development of 40 houses along Coalpit Lane will be heard in November

Gypsy and Travellers – Mendip have lost their appeal against a site for 9 pitches at Emborough, The Inspector ruled that as Mendip have failed to allocate enough formal sites there are no grounds to refuse. A cross party proposal has been submitted to the Head of Planning to urge them to issue Certificates of Lawfulness to the dozens of acceptable sites already in existence around the District. This would immediately rectify the shortfall and remove at a stroke the risk of random settlements being approved without defence. At Cabinet on 3rd October there was a disturbance when they approved the Public Space Protection Order to provide a simpler means of removing offensive illegal dwellings.

The Planning Board on 12th October approved the application for the concrete products site near Torr Works to provide material for the track bed for HS2. The contract has already been awarded and this will provide some 300 new jobs.

FULL COUNCIL 26th SEPTEMBER

The meeting endorsed the Climate and Ecological Emergency Plan. It still envisages 31 x 450 ft high wind turbines in the District by 2030 with 10 in place by the end of 2023. There was concern that a change in policy on fracking could harm this “delicate and beautiful area” – no such concern was expressed about wind turbines, except by myself. The Plan also envisages that freight emissions will be reduced by a “10% increase in use of waterborne transport”. The real world?

There were three emergency motions. The first was to promote better public transport in Mendip with County support. The second was a requirement to amend planning procedures so that Wessex Water are required to address the impact of major developments on watercourses and treatment works. They were both passed despite multiple objections. The third sought to impose a vegan culture on our local agriculture – this was withdrawn at the last minute without explanation.

Glastonbury – It was announced that the town has been successful in obtaining a Town Deal Grant from the Government of £23M to provide a facelift, improve its attractions and car free routes.

Appendix B

Planning Applications – Responses to be noted from Mendip District Council and others

- (a) **2022/0457/FUL** Erection of permanent rural workers dwelling – Sycamore Farm Stud, Burgess Hill, Stoke St Michael. **Update** Application has been withdrawn.
- (b) **2022/1375/CLP** Application for a proposed lawful development certificate for renovation to property including insertion of new doors and windows. Goldsborough Farm, Burnt House Lane to Towns End, Stoke St Michael **Update** Mendip District Council have said the development is lawful.
- (c) **2022/1673/NMA** Application for a non-material amendment to permission 067818/010 for the variation to the chalet designs (supersedes 2021/2821/NMA). Cooks Wood, Quarry Bector Lane, Stoke St Michael **Update** Mendip District Council have said the Non-Material Amendment is refused.
- (d) **2022/1355/VRC** Variation of condition 2 (Plans List) and condition 4 (Materials) of permission 2022/0428/HSE (replacement of existing outhouse with ancillary accommodation). Sycamore Place, Mendip Road, Stoke St Michael **Update** Mendip District Council have approved the application.
- (e) **2022/1020/HSE** Erection of single storey side garden room following demolition of existing workshop/chicken shed structure. Alterations and improvements to existing former stable block including re-roofing and reinstating blocked openings. The Home House, Fosse Road, Stoke St Michael. **Update** Mendip District Council have approved the application.
- (f) **2022/1021/LBC** Erection of single storey side garden room following demolition of existing workshop/chicken shed structure. Alterations and improvements to existing former stable block including re-roofing and reinstating blocked openings. The Home House, Fosse Road, Stoke St Michael. **Update** Mendip District Council have approved the application.
- (g) **2022/1114/REM** Application for removal of reserved matters following outline approval 2018/1913/OTA for the erection of a single dwelling and associated access. Matters of access / appearance / landscaping / layout / scale to be determined. Land to Rear of Central Stores, Stoke Hill, Stoke St Michael **Update** Mendip District Council have approved the application.
- (h) **2022/1857/AGB** Application for prior notification of agricultural development for an extension to an existing farm building to provide covered feeding area for dairy cattle – Stoke Farm, Kings Road, Stoke St Michael **Update** Mendip District Council state that prior approval is not required.

- (i) **2022/1402/APP** Approval of details reserved by condition 15 (sewage and surface water) on planning consent 067818/010 (Development of a holiday retreat comprising 143 timber lodges, a swimming pool and spa, sports facilities, restaurant, activity lake, land train, biodiversity centre, nature conservation trails, ecological areas with associated structures, play areas and associated landscaping, car parking, footways and access roads (as amended by plans rec'd 07/02/2007 (details of lodges), by travel plan received 06/11/08 and information received by 25 November 2009 and 14 January 2010).(BOARD) – Cooks Wood Quarry, Bector Lane, Stoke St Michael.
Update Mendip District Council have refused the application.