

STOKE ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes from the meeting held at Stoke St Michael Primary School on 12th January 2023

Present: Cllrs Nick Corbett, John McEntee, Matthew Rice, Keith Hambly (Chair) and Amanda Taylor

Also, in Attendance – Kate Egan – Parish Clerk

1. Welcome by the Chairman

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Parish Council Meeting

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Anna Mearns

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 four members of the public in attendance. One spoke regarding item 11 (b) planning application 2022/2473/FUL. Two other members of the public asked whether any response had been received regarding the appeal for houses at Yellow Gate Field, no decision has yet been received but as soon as it would be known it will be made public. A short discussion followed on who would be responsible for the roads and traffic if the development proceeds.

6. County and District Councillor Reports

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

County Councillors Phillip Ham and Barry Clarke sent their apologies

7. Co-option of Parish Councillor

Cllr Keith Hambly proposed Peter Rhodes to be co-opted as a Parish Councillor, this was seconded by Amanda Taylor, this was **RESOLVED** by the Parish Council unanimously

(a) Signature of acceptance of office form

Due to acceptance of office form not being available the Council **RESOLVED** that Cllr Peter Rhodes could partake in the meeting and the form to be signed after the meeting.

8. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 24th November, previously circulated

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 24th November be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair

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

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

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

The first two applications were taken in reverse order

(b) 2022/2473/FUL Erection of 1no. 4 bed dwellinghouse (Resubmission of 2020/1362/FUL) Land at Cooks Farm, Partmans Hill, Stoke St Michael. **Update** The Parish Council recommended approval as the amendments to the previously approved design were considered minor and therefore there was no reason for objection.

(a) 2022/2273/FUL Convert office space (B1) to a holiday let (C1) with internal alterations, installation of carport/terrace and creation of openings to allow for a new door, window, and enlargement of windows. 3 Moonshill Barns, Frog Lane, Stoke St Michael **Update** the Parish Council recommended approval as there was no reason for objection, the only changes were in relation to the windows and carport. It was a good use of the building

(c) 2022/2497/CLE Application for a certificate of lawful existing use of land for domestic garden. The Old Parlour, Fosse Road, Oakhill. **Update** The Parish Council recommended approval as there was no strong objection against it and the land had not been used for agricultural purposes for some time.

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

(a) 2022/2230/APP Approval of details reserved by condition 5 (foul drainage) and condition 6 (surface water drainage system) reserved by consent 2019/3015/FUL. Goldsborough Farm, Burnt House Lane to Towns End, Stoke St Michael. **Update** Mendip District Council granted approval

(b) 2022/1606/FUL The Erection of a Temporary Rural Worker Dwelling, Stables (Part Retrospective) and a new Horse Manage. Land at Fosse Road, Stoke St Michael. Mendip District Council granted approval with conditions.

12. Grants

(a) Application for a Grant for £1104.00 from Stoke St Michael War Memorial Hall Following a discussion the Council **RESOLVED** to refuse the application for a further grant of £1104.00 from the War Memorial Hall. Clearer evidence of the financial position of the charity will be requested before considering a grant award in the next financial year.

13. To Be Resolved / Discussed

(a) Discussion on projects for 11-18 years olds within the parish as money has been donated for this purpose.

Ideas were suggested and it was **RESOLVED** to ring fence the money for the time being and not rush into spending it on projects. This will be brought back to another meeting when firm ideas are received.

(b) Approval of the Projected Use of Reserves for 2023-24

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Projected Use of Reserves for 2023-24

(c) Proposal for extra works at the Millennium Green – trimming of the buddleias at a cost of £71.00

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the extra works to be carried out at Millennium Green at a cost of £71.00

(d) Discussion and proposal on the location of future Parish Council Meetings.

The various locations were discussed and a meeting will be requested with the War Memorial Hall Committee to ascertain how hiring of the hall can be moved forward, but in the meantime the next meeting will be held at the Primary School.

(e) Approval of the Lease for Millennium Wood

This will be deferred to the next meeting as the final version of the lease has not yet been received.

(f) Approval of the budget for 2023-24 and the setting of the annual precept

Following a discussion, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the budget for 2023-24 and **RESOLVED** to increase the precept by 5% to £27,275.85

14. Clerk / Councillors Report

(a) Several emails have been received from residents concerning the lack of weight limit signage on Frog Lane and Fosse Lane heading towards Oakhill and how the Parish Council can install signage **Update** Cllr Keith Hambly will clarify with Somerset County Council as to the weight limit commences and finishes as there appears to be some confusion.

(b) The Platinum Jubilee bench was delivered just before Christmas and will be situated within the Millennium Wood for anyone to use.

(c) A response was received from the enforcement department regarding the abandoned cars around the village, this will be read out at the meeting and any further actions required will be discussed. **Update** The enforcement department at Mendip District Council stated that it would be unlikely they would use their powers and recommended contacting Environmental Health. The Clerk will make the initial enquiry with Cllr Peter Rhodes to follow up.

(d) The closure of the Lloyds Bank Account was finalised between Christmas and New Year, online access has now been blocked and the final statements and the remaining balance in the form of a cheque are still waiting to be received. **Update** The closing bank statements have now been received and the remaining balance sent in the form of a cheque which has been placed in the Unity Trust Bank account

15. Finance

Bank Balances as at: - 5th January 2023

Lloyds Reserve Account - £100.00

Lloyds Current Account - £3211.62

Unity Account - £38,080.95

Quarterly Review – This was noted by Councillors

Approval and signature of the Quarterly Bank Reconciliation – This was deferred to the next meeting as the bank statements were not available until just before the meeting

Receipts

(a) Receipt of Burial Fees - £316.00 – chq banked 29.11.2022

(b) £0.01 – received 28.11.2022 – changed bank account details on PayPal

(c) Receipt of Burial Fees - £316.00 – paid by bacs on 21.12.22

(d) Final Interest from Lloyds - £4.41 – received 30.12.22

Payments

- (e) Clerks Salary November and Backpay to 1st April - £408.04
- (f) HMRC November - £87.80
- (g) Purchase of Ink - £17.85
- (h) Martin Symes – jubilee bench - £590.00 – paid by bacs 09.12.22
- (i) Donation to the School for use of the hall - £30.00
- (j) Ionos - £12.00 – pd by Direct Debit 30.12.22
- (k) Transfer of money to the Millennium Wood as agreed - £750.00
- (l) SLCC Annual Membership - £44.25
- (m) Gaits Gardening Services - £178.00
- (n) Bank Charges - £8.02 – Pd DD 31.12.22
- (o) Clerks Salary December and Burial Clerks - £404.76
- (p) HMRC – December - £87.00

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the above receipts and payments.

16. Correspondence

- (a) Invitation to a Councillor Forum on 6th December at Croscombe Village Hall, from the Avon & Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner.
- (b) December news from Somerset County Council – forwarded 05.12.22

17. Matters to report / items for next agenda

- (a) Increase in Burial Fees
- (b) Communication
- (c) Update on the Village Design Code
- (d) Date of Annual Parish Meeting

18. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 23rd February 2023 to be held in the School Hall, Stoke St Michael Primary School starting at 7.30pm.

Meeting Closed 9.35pm

Appendix A

STOKE ST MICHAEL PC REPORT JAN 2023

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Following the cancellation of the December Full Council Meeting and the 9th January Cabinet due to “lack of substantive business” the Scrutiny Board Meeting scheduled for 17th January has now been cancelled.

PLANNING

Planning Policy – The Local Plan Part 2 continues to fail to show a forward 5 year supply of housing land. The status of the Local Plan has been further eroded by the Judicial Review decision last month that the allocation of the additional 505 dwellings in the north east of the District had been incorrectly managed by both Mendip and the Examining Inspector. We await clarification from Mendip of the effects on the Local Plan and the costs incurred. An Emergency Meeting of Full Council has been requested.

We still await the outcome of the appeal against Mendip’s refusal of 47 houses on Coalpit Lane.