

STOKE ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes from the meeting held at Stoke St Michael Primary School on
25th May 2023 starting at 8.20pm

Present: Cllrs Simon Collins, Amanda Taylor, Keith Hambly (Chair), Anna Mearns, Nick Corbett, Peter Rhodes and John McEntee

Also, in Attendance – Kate Egan – Parish Clerk

1. Welcome by the Chairman

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

No apologies were received.

3. Absent

Cllr Matthew Rice

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

There was no declaration of interests 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.

Cllrs Anna Mearns, Keith Hambly, Amanda Taylor and John McEntee requested a dispensation in regard to the grant application from Stoke St Michael Woodland (item 11b) and they were granted.

5. Public Session

There were three members of the public in attendance. The Parish Council were thanked for their work throughout the year. Enforcement issues were mentioned in regard to Cookswood, the new enforcement officer for the area will be contacted to request an update. A representative from Stoke St Michael Events Group was in attendance requesting use of Parish Council land for an event at the beginning of July.

6. Somerset Councillor Reports

Somerset Councillor Philip Ham sent his apologies.

Somerset Councillor Barry Clarke was in attendance and gave a verbal report. Subjects covered were the formation of the Local Community Networks, they are now in place and will start to meet soon, recycling, school places and grants for sports and the refurbishments of tennis courts.

7. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th April, previously circulated

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes for the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th April be accepted as a true record and were signed and dated by the 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) **2023/0627/FUL** Conversion and change of use of redundant rural building into a new dwelling, with internal and external alterations, including landscaping, boundary treatment and change of use of agricultural field as extension of proposed domestic curtilage. Hyatts Hill Farm, Fosse Road, Stoke St Michael. **Recommendation** The Parish Council recommended approval particularly as the principles from policy DP22 were being adhered to.

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

- (a) **2023/0444/APP** Approval of details reserved by condition 4 (Foul Drainage) on consent 2022/1606/FUL. Land at 364927 147210 Fosse Road, Stoke St Michael. **Decision** Somerset Council approved the application.
- (b) **2023/0352/FUL** Construction of a new holiday let. The Old Parlour, Fosse Road, Oakhill. **Decision** Somerset Council approved the application.
- (c) **2023/0353/VRC** Application to vary condition 3 (stables – private use only) of planning approval 2013/0743 (Erection of stables and hay/feed store and construction of a 60m x 20m menage) to use stables for private and holiday let use only. The Old Parlour, Fosse Road, Oakhill. **Decision** Somerset Council approved the application
- (d) **2022/2190/FUL** Change of use of agricultural land for the erection of 2000 solar array panels and associated equipment. Land at 366731 146471 Burges Hill, Stoke St Michael. **Decision** Somerset Council refused the application.

11. Grants

- (a) **Grant Application from Stoke St Michael Community Field for £5,500.00**
The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the grant application to Stoke St Michael Community Field of £5,500.00
- (b) **Grant Application from Stoke St Michael Woodland for £2,000.00**
The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the grant application to Stoke St Michael Woodland for £2,000.00

12. To Be Resolved / Discussed

- (a) **Proposal for a resident to purchase a memorial bench and place it on the Millennium Green by the Lychgate.**
The Council **RESOLVED** to agree a memorial bench being placed on the Millennium Green. The resident will be contacted as to the preferred location.
- (b) **Proposal for the Parish Council to grant permission for the War Memorial Hall Committee to use the Millennium Green for a Duck Race due to take place at the beginning of September.**
The Council **GRANTED** permission for the War Memorial Hall Committee to use the Millennium Green for a Duck Race at the beginning of September on condition that the neighbouring landowners are contacted and any outstanding concerns addressed.

The Council also granted permission for Stoke St Michael Events Group to use Millennium Green for a Treasure Hunt at the beginning of July, this will be ratified at the next meeting.

- (c) Proposal to for the Parish Council to formally hand over management responsibility of the Millennium Wood to coincide with the completion date of the lease.**

The Council **RESOLVED** to formally hand over management responsibility of the Millennium Wood to the Stoke St Michael Woodland CIO on completion of the lease. The completion date of the lease will tie in with the start of the CIO's insurance.

- (d) Proposal for the Parish Council to consider purchasing another Grit Bin for Moonshill and replace the one currently situated on Tower Hill as it is damaged.**

The Council **RESOLVED** to purchase another Grit Bin for Moons Hill and replace the one currently situated on Tower Hill. The Grit Bins will be purchased from Glasdon at a cost of £215.66 + VAT each.

- (e) Discussion regarding the Parking at Moonshill and whether a survey should be issued to residents**

Following a discussion, it was agreed that a survey would be issued to residents regarding the Parking. Cllr Anna Mearns will distribute the survey to the residents.

- (f) Proposal on where to hold Parish Council Meetings for the next twelve months and to accept the Terms and Conditions of the War Memorial Hall.**

The Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Terms and Conditions of the War Memorial Hall. The committee will be contacted with the dates of the meetings for the next year and request hiring the hall.

13. Clerk / Councillors Report

- (a)** Update from Cllr Keith Hambly on to who to send a letter to at Somerset Council regarding the lack of a five-year plan on housing. **Update** Cllr Keith Hambly had been unable to obtain an update.
- (b)** Update from Cllrs Simon Collins, Peter Rhodes and Nic Corbett on speed indicator devices for the village and the speedwatch group. **Update** A report had been sent out prior to the meeting and this was discussed. The favoured option is to introduce Auto Sped Watch indicator devices but this would be dependent on the village having an active Community Speedwatch group. Publicity will be produced asking for a new coordinator and volunteers for the group.
- (c)** Temporary Road Closure on Bector Lane commencing on 22nd May for 33 days.
- (d)** Extension to the 30mph zone on Fosse Road. Publication of the notice on 27th April. Residents have 21 days in which to comment. The Fosse Road zone is part of a scheme initiated by a neighbouring Parish Council. Further extension to Stoke St Michael can be considered as an outcome of our initiative to introduce speed indicator devices.
- (e)** A site meeting was carried out on Friday 12th May and the work on the culvert is currently planned to commence on the 3rd July. Once further information is received this will be published. **Update** Details of the diversion are still being discussed once known they will be published in the usual way.

14. Finance

Bank Balances as at: - 18th May 2023

Unity Account - £40,189.29

Receipts

(a) Somerset Council – Annual Precept - £27,760.00 – received 22.05.23

(b) Burial Fees - £332.00 – received by cheque

(c) HMRC – VAT Refund - £2274.22 – received 03.05.22

Payments

(d) Ionos – Website Hosting - £20.44

(e) Glasdon – Purchase of grit bins - £431.33

(f) Clerks Salary & Expenses - £468.26. As per the contract the SCP point has been increased by one point.

(g) Renewal of Garden Bin subscription - £63.50 – duplicate payment, covered under item (f)

(h) Primrose Garden Maintenance – Grass Cutting - £1360.46 (two invoices)

(i) Donation to the school for hire of the school hall - £60.00

(j) Alun Stewart – purchase of petrol for the strimmer - £24.82

15. Correspondence

(a) Somerset Briefing Note for May – forwarded 02.05.23

16. Matters to report / items for next agenda

There were no matters to report or items for the next agenda.

17. 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 press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted

(a) Removal of abandoned vehicles around the village

Following a discussion, the Council **RESOLVED** to follow all advice concerning the removal of abandoned vehicles around the village.

18. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 13th July 2023 starting at 7.30pm, location to be decided.

Meeting closed 10.32pm