

STOKE ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes from the meeting held at Stoke St Michael War Memorial Hall on
4th January 2024 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs Keith Hambly (Chair), Anna Mearns, Matthew Rice and John McEntee, Peter Rhodes and Simon Collins

Also, in Attendance – Kate Egan – Parish Clerk

Items were taken out of order from the agenda

1. Welcome by the Chairman

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and for coming out in the storm.

2. Apologies for absence

Cllr Amanda Taylor

3. Absent

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 Anna Mearns has a written request for dispensation in relation to the Millennium Wood for four years (expires September 2027). Cllr Keith Hambly has a written request for dispensation in relation to Stoke St Michael Community Field for one year (expires September 2024).

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

There were no requests for dispensation as appropriate.

5. Public Session

There were nineteen members of the public in attendance. The Public session was extended by ten minutes to allow views to be expressed and captured concerning the expansion of the quarry – planning application SCC/4082/2023 and the variation of conditions.

6. Somerset Councillor Reports

Somerset Councillor Barry Clarke sent his apologies and Somerset Councillor Phillip Ham was not in attendance.

7. To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 23rd November 2023, previously circulated

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting held on 23rd November be accepted as a true record, these 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) 2023/2232/FUL Erection of detached dwellinghouse. 31 Moonshill Road, Stoke St Michael **Recommendation** Stoke St Michael Parish Council recommended approval, as there were no reasons for objections but there were concerns about the consultation process.

- (b) **2023/2293/FUL** Erection of stable building and creation of riding arena, along with associated muck heap (midden), turnout area and yard to include change of use of land from agricultural to equestrian. Barn Farm, Tadhil Lane, Stoke St Michael. The applicant was invited to speak about the application, questions were also asked and answered. **Recommendation** Stoke St Michael Parish Council recommended approval although there were some concerns in regard to drainage.
- (c) **SCC/4079/2023** Application to vary Planning Conditions 1,7,37 and 38 of Planning Permission ref: IDO/M/24/B dated 11th July 1995 to amend the working plans, restoration requirements and end dates to facilitate the Extension of Stoke Quarry. (Notice of determination of conditions to which an interim Development Order (IDO) Permission is to be subject relating to IDO-M-24-B Section 73 Planning. Moons Hill Quarry Complex, Stoke St Michael.
- (d) **SCC/4080/2023** Section 73 Planning Application to vary Planning Conditions 1, 7, 37 and 38 of Planning Permission ref: IDO/M/26/B dated 11th July 1995 to amend the working plans, restoration requirements and end dates to facilitate the Extension of Stoke Quarry. Moons Hill Quarry Complex, Stoke St Michael.
- (e) **SCC/4081/2023** Section 73 Planning Application to vary Planning Conditions 2, 8, 49, 50 and 51 of Planning Permission ref: M25/1/76 dated 9th December 2003 to amend the working plans, restoration requirements and end dates to facilitate the Extension of Stoke Quarry. Moons Hill Quarry Complex, Stoke St Michael.
- (f) **SCC/4082/2023** Planning Application for the Extension of Stoke Quarry. Moons Hill Quarry, Stoke St Michael.

The above four planning applications were discussed as one. **Recommendation** Stoke St Michael Parish Council recommended Refusal. In view of the complexity of the application and issues raised, the response will be finalised at a public meeting to be held on Wednesday 10th January..

10. Planning Applications – Responses to be noted from Somerset Council

- (a) **2023/1593/HSE** Conversion of outhouse to ancillary accommodation with alterations. Shelving Close, Mendip Road, Stoke St Michael. **Decision** Somerset Council have approved the application.
- (b) **2022/1618/FUL** Formation of new overflow car park with associated access and landscaping. Duke of Cumberland Inn, Edford Hill, Holcome. **Decision** This was discussed by Councillors at the Planning East Committee on 5th December and Somerset Council granted approval.
- (c) **2023/1897/CLE** Erection of 2no timber garden building, 1 free standing metal shed, construction of ornamental pond and double gate access to the rear of the property with siting of oil tank in the car park. The Mill, Mill Lane, Stoke St Michael **Decision** Somerset Council have said the development is lawful.
- (d) **2023/2138/PAA** Prior Approval for a proposed change of use of agricultural building to a dwellinghouse (Class C3) and for associated operational development. Plot North of Somers Farm, Burnt House Lane, Stoke St Michael. **Decision** Somerset Council have given prior approval.

11. To Be Resolved / Discussed

- (a) **Proposal to purchase 2 Speedwatch Cameras at a cost of £580 + VAT each, signs and fixing bands for a total of £1312.40 + VAT.** The Council **RESOLVED** to purchase two Auto Speedwatch Cameras, 4 Signs and 2 Large Fixing Bands at a total price of £1312.40
- (b) **Proposal to purchase a community noticeboard from Signscape and Sonex at a price of £798.59 + VAT**
The Council **RESOLVED** to purchase a Community Noticeboard at a price of £798.59 + VAT.
- (c) **Proposal to accept the quotes for removing the brash from the Cemetery following the Hedge laying, attending to two trees within the Cemetery and one within the Churchyard.**
The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the price for removing the brash of £240.00 and felling of one dead tree within the Cemetery for £540.00. The quote regarding the removal of the tree within the Churchyard will be discussed with the Church to obtain permission, once this has been granted, discussions will follow as to who will cover the cost.
- (d) **Proposal to add further Councillors to the Bank Mandate to allow them to authorise online payments.**
The Council **RESOLVED** to add Cllrs Peter Rhodes and Simon Collins to the Bank Mandate authorising them as signature and authorising payments online.
- (e) **Proposal to bring the February and March meetings forward a week as they currently fall in the holidays, the new dates would be 8th February and 21st of March.**
The Council **RESOLVED** to bring the February and March meetings forward a week, so the new dates will be Thursday 8th February and Thursday 21st of March.
- (f) **Proposal to approve the budget for 2024-2025**
The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the budget for 2024-2025
- (g) **Proposal to approve the precept required for 2024-2025**
The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the precept required for 2024-2025 as £28,731.00

12. Clerk / Councillors Report

- (a) Update from Cllr Amanda Taylor as to the availability of the boulders to line the edge of Moonshill Green. **Update** Cllr Amanda Taylor was not in attendance so this was deferred to the next meeting.
- (b) Update from Cllr Amanda Taylor on whether a local company could supply a structural engineers report for the bridge on the Millenium Green. **Update** Cllr Amanda Taylor was not in attendance so this was deferred to the next meeting.
- (c) The application form for the Unity Savings Bank Account is awaiting signatures from Councillors, once complete this will be submitted. **Update** The forms have now been signed and will be forwarded to Unity Trust Bank
- (d) The Cemetery Hedge bordering the Cemetery on Mill Lane has been re-laid.
- (e) Nic Corbett has resigned as a Parish Councillor, the Parish Council would like to thank him for his time and support for the Parish Council.
- (f) The damages to the wall by the Millennium Green have been repaired

13. Finance

Bank Balances as at: - 21st December 2023

Unity Account – £45,182.90

Receipts

(a) Burial Fees - £332.00 – pd into bank on 27.11.23

(b) Stonewood Homes - £30.00 received 30.11.23

Payments

(c) Clerks Salary and Expenses – November £540.02, includes the annual pay increase and the backpay from 1st April from the national pay award.

(d) Clerks Salary and Expenses – December £365.30

(e) The Mendip Boundaryman – hedge laying - £500.00 – pd on 10.12.23

(f) Nick Fowler & Dean Loxton – Repair of wall - £490.00 – pd on 10.12.23

(g) Ionos – Web Hosting - £12.60 – pd by DD

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

(h) War Memorial Hall - £30.00 – Hall Hire

(i) Unity Trust Bank - £18.00 – Quarterly Bank Charges – paid by DD 31.12.23

14. Correspondence

(a) Councillor training courses for the Spring – forwarded 28.11.23

(b) Briefing Sheet from Somerset Council – forwarded 04.12.23

(c) Public Consultation on the Budget Setting from Somerset Council – forwarded 12.12.23

(d) Invitation and agenda for the next LCN Meeting scheduled for Thursday 11th January – forwarded 15.12.23

15. Matters to report / items for next agenda

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

16. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 8th February 2023 (to be confirmed) starting at 7.30pm, Stoke St Michael War Memorial Hall.

Meeting closed 9.57pm