



16-12-2020 Minutes

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STOKENCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 16 December 2020 over Zoom at 7.30 pm

Attendees: Cllr Ian Chadwick (Chairman), Cllr Robin Thomas (Vice Chairman), Cllr Camilla Baker, Cllr Dan Davis, Cllr Sally Drinkwater, Cllr Matthew Jennings, Cllr Chris Parkinson, Cllr Jen Powis, Cllr Neil Watson

Buckinghamshire Councillors: Cllr Carl Etholen, Cllr Saeed Saddique

Minutes: Mrs Heather Presland, Clerk, from recorded Zoom meeting

Members of the Public: 0

1. Acceptance of Apologies for Absence

Cllr Darren Hayday, Cllr Shade Adoh, Cllr Racquel Burnham

2. Declarations of Interest (agenda items)

None.

3. To Confirm Minutes of 2 December 2020

These were agreed. Proposed: Cllr Thomas; seconded: Cllr Powis.

4. Matters Arising (information only)

(1) Cllr Watson gave an update on the defibrillators. He had recently spoken to the Service Department and the defib that had corroded as a result of becoming wet could not be repaired unless at considerable expense, so it would have to be written off. He had not heard back about the second defib that had been sent to Germany to find out why it was not working. (2) Cllr Thomas had contacted the Dog Rescue Centre as it had been believed they had electrical car charging points. He had received a response to say they had never had them, nor had there been any reference to them having to supply any car charging points.

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local PCSO and a speeding operation had been planned in the Parish for the previous Friday. However, it could not go ahead because of the fog. He was informed that a previous one had taken place a couple of months' ago and bar two individuals, everyone who had been caught speeding were residents. Cllr Watson suggested a press release about this might be advisable pointing out these facts. (4) Cllr Chadwick said some youths had pulled a tree down in Longburrow and had also smashed some bottles in the junior playground. Cllr Jennings had viewed the CCTV with the Parish Warden but the quality was not good enough to identify who the youths were. However, he had asked the incidents were logged with the police because the more information was reported, the more likely it was the police would respond to the incidents. Cllr Watson suggested the Parish Warden speak with Jim Casper as the scout hall also had CCTV and may have better images. Agreed. (5) Cllr Jennings had also spoken with the Parish Warden about the speed signs and about downloading the data. Cllr Watson said the Parish Warden could do this but he was aware the Ibstone camera was not working. The batteries had been replaced and if this did not work, the Parish Warden would be contacting the suppliers. Cllr Watson also said some of the mountings did not fit the display units the Parish had.

5. Reports/Actions

- (1) Cllr Watson said he had helped the Parish Warden cut back some of the lime trees going into the church, which had been appreciated by the church.
- (2) Cllr Chadwick reported that the Covid Committee had



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couple of potential hirers were going to be approached to see if they would like to make a regular booking.

6. Notification Parish Matters (information only)

Cllr Davis – Noticeboard in the Lawn Cemetery; Two trees next to Old School Close. Cllr Watson – posts around Church Square. Cllr Parkinson – streetlights.

7. **Planning:** (1) **20/08086** – Application for erection of two storey rear extension to 1&2 The Crescent to create larger dwelling houses and erection of two storey side extension to 1&2 Orchard Place to create 1 x additional residential dwelling (5 x 2-bed dwellings in total) with associated parking, landscaping and external alterations – Orchard Place & The Crescent, Stokenchurch, HP14 3UQ – Mr Sid Willett – It was felt this was an overdevelopment of the area plus there would be problems parking cars. Cllr Baker agreed it would be overcrowded. The other concern was the state of the road and the possibility of a guarantee the road would be repaired was discussed. It was felt the only access road lorries should use was by the Fleur. Resolved to object. Proposed: Cllr Watson; seconded: Cllr Davis. (2) **20/08162** Application for variation of condition 2 (internal layout) attached to 16/07794/OUT (Outline application for redevelopment of site to provide 14 residential units (including details of access, layout and landscaping)) to allow for consistency with the terms of the relation Section 106 Agreement – Land Adjacent to Longburrow Hall, Park Lane, Stokenchurch – Mr R Potyka – Cllr Chadwick outlined the background to this application which had been rejected previously. Cllr Baker said the real issue was the access road and there were always problems with it. Cllr Watson said another issue was no pedestrian pathway down the access road to Longburrow. Cllr

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be another problem. Cllr Powis raised her concern that when there were visitors, they may well choose to park in the Longburrow car park which would cause additional issues. Cllr Baker said nothing could be done about the access road as it had always been narrow and she reminded Council it was their responsibility to maintain it.

Resolved to object. Cllr Thomas would circulate draft grounds for objection to Council the following day. Proposed: Cllr Thomas; seconded: Cllr Parkinson. (3)

20/08234 – Householder application for construction of single storey rear extension – 5 George Road, Stokenchurch, HP14 3RN – Mr & Mrs Lipman – Resolved no objection. Proposed: Cllr Parkinson; seconded: Cllr Baker. (4)

20/08202 – Application for change of use of land to equestrian with construction of a 60m x 20m all-weather surface manege and access driveway – Mudds Bank Stud Farm, City Road, Stokenchurch, HP14 3EW – Mrs Jill Clark – Cllr Watson reminded Council that from a historical perspective, the Planning Department had already rejected a manege at Maplefield Farm as it was not in keeping with being in the green belt. They had laid another one and he believed the Enforcement Team was involved as no planning permission had been given for it. Resolved to object. Proposed: Cllr Thomas; seconded: Cllr Davis. Cllr Watson abstained. (5)

20/08245 – Householder application for construction of replacement detached garage building – Greenlands, Old Dashwood Hill, Studley Green, HP14 3XD – Mr & Mrs Ing – Resolved no objection. Proposed: Cllr Watson; seconded: Cllr Baker.

8. Buckinghamshire Councillors

Cllr Etholen said there was continued concern about the rise in Covid cases in the area and was circulating figures to Council on a weekly basis. Another spike was



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said the previous day there had been a lot of police activity in the area, in particular along the Marlow Road. The Highways Agency and Electricity Board were also involved. Discussion took place over the waste that appeared to come from the site and flow on to Marlow Road. An increase in the number of static homes on the site was a possible reason for this and this may need reviewing. Cllr Etholen said he would see if could find out more as the waste issue was a health hazard and he would report back. Cllr Saddique said he had tried to progress the previous discussion that had taken place with Council about the pathway down Old Dashwood Hill. He had been informed this area was in the Piddington Parish, but he had spoken to the local Area Technician about the white lines that had been suggested and would report back when he had received a response.

9. Finance

• Bills Payable

These were approved.

• Monthly Reports for November 2020

These were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Thomas; seconded: Cllr Baker. It was also noted that the signatories on the paperwork needed updating now Cllr Thomas was Vice Chairman. • **Budget**

2021/22

Cllr Watson said a Finance Committee meeting had taken place on 14 December to finalise what was being proposed in the following year's budget. Discussion took place about the precept and it was agreed this would remain at £79200. However, this did not mean residents would not have an increase in their Council Tax. Proposed: Cllr Watson; seconded: Cllr Davis. Projects in next year's budget had been prioritised and this information had been circulated. There were a couple of minor projects which



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thicker paving to support any delivery vans or thinner paving with posts to be placed either end of the paved area so stop delivery vans parking there. Cllr Watson updated Council on the grass/hedge cutting contract and further information was being requested from the two contractors who had got through the first phase of the tender process. It was hoped this information would be received in time to make a decision in January.

- **Staff Christmas Bonus**

Cllr Watson said the three members of staff usually received a Christmas bonus of £100 each and asked for agreement for this to be paid in the December payroll. Agreed. Proposed: Cllr Thomas; seconded: Cllr Baker.

10. **Correspondence** (1) Open Spaces – request for a donation – agreed a donation would be given for the same amount that has been given in previous years, believed to be £50. The RFO was requested to check this. Proposed: Cllr Davis; seconded: Cllr Baker. (2) Request for additional dog waste bin – Emails in relation to the this request had been circulated to Council. Cllr Baker said she had walked the route and there was definitely a problem in the field identified at Chalk Farm Road, which was not Council land. Discussion took place about the siting of another dog bin and the cost of picking up the waste was also discussed. The Clerk was requested to find out what the additional cost was plus the cost of a new bin. Cllr Jennings said there had been some discussion on Facebook about dog fouling in the Slade Road area of the village. Cllr Thomas asked the Clerk to identify which of the dog waste bins were Council responsibility. (3) Request for fibreglass chamber – Lawn Cemetery – Cllr Chadwick said Mrs Lee had passed away and a request had been received to bury the casket in a fibreglass chamber. Details of this had



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informed about the water mains and he was aware the Parish Warden would be around to supervise the digging of the grave. Cllr Parkinson said the Council had received previous requests for wider graves and these had been refused. He felt it unwise to set any precedent. Cllr Drinkwater agreed. Cllr Jennings said space was at a premium, with which Cllr Baker agreed. Cllr Davis felt it wise to stick to the Regulations which did not allow this. The request was refused.

11. The Commons

Cllr Watson said he had been seeing cars parking on the area by Church Path and felt the posts should be re-positioned so cars could not park there. There was also quite a gap on the corner towards the A40. Cllr Chadwick suggested a list of posts that needed attention should be collated.

12. Other Parish Matters

(1) Cllr Davis said he felt the purchase of a noticeboard for the new Lawn Cemetery needed progressing. Cllr Chadwick recalled discussions about having a traffolyte sheet rather than a noticeboard. It was something Mrs Garrett had been working on as a Councillor and an initial draft of what should be included had been circulated to Council. Cllr Baker said some amendments were suggested but this work had never been completed. Cllr Chadwick asked for a volunteer to pick up this work. Cllr Davis suggested a meeting of the Cemetery Committee the following week via Zoom. Cllr Watson explained there was a new Zoom account for the Parish Council. He was happy to set this up and then hand the hosting of it over to one of the Committee to continue with the meeting. He asked to be informed when they planned on meeting. (2) Cllr Davis raised his concern about a couple of trees near Old School Close which were over the boundary line. He felt the Arboricultural team should be asked to visit and take a look at them as he felt one might be dying and become dangerous. (3) Cllr Parkinson said more volunteers were required to take on the streetlight survey and associated work.



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Sawmill Trust and another volunteer was required to pick up this work. Cllr Jennings agreed to take on this role. (5) Cllr Baker referred to the email circulated to Council which had been Stephen Marshall's response about Council's decision in relation to the lease. He had asked if Council would be willing to talk to him further and she felt Council should do so. It was agreed to ask him to attend one of the January meetings and talk through any proposals he might have. (6) Cllr Chadwick said the Clerk had circulated an email requesting volunteers to attend WDALC meetings. Cllrs Chadwick, Thomas, Watson and Drinkwater volunteered. (7) Cllr Chadwick asked who was currently in possession of the H&S manual. Cllr Jennings said he would make arrangements to return it to the office as the RFO would shortly be collecting it. Cllrs Burnham and Drinkwater also needed to read it.

13. Items for Next Agenda

No items raised. Cllr Chadwick said the next meeting would take place on 6 January 2021. **Meeting finished at 2045**