



20-01-2021 Minutes

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STOKENCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 20 January 2021 over Zoom at 7.30 pm

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

Buckinghamshire Councillors: Cllr Carl Etholen, Cllr Darren Hayday

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

Members of the Public: 2

1. Acceptance of Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Adoh and Saddique.

2. Declarations of Interest (agenda items)

None.

3. Presentation from Stephen Marshall, SST Medical Properties

Mr Marshall joined the meeting and gave a comprehensive background to his business and how he had built up his portfolio. He was a long-term investor in medical centres as opposed to being a developer. He talked through his achievements elsewhere and said he was not proposing to go through the detail given in his email that had been circulated to Council. He said the Headlease for the medical centre was for 125 years and had started in 2003. The Underlease between SST and the Practice was for a term of 125 years from March 2017. He stated he would like to purchase either the freehold from the Parish Council or extend the current Headlease term to 999

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the allotment gardens. There would have to be an investigation into this via the legal route before proceeding and would involve the Secretary of State for approval. Mr Marshall acknowledged that selling the freehold could be problematic but requested consideration be given to extending the lease to the benefit of everyone. He asked Council to get back to him once they had considered it and would provide supplementary information.

4. To Confirm Minutes of 6 January 2021

These were agreed. Proposed: Cllr Baker; seconded: Cllr Drinkwater.

5. Matters Arising (information only)

Cllr Davis asked Cllr Parkinson about a streetlight near his home which was covered in foliage. Cllr Parkinson said he would progress this.

6. Reports/Actions

- (1) Cllr Watson said he had organised some residents in Water End to raise funds to have fibre broadband installed and was pleased to announce the target had been reached. He was hoping this work would take place by the end of the year.
- (2) Cllr Watson said the work being undertaken by the Community Bus taking individuals to and from the Town Hall for their vaccines should be acknowledged. Cllr Davis said he was very impressed with the service. Cllr Parkinson proposed a donation should be made to cover the cost of this. Agreed. Cllr Chadwick declared an interest in this.

7. Notification Parish Matters (information only)

- (1) Cllr Thomas said the situation with Stockfields Place

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condition 2 (plan) attached to 20/05793 (erection of 1 pair of two storey dwellings with associated parking and landscaping) to allow for replacement of x 1 approved drawing with revised drawing for floor plans and elevations – rear of Comilla, Chiltern Wycombe Road & part of Kivari The Coppice, Stokenchurch, HP14

3RP – Barar Homes – There was no knowledge of the previous application having been received by Council. Cllr Watson said he believed the application was submitted as lockdown started and it may not have been sent or had been missed. Cllr Parkinson said he felt it could not be pursued when Council had not received the information they required in order to make a decision. Details about the parking and landscaping were not available. Resolved to object on the basis that the original planning proposal had not been received and there was a lack of information on the current application. Proposed: Cllr Parkinson; seconded: Cllr Thomas.

9. Buckinghamshire Councillors

Cllr Hayday welcomed the new Councillors and looked forward to working with them. He had received verification that local elections would be going ahead in May for Buckinghamshire Council and Parish Councils. Encouragement was being given for postal voting, but also for voting in person and by proxy. It had been agreed there was to be no door to door canvassing. There was a possibility the elections may be delayed until the autumn or even the following year, but it was hoped this would not happen. Cllr Etholen commented that it would cost Buckinghamshire

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the main road at the Wycliffe Centre development. He had proposed Jones Way in memory of Mike Jones who had been a Councillor and had lived close to the site. He had spoken to Mr Jones' widow and she was happy with the proposal. Council was pleased with the decision. Cllr Etholen welcomed the new Councillors. He said footpath repairs were taking place in New Road over a four week period and these should have started the previous Monday. Cllr Davis raised the overgrown hedges down the road and Cllr Etholen said he would report this and take it forward with TfB. He talked through the grants that were available for local businesses via Buckinghamshire Council. He then raised an email he had received about the Community Right to Bid - Stokenchurch Youth & Community Centre, which had expired. Cllr Chadwick said there were two further ones that had also expired which were the Royal Oak and the Fleur. Cllr Etholen said the properties could be re-listed if the Council wished to do so. Cllr Watson stated he had forwarded a link to the Clerk with the details and thought it wise Council re-applied. Proposed: Cllr Baker; seconded: Cllr Thomas. Cllr Watson asked Cllr Hayday what could be done about a house called Brightside in Beacons Bottom who had applied to change the original finishes with no comments being allowed. Cllr Watson said the road and footpath access was also being altered. It was suggested the Parish Council write to the Planning Department raising their concerns about this. Agreed.

10. Finance

▪ Bills Payable

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to query being answered.

▪ **Monthly Reports for December 2020**

These were approved.

Proposed: Cllr Thomas;

seconded: Cllr Baker.

▪ **Recommendations from the Finance Committee**

Cllr Watson said the Finance Committee had met the previous week. The main item for discussion was around the grass/hedge cutting contract and the comparison spreadsheet had been circulated to Council. This was to be discussed in Committee as it contained commercially sensitive information. Currently there was no resolution to the posts in Bowling Green but it had been decided not to buy and store any posts because of their potential to rot. It was agreed to recommend buying an alarm/movement detector in the Parish Warden's storage area as there was a large quantity of expensive items in there. The cost was approximately £300 plus VAT. Agreed. Proposed: Cllr Watson; seconded: Cllr

Thomas. Cllr Watson said work had been started on a contractors list which was an ongoing exercise. Cllr Chadwick asked for progress in relation to the broken bench. Cllr Watson said a carpenter was being contacted about a quote. He then referred to the quote received from SSE to replace a streetlight in Pigeon Farm Road. The quote was for £361.86 + VAT. It was not possible to replace this light as it was obsolete so would need replacing with a LED lantern. Agreed. Proposed: Cllr Watson; seconded: Cllr Baker. Cllr Davis asked whether progress had been made on the signage in the Lawn Cemetery. Cllr Chadwick

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12. The Commons

- Church Path Potholes – Cllr Jennings had circulated pictures of these. Cllr Baker said they needed filling as they were very deep and could be dangerous and Council needed to be mindful of their insurance. Scalpings were discussed but discounted as last time they had been used, then simply lifted out when large vehicles passed over them. Tarmac could not be used as it was common land. It was agreed to ask the Parish Warden to request a contractor to put some hardcore rubble in the potholes and get it rolled in.

- Bowling Green Posts – Cllr Jennings said he had circulated pictures of these and thirteen posts potentially needed replacement. Cllr Watson said the map the Parish Warden had done of all the posts was in the office somewhere but had not yet been located. Cllr Baker said you could see where the posts were just by walking around the village. Discussion took place about whether the posts were needed. Previously they were installed because of the lorries that used the access to a builder's yard. Cllr Davis suggested putting in concrete blocks instead of posts. The decision was to leave it for now and monitor the situation over the next six months.

Proposed: Cllr Baker; seconded: Cllr Powis.

13. Health & Safety

Cllr Chadwick asked if Council had finished circulating and signing the Health & Safety manual. Cllr Burnham was collecting it the following day and it would then be passed to Cllr Davis when the circulation would be complete. Cllr Chadwick stated the next audit would be taking place in July and the same exercise would need to be repeated.



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and Drinkwater volunteered. A meeting would be arranged shortly and it was hoped there would be some recommendations and rules forthcoming.

15. **Other Parish Matters**

(1) Cllr Chadwick updated Council on the proposed location of the dog bin in the access road from Chalk Farm Road. The Parish Warden had met with the landowner and a location had been agreed. The bin could be installed at a cost of £271 + VAT. The Parish Warden would install it. Proposed: Cllr Thomas; seconded: Cllr Baker. (2) A parishioner said that in relation to the car parking issues, he was aware Red Kite used a company called FlashPark for enforcement issues which Council could consider. They issued the tickets and got their money from the fines. He felt enforcement should be done legally.

16. **Items for the next Agenda**

The next meeting would be on 3 February 2021.

Meeting finished at 2105