



21-04-2021 Minutes

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STOKENCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeng of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 21 April 2021 over Zoom at 7.30 pm

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

Buckinghamshire Councillors: Cllr Carl Etholen, Cllr Shade Adoh

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

Members of the Public: 8

1. Acceptance of apologies for absence

Cllr Jen Powis, Cllr Darren Hayday, Cllr Saeed Saddique

2. Declaraons of interest (agenda items)

None.

3. To confirm Minutes of 7 April 2021

These were agreed.

Proposed: Cllr Baker;
seconded: Cllr Thomas.

4. Maers Arising (informaon only)

None.

5. Reports/Acons

Cllr Davis asked if a date had been set to visit Lloyds Bank as it appeared to be taking some me. Cllr Thomas replied that an appointment was sll awaited. Cllr Baker said a copy of the leases were in the archives in the hall. Cllr Chadwick stated the recent solicitor's email about the Kings Hotel

leases had been circulated and Council needed to go through this.

6. Noficaon of Parish Maers (informaon only)

Cllr Burnham – parking on Cricket Ground and allotment hedge. Cllr Thomas – invesgaon. Cllr Davis – stones.

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seconded. Cllr Baker. (2) **21/06012** – Householder applicaon for construcon of first floor front and side extensions and material alteraons – 26 Pigeon Farm Road, Stokenchurch, HP14 3TE – Mr & Mrs Robson – no objecon. Proposed: Cllr Parkinson; seconded: Cllr Thomas. (3) **21/06036** – Householder applicaon for construcon of replacement rear extension and replacement and redesigned roof structure to create additional first floor space – Tree Tops, Bigmore Lane, Horsleys Green, HP14 3UR – Mr & Mrs David Pinchbeck – no objecon. Proposed: Cllr Davis; seconded: Cllr Jennings. (4) **21/05967** – Householder applicaon for construcon of detached single storey garden room – 48 New Road, Stokenchurch, HP14 3SQ – Mr Dean Randall – no objecon. Proposed: Cllr Drinkwater; seconded: Cllr Baker.

8. Buckinghamshire Councillors

Cllr Etholen asked if the bin by the footbridge had been emped and replaced. Cllr Burnham said it had not and the smell was not good aer the recent warmer weather. Cllr Etholen would chase this up with TfB. He also asked if the tyres and maresses had been removed from a parishioner's property. It was confirmed they had been. A parishioner asked if the Council had reported the numerous potholes on the main road through the village from New Road up to the M40, several of which were dangerous. The Marlow Road/Wycombe Road juncon was parcularly bad. There was discussion about this and Cllr Etholen agreed to contact TfB to find out why they had not been filled. Cllr Etholen wanted to thank Council for their support and also the officers who were soon to leave. He stated the officers had done a fantasc job and gave his good wishes to all those Councillors seeking re-



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Parish Council members during the past year and wished them well in the election.

9. **Finance:**▪ **Bills Payable**

The RFO thanked Cllr Burnham for the great job she had done in negotiating a new deal with Ricoh. On reflection the RFO would withhold payment to Ricoh until they had a delivery date confirmed. Bills Payable were agreed. Proposed: Cllr Baker; seconded: Cllr Jennings. ▪

▪ **Monthly Reports for March 2021**

These were agreed.

Proposed: Cllr Davis;
seconded: Cllr Baker.

▪ **Update on Year End/Audit**

The RFO explained that Council had agreed to do the year end process first before the internal audit took place. The year end was almost complete and she hoped this would be finished before the Finance Committee meeting the following week. She would like to get the internal audit completed before she leaves, but could not be sure this would happen. Cllr Watson thanked her for negotiating the business rates rebate. The RFO said this money would help boost funds in the coming year.

10.

Correspondence (1)

Request to buy a more robust litter bin to be placed by the Youth Shelter – discussion took place and it was agreed this was no longer a problem after Cllr Jennings had spoken to the Parish Warden. (2)

Request for small funfair to be held for children – this was agreed in principle subject to there being no clash of dates.

The main green opposite the Methodist Church was considered to be the best location. (3)

Kings Hotel fenced off seagull area – Cllr Burnham said she felt Council needed to be considerate about this issue as many businesses had suffered during the pandemic. It was agreed the Kings Hotel should have asked permission from the Council.

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agreed Cllr Thomas and Davis would visit the hotel the following day to discuss this with them. (4) Potholes – Rose Corner – Cllr Chadwick said a further email had been received about this area but it had been previously discussed in Council and was not Council's responsibility to do maintenance work. Discussion took place about Cricket Ground and Cllr Burnham said she would be taking this maer forward.

11. **The Commons**

Cllr Davis said the new contractors had done a very good job with their first cut. Cllr Thomas said several compliments about the grass cung had been made to him over the past few days. Cllr Chadwick said the right choice of contractor had been made, plus there were financial savings to the Council.

12. **Other Parish Maers**

(a) Cllr Burnham said she felt it was wrong that a resident on Cricket Ground was parking their cars on the grass by the No Parking sign and this needed addressing. A parishioner explained this was happening because of building work that was taking place and was only a temporary situaon. It was agreed the resident would be wrien to about this. (b) Cllr Burnham said a parishioner had complained about the allotment hedge having been cut twice the previous year and said it should not be cut this year. This was discussed and Cllr Watson said there were excepons if the hedge ran alongside a road. (c) Cllr Davis said he had been really impressed by all the stones the children had painted and laid out in Marlow Road cemetery. He felt a mosaic should be made out of them which would involve the children laying their stones in some cement. This was agreed but a locaon would need finding. It was suggested this was something that could be done in the school holidays. Cllr

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Police and an HR Consultancy. He had a proposal he wished to make as a result of his investigation. He said that further to the claims of racist comments and bullying, with effect from 00.01 hours on Friday 23rd April 2021 the Parish Council's current cleaning contractor should be suspended without prejudice from undertaking any work for Council until the investigations had been completed by the police and HR consultancy. Any payments that were liable should continue to be paid. He believed the current contract terminated at the end of April 2021 but had been unable to find a copy of this. Cllr Chadwick said the HR consultants were charging £675 a day and they had estimated it would take five days to complete their investigation. Discussion took place about a temporary replacement cleaning contractor. Cllr Jennings asked for help with the locking and unlocking of the hall and de-activation of the alarm when required. Cllrs Drinkwater and Thomas agreed to help Cllr Jennings with this. Cllr Chadwick asked Council to vote for Cllr Thomas' proposal which was passed. Cllrs Baker and Davis abstained from voting. (e) Cllr Watson asked for a signatory to accompany him to Lloyds Bank to look at the leases which were now available. Cllr Chadwick volunteered to go with him. (f) A parishioner said she believed there was a conflict of interest in relation to the cleaning contractor's suspension as he was married to a Councillor and this situation would be bringing the Council into disrepute. She asked how this was being managed. Cllr Thomas would speak to the Monitoring Officer the following day. (g) A parishioner asked whether Parish Councils would be taking on any further devolved services such as sign cleaning after the election.



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