



22-01-2020 Minutes

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STOKENCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 22 January 2020 at Longburrow Hall at 7.30 pm

Attendees: Cllr Ian Chadwick (Chairman), Cllr Camilla Baker (Vice Chair), Cllr Dan Davis, Cllr Ben Fearfield, Cllr Suzy Garrett, Cllr Sharon Lander, Cllr Chris Parkinson, Cllr Jen Powis, Cllr Andy Preece, Cllr Robin Thomas, Cllr Neil Watson

Minutes : Mrs Heather Presland, Clerk

Members of the Public : 1

1. Acceptance of Apologies for Absence

Cllr Carl Etholen.

2. Declarations of Interest (agenda items)

Cllr Powis - Bills Payable; Cllr Fearfield - Potholes.

3. To Confirm Minutes of 8 January 2020

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

4. Matters Arising (information only)

Updates were given on the WDC letter about Mudds Bank, the progress with the allotment trees, the Cricket Ground defibrillator and a quote for curtains for Longburrow Hall. 5.

Reports/Actions

(1) Cllr Watson stated he would be standing as an independent Councillor in the upcoming unitary Council elections in May - alongside Cllr Darren Hayday and Mrs Orshi Hayday. (2) Cllr Thomas said an Allotment Committee meeting had taken place on 17 January and his report had been circulated. There was a recommendation for the Clerk to contact the Allotment Association about potential dates to meet up with the Allotment Committee.

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Committees; Village walk; Cllr Baker - cemetery and a request to go In Committee.

7. **Planning:** (1) **19/07895** - Householder application for erection of a single storey rear extension following removal of conservatory and demolition of single storey kitchen and garden store structure, erection of a first floor rear extension, remodelling of front elevation including erection of a part front two storey extension, alterations to fenestrations (alternative scheme 19/06490) - Studley House, Old Dashwood Hill, Studley Green, HP14 3XD - Mr & Mrs P van Blerk. Resolved no objection. Proposed : Cllr Watson; seconded : Cllr Preece.

8. District & County Councillors

None present.

9. Finance

- **Bills Payable**

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

- **Monthly Reports for December 2019**

These were agreed. Proposed : Cllr Parkinson; seconded : Cllr Garrett.

10. **Correspondence** (1) Potholes in Church Path - Cllr Fearfield talked through the correspondence from a resident about the potholes which had been repaired with planings the previous September at a cost of £900 to the Council. These were now in a complete state of disrepair again and he did not feel this was a cost effective solution. He believed the potholes were a risk issue and a longer term solution should be sought. Cllr Baker spoke of the history to this area which was registered as common land. Many patches of the track had been repaired over the years, but tarmac could not be put across it. It was agreed that the best solution may be to take out the ridge in the track that appeared to cause the problems and then break that up and fill in any holes. Cllr Fearfield said he would contact the contractor who had done the work back in September and see what solutions could be proposed.



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about the amount of time that might be needed to undertake the work. Quote approved. Proposed : Cllr Baker; seconded : Cllr Davis. (3) Positive Steps/Busy Bees Nursery - Licence to assign - This re-assignment had been discussed and agreed in Council back in the summer but in December 2019 it had not progressed. The Clerk had contacted the nursery's solicitors and the licence had been received was signed by Cllrs Chadwick and Baker. (4) Proposal to support CCB's aim to make the Chilterns a National Park - this was discussed and supported. Proposed : Cllr Thomas; seconded : Cllr Garrett. Cllrs Preece and Davis abstained. (5) Quotation for Hedging Work - Allotments/Medical Centre - A quote had been received via the Medical Centre from Tony Coombs at a cost of £490. This would be split between the Medical Centre and the Parish Council. Approved. (6) Transfer of Lease - Axis40 Project - Cllr Baker stated that Swilleys Pond was a large piece of land and felt it should be known what the land would be used for before any re-assignment was agreed. Cllr Preece said he thought this was simply a change of name. Cllr Chadwick stated it might well have to go through the Council's solicitors and they would have to charge Axis40 any fees. Cllr Baker said the lease would need to be referred to, particularly in relation to any date when the lease might be up. (7) S106 funding update - Cllr Chadwick read out the contents of an email which had been circulated to Council for views. Discussion took place and it was agreed the installation of three new VAS at the main entrances to the village, plus the installation of a raised zebra crossing on Marlow Road near Hart Moor Close were agreed. However, the priority road narrowings at locations suggested on Marlow Road were too costly and could not be funded.

11. Grass/Hedge Cutting Contract 2020/21

The Clerk explained how this contract had been drawn up and various points were debated. The decision was taken that the whole of the Longburrow Hall playing field needed to be regularly cut

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was one designated area. As a result of a visit to the area, it was agreed the hedges that were situated by the wall that separated Cllr Watson's property from the Water End allotments was the responsibility of the Parish Council and should be included in the contract for cutting. Point 10 of the contract in relation to pathways was discussed and Cllr Watson asked the Clerk to circulate the maps so a final decision could be made as to whether the pathways should be included or not.

12. The Commons

Cllr Davis said the tree felling that had taken part in the village was looking good. He wondered whether some of the bigger pieces of wood that had been left could be put on the corner by Lloyds Bank and a couple at the end of the Kings Arms car park. This was agreed.

13. Other Parish Matters

(1) Litter - Cllr Preece said it was his understanding that litter should be picked up every six weeks but he did not believe this was happening. The area from the top of Eastwood to the white gates on Marlow Road looked dreadful. The Clerk was asked to follow this up. (2) Website - Cllr Parkinson said some of the items on the site were out of date. There was discussion about Declarations of Interest and the site was felt to be old fashioned and a bit haphazard. It was agreed the website needed to be refreshed and this would be progressed. (3) Streetlamp Inventory - there was discussion about the lamps for which the Parish Council had responsibility not having numbers on them to easily identify them. Debate took place on which lamps belonged to the Parish and which did not as there were several discrepancies. Cllr Chadwick asked that a couple of Councillors go through the archives and take this forward to establish which ones belonged to whom. (4) Policies - Cllr Thomas stated that several of the Council policies were in need of review and possible updating. Cllrs Thomas and Baker would progress this. (5) Emergency Plan - Cllr Thomas said it was now several years since the Council was asked to produce a plan for



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Committees. Cllr Preece stated the selection of Councillors to Committees was an annual process that took place in May and they might like to observe at some of the Committee meetings until that time. There was discussion about how many Councillors should be on each Committee. (7) Village walk - Cllr Thomas said the last walk around the village of which he was aware had taken place in 2011 and there had not been one since. He thought it wise that all Councillors should be aware of areas for which the Parish had responsibility and some background knowledge. This was agreed. Cllr Chadwick asked that Cllr Thomas arrange a date with Cllr Baker and take this forward. (8) Cllr Baker said that a while back it had been agreed that a precis of the Cemetery Regulations was going to be undertaken by Cllr Garrett. When agreed, it would be placed on a noticeboard in the Lawn Cemetery. Cllr Garrett said she would get this done as soon as she could. Discussion took place about the cemetery benches. The only plaque to be placed on the most recent bench was to be the one to which the Council had agreed in May 2019. The other bench did not have enough width on it for any further plaques to be put on it. A meeting had taken place with the owner of this bench at the end of 2019 and it was suggested that the Council no longer pursue the removal of this bench from the cemetery. This was agreed. Cllr Chadwick asked that Cllr Watson put something on the Parish website about individuals being able to sponsor benches in the village if they wished. (9) Heaters - Cllr Chadwick asked when Cllr Watson would be able to fit the heaters in the storage cupboard. He replied that he hoped to get around to it soon along with another task he needed to complete. (10) NALC Spring Conference - Cllr Thomas requested to attend. Cllr Chadwick asked what value would be brought back to the Council and Cllr Thomas said he would re-circulate his report from the conference he attended in 2019. (11) Cllr Baker referred to a recent meeting with Carole Burslem where she had found out that BALC



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: Cllr Preece. (12) A parishioner raised the streetlight that had not worked for over a year and wanted to know what was being done about it. The light was not believed to be the responsibility of the Parish, but Cllr Watson agreed to look at the location and double check this was correct. Flooding at the village gates was also discussed and Cllr Watson said he had reported this. Holes had appeared in the anti-skid surface which had been laid by TfB and these were increasing in size.

Meeting finished at 2050