



Approved Minutes 5th April 2023

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/2023

STOKENCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council Wednesday 5th April 2023 at 7.30 pm at Longburrow Hall

ATTENDANCE: Cllr Nuthall (Chair), Penny (Vice-Chair), Cllrs Baker, Burnham, Ghost, Jenkinson, Jennings, Preece, Ramsden, Thomas, Young

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLOR: Cllr Adoh

CLERK : Shelley Adnett

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: Twelve

- 1) **Apologies for absence**
Apologies received from Cllr Carington, Etholon, D Hayday, O Hayday
- 2) **Declarations of any personal interests**
Cllr Jennings disclosed an interest as a family member had an invoice within this month's bills payables.
Cllr Burnham disclosed an interest as she has an expense claim within this month's bills payables.

Meeting closed by Chair and opened to the public

A Parishioner raised concerns over the potential banning of dogs on the cricket ground, as one of the only safe space areas within the village where families with children can walk their dogs. Believes a compromise is required and dog owners should pick up after their dogs.

A spokesperson on behalf of the Cricket Club wanted to



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A Parishioner wanted to address the new lease for the SGCC, back ground was given on the peppercorn rent and believes that the proposed rent increase is disproportionate.

3) **To confirm minutes of 1th March 2023**

Council unanimously approved the minutes. Council agreed the minutes to be a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the minutes.

4) **Buckinghamshire Councillors** Cllr Adoh – Mudds Bank – Three quotes have been obtained for clearing the site, which are being considered by senior management to decide on the next steps.

New contractors have been appointed for Highways. Numerous requests have been made to fix the depression in the road by the Fleur, where it meets the A40.

B482 – A site visit is required, we are dissatisfied with the outcome of the feasibility study.

5) **Finance**

- i. Bills Payable – Council Approved, Cllr Burnham, Jennings abstained
- ii. Monthly Accounts – Unanimously approved
- iii. Budget Update – Budget has been reviewed and we have a small surplus



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parking spaces.

The council paid for the High Court papers. A court date will be set for no later than the 25th March 2024. Cllr Jennings requested for some additional parking signage to be purchased for the car park.

7) **F&W Networks**

Stokenchurch is suitable for a government backed gigabit voucher scheme to provide a new full fibre network. F&W are a wholesaler so are able to offer a selection of internet service providers who are able to offer a speed of up to a thousand megabits per second. Future proofing the village as the green boxes are due to be turned off in the coming years. Currently they have 90 registrations of interest, and require 500 registrations. Residents can register their interest, and pledge the voucher to F&W Networks, so they can request funding from the government to build the network. Some of the service providers offer social tariffs for people on certain benefits. Trooli are currently operating in the village and people are being connected. They currently operating as the monopoly supplier at very expensive rates. It was decided that a team's call would be organised for all Parish Councillors and more information to be made available before the Parish Council affiliates with the scheme. They are hoping to extend out towards the Studley Green area.

8) **Parking in the village – CJ's** Cllr Preece has received several complaints from parishioners



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9) **The Kings Coronation**

Unfortunately the Large screen is unforeseeable due to the lack of engineers on the Bank holiday weekend and they are unable to support our event. Cllr Preece suggested we put it out to the public and ask what they would like the Parish Council to do, and invite people to come forward and form a subcommittee and put a budget of £3,000 for the event. To also have some Union Jack bunting through the village on lamp posts.

10) **SGCC**

Cllr Preece put forward the proposal of a 21 year full and repairing lease, with breaks and rent reviews every five years for a nominal rent of £1,000 per annum subject to both parties and district valuer. The councilors were in agreement that the rent needed to be increased from the £400 annual peppercorn rent that they are currently paying. Cllr Penny suggested getting the district valuer in, to ensure we are insured adequately. It was agreed to get them in to value all Parish Council Assets/buildings. Cllr Jennings added that we will continue to pay for the cost of the insurance. Cllr Nuthall stated that is a full self-repairing lease. Majority of Councillors approved, Cllr Ghost abstained from the vote.

11) **Colour in the village**

Cllr Preece provided drawings for some flower beds. The clerk



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Weed killing/ No dogs allowed/ Hedgerow

Weed killing - The Cricket Club requested if the Parish Council would pay for weed killing at the Cricket ground. A quotation had been obtained for £320 + VAT. Unanimously agreed.

No Dogs Allowed – Request people to kindly pickup after their dogs on social Media. Cllr Ramsden requested that an additional two dog bins be placed around the Cricket Ground. Cllr Baker requested for a respectful sign to go up around the new play area kindly requesting to refrain from taking the dogs into the Childrens 'play area. Unanimously agreed.

Hedgerow – Cllr Ramsden reported there was a gap in the hedgerow by the Cricket Ground and requested for this to be widened, a parishioner was concerned about children running out into the road. Defer until next meeting to establish if there is a legal footpath through this route. Will discuss and resolve in the May meeting.

13) Parish Council meeting format – Public section and participation

Cllr Nuthall suggested moving the public section to the end of the meeting rather than the beginning and also welcomes interaction from members of the public during meetings, however some members of the council do not like the public participation. Cllr Jennings wanted the public section to remain at the beginning of the meeting to allow parishioners to have their say. Councillors



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Members of the public knowledge is invaluable and comes down to the skills of the chair and inviting members of the public in at the right time. BALC guidelines are the public section is at the beginning and any subject is limited to two minutes and if there are multiple people wishing to talk about the same subject they have a spokesperson. A combination of the BALC rules and chairman's skills bringing people in at the right time is perfect. It was decided to keep the format as it is.

14) **Facilities Manager monthly update**

The street light unmetered supplies have been investigated due to change of bulbs to LED which has resulted in a reduction in cost of 83% and 22%. This will decrease as we change more bulbs. A smart meter has been installed at Longburrow hall. The allotment taps have been turned on this week. The pot holes around the Cricket Ground will be patched with help of the Cricket Club in April/May 2023.

CLlr Ghost had to leave the meeting at 9:05pm

15) **Planning**

- a. **23/05394/FUL – Application For: Retention of marketing suite building for a temporary period of 36 months – Site of The Wycliffe Centre, Horsley Green, Buckinghamshire – Royal London Mutual Insurance Society Ltd. – No Objection**



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window to rear in connection with loft conversion and removal of wall to create additional parking space. – 7C
Elizabeth Road,
Stokenchurch,
Buckinghamshire, HP14
3QT – Mrs Healey – No
Objection

- c. **22/08202/FUL – Application For: Demolition of existing dwelling, annexe and associated hardstanding, construction of 3-bed detached replacement dwelling with associated works, change of use of agricultural land to residential land and change of use or residential land to agricultural/forestry land for the creation of a biodiversity area AMENDED PLANS –**
Woodmans Cottage,
Ibstone Road,
Stokenchurch,
Buckinghamshire, HP14
3XS – C/O Agent – No
Objection
- d. **23/05543/FUL – Application For: Householder application for demolition of existing conservatory and existing rear addition, proposed ground floor extension, floor plan redesign and all associated works. – 43**
Jubilee Road,



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Cllr Preece noted that there is issues with the planning department backdating applications and we are not having enough time to comment, as the deadline falls between meetings. The idea for a caveat to be placed under planning to say that planning applications may have been updated after the agenda has been issued, and therefore can still be discussed and to contact the clerk for further details. An estate agent board has been put up on the common and requested for this to be removed because it is contrary to our by-laws point 16.

Cllr Thomas said that the Litter pick was successful and they removed 20 bags of rubbish from around the village. Many thanks to Cllr Burnham and Thomas for their hard work in arranging this Litter Pick.

Cllr Young noted various companies have started advertising around the village on lamp posts – Facilities Manager will remove all signs.

Cllr Baker asked for Longburrow Hall to be redecorated. On the A40 opposite the Shell garage there is a large amount of hedge and tree cutting to be removed. Cllr Penny asked Cllr Baker if she could identify the house and he shall then speak to the household to ask for them to be removed. The flat at Longburrow will be let commercially, an EPC will be obtained, cleaned, and rubbish removed and then let out.

Cllr Nuthall addressed that the village is currently suffering from a spate of Vandalism from



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children were waiting for the school bus. TVP do not have the provision or presence in the village which doesn't help with the current issues in the village. 4G Cameras may be required in the village, information has been sent round to councillors for review and discussion at the next meeting.

Cllr Jennings requested that we need to look into a new CCTV system at Longburrow hall.

17) **Items for next agenda**

CCTV at Longburrow

Website

Chip Shop/Bakery

The meeting was closed at 9:25pm