

DRAFT



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

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

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCILLOR: Cllr Etholen, D Hayday

CLERK : None – meeting voice recorded

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: 7

- 1) **Apologies for absence**
Apologies received from Cllr Adoh, Burnham, Carington, Ghost, O Hayday, S Adnett (Clerk, RFO)
- 2) **Declarations of any personal interests**
Cllr Jennings disclosed an interest as a family member had an invoice within this month's bills payables.
- 3) **To Confirm the minutes of the 7th June 2023**

July 2023 Minutes Approved

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A parishioner mentioned that that they struggled to cross the road at the pelican crossing on the A40 by Tesco from the as it didn't allow him enough time. This has previously been reported via fix my street and the time can't be extended further.

Meeting Closed to the public

5) Buckinghamshire Councillors

CLlr Etholen presented CLlr Jenkinson with a Proud of Bucks award for local community champion which recognises outstanding community contribution people or groups and celebrate local volunteers that have made a positive impact. A second award was presented for Stokenchurch Youth Crew for the community group contribution which has made a positive difference to the youth of the village encouraging young people to be part of the community.

Mudds Bank – Enforcement notices were served and would cost over £70,000 + VAT of taxpayers moneys, which they cannot justify to paying. We have been informed that the owners of the land have vacated due to the pressure from Bucks Council. We thanked Bucks council for their support.

Bucks Council are offering free holiday activities, food and support for eligible families which is ongoing details can be found online.

Potholes – 10,000 pot holes have been filled recently. 15 gangs working 7 days a week to catch up on the devastating road situation.

CLlr D Hayday wished to pay his respects to Jan Eedle-Wells who had worked tirelessly for SGCC.

The boundary changes means that Studley Green, Horsley Green and Beacons Bottoms shall be moved in line with Stokenchurch area into the ridgeway west boundary. CLlr Jennings asked if the temporary barricade footpath leading down the Dashwood hill footpath to prevent people walking down the path could be changed into something more permanent. CLlr Hayday said he would look into this.

A parishioner raised a query as to why Bucks Council haven't repaired the A40 despite other roads being repaired that appeared to be less of a priority. This will be taken back a cabinet member and find out if this road is on their program, and if it is not why not. The B482 was discussed once again, over the ongoing concerns of the lack of footpath and the speed in which cars are allowed to travel. The land owner, Bucks councillors, councillors and any other relevant parties will be gathered and a meeting put some action into place and get sorted prior to winter. Questions were raised about the speed limit on the B482 and the speed along the A40 between Studley Green and Stokenchurch as to why the limit is still 60mph.

6) Finance

July 2023 Minutes Approved

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2023/2024 budget.

- 7) **Grass Cutting**

Since the last meeting we have had a change of Grass Cutting contractor from Polaris Ground care to CF Agriculture Ltd. We are extremely grateful to have Charlie Fox back, and he has done an amazing job around the village. Thanks was given to the clerk for arranging the new contractor at such short notice. The Kings Hotel garden maintenance was discussed and was agreed that an external contractor would be organised, to maintain the gardens on a regular basis. Hedge cutting – various residents have been written to regarding overgrown hedges. Charlie Fox will be instructed about cutting the Marlow Road cemetery hedges. Cllr Nuthall will speak to Charlie Fox to see when the hedges will be cut.
- 8) **The Kings Hotel**

No further update this month
- 9) **Cemetery**

No update this month
- 10) **Cemetery benches**

Cllr Penny suggested that the replacement benches should be long lasting and solid fixed to the ground, facing west in the cemetery at a cost of £371.00 A cemetery committee meeting will be held to discuss the purchase of the new bench. It was decided that the cemetery rules needed to be updated to incorporate a bench policy which will be brought forward at the next parish council meeting for approval. Defer for August. It was agreed that the cemetery grass would be cut more often than the current once every three weeks – weather dependant.
- 11) **Training**

Cllr Penny suggested that if any councillors wanted to take up any training courses that are circulated by the clerk to do them as they are invaluable.
- 12) **Vandalism/Anti-social behaviour**

Cllrs Burnham, Ghost and Thomas set up an antisocial committee have met to discuss and identify issues. Will discuss issues with the local community board for assistance. We have no TVP presence within the village.
- 13) **Community Speed Watch.**

Cllr Burnham sent an email in advance of the meeting. It was decided to defer until next meeting for discussion.
- 14) **Fete Day Additional Grass Cutting**

No Additional cut required, just to arrange a cut as close to fete day as possible going forward.
- 15) **Longburrow Hall car park**

Longburrow hall committee met to discuss a few complaints that were received after a recent hall

July 2023 Minutes Approved

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council was able to obtain a grant for the refurbishment for their car park, he was willing to do some work on this. Longburrow Hall Committee will arrange another meeting to discuss the matter further and add this item onto the August agenda.

16) Weeding around the village

Cllr Preece brought to the attention of the council that the weeding around the village needs addressing. He had contacted Lane End PC and got contact details from the company they use. These details will be passed onto the Clerk to chase up and get a cost estimate.

17) Facilities Manager monthly update

Various requested tasks that were given to the facilities manager throughout the month have been carried out. Cemetery tap will be installed in August. The internal lights at Longburrow Hall will be carried out on the 19th July. Japanese Knotweed has been identified and passed onto Bucks Council to deal with. John had spent a lot of time cleaning up after hirers had hired the hall on several occasions, a discussion was had if the Clerk deducted money from hirers against their deposit.

18) Planning

- a. **23/06205/FUL – Application for: Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling house with associated soft and hard surfacing and landscape –** Gurdons Farm, Oxford Road, Stokenchurch, Bucks, HP14 3YN – Dr Shah – Cllr Preece commented that a previous application had been made and granted in 2020. The new proposal will be screen by the woods, and suggested that the council have discussed and have may have concerns however ask the officer to vigorously access its impact on the Green belt and the AONB.
- b. **23/06296/FUL – Application for: Householder application for part conversation of integral garage including formation of window in existing door opening to side elevation –** 2 Chalk Farm Road, Stokenchurch, Bucks, HP14 3TB – Samantha Tegala – No Objection
- c. **23/06350/FUL – Application for: Householder application for partial garage conversion -**33 Mill Road, Stokenchurch, Bucks, HP14 3TP – John Busby – No objection
- d. **23/06367/FUL – Application for – Demolition/removal of the existing buildings and structures and the erection of five dwellings with access, parking and amenity space –** Agricultural Building and surround land east of Park Lane – Wilber Homes (Barns) Ltd – Cllr Preece read

July 2023 Minutes Approved

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two semi-detached chalet bungalows

– Driftway, Wycombe Road, Studley Green, Bucks, HP14 3UY - Mr John Lee – No Objection

- f. **23/05944/FUL-Application for: Demolition of existing timber clad semi-detached dwelling and construction of 2 x 4 bed semi-detached dwellings** - 2 Elizabeth Road Stokenchurch Buckinghamshire HP14 3QT – No Objection, Cllr Jenkinson abstained

19) Any other business (report only)

Cllr Jenkinson will be doing an inventory of the crockery at the hall and come back to council with costing for restocking the cupboard.

Cllr Jennings is organising a community craft fair in September. Requested councillors to think of projects what we can spend CIL monies on within the village.

Cllr Baker requested that the war graves are cleaned and that the Freemasons have helped previously. The Clerk to look into this. That Longburrow Hall needs refreshing and a facelift along with repairing the roof.

20) Item/s for next agenda

Meeting closed at 9:30pm

23/06367/FUL – Application for – Demolition/removal of the existing buildings and structures and the erection of five dwellings with access, parking and amenity space – Agricultural Building and surround land east of Park Lane – Wilber Homes (Barns) Ltd

Objection Submitted by Council – provided by Cllr Preece, unanimously agreed.

Stokenchurch Parish Council resolved to OBJECT to this application for the following reasons:

This field is Green Belt and AONB and should have the highest protection in the land. This site is adjacent to the Chiltern Way footpath, indeed it forms part of Chiltern Way. This application should be refused outright as to develop here is contrary to both policy and law.

The barn was historically for agricultural use, which was used unlawfully in the 1980s as a reclamation yard and has been derelict ever since the old WDC enforced against this. The recent planning application for part change of use to storage to B8 should not detract from that this is a barn in a field in the Green Belt. Whilst

July 2023 Minutes Approved

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footprint of the barn. This design is inappropriate development in the Green Belt and will have a detrimental impact by encroachment onto virgin countryside. No special circumstances have been proposed that would outweigh the harm done by this application. Whilst some Green Belt area was identified in the WDC Local Area Plan to be released – this land does not form part of that. It has not been identified as suitable for development in the Local Area Plan, it is purely speculative by the developer. Therefore development would be contrary to policies CP8 (protecting the green belt) DM42 (managing the green belt) and Section 13 of National Planning Policy Framework 2021 and must be refused outright.

The Parish Council urge Buckinghamshire Council to protect the green belt and AONB and refuse this application. Failure by the council to honour its legal obligation to protect this green belt land could be subject to Judicial Review in the High Court.