

STOKENCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting 29th January 2026

The meeting started at 19:36

1 Public Forum:

There were 3 Members of the public in attendance.

Questions were raised regarding the budget; specifically, why have the legal fees in the budget been reduced for this coming year?

There was a request to publicise to the community why there was an increase in the precept amount.

One member of the public mentioned that a more concerted effort to communicate with the parishioners was needed. On the website, the invoices paid for July appear to be in the Aug folder, and there are items approved for payment that are not on the website.

The Chair thanked the members of the public for their interest and attendance, and the councillors then continued the meeting.

2 There were no apologies for absence.

3 There were no declarations of interest.

4 The councillors confirmed the appointment of the New Clerk/ RFO. **VJ proposed, and SB seconded the motion**

5 The Parish Council's Budget for 2026/2027 was accepted; the clerk would now be able to forward the 26/27 Precept requirement of £122,722.50 to Buckinghamshire Council. **RB proposed, and AS seconded the motion**

OTHER BUSINESS The Chairman announced to all in attendance that the next meeting will be the monthly parish meeting on the 4th February 26

The **Meeting was then closed to the public**, and the formal meeting commenced.

6. Administrative & Staffing Update

a. Last EoM (15/01) actions for staffing matters accepted. **Proposer SB, Seconded AS**

b. Cemetery Committee /

i. There had been a burial request with a single name on the headstone, and this had been agreed **Proposer VJ, Seconded AS**

ii. The councillors agreed to reinstate the Cemeteries Committee with TOR and powers to respond to any queries from the public as soon as possible, as there had previously been issues with response times. AS had submitted revised best practice documents, and a review and an update of all the information would be undertaken. The committee will then ensure that the documents are on the website and regularly updated. The councillors also mentioned that the cemetery signage would need to be changed. It was suggested that the sign should clearly direct all cemetery queries to the clerk, who could then forward them to the committee members. The councillors appointed to the committee were VJ, RB, CB and AS.