

**Minutes of the meeting of the COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE held
in the Committee Room at Eskdale Road Community Centre
on Tuesday 9 December 2025 at 7.30pm**

PRESENT: Cllrs D Field (Chair), J Theobald, G Shrivastava, M Broad and A Lennard
Resident J Gates attended the meeting as an appointed non-councillor
Clerk: T Skeggs
Assistant: B Hotya

Absent: None
Residents: None

C25/106	APOLOGIES None.	
C25/107	OPEN FORUM FOR PARISHIONERS There were no residents present.	
C25/108	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION There were no new requests for dispensation.	
C25/109	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING a) The minutes of the meeting of the Communities Committee held on 11 November 2025 were unanimously AGREED as a true record. b) The action plan was reviewed and would be updated accordingly.	
C25/110	KIDS EVENTS FOR 2026 It was considered organising several events for 2026. These include an Easter Egg Hunt/Easter themed event, a Family Fun Day with bouncy castles, a Halloween Event and a Film Event/Outdoor Cinema on the playing field. It was AGREED to go ahead with the events, and it was advised that if anyone has new ideas, to email the Clerks and they will be added to the next Communities Committee meeting agenda.	
C25/111	CHRISTMAS EVENTS a) There are 49 bookings confirmed for the Christmas Lunch on 20 December 2025 and the residents can still book a place by 12 December 2025. It was suggested we should serve the mulled wine and mince pies left over from the other Christmas events. It was AGREED that the Clerks to do a Facebook post asking for tombola prizes donations. b) The children's winter party was fully booked within a day and a half (50 children's tickets). It was AGREED to release more tickets for the event. c) The feedback received from the residents about the Christmas Lights Switch-on Event, was that they would prefer the event to be held in front of The Bull. The Parish Council is looking to plant trees in other wards as well, the costs range between £1300-1500/tree. Unfortunately, there is no land owned by the Parish Council where to plant a tree at Stoke Grange at the moment, but it was AGREED trees to be planted at Hawkslade, Stoke Leys and The Green at Brudenell Drive. It was discussed installing the commando switches on the streetlights and spreading the costs through out the year so it won't affect the budget or to use the remaining budget for this year to do that. Cllr Field expressed his appreciation to everyone who helped organising the Christmas Lights Switch-On Event this year: to the Clerks; to The Bull who got in touch with the tree company, for organising the gazebos and for serving the mulled wine and mince pies to the residents; to the Stoke Mandeville Village Society for the carols; and to the Chiltern Hills Brass Band for the festive music.	

	d) It was AGREED that the lights on the Christmas tree would be removed by the councillors on 3 January 2026. It was AGREED to contact the local gardeners or advertise on Facebook asking if someone could dispose of the tree.	
C25/112	ALLOTMENTS There was limited feedback from the allotment tenants regarding the need of a toilet at the allotments site. It was AGREED not to install one at this time and this matter to be reviewed in the future years.	
C25/113	PARTY IN THE PARK The event's working group next meeting will be in January 2026. Each member have tasks to complete. The group will contact Michael Anthony to support advertising the event. Cllr Field had booked the Skasouls Band and informed the food vans about the £150 pitch fee. J Gates contacted Radleys and is waiting for their reply. The group will contact the local dance clubs and the school choir to check if they would like to take part.	
C25/114	NEW STREETLIGHT A streetlight in Wotton Path in Stoke Leys had been hit by a car and needs to be replaced. The quote from ENC Ltd has been reviewed and AGREED the cost is reasonable. It was AGREED to go ahead and replace it.	
C25/115	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be on 13 January 2026.	

The meeting closed at 20:13

Signed _____ Dated: 3 February 2026

Action List

Date	Minute	Description	By Whom	Status
08/07/25	C25/59	Produce map for first walk	Clerk	In progress
08/07/25	C25/62	Discuss with the school having children paint designs on the SGN cabinet	Cllr Theobald	In progress
08/07/25	C25/63	Get quotes for guttering replacement	Clerk	In progress