



**Minutes of the meeting of the COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE held
in the Committee Room at Eskdale Road Community Centre
on Tuesday 12 May 2026 at 7.30pm**

PRESENT: Cllrs D Field (Chair), J Theobald, M Broad and J Gates.

Assistant Clerk: B Hotya

Residents: 1

C26/20	APOLOGIES None.	
	OPEN FORUM FOR PARISHIONERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liz (Chair, Village Society) presented the Stoke Brook improvement proposal project, explaining that the funding application will cover the costs for initial scoping work to be undertaken by a professional from the River Thames Conservation Trust, as well as associated publicity expenses. 	
C26/21	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION There were no new requests for dispensation.	
C26/22	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes of the meeting of the Communities Committee held on 10 March 2026 were unanimously AGREED as a true record. The action plan was reviewed and would be updated accordingly. 	
C26/23	PARTY IN THE PARK Party in the Park planning is now finalised with costs remaining within budget. All arrangements are now confirmed with no further changes or meetings required. Cllr D. Field and Cllr J. Gates, accompanied by Lily Mae, promoted the event on radio on Friday 8 May. Andy Collins will attend the event for a couple of hours and will promote the event via Facebook Live.	
C26/24	EASTER EGG HUNT Lessons learned from the Easter Egg Hunt event were reviewed and noted.	
C26/25	ESKDALE ROAD PLAYGROUND Following discussion of RoSPA's recommendation to install a metal fence around the playground with an additional gate, it was AGREED to proceed. The Assistant Clerk will confirm the required fence size and will obtain quotations.	Assistant
C26/26	STOKE MANDEVILLE GARDEN COMPETITION It was agreed to organise a garden competition in the village this year. The Assistant Clerk will make the arrangements and create a poster and an entry form.	Assistant
C26/27	VILLAGE SOCIETY The funding application of £2,500 from the Village Society towards the Stoke Brook project was discussed, and it was NOTED that this would be a great improvement for the village. Cllr Field proposed, and Cllr Broad seconded, to approve the funding application. This was unanimously AGREED .	
C26/28	ALLOTMENTS <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The access road repairs will be added to the allotments plan that Cllr K. Shanahan is putting together following the meeting held on 9 May at the allotments site. It was agreed to hold an allotment competition this year. Cllr Gates suggested that the judging take place during National Allotment Week (10-16 August 2026). Cllr Theobald 	Cllr Theobald

	will contact the Lindengate Charity to enquire if they could provide an experienced gardener or horticulturist to judge the competition.	
C26/29	MANDEVILLE PARK It was noted that the transfer of Mandeville Park green spaces is due to be completed in the summer. Cllr Field advised that the ground maintenance and grass cutting fees should be added to the budget.	
C26/30	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be on 11 June 2026.	

The meeting closed at 20:13

Signed _____ Dated: 11 June 2026

Action List

Date	Minute	Description	By Whom	Status
08/07/25	C25/62	Discuss with the school having children paint designs on the SGN cabinet	Cllr Theobald	On hold
08/07/25	C25/63	Get quotes for guttering replacement	Clerk	In progress
10/03/26	C26/17	Get quotes for metal frame Christmas trees	Assistant Clerk	
12/05/26	C26/25	Obtain quotes for fencing and gate around playground	Assistant Clerk	
12/05/26	C26/26	Create poster and entry form for gardening competition.	Assistant Clerk	
12/05/26	C26/28b	Contact Lindengate regarding judging allotment competition.	Cllr Theobald	