



Stoke Mandeville Parish Council

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL** meeting held on Tuesday 16th March 2021. Due to the Covid-19 regulations the meeting was held remotely via a Teams video link.



Present: Cllrs G Stewart (Chair), R Butler, A Clark, B Ezra, J Hunt, S Kirve, J Magill, J Robinson, C Thorn, and P Wood.

Public Attendance: Six members of the public.

Clerk: A Skeggs

Assistant Clerk: A-M Davies

Absent: None

No.	Description	Action
21/37	APOLOGIES There were no apologies as everyone was present.	
	OPEN FORUM FOR PARISHIONERS A resident from Irvine Drive commented on agenda item 10 (minute 21/41), saying that the complaint was not against the Parish Council and that the letter contained three complaints, and that it was sent on behalf of seven residents. He requested that the item be dealt with earlier in the agenda. A past resident requested a round table with the residents and the parish council to discuss the matter.	
21/38	REPORT FROM BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL COUNCILLOR There was no Buckinghamshire Council Councillor present, but an update had been circulated to all councillors.	
21/39	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION a) There were no new declarations of interest. b) There were no new requests for dispensation.	
21/40	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING a) Minutes - The minutes of the meeting held on 16 th February were AGREED and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. b) Action Plan - The action plan was reviewed, with completed actions removed.	
21/41	COMPLAINT AGAINST THE PARISH COUNCIL The chairman proposed that this item be brought up the agenda, to save the residents of Irvine Drive having to sit through the agenda. This was AGREED . The chairman responded to the resident by saying that the complaint was being taken seriously and would receive the council's full attention. It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously AGREED that the parish council, once it had reviewed the complaint, would engage with the residents of Irvine Drive with the aim of resolving this issue.	Clerk
21/42	RESIGNATION It was formally NOTED that Laurence Prestage had resigned from the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Cllr Clark, on behalf of the parish council, expressed his gratitude for all his work especially on the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Hunt commented on his professionalism and	

	commitment to the role of councillor. The chairman had written to him thanking him for his work.	
21/43	<p>ANNUAL PARISH MEETING</p> <p>This would be held remotely on Tuesday 20th April. Following presentation of the Annual Report, the chairman had arranged two external speakers for the evening, one from the Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity and Rachel Wood, Lead Archaeologist for HS2. Posters would be displayed on noticeboards, but councillors were asked to promote the meeting as well.</p>	Clerk
21/44	<p>COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY</p> <p>Two successful meetings had been held with Breakthrough Communications with their report suggesting some interesting alternatives. Cllr Magill was keen that some of the proposals be progressed and that more use of social media should be made, and Cllr Robinson commented on the possible name change to include all the wards rather than just the village. It was AGREED that it would be for the new parish council to progress the options contained in the report.</p>	
21/45	<p>TOWN AND PARISH CHARTER</p> <p>Buckinghamshire Council had produced a draft Charter in conjunction with clerks and councillors. The consultation deadline had been extended to 31st March. The Charter was still in draft form, but it was felt that it was too long. Any comments should be fed back to the clerk. At some stage, the parish council would be asked to sign up to the Charter.</p>	
21/46	<p>WEBSITE</p> <p>The chairman outlined the current position, which was that further quotes had been sought and that it was likely that the website would be more expensive than originally thought.</p>	
21/47	<p>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</p> <p>a) Following the resignation of Cllr Prestage, a new chairman of the Steering Group was required along with additional support. There were three key tasks – Finishing the Plan, Selling the Plan & Ongoing Negotiations with Buckinghamshire Council, and the Consortium. Membership of the group was not restricted to parish councillors. It was proposed, seconded, and AGREED that Cllr Clark would act as chairman of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Cllr Stewart offered his help on the consultation area of work whilst Cllr Magill would also help if his time allowed.</p> <p>b) The meeting was asked to consider the location of a new “Parish Centre”, which would form part of the enlarged community of Stoke Mandeville. Cllr Clark had circulated at the start of the meeting a paper outlining a couple of possible sites, Lower Road West, and Lower Road East. It was suggested that both sites could incorporate Paralympic themes and artwork. It was suggested a preferred Parish Centre site could be allocated within the Neighbourhood Plan and be delivered by working in partnership with Buckinghamshire Council, landowners, and developers. Cllr Clark proposed that the parish council adopt a policy of stipulating that the green buffer required in the VALP goes between the village and the AGT1 developments. This was seconded by Cllr Butler and unanimously AGREED.</p>	

	Cllr Hunt commented that it was difficult to make decisions when not all the information was available.	
21/48	COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE The draft minutes had been circulated. Cllr Ezra updated the meeting on the presentation from Bucks Community Energy, which highlighted the benefits of the use of solar panels on the community centre. SMVCA were to consider the presentation but it was felt that more information was required from Bucks Community Energy before the parish council could support the idea.	Clerk
21/49	PLANNING COMMITTEE a) The draft minutes of the meeting held on the 23 rd February 2021 were NOTED . b) The meeting was asked to consider “Calling-In” the Buckinghamshire Council decision to approve the SEALR planning application. This would mean writing to the Secretary of State asking for him to exercise his powers to “call-in” the application. Cllr Clark had circulated at the start of the meeting a draft letter, which outlined the reasons for the “call-in”. Cllr Clark highlighted that there was a deadline to submit the request and so a decision was required this evening. Several councillors would have liked more time to digest the letter and it was unclear where this request had originated. It was proposed by Cllr Clark and seconded by Cllr Butler that a letter be sent to the Secretary of State. This was AGREED with Cllr Hunt voting against the proposal.	
21/50	POLICIES This item was deferred until the next meeting.	
21/51	FINANCE a) Payment of invoices for March 2021 – the list of payments, as circulated, was APPROVED . (See Appendix 1). b) The monitoring Statement to the 28 th February which showed a forecast increase in reserves of £40,000 was NOTED .	
21/52	CLERK’S REPORT The clerk’s report, attached as appendix 3, was NOTED .	
21/53	POINTS OF INTEREST <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There had been a meeting with the Fusion archaeologist / local vicar as regards the old St Mary’s church site. 	
21/54	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council would be Tuesday 20 th April 2021 starting at 8.00pm . This would be held remotely following the Annual Parish Meeting which would start at 7.00pm.	

The chairman thanked everyone for their contributions during the evening.

The meeting finished at 10.00 pm.

Signed..... Chair

Date: 20th April 2021

Appendix 1 - Payments

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LIST OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 16th MARCH 2021

RECEIPTS						
Date Received	Received from	Reference	Amount Received			Details
			Gross	VAT	Net	
15/03/2021				-	-	
				-	-	
Total Receipts			-	-	-	
PAYMENTS - From Current Account						
Direct Debits			Gross	VAT	Net	Transaction Detail
15/03/2021	EON	H198C4B09C	490.18	81.70	408.48	Street Lighting for February 2021
19/03/2021	Peoples Pension	february	228.80	-	228.80	Pension Costs February 2021
19/03/2021	BT (SM5086 3603)	M140 RO	56.39	9.40	46.99	Office Phone to 6th March 2021
Standing Orders						
31/03/2021	Roger Haines	march	666.67	-	666.67	Grounds Maintenance for March 2021
			1,442.04	91.10	1,350.94	
Online Transfer - Paid 10 March						
10/03/2021	A.Bamford	NPSG-133	150.00	-	150.00	NPSG Administration - to 8 March
10/03/2021	A.Bamford	NPSG-134	75.00	-	75.00	NPSG Administration - Extra Work
10/03/2021	A.Bamford	NPSG-135	150.00	-	150.00	NPSG Administration - to 15 March
10/03/2021	The Cloudy Group (19/147)	18326ab	3,805.09	634.18	3,170.91	Councillor - Licenses / Support / Anti Virus
10/03/2021	The Cloudy Group	18384ab	18.96	3.16	15.80	Email addresses for NPSG members
10/03/2021	Bell Cornwell	2996	2,040.00	340.00	1,700.00	NP Professional Services for February
10/03/2021	Tom Audley	SM3	380.00	-	380.00	Cutting back foliage / conifers - Wendover Rd
			6,619.05	977.34	5,641.71	
Online Transfer - Paid 24 March						
24/03/2021	A.Bamford	NPSG-136	150.00	-	150.00	NPSG Administration - to 22 March
24/03/2021	A.Bamford	NPSG-137	150.00	-	150.00	NPSG Administration - to 29 March
24/03/2021	Bell Cornwell	2772	2,040.00	340.00	1,700.00	NP Professional Services for January
24/03/2021	Agripower Ltd	19031	690.00	115.00	575.00	Vertidrainng Eskdale Road Playing Field
24/03/2021	Classic Garden Furniture	deposit	200.00	-	200.00	Two Benches - Lower Road & Station Road
24/03/2021	Buckinghamshire Council	510530	2,059.20	343.20	1,716.00	Grass Cutting of Eskdale Road Playing Field
24/03/2021	A.Skeggs	mileage	25.20	-	25.20	Mileage April 2020 to March 2021
24/03/2021	A-M.Davies	March	887.45	-	887.45	March Salary
24/03/2021	A.Skeggs	March	1,642.43	-	1,642.43	March Salary
24/03/2021	HMRC	March	607.79	-	607.79	PAYE & NIC for month 12 (5 April 2021)
24/03/2021	A.Clark	allowance	75.45	-	75.45	Quarterly allowance to March 2021
			8,527.52	798.20	7,729.32	
From Clerks Debit Card Account						
03/03/2021	Nimvelo	963068	3.60	0.60	3.00	Covid-19 Support Group Phone
11/03/2021	B&Q	card	4.00	-	4.00	Pack of metal pegs
			7.60	0.60	7.00	
Total Payments			16,596.21	1,867.24	14,728.97	
The above list of payments was approved by the Parish Council at its meeting on 16th March 2021.						
Signed	<i>Graham Stewart</i>		(Chair)			
	<i>This is an electronic signature - a hard copy with a wet signature is available.</i>					
Date	16th March 2021					

Appendix 2 – Action Plan

Date	Minute	Action	By whom	Status
15/09/20	20/90b	Obtain likely cost of mature tree audit.	Clerk	In Progress
20/10/20	20/102	To investigate engaging external support.	Clerk / GS	In Progress
15/12/20	20/138	Arrange for disabled friendly portable toilet.	Clerk	In Progress
16/02/21	21/24	Check s106 spreadsheet supplied by BC	Clerk / GS	In Progress
16/03/21	21/41	Organise meeting with Irvine Dr Residents.	Clerk	In Progress
16/03/21	21/43	Advertise Annual Parish Meeting.	Clerk	
16/03/21	21/48	Contact Bucks Community Energy.	Clerk	Completed

APPENDIX 3 – CLERKS REPORT

Image of Clerks Report

Below are updates to the council on issues that are ongoing where no decision or minimal expenditure is required. The purpose of this update is to keep councillors and the public up to date on various issues and to save time at the meeting.

Elections

- Nomination papers have been delivered to all councillors. Deadline for return to Buckinghamshire Council is the 8th April 2021.

Streetlights

- Light no.8 in Lower Road has been reported to UKPN for repair as there is no power getting to the unit.

Community Centre / Playing Field -

- Tennis Courts – These will be opened on the 29th March.
- Water Problem on field – Waiting for Agripower to visit to advise on a solution.
- Front Door – The locking mechanism has been playing up and a new one is required. A temporary lock has been installed but existing keys will not work in this lock.

Environmental Issues – Calls from Residents

- 7 Ligo Avenue – Overhanging foliage. Letter sent to resident and the foliage has been cut back.
- 48 Station Road – Conifer hedge encroaching over footpath. Letter sent to resident. Clerk has met with the resident. Deciding best course of action as the path is still wide enough for a wheelchair / pushchair. Cutting it back will expose the sharp edges of the branches and will change the appearance.
- Marsh Lane – Reporting potholes, abandoned sign, litter and broken glass.
- Eskdale Road – Complaints about mud on the road, large lorries turning up too early and parking. This has been reported to the site manager and Buckinghamshire Council Enforcement.

Environmental Issues

- Overhanging Foliage Wendover Road – The foliage and low hanging conifer branches have been cut back.
- Hawkslade Bench – This has sunk, and a new hard standing is required.

Allotments

- Reported that allotment holders are driving through the gap in the posts to enter / leave the car park. Arrangements being made to be reinstate the posts.

Pollyanna Pre-School

- Temporary fencing has been put up to block two holes in the hedge that border the outside play area. A more permanent solution will be required.

Station Road Bus Shelter

- A claim has been made against the driver's insurance company and a settlement is expected soon.