



**Stoke Mandeville Parish Council**  
**Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL meeting held on Tuesday**  
**14<sup>th</sup> June 2022 at the Community Centre, Eskdale Road.**



Present: Cllrs G Stewart (Chair), B Ezra, P Wood, J Magill, C Thorn, J Robinson, G Shrivastava

Public Attendance: 69

Assistant Clerk: Peter Rayner

Absent: N/A

22/77	<p><b>APOLOGIES</b>          Apologies had been received and accepted from Cllr Clark</p>	
22/78	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION</b> There were no new declarations of interest or requests for dispensation.</p>	
	<p><b>OPEN FORUM FOR RESIDENTS</b>          The following were raised by the residents present:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The council were congratulated on the picnic in the park jubilee event.</li> <li>• We should purchase any land we can so we can protect it and use it for the good of the parish.</li> <li>• A member of the public presented a pre-prepared list of questions about Brudenell Drive.</li> <li>• What has happened in the 6 months since the council found out that the land at Brudenell Drive was available to purchase? Cllr Robinson explained that several letters had gone back and forth.</li> <li>• A resident complained about the state of the surfacing of Risborough Road, which in her opinion was dangerous to cyclists.</li> <li>• A resident noted the overhanging branches and vegetation on the Risborough Road footpath and asked that these be attended to.</li> <li>• There is a belief the Parish Council want to change the Neighbourhood Plan to remove the designation of the BCC S&amp;S Club land as local green space.</li> <li>• Buckinghamshire Council did not follow due process in making their decision to proceed with outline planning for the BCC S&amp;S Club site so there will be a delay in them being able to proceed while the scrutiny committee reviews the matter. This is known as 'calling in'.</li> <li>• Concern about discussions behind closed doors and lack of information being made publicly available. It was agreed the parish council will aim to make more information available.</li> <li>• A belief that the parish council were being offered something in order to support Buckinghamshire Council. Cllr Stewart made it clear that all the councillors worked voluntarily and had nothing to gain financially from supporting the views of Buckinghamshire Council over those of the residents.</li> <li>• Will the site be opened up again and if so, when? Cllr Stewart stated that he asked Dave Pearce from Buckinghamshire Council last week and his position is supportive, but various legal issues would need to be overcome first.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Several residents expressed a strong desire to see the BCC S&amp;S Club site retained as a leisure facility and asked for time to come up with an alternative plan.</li> <li>• Several people expressed interest in being co-opted onto the council. One resident commented that he was unaware that the council had vacancies – it was pointed out that these had been advertised on noticeboards, in previous meetings, in the Annual Report, the press and in the Village Newsletter.</li> </ul>	
22/79	<p><b>Ex- BUCKS COUNTY COUNCIL SPORTS &amp; SOCIAL CLUB</b></p> <p>a) The neighbourhood planning team had met that morning with UK Power Networks to discuss the substation that has been proposed for the site. The size of a substation is typically 40 x 25m with a 2m buffer all around it and would take up a lot of the space available for green space. A proposal that the Parish Council strongly oppose the siting of the substation at the site and an alternative site is sought was <b>AGREED</b>.</p> <p>b) Sports England have an interest in the provision of sports facilities and have been asked about their views regarding the back field. They would want a high standard pitch which would be costly to maintain and may have restricted access for the public. This may also not be of use to Booker School. Cllr Stewart would still like a high quality sports facility in the parish but somewhere else. A proposal to object to a high standard pitch on the back field at the site was <b>AGREED</b>.</p> <p>c) It is believed that Booker School want to manage the sports facilities on the back field. There is concern that this may result in restricted access to the public and the parish council would prefer to manage it.</p> <p>d) The current stance of the Parish Council is that since Buckinghamshire Council are going to go ahead with some scheme to get revenue from the site, they should support the best of the options currently available. At present that is the option put forward in the recent public consultation but if a better viable proposal was put forward they would support that. A proposal to not make any immediate changes to the Neighbourhood Plan and wait until September to give residents a chance to put together an alternative for consideration was <b>AGREED</b>.</p>	
22/80	<p><b>PARISH CENTRE</b></p> <p>There was no specific discussion on this agenda item other than mention that it could be an alternative site for the formal sports facilities or the substation.</p>	
22/81	<p><b>LAND AT JUNCTION OF BRUDENELL DRIVE</b></p> <p>a) Cllr Stewart explained the background which is that it appears the original developer died with no descendants and the land reverted to the ownership of HM Treasury. The road and footpaths were adopted by the council when the original development was completed and that remains the case today with Buckinghamshire Council responsible. HM Treasury only have rights to the subsoil under the road and footpaths. It is the triangle of grass at the end of the road which is of most interest and relevance. Currently HM Treasury have not offered the land to sale to anybody other than the Parish Council but now they are aware they own this piece of land that cannot be guaranteed. A proposal for the Parish Council to purchase the land subject to confirming there are no unexpected costs or obligations was <b>AGREED</b>.</p>	
22/82	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council would be Tuesday 28th June 2022.</p>	

The meeting closed at 22:05. The Chairman thanked those present for their contributions.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: 28-Jun-2022

**Action List**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Minute</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>By Whom</b>	<b>Status</b>
14-Jun-22		Provide written answers to list of written questions from resident regarding Brundenell Drive.	Cllr Stewart	
14-Jun-22		Put list of written questions from resident regarding Brundenell Drive on the website along with answers from the council.	Assistant	
14-Jun-22	22/79	Ask Sport England on their views of the whole site, not just the back field and see if they would be willing to purchase the whole site.	Cllr Stewart	