

**MINUTES OF STOKE SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL  
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2014 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL**

**14/184/a PRESENT:**

**Members:** Mrs Barbara Brooks (Chairman), Mr Paul Spearpoint (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Rebecca Merrick, Mr Graham Middleton, Mr Bruce Wilson and Mr Roger Bevan

**Others:** Mrs Sarah Moore (Clerk) and 2 members of the public

**14/184/b APOLOGIES:**

Mrs Wendy Hall, Mr Neil Bloomfield, Mrs Sylvia Seal (District Councillor), Mr John Bailey (County Councillor) and the PCSO

Cllr Wilson had sent in his apologies stating that he would be late for the meeting due to work commitments.

**14/184/c RESIGNATION:**

Letters of resignation had been received from Mrs Janet Rose and Mr Steve Hay.

Cllr Brooks explained about her son's death and thanked the Clerk for her work whilst she was away.

**14/185 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:**

Cllr Merrick declared an interest in matters relating to the Sports and Recreation Trust.

**14/186 PUBLIC SESSION:**

The Chairman of the Sports and Recreation Trust presented the Facilities Management plan for 2015. He gave a review of 2014 covering the Trust's achievements, budget, operational costs and funding. The Chairman of the Sports and Recreation Trust said that he would email the information to the Clerk.

A representative of the Friends of Ham Hill gave some background information about the group and said that they would welcome some interest from the Parish Council. Cllr Bevan offered to be the Parish Council's representative. The Clerk said that an article in the newsletter about the group and the work they do for Ham Hill may generate some interest within the village.

**14/187 PCSO REPORT:**

The Clerk said that she only had the generic report for the whole of the Hamdon beat. The PCSO has only attended four meetings this year and it was agreed that as the information was so basic then it would be renamed 'Crime and Anti-Social' report, and Councillors and the Clerk would have to gather information themselves from local knowledge. It was noted that the main police website was always six weeks out of date and therefore not a useful source of information.

**14/188 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS:**

**14/188/a Sylvia Seal – District Councillor:**

The Clerk relayed Cllr Seal's report on Ham Hill. As the rangers were going on annual leave for Christmas the point of call would be the District Council. There are plans to hopefully increase the parking on the southern side of the hill but details are still being negotiated with the landowner.

**14/188/b John Bailey – County Councillor:**

Cllr Bailey's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. The road works for East Stoke/High Street have been confirmed and these should start in January. There is no news regarding the Hamdon Youth Group and the Cole Lane project. There is a consultation regarding the library service especially how it would affect the mobile library.

**14/189 HAMDON YOUTH GROUP:**

None declared.

**14/190 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

Cllr Middleton said that his title had been missed off the minutes (*see minute ref: 14/164/a*). The Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were signed and approved.

Proposed: Cllr Spearpoint    Seconded: Cllr Middleton    Agreed unanimously

**14/191 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

**14/191/a Health & Wellbeing Grant**

The Clerk said that she received confirmation from Cllr Bailey that a grant of £400 has been awarded. The Clerk also confirmed that she had received two quotations for a defibrillator but was awaiting the third. The two received were over a £1,000 but one also included training.

**14/191/b Insurance**

The Clerk said that she had spoken with the Memorial Hall Committee who had confirmed that they were required to have separate public liability insurance so it could not be included in the Parish Council's insurance.

**14/191/c Recording of Meetings**

SSDC had sent through details of their policy on the recording of meetings. A discussion was held regarding the Parish Council adopting its own policy. It was agreed that the information would be circulated to all members and would be discussed at the next meeting.

*(Cllr Wilson entered the meeting)*

**14/191/d South West Bus Service Petition**

The Clerk confirmed that she had given the petition to the businesses in the village. Cllr Spearpoint thought that the service would not be affected after all. Cllr Middleton said that the Saturday service maybe affected and the residents needed to be encouraged to use the buses.

**14/192 FINANCE:**

**14/192/a Matters for Report**

i) **NatWest New Reserve Account**

The Clerk reported that she had received the relevant forms for the new account and asked Cllr Brooks and Cllr Spearpoint to sign them.

ii) **NatWest Signature Mandate**

The Clerk said that she has received confirmation of signatories and said that she would complete the forms to remove those names who were no longer on the Parish Council.

**14/192/b Cheques for Signature**

Sarah Moore	Expenses November	£ 560.32	<i>Chq 1931</i>
Stable Print	December Newsletters	£ 190.00	<i>Chq 1932</i>
G B Sports & Leisure UK Ltd	Cradle Swing Seats & Connectors	£ 232.80	<i>Chq 1933</i>
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	Swing Seats	£ 408.83	<i>Chq1934</i>
Humphries & Jones Ltd	War Memorial Repairs	£ 1,128.72	<i>Chq1935</i>
SSDC	Playground Inspection	<u>£ 188.40</u>	<i>Chq1936</i>
	Total	£ 2,709.07	

The Clerk explained that she had not received an invoice from Somerset Landscapes for November so this amount had been removed from the cheques payable.

Proposed: Cllr Middleton    Seconded: Cllr Spearpoint    Agreed unanimously

**14/193 MEMORIAL HALL AND GROUNDS:**

The Memorial Hall Committee had sent the annual grant request for the cost of the hall's insurance. This was for £954.37.

Proposed: Cllr Middleton      Seconded: Cllr Bevan      Agreed unanimously

**14/194      SPORTS AND RECREATION TRUST:**

Cllr Merrick reported that the accounts were being submitted at the end of the year and that the AGM is being held in February. Cllr Middleton stated that the Sports and Recreation Trust have the Parish Council's support and thanked its members for the running of the Trust.

**14/195      PLANNING:**

**14/195/a      Report on Planning Applications:**

**14/04730/CPO** – application to vary Condition 2 & 6 of permission 11/00633/CPO dated 16 May 2011, to extend the end date of the existing workings, and to delay the submission of the Restoration Scheme – Ham Hill, Stoke sub Hamdon, Somerset – SSDC has no objections to this proposal

**14/05231/FUL** - first floor extension and alterations to roof – Little Ham Cottage, East Stoke, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6UF – no observation or objections

**14/195/b      Planning Decisions and Reports:**

**14/04390/FUL** – erection of a dwelling house and garage/domestic workshop – Land adjacent The Stables, East Stoke, Stoke sub Hamdon, TA14 6UQ – Granted

**APP/R3325/C/14/3000142** – Appeal against Enforcement Notice – Westend Stores, West Street, Stoke sub Hamdon – It was agreed to write to the Planning Inspectorate to object to the appeal.

**14/04688/TPO** – application to carry out tree surgery works to a Sycamore subject of SSDC (Stoke sub Hamdon No. 1) TPO 1990 and a Beech subject of SSDC (Stoke sub Hamdon No. 1) TPO 1992 – The Old Coach House, North Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6QR – Granted.

**14/05006/TPO** – application to carry out tree surgery works to Turkey Oak shown as T2 SSDC (Stoke sub Hamdon No. 1) and works to other trees. Tree Preservation Order 1998 (Within a Conservation Area) – 24 Brocks Mount, Stoke sub Hamdon, TA14 6PJ – The Application was withdrawn,

**14/05140/TCA** – notification of intent to fell 1 no. Portuguese Laurel within a conservation area – 10 Brocks Mount, Stoke sub Hamdon, TA14 6PJ – Granted.

It was agreed that Cllr Brooks would join the Planning Committee with immediate effect.

**14/196      CORRESPONDENCE:**

**14/196/a      Grants towards Local Signage:**

SSDC have created a grant scheme which offers financial support and guidance to businesses, community groups and Parish Councils towards well considered and well-designed signage in order to attract visitors. It was agreed to put a brief note in the newsletter.

**14/197      HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATH:**

**14/197/a      Rights of Way Improvement Plan:**

Somerset County Council has reviewed the RoWIP and is intending to replace it. The draft document can be viewed on the SSC website for inspection. Comments can be made via email or their link on the website to a questionnaire.

**14/197/b      Road Closure:**

Somerset County Council has issued notification of a road closure between the High Street, East Stoke and Windsor Lane from 5<sup>th</sup> January 2015 for 26 days. It was agreed to notify the schools and put an article in the newsletter.

Cllr Spearpoint raised the issue regarding the grass verge near the vicarage at the top of the High Street. It was agreed to contact the Duchy of Cornwall again.

**14/197/c Footpath Report:**

The PPLO has sent a report to the Rights of Way department stating that the stile at the southern end of Y25/18 and Y25/17 is unstable. This is the narrow stile that leads from Furlands (between the allotments) into Rixon.

**14/198 STREETLIGHTING:**

The Clerk said that she had received confirmation from Somerset County Council that the conservation lighting cost of £2,000 per light included the installation cost and a wall bracket light would cost around £1,800. Cllr Spearpoint said that there were possibly around 30 lights in the conservation area in the centre of the village and following discussion it was agreed that this was not a priority at the present time.

**14/199 WORKING PARTIES REPORTS:**

**14/199/a Allotments**

The Clerk said that a new point of contact was needed for residents at the Stonehill site now that Cllr Hay had resigned. Cllr Spearpoint agreed to take on this role. The Clerk said that the renewal letters will be sent out shortly.

**14/199/b Transport Strategy Group**

Cllr Brooks said that the next would be a meeting in January.

**14/199/c Adventure Playground**

Cllr Merrick reported that a survey had been carried out.

**14/200 MEMBERS' REPORTS:**

The Clerk reported that a trench had been dug in the small copse in Matts Lane and that it was extremely dangerous. She also reported that the whole area was uncared for and the pond was also dangerous as it was so overgrown it was difficult to ascertain where the edges of the pond were. The Clerk said that she would contact the Duchy of Cornwall.

**14/201 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:**

Arborist quotes for the trees in West Street

Flooding group

Policy on recordings of meetings

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30pm and the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at 7pm.