

MINUTES OF STOKE SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 8TH JULY 2014 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL

14/109/a PRESENT:

Members: Mr Mike Sampson (Chairman), Mrs Barbara Brooks (Vice Chairman), Mr Graham Middleton, Mr Bruce Wilson, Mr Paul Spearpoint, Mrs Rebecca Merrick, and Mr Neil Bloomfield.

Others: Mrs Sarah Moore (Clerk), Mrs Sylvia Seal (District Councillor), Mr John Bailey (County Councillor) and PCSO and 2 members of the public.

14/109/b APOLOGIES:

Mrs Wendy Hall, Mrs Janet Rose and Mr Steve Hay,

14/110 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllrs Spearpoint & Merrick declared an interest in matters relating to the Sports and Recreation Trust. Cllr Sampson declared an interest in matters relating to planning application 14/02193/FUL.

14/111 PUBLIC SESSION:

The agent for planning application 14/02193/FUL gave representations for the application.

(Cllr Sampson declared an interest and stood down as Chairman. Cllr Brooks took charge of the meeting.)

A discussion was held and concerns were raised about the access in respect of the current one way system, width and adoption of the road. Cllr Brook read out the observations of the planning committee. A question was raised on the Parish Council's role in the planning process and Cllr Seal said that a member of the planning team could come along to the next Parish Council meeting.

(Cllr Brooks stepped down as Acting Chair and Cllr Sampson resumed as Chairman.)

14/112 P.C.S.O. REPORT:

The PCSO said that a handbag had been taken from a vehicle on Ham Hill and that there were no reports of anti-social behaviour. There has been a report of a person knocking on door stating that his company are replacing windows of Yarlington properties in the Stoke sub Hamdon and Montacute area and that those which are privately owned would get them at a reduced cost. Yarlington Homes have confirmed that no such works are being carried out in the area and that this is a scam.

14/113 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

14/113/a Sylvia Seal – District Councillor

Cllr Seal gave her report on Ham Hill. The rangers have confirmed that they do have the responsibility of maintaining the road and parking, although it is owned by the Duchy. They are planning to fill the potholes in with concrete possibly by mid-July and the car parks get scraped on an annual basis and that they are due to be levelled out in September. In other matters, the rangers have built a round house; volunteers have been controlling the bracken and ragwort; licenced volunteers have been complying data on dormice – no dormice have been found only wood mice and; after recent concerns regarding Alabama Foot Rot, it has been found that Ham Hill is safe and there is no threat to dogs.

Cllr Middleton suggested that the rangers could put large pieces of hamstone in the car parks to stop people doing 'doughnuts' with the cars. Cllr Seal will put this to the rangers.

Action Cllr Seal

14/113/b John Bailey – County Councillor

Cllr Bailey's report had been circulated. Cllr Bailey said that with regard to the Hamdon Youth Group the Bike Project would like to be started again but need volunteers to help with these sessions. On 31st July there are CYP skateboard events in both Stoke and Norton.

Cllr Bailey said that there had been a meeting with residents on site but the developer did not attend.

Cllr Bailey asked how the Parish Council are going to take forward the Stoke Flooding Group and commented that Somerset County Council will help with a plan. Cllr Wilson said that help would be needed with some maps and Cllr Spearpoint pointed out that the Duchy of Cornwall would need to be consulted.

Cllr Bailey said that as further funding has been gained additional healthcheck events are being arranged for the autumn.

Cllr Bailey said that following the success of the Route 60 – an event which helps older people hone their driving abilities – another event has been arranged for 8th October at Martock Parish Hall between 10am and 1pm.

14/114 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

It was agreed to remove the word ‘retirement’ from *Minute ref: 14/098c (iii)*.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

Proposed: Cllr Bloomfield

Seconded: Cllr Brooks

Agreed: unanimously

14/115 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

14/115/a Ham Hill War Memorial

The Clerk said that she was unable to get any funding towards the repairs for the war memorial and required the go ahead for the work to be carried out. Cllr Middleton said that a resolution had already been made (*see minute ref: 14/0025b*) so the Clerk could proceed.

Action Clerk

14/115/b Conservation Area Street Lighting

This item is to be deferred to another meeting.

14/116 FINANCE

14/116/a Matters for Report:

i) Year End Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk gave the year end bank reconciliation report as at the 31st March 2014:

Current Account	£ 100.00
Reserve Account	£ 128,013.41
Sports & Recreation Assets Reserve Account	£ 9,606.12
Asset Management Reserve Account	£ 16,112.61
Total	£ 153,832.14
Outstanding Transfers	£ 3,700.00
Outstanding Cheques	£ 824.40
Total as Cash Book	£ 156,707.74

The Clerk pointed out that all monies held in the Sports & Recreation Assets and the Asset Management reserve accounts which total £25,718.73 are ring-fenced for specific purposes. The Clerk said there was an outstanding transfer showing as she had not yet received the bank statement for the Asset Management Reserve account.

ii) Comparison Against Budget

The Clerk distributed the Comparison of Budget report to all members. The report shows the annual budget and the expenditure for the financial year 2014/15. The report does not include the annual payments into the Sports & Recreation Assets and Asset Management reserve accounts. The report shows that all areas with exception of three are showing an under spend; the areas showing an over spend are: Grants & Donations by £1,464.99, Insurance by £190.16 and Subscriptions by £422.28. The grants & donations and the Insurance will even out over the year but the subscriptions will be

over budget this year as the SALC invoice for 2013/14 was not received and paid until this financial year. Against the budget set for 2014/15 for the first quarter there has been a total underspend of £6,202.18. A discussion was held and it was agreed for all members to consider what projects could be done for the village. It was also agreed for an article to go in the newsletter asking residents for some ideas for village improvements.

Action Clerk

iii) Signatory Review

It was agreed that no further signatures were required but to write to the bank asking for a list of signatories.

Action Clerk

iv) Letter to NatWest Bank – Direct Debit Amendment

The Clerk asked for a letter to the bank to be signed in order to amend a direct debit instruction

v) Internal Auditor’s Report

The Clerk read out the Internal Auditor’s report which stated that there were no significant failures in the conduct of the Council’s fiduciary responsibilities and the Council has been ably supported by its Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. The report noted that the Parish Council pays the insurance for the Sports and Recreation Trust; this must be paid as a grant to the Trust and the Trust must pay the insurance premium direct. The auditor drew attention to the cash balances and noted that it was within the ‘trigger’ point and understood that there were projects that had not yet been undertaken.

The Clerk expressed her thanks to Mr Kerr for carrying out the internal audit.

14/116/b Cheques Payable:

Sarah Moore	Additional Hours & Expenses for June	£ 592.40	<i>Chq 1902</i>
Stable Print	July Newsletters	£ 190.00	<i>Chq 1903</i>
Somerset Landscapes Ltd	Groundsman for May & June	£ 691.58	<i>Chq 1904</i>
HMRC	Income Tax & N.I. – 1 st Qtr.	<u>£ 725.89</u>	<i>Chq 1905</i>
	Total	£ 2,199.87	

Post-dated payments to be made as there is no meeting in August in accordance with the resolution passed on 13th September 2011 (*see Minute Ref: 11/128/c*)

Stable Print	August Newsletters	£ 190.00	<i>Chq 1906</i>
Somerset Landscapes Ltd	Groundsman for July	<u>£ 345.79</u>	<i>Chq 1907</i>
	Total	£ 535.79	

Proposed: Cllr Spearpoint Seconded: Cllr Sampson Agreed: unanimously

14/116/c Matters for Resolution

None declared

14/117 **MEMORIAL HALL AND GROUNDS**

None declared.

Cllr Spearpoint mentioned with regard to the Stonehill play area that there was no legal requirement on how high fencing can be.

14/118 **SPORTS AND RECREATION TRUST**

Cllr Merrick said that the picnic tables had been installed.

Cllr Merrick also mentioned that even though the Charity Shop now has competition it still made £2,000 more profit than last year between January and June.

14/119 HAMDON YOUTH GROUP

This item was discussed under *Minute ref: 14/113/b*.

14/120 PLANNING

14/120/a Report on Planning Applications

14/02193/FUL - demolition of existing nursery buildings and erection of 12 houses and associated access works – land adjacent to Woodside, Montacute Road, East Stoke, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6UQ – there were concerns that the access to the site is too narrow and the unofficial one way for parking for the shop will be compromised and will impact on the users of the shop. There needs to be a footpath on both sides of the access. The slope entering into the access from the main road is too steep. Other concerns are the volume of the traffic used by the shop, the new housing development and the parking at school times (morning and afternoon). It is thought that a separate access route would be more beneficial and would not cause an impact on the shop or school.

14/02456/DPO – Application to discharge planning obligation 97/00407/FUL relating to land adjacent to Hatchcroft (and subsequent planning applications 04/02874/FUL and 03/03672/FUL) dated 16th July 1997 between South Somerset District Council and Mrs W Y Dike – land adjacent to The Stables, East Stoke, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6UQ – there were no objections but it was thought that the trees should be renewed if a condition was set by the planning department.

14/120/b Planning Decisions and Reports

13/02925/FUL – Installation of ground mounted photovoltaic solar array to provide 6 MW generation capacity together with inverter systems; transformer stations; sub-station; internal access track; landscaping; security fencing; associated access gate and removal of one Ash tree protected by Tree Preservation Order (re-submission of previously withdrawn application) – land adjacent A303 Tintinhull Forts, Tintinhull Forts, Tintinhull, Yeovil BA22 8PA – **Appeal ref: APP/R3325/A/2209592** – the appeal was refused due to the effect the proposed development would have on the character of the landscape and on the settings of nationally recognised heritage assets and that it was contrary to the NPPF and the South Somerset Local Plan.

14/01864/FUL – Erection of a two storey extension with lean-to, increase the height of outbuilding roof, and additional parking – 58 North Street, Stoke sub Hamdon, Somerset TA14 6QQ – This application was granted subject to 4 conditions.

13/03341/COU – continued use of land for a mixed use of residential and B8 storage of used windows and doors with ancillary sales (retrospective) – Legg’s Stores, West Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6QL – this application had been refused in March 2014 and the owner was given 12 months to clear the site. Concerns were raised that despite the initial start to clear of the site more items have been brought in and it is over a metre high in the front garden. It was agreed to write to the planning department.

Action Clerk

14/121 CORRESPONDENCE

14/121/a Additional Invoices

The Clerk has received two invoices; one from Barry Gosney for the repairs to the swings in the Memorial Hall grounds for a total of £42.00, and the other is from Wicksteed Leisure Ltd. for a link for the swings in the Memorial Hall grounds for a total of £18.00. The Clerk asked if a resolution could be passed to pay these cheques immediately as there is no meeting in August and the suppliers would have to wait nearly two months for payment. Cllr Middleton expressed his concerns as these invoices should be on the agenda. Cllr Bloomfield proposed to pay the invoices as the amounts were not excessive.

Barry Gosney	Repairs to Swing in Memorial Hall Grounds	£ 42.00	<i>Chq 1908</i>
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	Swing Links	£ 18.00	<i>Chq 1909</i>

Proposed: Cllr Bloomfield Seconded: Cllr Brooks Agreed unanimously

14/121/b May Fayre Committee

The May Fayre Committee thanked the Parish Council for their help with the programmes and said that it was hoped the Fayre had raised £6,000.

14/122 HIGHWAYS & FOOTPATHS

A discussion was held about the condition of the verges and that they needed cutting back. These are the responsibility of the Highway Authority.

It was agreed for an article to go in the newsletter about cutting back overhanging garden vegetation.

Action Clerk

14/123 STREET LIGHTING

None declared.

14/124 WORKING PARTY REPORTS

14/124/a Allotments

None declared.

14/124/b Transport Strategy Group

Cllr Brooks gave a progress report. She said that around 30 people attended the consultation evening and that she had received 9 feedback forms and 1 email so far. The consultation finishes on 22nd July and the next Transport Strategy Group meeting on 28th July.

14/125 MEMBERS' REPORTS

None declared.

14/126 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Stoke Flooding Group

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 10.10pm and the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 9th September at 7pm.