

**MINUTES OF STOKE SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL
MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 9TH JUNE 2015 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL**

15/067/a PRESENT:

Members: Mrs Barbara Brooks (Chairman), Mr Paul Spearpoint (Vice-Chairman), Mrs Wendy Hall Mrs Rebecca Merrick, and Mr Roger Bevan

Others: Mrs Sarah Moore (Clerk), Mrs Sylvia Seal (District Councillor), Mr John Bailey (County Councillor) and one member of the public

15/067/b APOLOGIES:

Mr Graham Middleton, Mr Bruce Wilson and the PCSO

15/068 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

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

15/069 PUBLIC SESSION:

A resident expressed his gratitude regarding the removal of the barbed wire on footpath Y25/UN.

The resident raised three questions with Cllr Bailey on highway issues regarding the legal standard of parking restriction markings, the training of parking enforcement officers and who was on the Appeals panel. The resident also talked about the appalling way in which he was treated by Somerset County Council when he telephoned to discuss the legality of some of the road markings around the village. Cllr Bailey explained that there may be a possibility that some markings are not legal but this matter was looked into at a site meeting and is under review. He stated that the police have not dealt with parking enforcement for two years and that it had been given to an outside contractor. Cllr Bailey also stated that if residents had an issue regarding an appeal then he would be happy to meet with them.

Cllr Brooks said that the Transport Strategy Group meeting was held to discuss the possibility of increasing the parking in the village and not to address whether road markings were legal.

Cllr Bevan suggested putting an article in the newsletter asking residents who have a parking grievance to contact Cllr Bailey.

Cllr Bailey said that he would be happy to carry out an overall TRO review for the whole village.

15/070 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Cllr Bevan asked if the minutes could be sent out earlier in the month and not with the agenda. The Clerk agreed.

The Minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting were signed and approved.

Proposed: Cllr Bevan Seconded: Cllr Spearpoint agreed unanimously

15/071 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

15/071/a Parish Noticeboard

The Clerk said that she had written to the planning department and was waiting for a reply

15/071/b Defibrillator

The Clerk confirmed that the defibrillator and cabinet had been ordered. The Clerk said that there would be a small plaque on the cabinet and asked for an agreement on the suggested wording which is: *'This life saving equipment has been jointly funded by donations from: Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council, Somerset County Council and kindly hosted by The Prince of Wales'*. The wording was agreed. The Clerk also explained that the Parish Council would need to arrange for an electrician to install the cabinet and she would get quotations.

The Clerk mentioned the training course and explained that she had spoken with the landlady of the Prince of Wales who would like three members of her staff to be trained. Cllr Brooks said that she and the Clerk would go through the village organisations contact list to find out whether anyone would be interested in the training. *Action Cllr Brooks & Clerk*

Cllr Brooks also suggested organising another networking event for all the village organisations. It was agreed that this would be beneficial for the village and Cllr Brooks said that she and the Clerk would start making arrangements. *Action Cllr Brooks & Clerk*

15/072 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

15/072/a Sylvia Seal – District Councillor

Cllr Seal gave her report:

- The Senior Play & Youth Facilities Officer at SSDC has confirmed that no permission was given for metal detecting in play areas and open spaces.
- APP/R3325/C/14/3000142 – Appeal against Enforcement Notice. Still awaiting the date for a site visit.
- Ham Hill:
Friends of Ham Hill held their AGM and now have a new chairman
The Ham Hill Wood Festival will be held on 5th September
Children's photography workshop on 31st July at Yeovil Country Park
- As part of their recruitment programme Yeovil District Hospital have asked SSDC to include in their induction pack a presentation on what is available in South Somerset.
- A person has been prosecuted for fly-tipping and Cllr Seal has asked for residents not to be put off reporting incidents. Fly-tipping should be reported to Streetscene. It was agreed a short article would go in the newsletter. *Action Clerk*
- SSDC's new council is under Liberal Democrats leadership.

15/072/b John Bailey – County Councillor:

Cllr Bailey's report had been circulated to members. Cllr Bailey said that he would draft an article for the newsletter regarding the parking issues. The Clerk said that she would need this by the 16th of the month. *Action Cllr Bailey*

Cllr Bailey said that the Thursday session of the Hamdon Youth Group had been moved to a Monday and that HYG was short of volunteers especially those in the management group.

Cllr Bailey is chasing up the situation with Somerset County Council regarding the bus petition. The Clerk said that she has kept a copy of the bus petition so she would be happy to scan it to SCC if necessary.

Cllr Bailey said that he has now taken the Brocks Mount issue to a political level.

Cllr Bailey gave the sad news that his predecessor had passed away. It was agreed to send a letter of condolence and Cllr Bailey would give the Clerk the family's address.

15/073 SPORTS & LEISURE:

15/073/a Memorial Hall and Grounds:

The Clerk confirmed that a letter had been sent to the hall committee and she is now waiting for additional quotations.

15/073/b Sports and Recreation Trust:

Cllr Merrick reported that the Trust will be meeting with the Senior Play & Youth Facilities Officer at SSDC in either June or July to discuss the adventure play area. Cllr Merrick also passed on the Trust's thanks for the grant which has now been banked and ring-fenced.

15/073/d Hamdon Youth Group:

This item was discussed under *Minute ref: 15/072/b*.

15/073/e Play Areas:

Cllr Spearpoint reported that the multi-play unit in the Memorial Hall grounds needed replacing and new equipment was needed at Stonehill. The Clerk invited Cllr Spearpoint to meet with her to discuss the matter and to organise some quotations. A meeting was arranged for the following day. *Action Clerk & Cllr Spearpoint*

15/073/f Any Other Issues:

None declared.

15/074 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT:

15/074/a Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour:

A discussion was held on the police reports. Cllr Seal commented that due to the police cuts there are not the manpower resources.

15/074/b Street Lighting:

No report.

15/074/c Allotments:

No report

15/074/d Footpaths:

No report.

15/074/e Highways and Transport:

No report.

15/074/f Flooding Group:

No report.

15/074/g Any Other Issues:

i) Trees - High Street

The Clerk said that she had received legal advice and confirmed that a formal letter had been sent to the Highways Authority asking them to sort out the problem with the trees or to use its powers under Section 154 Highways Act 1980 to serve notice on the landowner. The Clerk agreed to email a copy of this letter to all members.

Action Clerk

ii) Matts Lane

The Clerk reported that she had received confirmation from the Duchy of Cornwall that they had notified the police about the damage done to the copse at the bottom of Matts Lane and that with agreement from the Forestry Commission the site will be fenced off so that coppicing and damage repairs can be done. The coppicing will take place in the autumn and the area will be re-planted in the spring. The Duchy of Cornwall has confirmed that once the work has finished permissive access will be granted.

15/075 FINANCE:

15/075/a Matters for Report

Cllr Bevan gave the Clerk some information regarding the Workplace Pension Scheme.

15/075/b Matters for Resolution

i) Cheques Payable:

Sarah Moore	Expenses May	£ 23.95	<i>Chq 1968</i>
Stable Print	June Newsletters	£ 190.00	<i>Chq 1969</i>
Somerset Landscapes Ltd	Groundsman: May	£ 397.99	<i>Chq 1970</i>
Stoke sub Hamdon	Healthy Hearts Classes		
Memorial Hall	Rent	£ 66.00	<i>Chq 1971</i>
Heartstart Somerset	Defibrillator & Cabinet	<u>£ 2,361.00</u>	<i>Chq 1972</i>
	Total	£ 3,038.94	

Proposed: Cllr Bevan Seconded: Cllr Merrick agreed unanimously

ii) Other:

None declared.

15/076 PLANNING:

15/076/a Parish Planning Committee Feedback on Applications:

14/05518/CPO & 14/05519/CPO - S73 application to amend the end date for mineral extraction permitted by permission 11/00633/CPO at Monument Quarry (Ham Hill North), Ham Hill, and to amend details referred to in the light of an application made to extend the quarry and to delay the submission of the restoration scheme – A reply had been received from Somerset County Council. The Clerk agreed to forward this to all members

Cllr Bevan raised some concerns that there were no site notices and that the site has been expanded by at least 40% up to the pedestrian path where the protective fence has been taken down. It was agreed to respond to the letter

15/02417/FUL – insertion of railings on the north boundary wall, and a handrail to the entrance porch steps – The Old Manse, North Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6QP – this application is with the Parish Council's planning committee.

15/02401/FUL – change of use of premises to a hot food takeaway and alterations – 5 High Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6PP – this application was with the Parish Council's planning committee. It was agreed to apply for an extension to the date on which the observations can be submitted. Cllr Brooks pointed out that no planning notice had been erected outside the property.

15/076/b Planning Decisions and Reports:

15/01694/TPO- application to carry out works to 1 No. Turkey Oak tree within SSDC Tree Preservation Order (STAH 1) 1998 – 24 Brocks Mount, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6PJ – This application has been granted.

15/077 CORRESPONDENCE:

15/077/a Grant Request

A letter was received requesting a grant to help with the hire of the hall for the Healthy Hearts Exercise Classes. The Clerk explained that the classes were originally funded by the Health and Wellbeing grant from Somerset County Council and the Parish Council has previously given a grant as well. These exercise classes are held once a week in the hall and are aimed at the over 50's, and each member pays a nominal fee to help pay for the instructor. A discussion was held and it was agreed to give a grant of £250.

Proposed: Cllr Bevan Seconded: Cllr Brooks agreed unanimously

15/077/b May Fayre Committee

A thank you card was received from the May Fayre Committee.

The Clerk mentioned that the grass cutting was not up to standard and there had been some complaints. It was agreed to write and bring this matter to the attention of the ground maintenance contractor.

Action Clerk

15/078 MEMBERS' & CLERK'S REPORTS:

15/078/a Members' Reports:

Cllr Bevan reported on Jess Evans, a resident of Stoke sub Hamdon, who has won Young Horticulturalist of the Year. He said that as this accolade should be put in the newsletter.

Cllr Bevan agreed to send an article to the Clerk.

Action Cllr Bevan

15/078/b Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported that she had received a freedom of information request from a company representing a group called 'Making Parishes Better Places'. The FOI request was for an organisation chart detailing the structure of the council and committee membership. The email was not signed by an individual and on looking into the URL further it appears that it is from a marketing research company. It was agreed to send a basic organisation chart.

The Clerk said that it would be good practice to advertise the parish council vacancies even though there is no statutory requirement to give public notice of the vacancies after an ordinary election. At present there are four vacancies. The Clerk said that she would advertise in the newsletter and on the noticeboard, and notify the monitoring officer.

Action Clerk

15/079 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

None declared.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.50pm and the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 14th July at 7pm.