

STOKE SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 4TH MARCH 2020 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL

20/034/a PRESENT:

Members: Mrs Barbara Brooks, Mr Hugh Donovan, Mr Andy Dawe Mrs Lyn Foley, Mrs Rebecca Merrick, Mr Graham Middleton, Mrs Suzanne Nelms, and Mr Malcolm Uhlhorn

Others: Mrs Sarah Moore (Clerk), Mr Mike Hewitson (District Councillor), and no members of the public

20/034/b APOLOGIES:

Mr Bill Southcombe

Cllr Brooks declared that the meeting was being recorded and asked the public to state if they did not wish to be recorded or whether anyone else wanted to record the meeting.

(Cllr Middleton entered the meeting)

20/035 DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

Cllr Brooks declared an interest in the Hamdon Youth Group, the Hamdon Youth & Family Centre and the Memorial Hall

Cllr Donovan declared an interest in the Hamdon Youth & Family Centre

Cllr Foley declared an interest in the Community Shop

Cllr Southcombe declared an interest in the Hamdon Community Arts Project

Cllr Uhlhorn declared an interest in the Memorial Hall and Planning

20/036 CO-OPTION:

Cllr Brooks introduced Helen Rose who wished to join the parish council. Mrs Rose gave councillors some background information on herself and why she wished to join the council.

It was RESOLVED for Mrs Rose to join the council. The Clerk asked Mrs Rose to sign Declaration of Acceptance which was countersigned by the Clerk and the Clerk asked for the Register of Interests to be completed.

All the councillors introduced themselves.

(Cllr Hewitson entered the meeting)

20/037 PUBLIC SESSION:

There were no members of the public in attendance

20/038 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

It was RESOLVED to approve and sign the Minutes of the January meeting and confidential minutes.

20/039 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

20/039/a Review of Action List

The Clerk reviewed the items on the Action List:

- i. The Clerk said she arranged a meeting with Sovereign Play to discuss the swings at Stonehill.
- ii. Litter Bin at the top of Windsor Lane - The bin has been ordered.
- iii. Grit Bin for Orchid Acre Close – The grit bin has been ordered and the resident has been informed.

20/040 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

20/040/a Mike Hewitson – District Councillor

Cllr Hewitson’s report had been circulated.

Cllr Hewitson said that the leader of the SSDC, Val Keitch, is visiting parish councils to discuss the unitary authority proposal. Cllr Hewitson said he would ask her to come along to the April meeting.

Cllr Hewitson said the development at Orchid Acre Close was highlighted at an Area North presentation. The developer has been shortlisted as a finalist for an industry award for the best shared ownership homes.

SSDC has agreed the budget with no direct cuts to frontline services. However, the Council tax will rise by £5 on a Band D property.

Cllr Hewitson discussed the unitary authority proposal.

Cllr Brooks raised the potential drug issue and ‘County Lines’. A discussion was held on a way forward.

Cllr Brooks explained that a planning consultation was held at Montacute village hall regarding a potential development of 25 houses in Stoke sub Hamdon near Mason Lane. Cllr Brooks said that she and the Clerk attended the consultation and it is believed that a planning application will be submitted in early summer. Comments and concerns have already been received.

20/040/b Neil Bloomfield – County Councillor:

No report received.

20/041 SPORTS & LEISURE:

20/041/a Hamdon Youth Centre:

Cllr Brooks said a revised list building application has been submitted to SSDC.

20/041/b Hamdon Youth Group:

There is no formal report as a meeting had not been held. HYG applied for a Somerset County Council ‘Improving Lives’ Grant and have received £1,000.

20/041/c Memorial Hall and Grounds:

The Committee do not meet until later in the month so there was no formal report. Cllr Brooks reported the CCTV has been ordered. This system will cover the whole car park area and the Memorial Hall grounds.

20/041/d Play Areas:

Cllr Uhlhorn said he met with the handyman who will be repairing the gate at the Memorial Hall.

20/041/e Sports and Recreation Trust:

Cllr Merrick said the Sports and Recreation Trust have held their AGM. The Trust have had a successful year with the major projects, the Charity Shop made a profit of £18,000 and the May Fayre have made over £9,000 in profit. Cllr Merrick said despite increasing maintenance costs the Trust are financially healthy at the start of the year.

20/041/f Any Other Issues:

Cllr Brooks gave an update on the VE Day event. The Gardening Club agreed to lend the parish their marquee. The brownies and Castle School are organising the games for children and adults with much of the equipment being provided by the school and,

a resident has volunteered to compere the games. Stoke Working Men's Club will be having an evening of war time music on the Friday evening. Stoke Working Men's Club will also be giving a contribution to the Hamdon Youth Centre and Castle School as the children are organising the games.

The Clerk is still waiting to hear back from some of the hog roast caterers. However, she has received quotations from the following companies for a hog roast plus one other meat and a vegetarian option:

- The Fat Pig Hog Roast company - £3,300 plus VAT.
- Somerset Hog Roast - £2,175 plus VAT
- The Spitting Pig - £2,500 plus VAT (only pork provided)

The Clerk said she was still waiting to hear back from Barrett Brothers at Crewkerne and Adrian Diment.

Cllr Hewitson asked whether the council had tried Bagnell Farm and agreed to contact them on the Clerk's behalf.

Action Cllr Hewitson

The Clerk asked councillors to set a budget for the hog roast and for her and Cllr Brooks to organise the hog roast.

It was RESOLVED to set a budget of £2,500 for 500 people and for Cllr Brooks and the Clerk to decide on which company to use.

20/042 VILLAGE ENVIRONMENT:

20/042/a Allotments

The Clerk reported that the renewal notices have been sent out and she had received some of the rent.

A plot at Furlands has been offered to the resident who is holding the Gardening Wellbeing project and the Clerk will arrange a meeting with the resident to view an available plot.

Action Clerk

20/042/b Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour:

Cllr Middleton said there was a fracas involving around 20 individuals at the recreation ground on the evening of 29th March and the police were in attendance.

20/042/c Footpaths:

The Clerk said a tree had come down across the footpath near the church which has been reported to Rights of Way.

20/042/d Ground Maintenance:

Cllr Uhlhorn said he was meeting with Countrywide to go through the outstanding work and, that the new groundsman had now started.

Cllr Uhlhorn and the Clerk met with Streetscene regarding the lengthsman scheme where they will carry out repairs, clear weeds/drains etc. The Clerk said the minimum is 8 hours per month at a rate of £19.50 per hour. There is no formal contract, it is flexible.

It was RESOLVED to hire a lengthsman for 8 hours a month.

It was agreed for the Clerk to contact Streetscene and put a programme of works together.

Action Clerk

20/042/e Highways and Transport:

Cllr Brooks agreed to give a list of locations to the Clerk for the Speed Indicator Device to forward onto Somerset County Council.

Action Cllr Brooks

20/042/f Street Lighting

No report given.

20/042/g Defibrillator Report

Cllr Brooks said Hamdon First Aid had been chased for a report. The Clerk confirmed that this had now been received.

The Clerk said there has been no feedback from Stanchester School.

20/042/h Befriending Scheme

Cllr Brooks said some of the volunteers have attended Stoke Lunch Club. The Scheme now has 8 volunteers and a couple of potential clients. Cllr Brooks has been in contact with the medical centre asking them to refer the befriending group to those residents who may benefit from this scheme.

20/042/i Any Other Issues:

Cllr Nelms said there have been complaints about the parking on the pavement in East Stoke. These vehicles are causing an obstruction as residents, especially those with pushchairs, have to walk out into the road. Cllr Donovan suggested putting a warning letter from the parish council on the vehicles and to inform the PCSO. It was also suggested that photographic evidence was needed.

Action Clerk & Cllr Nelms

Cllr Hewitson said that the parish council has a duty to inform residents of the risks regarding Covid-19 virus and to have some form of contingency plan in place. Cllr Brooks confirmed that every household has received a leaflet.

Cllr Foley said the shop is now open and it is going well. It was agreed to have this as a regular item on the agenda. Cllr Rose congratulated those involved.

(Cllr Hewitson left the meeting)

20/043 **FINANCE:**

20/043/a Matters for Report

i. Monthly Bank Reconciliation

The Clerk gave the monthly bank reconciliation report as at 29th February 2020

	£
Lloyds Current Account	156,466.61
Outstanding Cheques	0.00
Total as Cash Book	156,466.61

Ring-Fenced Amounts:

	£
Pavilion Reserve Account	20,042.12
Cemetery Project	12,316.47
Asset Management Reserve Account	33,382.50
Bequest – Plants	150.00
Hamdon Youth Centre	37,115.76
Total	103,006.85

Budget Working Capital **53,459.76**

ii. Changes to the Public Works Loan Board.

The Government has abolished the Public Works Loan Board ('PWLB') and the functions of its Commissioners have been transferred to HM Treasury which would align policy and operational responsibilities. Parliament has now legislated to transfer the powers, duties, assets and liabilities to HM Treasury on 25 February 2020. This change does not affect existing PWLB loans other than to change the formal identity of the lender from the Public Works Loan Commissioners to HM Treasury.

iii. Lloyds Bank Service Charge

The Clerk reported that the six-month free period with Lloyds had now finished and the parish council now pay the monthly account fee of £6.50. An Invoice has been received for the period 10th December 2019 to 9th January 2020 and this was paid on 18th February 2020.

iv. Somerset County Council 'Improving Lives Grant' Remittance Advice

The Clerk reported the payment for the 'Improving Lives Grant' for Stoke Lunch Club had been received.

20/043/b Matters for Resolution

i. Invoices Payable:

		£	
The CDS Group	T2 Land Assessment Report <i>(paid 17.02.2020</i>	2,700.00	BACS
Sarah Moore	Expenses/Reimbursements February	205.01	BACS
Stable Print & Design Ltd	March Newsletters	195.00	BACS
Ryan Evis Ground Maintenance	February Ground Maintenance	666.66	BACS
Duchy of Cornwall	Land Rent for Allotments & Recreation Ground	816.00	BACS
Stoke Lunch Club	Improving Lives Grant from SCC	500.00	BACS
	Total	5,082.67	

It was RESOLVED to pay the invoices

ii. Other:

20/044 **PLANNING:**

20/044/a Planning Information:

A consultation on HELAS has been issued from South Somerset District Council. This asks landowners what land could be available for potential economic development. The parish council is not required to respond.

20/044/b Parish Planning Working Party Feedback on Applications:

19/03484/LBC – Listed Building Consent for internal and external alterations – Scramble Cottage, 57 Ham Hill, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6RW - No objections. Observations that the proposals appear in general to respect and enhance the form, character and the setting of the property although the design of the front door if approved might compromise the uniformity across the terrace.

20/00432/TCA – Application to carry out tree work within a conservation area – 11 North Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6QQ – No observations or objections.

20/00324/HOU – Part demolish of rear stores, rear single-storey extension and conversion of outbuilding into car port and store – Greenway House, West Street, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6QG – No observations or objections.

20/00217/HOU – Rear two storey extension and loft conversion with internal alterations – 17 Ham Hill, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6RL – No objections but councillors have observed that there may be a potential infringement to light on the neighbouring properties

20/044/c **Planning Decisions and Reports:**
Reports

19/02973/HOU – Alterations and erection of first floor extension to side of house – 76 Ham Hill, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6RW - Submitted October 2019. Plans now being amended to include a Juliet balcony on the extension. The Parish Council originally had no objections, and neither did the Conservation Officer providing mortar was right colour etc. It is now being queried by the Planning Department as the house is in a Conservation Area. Not yet decided.

19/02893/HOU – Replacement of windows – Woodcroft, East Stoke, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6UF – The Parish Council originally filed ‘no objections’ in January. Despite the building not being listed, the Conservation Officer has asked for the style of some of the new windows are amended to conform more with listed buildings nearby.

Decisions

19/03470/HOU – Erection of wooden cabin with raised decking (retrospective) – 23 Ham Hill, Stoke sub Hamdon TA14 6RL – Permitted with the usual conditions

It was RESOLVED to ratify the planning working party’s recommendations

20/045 **GOVERNANCE:**

No report given

20/046 **CORRESPONDENCE:**

A resident has reported that the drains outside 12 and 14 North Street and by the Castle Street junction have been blocked for over a year. Also, the tarmac by 6 North Street is sinking causing a dip in the road. **Action Clerk**

A resident has asked for a grit bin to go in Tayberry Close. It was agreed that the road was not very steep and the new grit bin that is to be installed near the Co-Op will service the whole of this area of East Stoke.

20/047 **MEMBERS’ & CLERK’S REPORTS:**

(Cllr Dawe and Nelms left the meeting to attend to a disturbance and then re-enter)

Cllr Merrick said all the works at Brocks Mount has now been completed except for the street light columns being painted. The residents can now apply to have the road adopted. An inspection will be carried out before the road being adopted.

20/048 **ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:**

None declared.

20/049 **EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC:**

The Press and Public are excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960 by reason of the confidential nature of business to be discussed.

Item to be discussed is ‘Commercial in Confidence’.

20/050 **DATE OF NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING:**

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.15pm. The next parish council meeting will be held on Wednesday, 1st April 2020 at 7.15pm.