

# STOKE GOLDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 at 7.30pm in the Reading Rooms.

**Present:** Cllr. R.Trett, (Chair), Cllr. D. Warren, Cllr. Allen, Cllr. S. Grant, Cllr. C. Letts; 3 members of the public.  
Clerk Mr J. Vischer.

1. **APOLOGIES** Ward Cllr A. Geary
2. **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS** – None
3. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING 5<sup>th</sup> October** – These were duly signed and approved. Proposer Cllr. Grant, Seconder Cllr. Letts. Unanimous.
4. **MATTERS ARISING**
  - a. Drain at the bottom of Dag Lane – (Ward Cllrs. Geary/Green with MKC’s David Hall). No update had been supplied to the clerk between meetings and no Ward Councillors were present.
  - b. Vehicle-activated sign - reported 8<sup>th</sup> January ref – 480206 – re-reported 4 Feb. ref 507189 (Ward Cllr. Geary/Green with MKC’s David Hall). No update had been supplied to the clerk between meetings and no Ward Councillors were present.
  - c. Reading Rooms – Fire Risk Assessment – this was down to be done next Sunday.
  - d. Car Park by Allotments – (awaiting application outcome). No update.
  - e. Drain cover in Dag Lane reported to Anglian Water (Oct 7<sup>th</sup>). This had been fixed on the second visit and Anglian Water thanked the Parish Council for reporting it.
5. **OCTOBER WALK-AROUND UPDATE**
  - a. **Land opposite Reading Rooms** – *shrub removal; grass seeding; bulbs; rubbish bin; bollards* (7 Oct. new ref 748909 for bin ‘resolved’ 13<sup>th</sup> October). No reply had been received from RJ Sharp. The rubbish bin had not been replaced or repaired. **Clerk to re-report**
  - b. **Seat in front of old rectory/new rectory/allotment area** – *cleaning/repainting seat; blocked road drain; ivy*. No updates
  - c. **Church area** – *Footpath: request for better signage* - reported 9<sup>th</sup> October.
  - d. **High street** – *telegraph pole*: a second request had been put in for the warning sign to be removed on 8<sup>th</sup> October – no response from BT; *cleaning road signs; post boxes; seat opposite bus shelter*: Cllr. Grant reported that she had cleaned the seat.
  - e. **Around War Memorial** – *Ascot rail; spring bulbs*: The Chair had purchased the crocuses. *Village Sign*: Cllr. Warren reported that he had been to see Kay Thompson, she had agreed to do the renovation in the Spring. Cllr. Warren to purchase paint in the meantime.
  - f. **Village hall/recreation ground/tennis courts** – *Ascot rail; leylandii hedge*. Cllr. Letts reported that he had referred the items to the Village Hall Committee at the last meeting. The clerk had contacted Colin Charge who had enquired as to whether the arisings should be carted away or chipped and used as mulch. It was agreed to tell him to quote for the latter. **Clerk**
  - g. **General** – *spray along kerbs and walled areas* (not Highways but Cleansing: 7 Oct. ref 749031,749792). 16<sup>th</sup> Oct ref 749031 ‘resolved’
  - h. **Proposed small conservation area** – Cllr. Letts had enquired after the price of wildflower seed. It was agreed that at 60 pence per square metre this would not be a great cost. Area to be measured. **Cllr. Letts**
6. **POLICIES CONSULTATION** - *Landscape Character Assessment and Renewable Energy* – The Chair summarised the two documents that had been passed round and proposed that there was nothing controversial within them but pointed out that there were no references to flood-risk evaluation. As another policy document had been seen about flood-risk management it was agreed that no submission was necessary but a comment to this effect should be made. **Clerk**

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7. **MK PLAN** – Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> Olney meeting report – The Chair and Cllrs Allen and Letts had attended. The meeting was called to introduce the consultation process that may start if Cabinet approves on 9th November. There is a statutory obligation to produce a new plan replacing the plan of 2005 and to do it on a relatively tight timeline. No specific numbers of houses were mentioned. The options presented were the output of the Vision Workshops previously held by MKC, the significance of which had not been appreciated by most of those attending the meeting.

There are four options:

- 1) Development to the south / south west of the town
- 2) Development east of the M1
- 3) Development of one or more satellite settlements in the rural area
- 4) More intensive development / regeneration in the urban area.

The end result could be any combination of the above, or something different depending on the outcome of the consultation. Option 3) was the option considered most problematic from an infrastructure point of view. A consultation on the proposals would begin soon running for 12 weeks.

8. **FINANCE** Cheques & balances –

<u>Chq No</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>(gross)</u>	<u>VAT</u>
dd	Anglian Water - 1st Oct	48.79	
102229	Greg Hardie - roof repairs	360.00	60.00
102230	Parochial Church Council grant	500.00	
102231	Senior Citizens Club grant	150.00	
102232	Gate Group grant	300.00	
102233	British Legion grant	30.00	
102234	J VISCHER - salary	246.23	
102235	S KITCHEN	37.50	
102236	Warners - 10323, 10370, 10398	252.00	42.00
102237	AH Contracts - 8309	<u>90.38</u>	15.06
		2,014.90	

Available balance at end of September: £19,865.

The payments above were approved. Proposer Cllr. Allen, Seconder Cllr. Letts. Unanimous.

- b. New Transparency Code – The clerk reported that following a training session he had learnt that the new Transparency Code for Parish and Town Councils advised the publication of certain financial information ‘on a website’. It was agreed that existing documentation could be used for this purpose even if it displayed more than what was needed to avoid spending time on drawing up new documents. Clerk to contact David Geliher to arrange for the website to be modified. **Clerk**
- c. Budget discussion – The current Budget vs Actual paper was scrutinised. The clerk explained the high staffing costs were due to a carry over from last year’s salary payments into April and by the fact that there were now only 4 months to go until the end of the financial year. Bin emptying costs were similarly explained with two payments from February and March of last year being paid in April.

9. **PLANNING**

15/02314/FUL 3 Dovehouse Mews High Street First floor rear extension, single storey rear and side extension and front porch. *Pending.*

**NEW** - Planning Meeting in Olney – *see above: item 7, MK Plan*

15/02575/FUL The Malting House 66 High Street, Application for change of use from Public House/Restaurant (use class A3/A4) to residential (use class C3) including external works. It was agreed

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to object on the grounds that: The Parish Council requests that MK Council ensures that due diligence has been carried out in ascertaining that viable attempts to sell the business have been made and that the valuation of the business is realistic. The Parish Council regrets the loss of the pub/restaurant as an asset to the village and community and would prefer that the change of use be not granted. **Clerk** 15/02576/LBC: listed building consent). It was agreed not to object to the proposed alterations but to comment that the overlooking aspects are important for nearby properties especially given the differences in ground level and that these should be thoroughly investigated. **Clerk**

## 10. SUB COMMITTEES:

- a. **N. W. Area Ward Forum** – Cllr. Allen stated that the next meeting would be in January 2016.
- b. **Guntrip Fund** – No meeting last month.
- c. **Reading Rooms** – Cllr. Allen had negotiated with D. Jones regarding the internal cleaning of the storage radiators that one be trialed to see how practical and successful cleaning it would be. A quote for fitting illuminated Fire Exit signs would be sought. A quote for a combined Smoke/CO alarm for the kitchen would be sought. **Cllr. Allen**
- d. **Recreation Ground/Highways** – Cllr. Grant reported that a drain on the Village Hall Car Park by the Play Area was draining away very slowly causing a large puddle to remain for some days. It was known that the culvert under the play area was damaged but it would be very expensive to repair. To be kept in view.
- e. **Dog Fouling** – no incidents reported.
- f. **Village Hall** – Cllr. Letts reported that items from the October Walk-round had been taken on board.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Cllr. Grant raised the ‘Clean for the Queen’ project email that had been circulated between meetings. It was agreed to organise a litter-pick in January 2016.

## 12. COUNCILLORS & RESIDENTS NEW ITEMS

None

13. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday December 7<sup>th</sup> 2015 at 7.30pm at the Reading Rooms

The meeting closed at 9.23pm

signed

date