

# STOKE GOLDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday MARCH 7<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 7.30pm in the Reading Rooms.

**Present:** Cllrs. D. Warren (Chair), S. Grant, Allen, C. Letts; Ward Cllr Lynn Patey-Smith; 3 members of the public.  
Clerk Mr J. Vischer.

1. **APOLOGIES** - None.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS** – None
3. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 – These were duly signed and approved. Proposer Cllr Warren, Seconder Cllr Letts. Unanimous.
4. **MATTERS ARISING**
  - a. **Vehicle-activated sign** - reported 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015 ref – 480206 – re-reported 4 Feb. 2015 ref 507189 [part of Ringway maintenance program since December 2015 meeting] Ward Cllr Green had not sent any update. **Ward Cllr Green**
  - b. **Land opposite Reading Rooms** – shrub removal/grass seeding/bulbs; bollards (re-reported 7 Oct.). **Bollards** - the Clerk had contacted Adrian Carden – MKC Road Safety – in an attempt to get things moving. Subsequently he was contacted by Rob Ward, MKC Head of Business Liaison, who assured him that he would investigate the issue. **Shrub bed** – the Clerk had contacted Ringway who had made an official overture to all parish councils to suggest community ventures that they might get involved in but had had no reply to date. There still had been no official liaison from SERCO. It was agreed that the clerk contact them in any case and should they not offer funds/assistance with the refurbishment by the end of April the Parish Council would fund the improvements. **Clerk**
  - c. **Seat in front of old rectory** – cleaning/repainting seat. The Chair had disassembled the seat in order to pressure-wash it. The timber was in good condition. It would benefit from sanding and oiling. Cllr Warren offered to do this. **Cllr Warren**
  - d. **Recreation ground/tennis courts** – Ascot rail; leylandii hedge work. The works had not been carried out. Clerk to urge the contractor to carry out the work as soon as possible and warn him that soon the birds nesting season would prevent such work until July. **Clerk**
  - e. **New road-name sign for Malting Close** – ('Maltings Close leading to Hollowbrook' 10<sup>th</sup> Dec.- sign to be bulk-purchased by MKC with other signs). Ward Cllr Green had not supplied any update. **Ward Cllr Green**
  - f. **Potholes on Church Lane** – Reported 12 Jan, ref 820836. 'in progress'. Cllr Letts offered to verify. **Cllr Letts**
  - g. **Cleaning of the bottom end of Dag Lane** – (reported 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb – ref 842365) 11Feb – 'To be done on next visit'
  - h. **Replacement tree (Western Power)** – the clerk had contacted 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb – no reply to email. Clerk to telephone. **Clerk**
  - i. **Items kept on agenda for monitoring purposes – Dag Lane Drain:** no change. **School Parking:** A resident had furnished photographic evidence of parking across the entrance to Ram Alley at pickup times. After some discussion it was agreed that the clerk report to Tony Toynton (MKC Highways) and Adrian Carden (MKC Road Safety) and suggest a site visit during pickup times. In the meantime Cllr Letts offered to contact the headteacher and ask that reminders be issued to parents. **Clerk/ Cllr Letts**

ANY OTHER MATTERS not covered below – None

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5. **MK PLAN** – Ward Cllr A. Geary had reported via email that “the two consultation meetings within the ward had now taken place, there was overwhelming opposition to the concept of Satellite towns, and perhaps reluctant acceptance that one of the strongest ways of defending the rural areas from such a threat was the acceptance of limited development within the rural villages. But any such development would be agreed by the PC’s and not forced upon by any higher authority in places not considered appropriate. As an aside to the current Plan MK consultation there was however the current lack of a 5 year land supply which does leave MK exposed to unwanted development being permitted in unwanted areas by the Planning Inspectorate”. It was agreed that the latter really depended on landowners willingness to sell at the right price and developers being willing to buy at the right price for the type of housing planned and it was therefore redundant to try and identify possible areas for development. The Chair volunteered to compose the basis of a Parish Council response to the PlanMK consultation, for circulation by email (agreed corporate view see *Feb. minutes*).
6. **BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION** – it was agreed to enter again this year. It would have to be for the Tindall Cup as previous year’s winners. The Clean for the Queen litter-pick would be organised for late May, Bank Holiday weekend (28<sup>th</sup>/29<sup>th</sup>). Cllr Grant had already gathered free plastic sacks from Waitrose. The Chair offered to contact the Youth Club for potential volunteers. **Chair**

7. **FINANCE** Cheques & balances 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016 –

<u>Chq No</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>(gross)</u>	<u>VAT</u>
dd	Eon	201.62	
102259	S KITCHEN	37.50	
102260	AH Contracts - 8539	90.38	15.06
102261	J VISCHER - salary	197.06	
102262	Post Office - HMRC/PAYE	160.00	
102263	DR Jones - PAT test	30.00	
102265	J VISCHER - admin expenses	<u>22.08</u>	<u>2.60</u>
		738.64	17.66

Available balance £14,661

A further cheque, 102264, to J Darlow (Pest Control) for £216 was held back pending checks on last payment and any promise of retaining his services.

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

8. **PLANNING**

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. (& 15/02576/LBC: *listed building consent*) – objected to – *still pending*.

**NEW** – 16/00273/FUL Hillcrest, 2 High Street Stoke Goldington. Demolition of existing garage and erection of detached garage with ancillary accommodation. Object purely on the grounds that there is only one dimension given on the drawings. Should the new building follow the same footprint as the old there is no objection. However as a condition: that the new building cannot be listed as a separate dwelling.

9. **SUB COMMITTEES:**

- N. W. Area Ward Forum** – No meeting.
- Guntrip Fund** – no meeting – Easter pay-out meeting to be arranged.
- Reading Rooms** – Cllr Allen had fitted the Smoke Alarm but not the CO2 alarm.

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The annual PAT electrical testing had been carried out.

Fire Extinguisher check had been arranged for next week with the new contractor.

Nearly all invoices for room hire had been paid.

- d. **Recreation Ground/Highways** – Cllr Letts reported that he would organise the sowing of the wildflower seeds before the next meeting and erect a temporary sign to warn passers-by.
- e. **Dog Fouling** – No new reports.
- f. **Village Hall** – Cllr Letts reported that the Ladies toilet had been refurbished and at Easter the interior of the Hall would be redecorated.

The AGM will be held this Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March at the Village Hall – new committee members were being sought.

- 10. CORRESPONDENCE** – A commemorative medal for the Queen’s Birthday had been received in the hope of further orders – a minimum order of 50 required. Not taken up.  
Clerks and Councils Direct magazine – potential funding sources for refurbishment of Reading Rooms noted. It was agreed that a formal survey of the property was a pre-requisite.  
An NHS consultation document on the future of the Drop-in Centre at Broughton.  
A note from Ward Cllr A. Geary notifying that the Ward Grant of £250 had been authorised.  
An email exchange had been circulated concerning the siting of a new phone mast. The Clerk had passed on councillors comments and suggestions to the company.

## **11. COUNCILLORS & RESIDENTS NEW ITEMS**

**Between meetings** - Cllr Grant had informed the clerk of two faulty streetlights which he had duly reported – a) Orchard Way at the junction with Dag Lane (light on telegraph pole); b) at the front of the Village Hall car park. Requests for three new kissing gates had been made – a) Westside Farm - at the end of the field there is a very old metal gate which is often hard to close with sharp wires at the bottom; b) at the back of the tennis courts; c) Birds Lane towards Dag Lane.

**Cllr Allen** - informed councillors of the Church Appeal for funds to build a toilet block at the church.

**A resident** suggested two new road nameplates – “Orchard Way leading to Dag Lane” as it was not at all clear how to access Dag Lane by vehicle; and “Tap Yard” as this currently has no sign. It was agreed to forward these suggestions to MKC.

- 12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – Monday April 4<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 7.30pm at the Reading Rooms.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

*signed*

*date*