

STOKE GOLDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Draft MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday JUNE 6th 2016 at 7.55pm in the Reading Rooms following the Annual Meeting.

Present: Cllrs R. Trett (in the Chair), D. Warren, S. Grant, C. Letts, I. Allen. Ward Cllr J Green; 6 members of the public.

Clerk Mr J. Vischer.

1 **APOLOGIES** – None

2 **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS** – none

3 **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING** 5th May 2016 – These were duly signed and approved. Proposer Cllr Letts, Seconder Cllr Grant. Unanimous.

4 **MATTERS ARISING**

- 4.1. New seat (funded from Ward Cllr Grant) – it was agreed to purchase the Hayes hardwood bench reduced to £300 from £550 and invite Colin Charge to install on slabs. Members agreed to arrange a site visit to decide on the exact location. **Clerk/Cllrs**
- 4.2. Remaining kissing gate request (reported 7th March). No update. **Clerk**
- 4.3. Vehicle-activated sign – (*originally reported 8th January 2015 ref 480206 & since re-reported. Ringway's responsibility*) Ward Cllr Green commented that she was not up to speed with this item and would consult Ward Cllr A. Geary. **Ward Cllrs**
- 4.4. Land opposite Reading Rooms – No update in spite of two requests since the last meeting. The Clerk stated that he had to go through Andy Hudson, Head of Waste and Environment and could not contact SERCO direct. **Clerk**
- 4.5. New road-name sign for Malting Close – email enquiry 10th Dec. *Logged as ref 833617 Jan 25th – awaiting bulk purchase.* This had now been done. It was a replacement of what had been displayed previously; Ward Cllr Green explained that it could not be changed to 'Leading to' without further delays. Ward Cllr Green was thanked for moving this forward.
- 4.6. Replacement tree (Western Power) – (contacted 3rd Feb) The Clerk had been in touch again with the contractor who had promised the delivery of two replacement trees, but not their planting. Cllr Warren reported that at the last minute the delivery had been delayed. [*post-meeting note: trees delivered shortly after the meeting and the planting sites agreed*] **Cllr Warren**
- 4.7. School parking issue, site visit - no update from Ward Cllr Geary. Ward Cllr Green promised to contact her fellow Ward Councillor, Andrew Geary for an update. **Ward Cllr Green**
- 4.8. *Items kept on agenda for monitoring purposes – Dag Lane Drain; Bund Repair* - No update. It was agreed to arrange a site visit with Andy Dickinson and other relevant officers to discuss the need for proper repair of the erosion to the bund and at the same time discuss the situation in Dag Lane. **Clerk to liaise with Chair**

ANY OTHER MATTERS not covered below –

5. **EMERGENCY PLAN UPDATE** – it was agreed to carry this item forward to the next meeting.

6. **SPRINGTIME WALKABOUT** – Cllr Grant reported that the event had been a great success with many more volunteers than expected (22). 28 bags of rubbish had been collected; kerb side weeds had been weed-killed by Cllr Letts. The rose beds had been thoroughly weeded and tidied up and now required proper edging – Clerk to contact contractor. The Ascot rail fencing by the school was damaged and needed re-staining around the War Memorial - Clerk to contact contractor. It was agreed that the Chair would offer a big thank you to all the volunteers in his Gate News report. **Clerk/Chair**

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7. FINANCE

7.1. Cheques & balances 31st May 2016 –

<u>Chq No</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Amount</u> <u>(gross)</u>	<u>VAT</u>
dd	Eon	116.16	
102278	clerk's salary	268.70	
102279	admin expenses	9.36	
102280	Zurich Insurance (annual)	905.90	
102281	AH Contracts - 8709	112.98	18.83
102282	Warners - 10859,10898	244.80	40.80
102283	Reading Rooms Cleaning	40.00	
102284	BALC - subscription	99.11	
102285	wildflower expenses	170.40	28.40
102286	village sign materials	<u>153.72</u>	
	TOTAL	2,121.13	

Available balance £17,292

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

7.2. External Audit form to sign –

7.2.1. The annual governance statement 2015-16 was gone through and agreed. Proposer Cllr Letts, Seconder Cllr Allen. Unanimous

7.2.2. The accounting statements sheet 2015-16 was gone through and agreed. Proposer Cllr Letts, Seconder Cllr Allen. Unanimous

7.3. Internal Audit arrangements – After discussion it was agreed to retain the same format as last year – using the local clerks' network of cross-auditing (no fees apply). Proposer Cllr Letts Seconder Cllr Warren. Unanimous.

8. PLANNING

8.1. *Previous* - None

8.2. **NEW** – No new planning applications.

8.3. Accommodation at the Maltings – Ward Cllr Green agreed to pursue the matter as no further information had been forthcoming from planning enforcement. **Ward Cllr Green**

9. SUB COMMITTEES:

9.1. **N.W. Area Forum** – neither Cllr Allen nor the Clerk had been able to attend the 19th May meeting.

9.2. **Guntrip Fund** – Nothing other than administration tasks to report.

9.3. **Reading Rooms** – Cllr Allen reported that the next batch of invoices had been sent out, and several payments already returned.

The kitchen heater is in process of being replaced.

The handrail for the back door is still to be priced up.

One of the tables had broken – it was agreed to dispose of it and add to the budget meeting agenda as an item.

9.4. **Recreation Ground/Highways** – Nothing to report.

9.5. **Dog Fouling** – Cllr Warren invited volunteers to reprint and laminate the 'Dog Fouling Crime Scene' signs. Cllr Letts volunteered. **Cllr Letts**

9.6. **Village Hall** – There had been email exchanges between meetings regarding the vetting of public liability insurance cover for the use of bouncy castles by hirers on the recreation field. It was

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agreed that it should be a hiring requirement to have cover (as this was not expensive) and

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consequently that the Parish Council required a copy of the cover to be emailed to them. Chair to liaise with VH Committee.

Chair

10. CORRESPONDENCE – The following items were noted –

Centenary Fields Programme for green spaces (commemorating World War 1)

Valuation Office Agency (Local Rates) registration flyer

A letter from Warners of Bedford resigning from the Landscape contract as of the end of the month

Invitations to the Mayor's Annual Civic Service

MKYCAB April newsletter (YCAB is an international Youth organisation)

11. COUNCILLORS & RESIDENTS NEW ITEMS

In the light of the above letter from the landscape contractor it was agreed for the clerk to enquire as to whether the two previous tenderers to take up the grass-mowing contract. This decision would be agreed between meetings.

Clerk/Cllrs

Reading Rooms - Residents reported that the kitchen lighting was dim – it was agreed Cllr Allen should investigate brighter bulb and LED options.

Cllr Allen

Residents also requested a booking sheet to be posted on the internal noticeboard for easy reference. Cllrs agreed to discuss the options at their upcoming site visit (seat).

Residents pointed out that the Rooms were cleaned on the day following the rubbish collection and to prevent the bin bags being left outside for almost a week they were frequently disposed of by residents (and Cllr Allen). It was agreed to invite the cleaner to attend on a different day of the week if possible.

Clerk

Ward Cllr Green asked if she could publicise on the Reading Rooms noticeboards two Hanslope groups who would welcome residents of Stoke Goldington to attend – the Cancer Group and the Carers Group. This was agreed.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – As there had been a clash of bookings for the upcoming July meeting and in addition all other dates in July were not available either for reasons of room hire or councillors'/ clerk's attendance, it was agreed to cancel the July meeting altogether. Proposer Cllr Warren Secunder Cllr Letts. Unanimous.

Date of next meeting would therefore be 1st August in the Reading Rooms at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

signed

date