

STOKE GOLDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

p1051

Draft MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday November 7th 2016 at 7.30pm in the Reading Rooms

Present: Cllrs R. Trett (in the Chair), D. Warren, C. Letts, S Grant, I Allen; Ward Cllr L Patey-Smith; 7 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 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING – 3rd October 2016**

The minutes of the ordinary meeting were duly signed and approved. Proposer Cllr Letts, Seconder Cllr Warren. Unanimous.

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

- 4.1. Highways 'no road markings' signs – 7th Oct FS8378618. Removed.
- 4.2. Badger sett traffic issues – the Chair reported that he had met with Andrew Dickinson, MKC Highways Client Services Manager, and a colleague regarding the proposed road closure. Ground-penetrating radar had revealed a huge set, said by Natural England to be the largest ever seen under a road. Furthermore the road-planer required for part of the road repair was wider than a single carriageway at this point in the road. These two factors meant that that the authority had no choice but to plan for road closure to remove the den and repair the road. Closure was planned for 10 days from November 14th – 24th. However it was anticipated that the works might be completed sooner. The Clerk would be kept up-to-date daily. The Chair had requested additional signage stating that the village was accessible and 'open for business'.
- 4.3. New street-name sign 4 Malting Close - 7th Oct FS8351408. No update.
- 4.4. Water leak on Purse Lane - reported 7th Oct. Repaired.
- 4.5. Land opposite Reading Rooms – SERCO community offer. The work had been carried out including the provision of a new rubbish bin and new seat. Thanks to be sent to SERCO. **Clerk**
- 4.6. *Bund Repair* – the Chair reported that Andrew Dickinson had confirmed that a budget had been set aside for the planned further maintenance works, although a start date had not been put forward. A new connection into the concrete channel to intercept run-off from the fields to the rear of Dagwoods/Highcroft was designed to alleviate concern for the residents in Orchard Way; the raising of the wall alongside the ditch was not going ahead because the officer believed the work on the bunds will make this unnecessary at this stage. The Chair had reported to the officer that the non-return valves in the ditch by Orchard Way had been congested the last time heavy rain had fallen - the officer promised to check them.
- 4.7. Vehicle-activated sign (*originally reported 8th January 2015 ref 480206 & since re-reported. Ringway's responsibility*) – as no update had been received from Ward Cllr Green it was agreed, as per the October meeting, that the long-standing item be removed from the agenda.
ANY OTHER MATTERS not covered below – None
5. **WAR MEMORIAL SIGN** – councillors were reluctant to see signs put up warning children not to play on the monument. The children were technically under the supervision of their parents who had been written to via the school concerning the issue. As half-term had ensued it was unclear as to how effective the advice had been. Cllr Warren offered to monitor the situation at pick-up times. **Cllr Warren**
6. **WARD GRANT OPTIONS** – It was agreed to propose the renovation of the rose beds by the War Memorial as a suitable project. This would require digging-out, fresh soil, manure as well as new plants. Clerk to inform Ward Cllr Geary. **Clerk**
7. **GREEN BIN INITIATIVE** – It was agreed that recycling was not really an issue in the village, and so the proposed 'recycle and reward' scheme would not be appropriate. The initiative would be flagged-up in the Chair's report in the Gate News. **Chair**
8. **DEVOLUTION OF SERVICES** – it was agreed that the taking on of MKC services was not a viable proposition. The provisional costs supplied by MKC for street cleansing - £1,724; landscaping - £1,639;

STOKE GOLDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

p1052

play area maintenance - £592; were so competitive that the tasks could not be carried out more cheaply, especially given the considerable increase in administration that this would require.

9. FINANCE

9.1. **Annual Grants to local groups** – discussion to be postponed to next month following mention of the availability of parish council grants in the forthcoming Gate News. The traditional, and budgeted, grants would go ahead. **Chair**

9.2. **Payments for this month & balances** –

Payments – a) E-on (Reading Rooms) - £35.65; b) Mazars - £150.00; c) Parochial Church Council grant - £500.00; d) Senior Citizens Club grant - £150.00; e) Gate Group News grant - £300.00; f) British Legion grant - £30.00; g) clerk's salary - £271.05; h) admin expenses - £42.73; i) Landscape maintenance - £168.00; j) Cleaning (Reading Rooms) - £40.00; k) dog bins emptying - £90.38.

Available balance - £20,599 (including savings account of £13,359)

Budget Update

	BUDGET	ACTUAL
INCOME	<u>14,015.00</u>	<u>12,674.03</u>
EXPENDITURE	<u>13,549.00</u>	<u>9,196.72</u>
Income		
Precept	11,585.00	11,585.00
Reading Rooms	1,800.00	1,026.53
Other Rental	625.00	62.50
Expenditure		
Admin	5,946.00	3,562.75
Grounds	4,038.00	3,081.37
Reading Rooms	2,865.00	1,176.45
Projects	1,700.00	1,376.15

The financial statements were approved. Proposer Cllr Allen, Seconder Cllr Grant. Unanimous.

10. PLANNING

10.1. Community Action Group (re-Gallaghers/Merchant Venturers development) – An email had been circulated from the Group inviting representatives of neighbouring parishes to join. Councillors were not able to commit at this stage but the clerk would remain on the email loop.

10.2. Possible development off Orchard Way – Councillors felt that the proposed site did not present any obvious problems and so expressed no objection in principle.

Previous - 16/02107/FUL Telecommunications Site At Church Farm Church Lane. *Permitted.*

10.3. **16/02604/FUL** Church End Cottage 9 And 11 Dag Lane, Conversion of existing double garage *Withdrawn.*

10.4. **16/02605/LBC** – Listed building consent for the above. *Withdrawn.*

10.5. **16/02297/FUL** - Replacement of existing front boundary wall with new 1 metre high boundary wall *Pending.*

10.6. **16/02296/FUL** - Replacement of existing sliding doors and window to ground floor *Permitted.*

10.7. **NEW – 16/02564/FUL** 71 High Street Stoke Goldington Replacement of existing dwelling with new dwelling (amended scheme to 15/00639/FUL). No objections.

10.8. **16/02803/FUL** 25 Malting Close Stoke Goldington Replace existing carport with new structural grade timber carport (retrospective). The Chair had met with the planning officer on site. It had been agreed that the definitive boundary line between 25 and 23 needed to be established by the planning authority in order to resolve permission. The Chair had expressed all residents' concerns to the planning officer. The Parish Council had officially lodged its concerns on the MK planning portal. The neighbour to 25 thanked the Chair and Parish Council for their involvement.

STOKE GOLDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

p1053

- 10.9. **16/02845/FUL** 8 Town End Crescent Stoke Goldington Two storey rear extension. The Chair had noted that a new planning application had just appeared on the portal before the meeting where a new building was being proposed in the garden of no 8 [*post-meeting note* - 16/03007/FUL], as well as this application for regularisation of a half-completed extension. As there was a lot to be considered it was resolved that a site meeting would be required. Clerk to arrange. **Clerk**
- 10.10. **16/02938/FUL** Land North East of Bulls Head Farm Eakley Lanes Erection of an agricultural barn. No objection to the barn but a caveat to be added that Highways needed to carefully consider access on to the main road by setting the field gate well back to allow long vehicles space to pull off completely from the busy highway. **Clerk**

11. SUB COMMITTEES:

- 11.1. **N.W. Area Forum** – Cllr Allen had not been able to attend the most recent meeting.
- 11.2. **Guntrip Trust**– Next meeting, for the Christmas pay-out, being arranged.
- 11.3. **Reading Rooms** – Cllr Allen reported that he had affixed the new handrail to the wall for the step down. Warning sign ready to be fixed. The next batch of invoices would be issued shortly. Cllr Allen added that he had had to inspect the roof due to two tiles slipping out of place. There was no leak at present but the baton underneath had rotted. A quote for repair had been received for £250, which seemed on the high side. This prompted a discussion for the need to conduct a proper survey of the condition of the building. The Clerk was asked to find out about what grants may be available. The kitchen door lock was unworkable and needed replacing. **Cllr Allen/Clerk**
- 11.4. **Recreation Ground/Highways – between meetings**) - reported 28th October: Dumped mattress & sofa FS9319136 - these had been removed; abandoned vehicle FS9322936/ FS9360857 [*post-meeting note*: this was removed a few days after the meeting]
Signs removed from post at southern end of footpath 17A – reported 31st October. The footpaths officer had promised to replace these on her next visit. Cllr Grant reported that she had gathered up 3 carrier bags of tin cans and suspected drug-use related rubbish from beside the tennis courts. It was agreed that an item on this be placed in the Gate News. Clerk to report to local beat officer. Cllr Letts to report to Village Hall Committee. **Clerk, Chair, Cllr Letts**
- 11.5. **Dog Fouling** – Reminders to be added to the Gate News Chair's Report. **Chair**
- 11.6. **Village Hall** – Cllr Letts reported that the Hall floor had been re-varnished and the tennis court nets had been replaced. Cllr Letts had mown the wildflower meadow.

12. **CORRESPONDENCE** – The following items were noted – a reply from John Cheston regarding the letter about PlanMK and Merchant Venturers proposals, stating that no position had been taken by MKC; MK Youth Cabinet Manifesto and anti-bullying posters; BT Phonebox removal consultation – no objection was raised to the removal of the one phonebox; Pensions Regulator update letter.

13. COUNCILLORS & RESIDENTS NEW ITEMS

Councillors – Cllr Allen asked that a blocked drain on the High St be reported. It was noted that other drains were similarly sprouting weeds and had not been cleared out for a very long time. **Clerk**
Cllr Grant had verified between meetings that the only streetlight still malfunctioning was no 12. **Clerk**
Cllr Grant asked the Clerk to contact MKC requesting Dag Lane be swept in time for Remembrance Sunday and asked the Clerk to instruct RJ Sharp to clear the leaves and tidy-up the beds by the war memorial as soon as possible. **Clerk**

Residents – no items.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Monday DECEMBER 5th 2016

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

signed

date