

STOKE GOLDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday DECEMBER 4th 2017 at 7.30pm in the Reading Rooms

Present: Cllrs D. Warren (in the Chair), I. Allen, L Freeman, C. Letts. Ward Cllr Andrew Geary; 12 members of the public.

Clerk Mr J. Vischer.

1. **APOLOGIES** – Cllr N. Lovell. These were accepted.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS** on items on the agenda – None
3. **MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** – 6th November 2017
 - 3.1. The minutes were duly approved and signed. Proposer Cllr Freeman, Seconder Cllr Letts. Unanimous.
 - 3.2. **MATTERS ARISING**
 - 3.2.1. **Neighbourhood Plan** – speaker Diane Webber, Neighbourhood Planning Consultant, MK Council. Ms Webber outlined the background and stages in creating a Neighbourhood Plan:
 - Once adopted by referendum at the end of the process, Milton Keynes Council (MKC) formally adopts the Plan and it becomes part of the Local Area Plan and as such does carry some weight.
 - There are no fixed rural housing targets.
 - Due legal process in the preparation of the plan must be followed.
 - The use of a planning consultant for technical expertise is widespread.
 - Grants are available – currently set at approximately £9,000 ceiling.
 - The Plan is vetted by MKC.Stages –
 - The geographical area is decided – usually the same as the whole parish.
 - Draft preferred policies are prepared.
 - Consultation with the community regarding the above.
 - The final document is presented to MKC.
 - MKC operates its own 6wk. consultation, an examiner is appointed.
 - MKC orchestrates a final referendum (simple majority vote) to adopt or reject the Plan.
 - The whole process lasts approximately 18 to 24 months.Ms Webber was thanked for her informative presentation. She offered to send the Clerk internet links to various useful websites for information and recommended viewing other parishes' completed Plans – e.g. Castlethorpe.
 - 3.2.2. **Neighbourhood Watch** initiative in Malting Close - Cllr Freeman reported that no interest had been shown as yet by residents.
 - 3.2.3. **Village traffic speed monitor** - FS59831519 – the Clerk reported that MKC Highways had informed him that the contractor, Dynniq, had been appointed to 'oversee these assets'. A further email from the Chair of Lathbury Parish Meeting had enquired of neighbouring parishes as to the status of their 'VAS'. He had established that MKC had invested in the VAS and not taken sufficient account of the ongoing maintenance and licenses. Effectively after 3 years MKC "wrote off" the VAS by not renewing the maintenance and licence contracts and villages are left with a 1st generation SID i.e. speed indicator with no useable output. Clerk to make further enquiries as to potential use/upgrades. **CLK**
 - 3.2.4. **Blocked drains** – one of the drains had been unblocked, but at the bottom of Westside Lane two opposite drains are blocked, as are many of the drains in Westside Lane. The drain opposite the war memorial also is blocked. Clerk to report. **CLK**

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3.3. **ANY OTHER MATTERS** not covered below – **Maintenance strategy ref. overgrown ditches on the flood-alleviation works** – Ward Cllr Geary reported that he had not been able to gain assurances from officers that the ditches would be maintained on a planned and regular basis.

4. **PLAYGROUND REFURBISHMENT** – The contractor had not yet started the remedial work. The Clerk had requested a timetable from the contractor. He had apologised for the delay quoting 'lack of staff' as the issue but the Clerk had not received a timetable.

5. **FINANCE**

5.1. **Payments (gross) for this month & balance -**

Payments – a) clerk's salary (Dec & Nov) - £508.76; b) RR cleaning (November) - £40.00; c) bins emptying (*inv9762*) - £90.38; d) admin expenses - £19.19; e) electricity - £78.31; f) rec field mowing - £84.00; g) rose beds etc (50%) - £403.00; h) PCC grant - £500.00; i) Senior Citizens club grant - £150.00; j) Gate Group grant – 300.00; k) British Legion grant - £30.00; l) Cllr Allen: refund purchase of tables - £278.40.

Available balance at 16th November - £20,845 (including savings account of £13,361).

The financial statements were approved. Proposer Cllr Warren, Seconder Cllr Allen. Unanimous. It was proposed to increase grant amounts. To be discussed at the upcoming budget meeting.

5.2. **Clerk as signatory** – It was agreed to add the Clerk as cheque signatory so that he could have full access to account information. Proposer Cllr Warren, Seconder Cllr Freeman. Unanimous. **CLK**

5.3. **Landscape contracts renewal** – it was agreed to invite the shrub bed contractor to re-quote for next year's maintenance. The recreation field contractor had already been asked to firm up his previous quotation. **CLK**

5.4. **Budget meeting date** – This was proposed for Monday 15th January 2018 at the Reading Rooms at 7.30pm. To be confirmed. **CLLR ALLEN**

6. **PLANNING**

6.1. **Previous Planning Applications**

17/02043/FUL The Malting House 66 High Street, Change of use from pub (A4) to commercial offices (A2). *Pending*

17/02249/CONS Cheyney Farm Eakley Lanes, Horse manege/school. *Pending*

17/02230/FUL 3 George Inn Place, Change of use from barn to 1 x 2 bed dwellinghouse (use class C3) and construction of garage, parking and garden areas. *Permitted*

17/02299/TCA Chestnuts 1 George Inn Place, Notification of internation of the crown reduction by up to 1 metre to 3 x Horse Chestnut Trees to remove epicormic growth and lateral limbs overhanging neighbours drive and buildings. *Pending*

17/02423/FUL Brook House 17A High Street, Detached house and outbuilding (part retrospective). *Pending*. Mr and Mrs Gott had submitted a letter asking the Parish Council to withdraw its request to ask for Development Panel Review and allow the normal process of officer approval or disapproval to run as usual. Members felt that it was unfortunate that the application had not been timetabled for the November Panel and that MKC had cancelled the December Panel. However they still wished the application to be reviewed by the full Panel.

17/02761/FUL Bulls Head Barn Eakley Lanes, Proposed sitting room extension to Bulls Head Barn. *Pending*.

6.2. **New Planning Applications –**

17/02970/LBC & 17/02969/FUL 56-58 High Street, Removal of a white wooden fence at the front of the property and replacement with a stone wall. No objections.

17/02989/FUL 5 Barns Adjacent To Westside Farm, Change of use of agricultural barns and surrounding land to form 2 residential dwellings. Two open-sided barns to be demolished. Iron-clad barn to be demolished and re-built. Timber barn to be demolished and re-built. No objections but a request to be made that a proper Construction Management Plan be put in place to mitigate the risk to school-children

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& parents during school drop off and pick up caused by deliveries to site; and that concerns over drainage issues caused by springs be investigated.

17/03029/LBC & 17/03028/FUL 56-58 High Street, Erection of a greenhouse in the garden (Model name 'Grange' from supplier Hartley Botanic) with dwarf wall base made of stone. No objections.

6.3. *Any Other Planning matters* – SG Settlement Boundaries: this subject had been subsumed under 'Neighbourhood Plan'.

7. SUB COMMITTEES:

7.1. *N.W. Area Forum* – No date set as yet.

7.2. *Guntrip Trust* – Nothing to report.

7.3. *Reading Rooms* –

7.3.1. *Further Archiving of files* – To be arranged.

CLLR WARREN/CLK

7.3.2. *Tables* – these had been purchased and delivered.

7.4. *Recreation Ground/Highways* – A quote for the Lime Trees work over the stream had been received from the recreation field mowing contractor for £720. It was agreed that this should go ahead and a tree survey be arranged for next season. Item for budget meeting.

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7.5. *Dog Fouling* – Complaints had been received regarding fouling on the High St. Chair to investigate.

CHR

7.6. *Village Hall* – Cllr Letts reported that he understood that the burglar alarm service was to be changed. The booking policy was being reviewed following noise complaints from recent lettings.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE** – other than via email – MKC invitation to Christmas Carol Service.

10. COUNCILLORS & RESIDENTS NEW ITEMS

10.1. *Councillors* – It was noted that bin collection times had changed and Cllr Letts reported this had resulted in Purse Lane being missed out. Clerk to report.

CLK

10.2. *Residents* – Mr & Mrs Chua reported that where the flood bunds were being driven over along the field-side track they were damaged and thus not performing effectively in heavy rain – the water washed down to their property instead of into the ditch. Cllr Letts declared an interest as an active member of the local Shoot. An alternative route had initially been suggested through Church Farm but subsequently declined. A possible cross-field route was only usable in dry weather. It was agreed that the Clerk write to MKC flood officers to point out the inadequate height of the bund and the materials used at the point where the bund meets the field side track and request improvements.

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11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – It was agreed that as the first Monday in January is the 1st the meeting be postponed to Thursday January 4th 2018 pending confirmation of Reading Rooms availability. **CLLR ALLEN**

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

signed

date