

Stoke St Mary Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of Stoke St Mary Parish Council held on Thursday, 19th January 2023, at Stoke St Mary Village Hall

1. Attendance and Apologies:

Members Present: Cllrs Colin Fisher (Chair), Dan Fallance, Patricia Fallance (Vice Chair), Rob Hossell

In attendance: Sarah Fisher (Clerk) – stokeparishclerk@gmail.com
Councillor Sue Buller (SWT)
Councillor Sarah Wakefield (SCC)
6 x parishioners

Apologies received from Cllr Tania Watt

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 17th November 2022 were APPROVED as a correct record, and signed by the Chair

4. Matters Arising

- **Garden waste bins** – Clerk reported that a bin for removal of garden debris from Jubilee Gardens has been purchased. Cllr Dan Fallance repeated his offer of help.
- **Website** – Clerk reported that publishing of required documents on website is in progress
- **Staffing Committee** – proposed Terms of Reference APPROVED
- **Burial Grant** – Clerk reported Parish Council is liable for maintaining burial ground
- **Allotments** – The Parish Council welcomes the anonymous donation towards refurbishment of allotments, which will enable full refurbishment. Cllr Dan Fallance to oversee
- **Somerset Emergency Contacts** – as reported in Agenda
- **Defibrillator** – Clerk reported installation of new battery. Parish Council RESOLVED to delegate spending authority to Clerk to ensure full maintenance of defibrillator, and RESOLVED to fund training session for villagers (in village hall)
- **Village signage/speed cameras** – Parish Council RESOLVED to include as part of 20mph application – see 9. A) iii below

5. Correspondence/matters to report

- Trees for Platinum Jubilee and Coronation – Clerk reported trees have been received and will be planted when appropriate

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6. Finance

a) Balances (as at 13/01/2023)

Current a/c: £3468.96
Reserve a/c: £7778.24

b) Expenditure approval:

- i. Parsons Landscapes £50.60, APPROVED
- ii. WelMedical replacement battery for defibrillator £244.74, APPROVED
- iii. Clerk expense – SWAT Garden Waste bin for Jubilee Gdn £57.20, APPROVED
- iv. Cricket Club reconditioned roller £500, APPROVED
- v. Pre-authorized spend on replacement pads (single use) for defibrillator £47 est – APPROVED and see 4. Above

c) Budget/Precept 2023/24

The draft budget for 2023/24 was APPROVED and the Precept set at £5500. The Precept form has been submitted.

7. To Adopt new Standing Orders

The proposed Standing Orders were ADOPTED

8. To receive reports from County and District Councillors

Cllr Sarah Wakefield updated the Parish Council on developments of the new Unitary council
It was noted that the Unitary authority will be substantially in deficit

9. To receive reports of Parish Council portfolios

a) Planning/A358/adoption of 20mph speed limits in Shoreditch/Stoke St Mary and Haydon

i. Planning

Higher Broughton Farm; The Parish Council welcomes Savills' approach and RESOLVED to engage with them through the Extraordinary Meeting called on 30th January 2023

5G mast in Shoreditch – Parish Council has received a preapplication consulting letter relating to a 5G mast – no action required at this stage

ii. A358

Cllr Rob Hossell reported that the Development Consent Order (DCO) has been delayed to allow a review of the appropriateness of environmental mitigation. Cllr Sarah Wakefield continues to put the case to the council for re-opening Old Ilminster Road.

iii. Adoption of 20mph speed limits

RESOLUTION: The Parish Council believes that a speed limit of 20mph throughout the settlements of Shoreditch, Stoke St Mary and Haydon will ensure safety for non-motorised users. Clerk to forward motion to Cllr Mike Rigby with Cllr Sarah Wakefield's support.

b) Unitary Council/LCNs

Cllr Sarah Wakefield reported that Local Community Network (LCN) boundaries have been released, and Stoke St Mary is to be part of LCN 18, which includes parishes south of the M5, up to and including Chard, and west to the county boundary. The Chair will continue to work with neighbouring parish councils to clarify needs from LCNs.

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c) Footpaths/Bridleways and Highways

Cllr Pat Fallance reported footpaths and bridleways have been affected by weather but are passable. It was noted that Broughton Lane continues to be a hazard.

d) Playpark/village hall/police/traffic

Following an incident in the playpark, the Parish Council RESOLVED to erect signs dealing with the policy on dogs and abusive behaviour in playpark.

Cllr Dan Fallance reported there are to be no increases in village hall rates in 2023 to encourage use.

10. Clerks Hours – as contracted

11. Parishioners Forum

Six parishioners in attendance contributed to the discussion about 20mph speed limits (see 9. A) iii above)

12. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday, 16th March at 7.30pm

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Signed:

Date:.....