



**Minutes of the Stoke Hammond Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 2nd July 2024 at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Ajaz (Chair), Cllr Noble, Cllr Champion, Cllr Venn, Cllr Sharkey, Cllr Julier, Kelly Harris,
Clerk & RFO & 1 members of the public (MoP)

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr Newing.

2. To receive declarations of interest

None received.

3. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4th June 2024

The draft minutes were agreed unanimously and approved and signed as a true record by the Chair.

Proposed: Cllr Julier / Seconded: Cllr Noble / Agreed unanimously

4. Finance

a) To agree the July payment run as circulated

STOKE HAMMOND PARISH COUNCIL - PAYMENT RUN July 2024

Payee	Detail	Amount
RTM Landscapes	Clear alley between Tyrells Gardens & Fenny Road	£90.00
RTM Landscapes	Grass cutting - June	£1,548.00
Clerk	Clerk salary for June and any related expenses	£1,096.00
	Total	£2,734.00

Proposed: Cllr Venn / Seconded: Cllr Sharkey / Agreed unanimously

b) To agree the accounts to 31st May 2024 as circulated

Proposed: Cllr Venn / Seconded: Cllr Sharkey / Agreed unanimously

5. Grand Union Canal Transfer – a presentation from Severn Trent Water

See attached presentation slides for details.

6. Update from Unitary Councillor

There were no Unitary Councillors in attendance and no update was provided. Cllr Ajaz advised he has made contact with Cllr Gomm and there is a possibility of the PC and Cllr Gomm meeting to discuss his involvement with the PC moving forward.

7. To report on any Highways, Footpaths & Footways and Lighting matters

- Cllr Noble questioned why Bucks Highways put up advance warning signs and send letters to residents when work is scheduled, but then the work either starts earlier or the times change. This has been the case with recent work on Fenny Road and Leighton Road, and work on Newton Road. There was also concern about the mess left behind on the pathways and roads (gravel, tarmac etc.). The Clerk will raise this with Bucks Highways. **Action: Clerk**
- Cllr Champion confirmed the streetlights in Newton Leys have been repaired or replaced, and the replacement heads come with a 2 year warranty.
- Cllrs unanimously agreed to proceed with the adoption of streetlights, feeder pillars, play park and open spaces on the new Fenny Road development without conducting any searches. The Clerk will advise the PC solicitor of this decision. **Action: Clerk**

- The Clerk advised our insurance company has agreed to pay towards the damaged streetlight on Olde Bell Close. The DHL driver who hit the streetlight has denied causing any damage, so the insurance company doesn't believe they will be able to recover the costs.

8. To report on any Parish Improvements and Enhancements

- The Clerk confirmed the alley between Tyrells Gardens and Fenny Road has been cleared.
- The Newton Leys Management company has switched grass cutting suppliers and is now using contractors from Bletchley & Fenny Stratford Town Council.
- Cllrs agreed to give our supplier 7 days to lay the concrete bases for the new benches and table tennis table in Newton Leys. If after 7 days the work still hasn't started, the PC will look to appoint a new supplier.

9. To discuss the field behind the Community Centre being cut every 2 weeks, instead of every 3 weeks

- The Clerk confirmed it will cost £860+VAT to bring the cutting of this field into line with cutting everywhere else in the village. Cllrs unanimously agreed to this change.

Proposed: Cllr Sharkey / Seconded: Cllr Venn / Agreed unanimously

10. To discuss installing new village entrance signs at the Bletchley and Leighton Buzzard ends of the village and agree next steps

- The Clerk advised she has received complaints about the state of the village signs at the Leighton Buzzard end of the village and that the last time these signs were cleared, it was discovered that they were rotten and falling apart. Bucks Highways will only allow one style of sign to be installed which they can do for us, but the PC will have to pay for them.
- The Clerk has been given an estimate of £4000-5000 for these new signs, and Cllrs unanimously agreed to the Clerk starting the process with Bucks Council to get new signs installed. **Action: Clerk**

11. To report on meetings attended on behalf of the Parish Council

- Nothing to discuss, no meetings attended.

12. Community Centre: to report on any matters for the Council's attention

- Cllr Noble advised that the afternoon tea had been extremely successful and one of the best they have hosted so far. He thanked the PC for their contribution to this event.
- Some residents have already put their names down for the Christmas lunch.
- A gin tasting evening is currently being considered.

13. Sports Club: to provide any updates/report on any matters for the Council's attention

- There were no representatives from the Sports Club in attendance.

14. Public Participation Session

- A MoP talked about the small number of Neighbourhood Plan questionnaires returned by residents and how concerned he was by the PC land next to the Community Centre being included in the Neighbourhood Plan sites for possible development.

15. To agree the date of the next Parish Council meeting - Tuesday 6th August or Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Cllrs agreed unanimously to hold the meeting on Tuesday 6th August and no meeting will take place in September.

Proposed: Cllr Noble / Seconded: Cllr Venn / Agreed unanimously

16. To resolve to close the meeting

Cllr Ajaz thanked everyone for their contribution and the meeting was closed at 21.00.

17. Council to receive an update on S106 and agree next steps

No update on S106 was given.

Chair:

Date:

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