

PARISH OF STOKENCHURCH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 6th December 2017
At Longburrow Hall at 7.30pm.

Attendees: Cllr Nuthall (Chairman) Cllr Baker (Vice Chairman), Mrs Shelton (Clerk), Cllr Powis, Cllr Jones, Cllr Preece, Cllr Thomas, Cllr I Chadwick, Cllr Saunders, and 1 member of the public.

1. **Apologies.** Apologies were received from Cllr Hayday, Cllr Etholen, Cllr Penny & Cllr Davis, Cllr Parkinson
2. **Declarations of Interest.** Cllr Powis on bills payable, Cllr Saunders on Planning 08047.
3. **Minutes.** It was agreed by all those present at that meeting that the minutes of the Council meeting on 15th November 2017 be approved. Unanimously agreed.
4. **Matters Arising** – Cllr Thomas was unable to attend the CRPE meeting.
5. **Reports and Actions** – Cllr Preece informed the council that he has been speaking to Robert Nickiel from Radnage Parish Council who had expressed an interest in the two councils working alongside each other. Cllr Thomas gave a report on the allotments.
6. **Notification of Parish Matters (information only) – Mudds Bank – Mill Lane – Marlow Road Cemetery**
7. **Planning** – Planning decisions; permissions and refusals.
 - 08227 - Proposed non-material amendment to permission for construction of two storey side/rear extension and single storey rear extension (alternative scheme to PP 16/07793/FUL) granted under householder planning ref: 17/07297/FUL -The Orchard Water End Road Stokenchurch Buckinghamshire HP14 3XQ - (Mr Christopher Cotton) No comment, unanimously agreed.
 - 08154- Fell to ground level (T1) small Ash on boundary resting on fence, fell to ground level (T2 & T3) 2 x Cherry due to poor health, reduce lowest limb (T4) Ash on growing towards the centre of site by up to 2m to suitable branch union, Fell to ground level (T5 & T6) 2 x small apple trees due to poor health & previous stem failure and Coppice (G1) Hazel at the base of the goat willow. - Land Adjacent The Cottages Water End Road Beacons Bottom Buckinghamshire (Smart In Build LTD) Stokenchurch Parish Council are of the opinion that the WDC tree specialist should personally visit the site and form a professional opinion and not rely on a outside source for information.
 - 08138 - Change of use from B1 (office) to C3 (1 x 1 bed residential unit) - Tanaris House The Common Stokenchurch Buckinghamshire HP14 3TZ – (Mr Euan Courtney-Morgan) No objection, unanimously agreed.
 - 08094 - Demolition of existing garage block and construction of a detached 3 bed dwelling house - Garages And Access Road The Cottages Bricks Lane Beacons Bottom Buckinghamshire – (Mr Stewart Martin) Stokenchurch Parish Council wish to strongly object to planning application 17/08094 on the grounds of overdevelopment on the grounds shown on the plan. The proposed dwelling would overlook the cottages, and consequently invade their privacy. It should also be pointed out that the area is in green belt and the Chilterns Area of ONB, and any further development in this particular area should be discouraged. The case officer is strongly urged to read document 88/06931 which relates to an unsuccessful appeal in the same spot, where the inspector states that the hamlet should only be allowed to build on a one to one replacement basis, or infilling on a developed frontage much of the inspectors report is pertinent in this matter, unanimously agreed.
 - 08047 - Construction of an agricultural barn to house livestock - Land Adjacent 1 Pophleys Cottage City Road Stokenchurch Buckinghamshire- (Mrs Clark) Cllr Saunders declared an interest. No Comment, unanimously agreed.
 - 07992 - Householder application for construction of single storey side extension - 4 Billings Close Stokenchurch Buckinghamshire HP14 3SE - (Mr Marcus Burnap) No objection, unanimously agreed.
 - 07875 - Householder application for the construction of rear conservatory - 20 George Road Stokenchurch Buckinghamshire HP14 3RN - (Mr Turner). No objections, unanimously agreed.

8. District and County Councillors: Cllr Adoh explained that she didn't have anything to report but with all the changes in planning she expressed our gratitude to all the Councillors, clerk and staff for the immense support and 'grilling' accorded to us in ensuring that we work together to meet the needs of our residents. Cllr Adoh also commended the parishioners of Radnage and Stokenchurch for fighting the Mudds Bank applications, which makes it easier for them to push and fight. Cllr Preece informed Cllr Adoh that a mobile home had appeared on the footpath in Mudds Bank, Gemma Davis is aware of this but could Cllr Adoh keep the pressure on until the matter is resolved.

9. Finance-

- Bills Payable to the amount of £6004.66, unanimously agreed.
- November accounts, unanimously agreed with one abstention.
- Budget 2018/2019 – Clerk to get quotes for suggested work.
- LAF Funding Budget – Clerk explained that this funding is for a community project ie; planting around the village or cooking lesson to be done with groups such as the Scouts or Youth club, the clerk has sent the information to the groups.

10. Mudds Bank Layby- The Chairman updated the council regarding the recent communication regarding the Mudds Bank layby between Cllr Etholen, the environmental health team and the Parish Council. Two choices had been suggested, one to install public toilets and bins at the site or two, to close the layby completely. Following a discussion, it was proposed to ask to have the vegetation between the A40 road and the layby cut down to ground level and if Bucks C C are not prepared to do it, the matter will need to be escalated above Bucks C C. Cllr Jones said the Parish Council will not pay towards any expenditure relating to this. Clerk to follow up.

11. Correspondence – Clerk read and email regarding 1 Hartmoor Close, a notice from the legal team at Bucks C C had now been received by the parishioner and they are now willing to comply with the requests of the parish council regarding the trees on the Marlow Road. Clerk asked are the council happy for the works to be completed by the end of January 2018 and what exactly are we asking her to do? Following a discussion, the trees need to be cut back level with the boundary fence so as not to obscure the lights, if the owner wished to reduce them in height then no one will object.

Clerk read out a formal complaint against Stokenchurch Parish Council from a parishioner of Ferndale Close. The parishioner was present at the meeting so the Chairman asked if they would like to say anything. The parishioner informed the council that he was not happy with the responses received to date as they had not answered his question, in addition to the fact that none of the hedges on the boundary of Ferndale Close had been cut back. Cllr Preece referred back to the complaints the parish council received earlier in the year from parishioners, which is what triggered the letters to be sent out and the footpath is now passable. The parishioner questioned the wording of the letters. It was explained that the letters are standard letters from Bucks County Council as part of the devolution services and a process that the Parish Council now have to follow. The Chairman apologised to the parishioner for any distress that may have been caused. Clerk will speak with Bucks C C to address the wording of the letters.

Clerk read an email from another parishioner of Ferndale Close, regarding the hedges on the Marlow Road to the rear of the properties on Ferndale Close. The parishioner was disputing the responsibility for the hedge on her boundary. Following a discussion the council agreed to escalate the procedure with a second letter and then refer to Bucks C C. A parishioner of Ferndale close who was present informed the parish council that the hedges adjacent to the houses along the Marlow Road are definitely the houses responsibility. Clerk to follow up.

Clerk read a request from Lendrums Amusements requesting permission to arrive on the common on Sunday 8th July 2018 until Sunday 14th July. Request approved. Clerk to follow up.

Clerk read a request from a parishioner for children to go and decorate the Christmas tree on the common. The Council would be happy for children to hang decorations on the fence surrounding the tree. Clerk will follow up.

Clerk read a request from Padstones asking for a donation for the homeless charity. £100 donation was agreed with two abstentions.

12. The Commons – None.

13. Other Parish Matters – Mudds Bank – Cllr Preece discussed Mudds Bank in further detail explaining that the smaller poly tunnel had been re-clad, Gemma Davis is aware of this but could we chase her up. A mobile home had also appeared in the middle of the footpath which is not on the owners land. Cllr Preece showed photographs of the area, these clearly demonstrated that there is nothing being grown. Clerk will forward these to Gemma Davis. The Chairman spoke to Sarah Nicholson who said she was happy that the caravan, which was going to be used for their seasonal workers. Cllr Saunders added that at the top of the illegal track, there had been tables and chairs and people sitting up there at weekends smoking and they now have a shelter. Cllr Saunders also informed the council that Mudds Bank Stud Farm had some hay bales with a caravan in the middle, this has now gone but was there for a few weeks, so it will need to be kept an eye on.

Mill Lane – Cllr Preece has had a report from a parishioner about a property called Valencia on Mill Road and there appears to be a land grab, this has now been brought to the councils attention and they will investigate further. Cllr Preece will contact Cllr Baker and the clerk.

Marlow Road Cemetery – Cllr Powis suggested that the skip and clear up at the Marlow Road cemetery should be postponed until the vegetation has been prepared for removal and the weather warms up a bit. Chairman to cancel the skip.

Parishioner suggested that the Parish Council could put a live Christmas tree in the budget for next year to be planted on the common. The parishioner also reported that the hedge at the bottom of new road new cutting back from the pavement. Clerk to follow up.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 9.15pm