

PARISH OF STOKENCHURCH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 10th January 2018
At Longburrow Hall at 7.30pm.

Attendees: Cllr Nuthall (Chairman) Cllr Baker (Vice Chairman), Mrs Shelton (Clerk), Cllr Powis, Cllr Penny, Cllr Preece, Cllr Thomas, Cllr I Chadwick, Cllr Saunders, Cllr Davis, Cllr Parkinson and 3 members of the public.

1. **Apologies.** Apologies were received from Cllr Etholen, Cllr Jones
2. **Declarations of Interest.** Cllr Powis for Bills Payable.
3. **Minutes.** It was agreed by all those present at that meeting that the minutes of the Council meeting on 20th December 2017 be approved. Agreed with two abstentions.
4. **Matters Arising – Mill Lane -** Cllr Preece showed a photograph of the width of the Mill Lane by the new build houses, the width of the road should be 20ft, as per the enclosure award map. If and when the temporary fence is removed from the new build properties the width of the road at this point will measure 22ft if a permanent fence is put in its current position there would be a slight land grab. However, Cllr Preece also measured the width of the road where the complainant lives and it measured 17ft not 20ft so it would appear that this boundary is not in the correct position either. Clerk was asked to make both parishioners aware of the findings. Cllr Chadwick attended the M40 AEG meeting stating that it was very informative.
5. **Reports and Actions –** Cllr Powis reported that she attended the NAG meeting and informed PC O'Driscoll about the recent unwanted activity at Longburrow Hall.
6. **Notification of Parish Matters (information only) – *Marlow Road Cemetery – Memorial Hall Car Park – Rubbish – Footpath – Beech Tree***
7. **Planning – Planning decisions; permissions and refusals.**
 - 08379 - Householder application for construction of single storey front extension, new driveway and new dropped kerb at 56 Marcourt Road Stokenchurch Buckinghamshire HP14 3QU. Cllr Preece has concerns that the addition will be very large and not in keeping with the area even though other house in the area have smaller ones. A proposal of No Objection was put forward and seconded. A vote was taken and the abstentions outweighed the agreed vote. The chairman proposed that the council offer a view of no comment. All agreed. No Comment.
8. **District and County Councillors:** The Chairman asked Cllr Adoh for an update on Mudds Bank. Cllr Adoh explained that an enforcement officer been to look at the area. There will be a conversation taking place soon to discuss how to deal with complaints more efficiently when they are reported. Cllr Adoh explained that the planning officer has had a problem trying to contact the owner. The Chairman expressed her disappointment stating that if an application is accepted there should be a contact with the owner. The Chairman also reminded the Cllr Adoh that the Parish Council will be putting in a formal complaint to WDC. Cllr Preece would like it recorded that the District Councillors have done a good job regarding planning issues at Mudds Bank. Cllr Preece explained the reasons for the council's dismay at things not being followed up and enforcement notices not being adhered to. Cllr Saddique explained that they are just in the process of sorting funding for the village and asked for ideas of who to approach that would benefit from such funding. The Chairman suggested the youth club and local preschool and will forward some contact details to Cllr Adoh.
9. **Finance-**
 - Bills Payable to the amount of £548.70, unanimously agreed.
 - December Accounts - unanimously agreed.

10. Correspondence – Clerk read a request from a solicitor acting on behalf of Busy Bee’s asking if the Parish Council would consider selling the free hold to the lease of the Positive Steps nursery site. Following a brief conversation the Parish Council decided that a reply of thanks for expressing an interest but they do not wish to sell the free hold. Clerk explained that a parishioner wanted it brought to the council’s attention that the rubbish carts are damaging the area of grass on Raven Road and offered to install some posts to prevent this happening if the council would provide them. Following a discussion it was decided that unfortunately due to the increase in parked cars in the area the rubbish cart doesn’t always have an option other than to go onto the kerb in order to reach all of the houses. The council do not wish to install posts in this area as this will not solve the problem but have asked the clerk to contact the waste services to speak with the drivers.

11. The Commons – None.

12. Other Parish Matters – Marlow Road Cemetery – Cllr Parkinson reported that there are two large branches hanging down at either end, these are too large for the parish warden to address. Clerk to follow up.

Memorial Hall car park - Cllr Parkinson asked if the clerk had heard from the water board about the drain behind the memorial hall. Clerk replied yes they have said the drain is not their responsibility as it is on private land. Cllr Baker explained that the Memorial Hall have a self-repairing lease.

Rubbish – Cllr Powis reported that there is lots of rubbish on the Marlow Road near the white gates. A parishioner also pointed out that there is lots of rubbish around the footpath leading to Mudds Bank layby. Cllr Preece said WDC should do a litter pick in these areas on a six weekly basis.

Footpath – Cllr Saunders report that an organisation that would like to clear the overgrown footpaths leading to Mudds Bank layby asking if it was ok for them to do so. The Chairman explained that because of health and safety, our insurance company would needs to be informed and risk assessments would have to be carried out.

Beech tree- Cllr Saunders informed the council that the large beech tree on New Road has very low branches which a child got caught in, could we please cut them back. Clerk to follow up.

Cllr Davis reported that the kerbs opposite Tesco’s had been knocked out due to people parking there. The Chairman explained that this will need reporting on the Bucks C C website but is another point we can raise with David Coupe. Clerk will arrange another meeting with him.

The Chairman explained to the council that the Christmas tree on the common can looked dwarfed in its current position as it is surrounded by larger tree and asked the councillors ~~councillor’s~~ if they had any suggestions of a new location in the village for next year.

A parishioner asked if the council knew whether any solar panels were being installed with the new sound barriers. Cllr Chadwick replied no they are not. The parishioner referred back to the Chairman’s comments about the Christmas tree stating that it was suggested at the last meeting planting a Christmas tree with roots would save the parish council money, are we not going to plant permanent tree. The Chairman explained that the Christmas tree is donated free of charge each year by a local company that wishes to remain anonymous.

A parishioner had been following up on the Jaguar garage she explained that the garage is operating all the time now and the cars are being moved each day, the lights are also being left on intermittently. The parishioner has been sending letters to WDC but had not received any responses from them. The Chairman asked Cllr Adoh to follow up. Clerk to send an email to the enforcement officer to ask why they are not responding to the complaints. Cllr Preece asked the District Councillor’s why the May 2017 planning application for the garage hasn’t been determined yet? Cllr Adoh explained that the planning officer has been off sick and there are several issues with the application. Cllr Adoh explained that Alistair Nicholson had been attempting to contact the owner of the garage today. The parishioner also reported that there had been a problem with the drains in the

area due to the constant jet washing of the cars, it seems that some space had been let to a concrete floor polishing company. Clerk to follow up.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.20pm.