

STOKENCHURCH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 3rd October 2018 at Longburrow Hall at 7.30pm.

Attendees: Cllr V. Nuthall (in the Chair), Cllr C. Baker, Cllr I.Chadwick, Cllr D. Davis, Cllr S. Garrett, Cllr C. Parkinson, Cllr J.Powis, Cllr A. Preece, Cllr R. Thomas and Cllr N. Watson

In attendance: Cty Cllr D. Hayday

Members of the public: 5

Apologies were received from Cllr Saunders, Cty Cllr C. Etholen, District Cllr S. Saddique and District Cllr S. Adoh.

1. **Declarations of Interest.** Cllr Preece in respect of Bills Payable.
2. **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on 19th September were approved, proposed Cllr Thomas, seconded Cllr Watson. There were no matters arising.
- 3 **Reports and Actions.** Cllr Davis reported that he had followed up on the report from the inspector concerning the Children's play equipment; there were a number of items, where comparatively minor action by the Parish Warden, Councillors or the user groups would effect repair e.g. missing bolts, replacing sandbags, seized up gate latches, jet washing and replace plastic netting for the netball players. Some items were of higher priority such as the emergency contact details on the noticeboard at Longburrow and the need to remove the reference to Sure-Start; loping of a dangerous branch above the children's play area had already been agreed following Mr Davis' visit. The inspector had not looked at the equipment at Studley Green and the Cricket Ground Children's Play areas and Cllr Davis said that he will be inspecting both areas soon.
Cllr Watson had received information that the appeal re the Mudds Bank Stud Farm is the be the subject of a public enquiry. He also reported that the batteries in the Speed warning signs need replacing and that he was seeking quotations
4. **Parish Matters.** Councillors raised the following matters:- anti-social behaviour by children, lamps on the motorway bridge, road markings outside CJ Stores, Marlow road junction, Litter picking, verges in Water End, allotments, a lamp in Park Lane, Longburrow refurbishment and post in Mill Lane.
5. **Planning.** 07298 Householder application for construction of single storey rear extension at 12 Marlow Road, Stokenchurch by Mr & Mrs S. Gledhill. No objection, proposed Cllr Parkinson, seconded Cllr Preece. Cllr Davis abstained (friend of the family).
6. **County and District Councillor presentations.** Cty Cllr Darren Hayday said that he was in touch with the Police about youths causing a nuisance on motorcycles; plans were in hand for surveillance, speed traps etc. Items from the last meeting presented by Cllr Etholen had been passed on and he encouraged Councillors and residents to take part in the consultation about Bledlow Ridge recycling site. Recently a number of oil drums and used engine oil had been dumped in the Parish and appropriate action was being taken; Cllr Hayday asked to be kept informed about action re Mudds Bank. Brown road signs pointing to the Crown ph were permitted.
7. **Finance.** The Bank reconciliation for September and Bills Payable were received. The Chairman advised Members that if they were unable to open documents sent by e-mail, they should contact the clerk immediately for paper copies to be provided. After careful discussion, the Bank reconciliation was approved, proposed Cllr Preece, seconded Cllr Garrett and the Bills Payable also approved, proposed Cllr Watson, seconded Cllr Powis. Cllr Preece abstained re Bills Payable
8. **Correspondence.** (1) An e-mail was received from Mr Martin Elliott, administrator at the Medical Centre, who was unable to attend tonight's meeting. Members noted the work, which he proposed to the hedge and fence between the allotments and Medical centre and his advice, that plot holders were welcome to lop overhanging and too tall branches. Cllr Thomas hoped that we could come to an arrangement to have level hedging on both sides.(2) A request for notices advertising the Primary School's Christmas Fair was agreed (3) A resident by Raven Road had asked about removal of trees, which are blocking the light onto his property; the trees belong to WDC and he was asked to contact the District Council (4) a complaint about a planning issue has already elicited a response from Cllr Saddique (5) a request from Chiltern-Dial-a-ride for a donation was declined as the Parish Council has its own local transport and does not use the Dial-a -ride service (6) BALC has notified all local councils of problems in connection with late acknowledgement of audited

accounts for 2017/18 (7) Speeding by motorcyclists on Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons is causing a nuisance; it is alleged that the fixed location cameras are ineffective, but replacing them with average speed recognition instruments would be too expensive and that the County, District or Parish could not afford to fund them. Cllr Thomas offered to write to local MPs. Members noted that the existing cameras record instances of speeds in excess of 30 mph and this evidence could be used in our representations to MPs. It is also essential to maintain the cameras, fit new batteries and have them recalibrated. Cllr Preece recommended an approach adopted in Lane End and other Parishes, whereby residents living on the main road stuck 30mph stickers on their wheely bins – such stickers should be available from the Road Safety Officer. (8) A request from the Scout group for a Guy Fawkes Bonfire at Studley Green playing field was agreed subject to suitable precautions to fence off the site before the event and clearing up ashes and nails afterwards

9. The Commons. It was reported that some residents in Water End had gravelled over a 25' wide grassed area in front of their properties; photographs will be presented at the next meeting so that councillors can determine appropriate action. Many posts on the Commons are missing or decaying; Cllr Davis suggested replacing them with stronger posts, eg recycled telegraph posts, which should last longer.

10. Other Parish Matters. (1) Anti Social behaviour had been discussed earlier in the meeting, but Members emphasised that all instances should be reported to the Police, not just grumbled about on Facebook; the Police are unaware of the problem unless it is reported. Cllr Baker suggested that a police representative should be invited to a future meeting of the Parish Council, or asked to organize an area-wide public meeting. The clerk was asked to contact PC O'Driscoll (2) re lights on the bridge over the M40, Cllr Preece was asked to contact Bucks Highways (3) re Marlow Road junction, Cllr Davis met with Highways technician marking out the proposed improvements and asked for advance notice of the road closure for bus re-routing, so that local residents can be informed. He was also concerned about marking out outside the CJ Stores, which could lead to parking on the Common, and advised that moving a litter bin might solve the problem. (4) On Litter picking, Cllr Preece offered to organise arrangements for this Saturday, but it may be necessary to postpone if the weather is too wet. Cllr Powis will see if Longburrow Hall is available from 10.00am to 11.30am and organize refreshments, litter-pickers and hi-viz jackets (5) On allotments, Cllr Thomas confirmed that letters had been sent to all plot-holders – 8 receipts confirmed so far, a complaint had been dealt with and he was trying to contact Simon Tickner re hedge cutting. A suggestion had been received about using 2 vacant plots as a 'Community Garden' specifically for residents suffering from depression, disability or feelings of loneliness; two new, younger plot-holders had offered to clear the ground. Councillors commended the idea and agreed that there should be no charge for these plots. (6) Lamp no. 1 in Park Lane (opposite Briarwood) is not working (7) Members agreed that refurbishment of Longburrow Hall should be considered in next year's budget, specifically the outside doors to the Dressing rooms, an outside access to a toilet and new lockers for the players' possessions. (8) Posts in Mill Lane: Cllr Garrett will ask her builder for a quote to install posts; John Lee will also be asked for a quote. Cllr Davis knows of some surplus concrete posts, which would be suitable. (9) The Council's car park at the Kings Hotel is badly pot-holed, 31 pot-holes have been identified, forming a serious trip hazard. John Lee has quoted £1931 + VAT for repair, but it will be necessary to close the car park providing advance notice for customers; Chairman agreed to speak to the manager and seek a contribution to the work. (10) Voluntary work by the Scouts; an offer was received from the local group for any activities the Scouts could help out with, when they meet on Thursday evenings.

There being no further non- confidential business, the meeting closed at 8.40 pm