

PARISH OF STOKENCHURCH

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 21st February 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 Chadwick, Cllr Davis, Cllr Parkinson, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Saunders and 6 members of the public.

1. **Apologies.** Apologies were received from: District Councillor: Cllr Adoh. County Councillors: Cllr Hayday & Cllr Etholen
2. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
3. **Minutes.** It was agreed by all those present at that meeting that the minutes of the Council meeting on 7th February 2018 be approved. Agreed, with one abstention.
 - Clerk read an email from Cllr Jones 'I have decided after much thought to resign, after just over twenty one year's services to the local parish-hamlets. My deliberations have formed the view that cohesion with in the Parish Council does not exist anymore. Any member who fails to understand this should take a look back and reflect. As a last request after just over eighteen months, could the Parish Council get the Studley Green notice board moved, thank you'. The Chairman expressed the councils sorrow for Mr Jones's resignation.
4. **Matters Arising** – Clerk read the response received from the Monitoring Officer at WDC regarding planning application 08418 as discussed at the previous meeting. Following a discussion it was decided to make no comment on the planning application to avoid a conflict of interest with the potential new village trust. Cllr Chadwick reported that the repairs to the grass at Cricket Ground, following the works mentioned at the last meeting, are being damaged by vehicles driving over it and asked if SPC could put some temporary posts to prevent this until the grass has fully recovered. Clerk to follow up. Cllr Preece asked the Clerk for an update on the escalated complaints to WDC. The Clerk informed the council that no further responses had been received as yet.
5. **Reports and Actions** – None.
6. **Notification of Parish Matters (information only) – Parking – Allotments**
7. **Planning – Planning decisions; permissions and refusals.**
 - 05386 - Prior notification application (Part 6, Class A) to construct an agricultural barn to store machinery and equipment - Land Adjacent OS Parcel 8336 The Pitch Beacons Bottom Buckinghamshire - (Tracy Betteridge) No objection, unanimously agreed.
 - 05304 - Proposed non-material amendment to permission for erection of two storey rear extension & new front porch with alterations, creation of new access to front with associated driveway & dropped kerb granted under householder planning ref. 17/06703/FUL - 2 The Cottages Bricks Lane Beacons Bottom Buckinghamshire HP14 3XG - (Mr Mitchell Cracker) This was refused today by WDC.
 - 05284 - Householder application for conversion of garage to habitable room and fenestration alterations to existing conservatory including replacement glazed roof - 9 Coopers Court Road Stokenchurch Buckinghamshire HP14 3QA - Mr & Mrs Saunders) No objection, unanimously agreed.
 - 05266 - Householder application for construction of part two storey, part single storey front, side and rear extension, 2 x rear dormer windows and 2 x roof lights to rear in connection with loft conversion - 3 Wormsley Crescent Stokenchurch Buckinghamshire HP14 3TS - (Mr Darren Todd) No objection, unanimously agreed.

- Mudds Bank- The Chairman informed the council that there is a new mobile home at Mudds Bank Stud Farm. She had spoken to the owners of the mobile home who said they are speaking with WDC about making a planning application. Cllr Preece thought that WDC may have issues validating this application as previous permissions on this site are showing on adjoining land in error. Cllr Chadwick also referred to a previous application for Mudds Bank Stud Farm 05627 in March 2017. It was Condition 5 of permission that the 2.5m solid gates were removed within three months and replaced by a 5 bar gate as per approved plans. This has not happened and indeed when the gates were removed to allow the mobile home (without permission) to be delivered to site three weeks ago, they were re-instated which would suggest the owners have no intention of complying with the conditions. It was agreed the Parish Council request that WDC now properly enforce against these gates. Clerk to follow up. Cllr Preece asked Cllr Saddique for his opinion about the two complaints sent to WDC regarding the polytunnel and abandoned caravan at Berry Farm. Cllr Saddique explained he had spoken to David Johncock about the complaint. The Chairman asked the Clerk to contact Olivia Stapleford (Environmental Officer) to enquire an update about the enforcement for the rubble at Berry Farm. Cllr Preece referred to the two new applications for Berry Farm 05141 for poly tunnels and 05179 for the Construction of an agricultural building for keeping animals including construction of an access drive and vehicle parking, he asked Cllr Saddique that if WDC are minded to approve them, could he call them into committee. Cllr Saddique confirmed he would. Cllr Saddique explained that both District Councillors are putting pressure on Mr Johncock with regards to all applications at Mudds Bank and would be meeting with him this week.

8. District and County Councillors: Cllr Saddique informed the council that there had been no decisions made yet on the unitary council and the district councillors are planning to contribute a portion of their budgets to Stokenchurch Dog Rescue, Stokenchurch Library, Stokenchurch Community Bus and Stokenchurch Youth Club.

9. Finance-

- Bills Payable to the amount of £1816.89, unanimously agreed.

10. Correspondence –

- Clerk showed the councillors a request for a headstone for F29, approval was unanimously agreed.
- Clerk read a letter from the Stokenchurch Juniors' FC requesting permission to replace the existing metal container with a slightly larger one to be positioned next to the Seniors' green one. Approval was unanimously agreed.
- Clerk read a request from the Community Centre Committee at Studley Green asking if the matter of a sign could be discussed at this meeting. The Clerk showed a picture of the proposed sign. The committee have spoken with WDC and they do not require planning permission for the sign, approval was unanimously agreed.
- Website – The Chairman explained that we need to revamp our website as it is out of date compared to other local villages and asked for volunteers to form a committee to discuss improvements. Cllr Chadwick and Cllr Thomas volunteered. The Clerk will send out dates for a meeting.

11. The Commons – Signs – It was reported a number of signs being left out around the village and can we please contact the owners and ask them to bring signs in each evening. Clerk to follow up.

12. Other Parish Matters –

- **Parking** – Cllr Davis reported about the parking problems around the village and in particular Kings Row and asked what we can do about it. Cllr Penny explained that some years ago a letter was written to home owners asking for people not to park on the pavement, maybe we can send letters again. Clerk to chase David Coupe at Bucks CC again to attend a meeting to speak about all concerns around the village.
- **Allotments** – Sign is wobbly, fence is falling down. Clerk will ask the Parish Warden to investigate.
- **Mudds Bank** - A parishioner explained that they had made three complaints to WDC regarding Mudds Bank and not had satisfactory responses to any of them; David Johncock has acknowledged the complaint but no official response had been sent; WDC should be unbiased, but they are not. The parishioner went on to speak about attending other committee meetings at WDC and felt there was maladministration in handling of issues at Mudds Bank by WDC. When people are not complying with the rules and WDC are siding with these people it is not unbiased. The parishioner will be taking their complaint to the Ombudsman and is in contact with David Liddington MP. The parishioner referred to another committee meeting in which the application was changed a few days before the meeting, stating you cannot do this without the application going out for further consultation. The parishioner thinks that Parish Council should consider employing a professional to object on their behalf. Cllr Preece agreed with what the parishioner said supported the idea of having an external expert to advise the Parish Council. The Chairman asked the parishioner if they could forward the document to the Clerk so the document can be forwarded to all councillors for information and reference.
- Another parishioner asked if the Parish Council have considered looking at the byelaws in respect of flying drones and went on to describe a near miss with a drone and a helicopter earlier that day in the village. The Chairman explained that we have not had any other complaints about drones in the area and our byelaws were in the scope of the commons.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.30pm.