



Stoke Mandeville Parish Council

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL** meeting held on Tuesday 19th November 2024 at the Community Centre, Eskdale Road.



Present: Cllrs K Shanahan (Chair), D Field, C Jenkins, S Kirve from item 4, L Prestage, G Shrivastava, D Smith, J Theobald, D Willmer, and P Wood.

Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs: S Bowles, R Newcombe, and P Strachan. Absent: n/a

Clerk: A Skeggs Assistant Clerk: P Rayner Public Attendance: Four.

No.	Description	Action
24/132	APOLOGIES Apologies had been received from Cllr Ezra.	
	OPEN FORUM FOR RESIDENTS	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weston Turville PC – Rachel Blackmore, Chair of Weston Turville PC, gave a presentation to support a grant application for a Climate Action Initiative. It would contribute to a £10,000 consultancy fee. A workshop covering insulation / biodiversity / food / waste etc had been arranged for March 2025. The group were seeking funding from neighbouring parishes and the Community Board. Richborough / Manor Oak Homes – A resident raised his concerns over the proposed development. Buckinghamshire Council – Cllr Bowles reminded everyone that the next meeting was on the 28th November at the Jubilee Hall in Bierton for the Proud of Bucks Awards. Cllr Strachan reported that there was no update on the SEALR and the Memorial. Cllr Field asked was there a time limit on removing abandoned cars once the yellow notice has been issued. Cllr Newcombe would make enquiries. 	
24/133	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION a) There were no new declarations of interest. b) There were no new requests for dispensation.	
24/134	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS a) The minutes of the meeting of the 15 th October were unanimously AGREED . b) The action plan was reviewed with completed items being removed.	
24/135	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN a) Cllr Prestage reported that a meeting had been held with the Buckinghamshire Council Neighbourhood Plan team but that nothing had been agreed. There was some confusion on what basis the Examiner had based his findings and the reasons for excluding some policies. Legal advice was being sought along with a meeting with the Buckinghamshire Council Councillors. The Parish Council may then be in a position to rewrite the policies and resubmit to Buckinghamshire Council. b) Cllr Prestage gave a presentation on the consultation being undertaken by Manor Oak Homes / Richborough Estates for 650 dwellings on land South of the Village. The land was not listed as a strategic site and did not appear in the Garden Town masterplan. Previous applications had been refused. Cllr Field suggested that resident Action Group be established with the Parish Council taking the lead. It was proposed by Cllr Shanahan that once the planning application is submitted that the	

Parish Council organise a public meeting. The developers and landowners would be invited to the meeting. This was **AGREED**.

24/136 SMVCA

This item was deferred until a future meeting.

24/137 2025/26 DEVOLVED SERVICES AGREEMENT

The Clerk informed the meeting that Buckinghamshire Council were asking Parish Councils to confirm if they wished to continue with the devolved services arrangements for 2025/26. There was the option to enter into a four-year agreement which would remove the annual renewal process and give certainty when budgeting. After consideration, it was proposed by Cllr Shanahan, seconded by Cllr Smith, that a four-year agreement be entered into. This was unanimously **AGREED**.

Clerk

24/138 2025/26 BUDGET AND PRECEPT

Cllr Kirve presented the draft 2025/26 budget, which had been considered by the Finance and Governance Committee. He highlighted that the burial ground project had been pushed into 2025/26 due to continuing delays. The budgets for grants, the Parish improvement plan and the community events had all been increased. It was proposed by Cllr Kirve, seconded by Cllr Smith that the net expenditure budget of £278,350 be approved. This was unanimously **AGREED**.

Cllr Kirve then proposed a 2% increase in the level of precept, which equated to £4,185. A number of Councillors asked was the increase necessary considering the level of reserves that the Council had. The 2% increase was **AGREED**, subject to the impact of the tax base figures which would be received in December, giving a precept of £213,575. Cllr Jenkins voted against the increase.

24/139 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee meeting of the 5th November were **NOTED** following an update by Cllr Kirve.

24/140 COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

- a) The minutes of the Communities Committee meeting held on the 12th November were **NOTED**. The minutes had included an item on the Christmas light switch on which Cllr Jenkins spoke on. Following notification that the school would not be holding their Christmas Fayre it was agreed that the Parish Council would organise an event. Cllr Jenkins had organised an event but due to the cost, approval was needed from the Chair of the Communities Committee. Whilst there was an offer for external funding approval was not forthcoming, so the act was cancelled. The following points were raised. The lights switch on should have been discussed at an earlier meeting and the residents are now expecting the Parish Council to put on community events. After consideration it was proposed by Cllr Shanahan, seconded by Cllr Smith, that a budget of £1,000 be set to fund an event. This was **AGREED** with Cllr Wood abstaining.
 - b) Cllr Jenkins reported on the Parish Council Remembrance Day service, which had seen residents performing readings, lighting the lamp, and a local schoolboy laying the wreath. It was considered a good effort with lessons being learnt for future services. Cllr Shanahan thanked Cllr Jenkins, and all the Councillors involved with the event.
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24/141 FINANCE

- a) The list of payments made since the last meeting was **APPROVED**. See appendix 1.
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- b) It was **NOTED** that NALC had agreed the 2024/25 pay award for council staff, effective from the 1st April 2024. It was unanimously **AGREED** to apply the pay award to the staff.
- c) The grant application for the Climate Action Initiative was considered. It was proposed by Cllr Shanahan, seconded by Cllr Shrivastava, that a grant of £1,000 be awarded. This was unanimously **AGREED**.
- d) The grant to WAVUS was deferred until an application had been received.

Clerk

24/142 POINTS OF INTEREST

- EKFB / HS2 – Cllr Smith reported that there would be further road closures around the village and that HS2 would complete their section of the relief road before Buckinghamshire Council.

24/143 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 10th December 2024.

The meeting closed at 9.41 pm.

Signed _____ Dated: 10-December-2024

Action List

Date	Minute	Description	By Whom	Status
16/07/24	24/89	Submit s.106 application for solar panels.	Clerk	To be done
19/11/24	24/135	Organise public meeting – Richborough / MOH.	Clerk	On hold
19/11/24	24/137	Notify BC of devolved services decision.	Clerk	Completed
19/11/24	24/141	Notify Climate Action WT on grant award.	Clerk	Completed

APPENDIX 1 – PAYMENTS

LIST OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 19th NOVEMBER 2024						
RECEIPTS						
Date Received	Received from	Reference	Amount Received			Details
			Gross	VAT	Net	
25/10/2024	Allotment Holders	rent	70.00	-	70.00	Annual Rent Payment
12/11/2024	HS2 via Bates Wells	compensation	413.87	-	413.87	Compensation Payment from HS2 - St Marys
Total Receipts			483.87	-	483.87	
PAYMENTS - From Current Account						
Direct Debits			Gross	VAT	Net	Transaction Detail
16/10/2024	Castle Water	3557533	57.48	-	57.48	Allotments Water 1 to 30 September 2024
24/10/2024	HMRC	384929	2,523.22	-	2,523.22	PAYE & NIC for months April to June
31/10/2024	Onecom	7349294	70.21	11.70	58.51	Office Phone to 30th September 2024
16/11/2024	Castle Water	3859785	57.66	-	57.66	Allotments Water 1 to 31 October 2024
19/11/2024	Drax	1108254374	42.77	7.13	35.64	Street Lighting for October 2024
19/11/2024	Drax	1108254375	484.46	80.74	403.72	Street Lighting for October 2024
19/11/2024	Peoples Pension	october	260.87	-	260.87	Pension Costs October 2024
Standing Orders						
28/11/2024	Rosalyn Haines	november	666.67	-	666.67	Grounds Maintenance for November 2024
			4,163.34	99.57	4,063.77	
Online Transfer - Paid 31 October						
31/10/2024	Windowflowers	64766	577.84	96.31	481.53	Winter / Spring Planting 2024/25
31/10/2024	Royal British Legion	eba20	75.00	-	75.00	Poppy wreath for Remembrance Service
31/10/2024	Clerk	october	1,916.67	-	1,916.67	Salary for October 2024
31/10/2024	Assistant Clerk	october	790.85	-	790.85	Salary for October 2024
			3,360.36	96.31	3,264.05	
Online Transfer - Paid 13 November						
13/11/2024	Tulu Toilet Hire	43430	132.85	22.14	110.71	Portable Toilet for Playing Field - October
13/11/2024	CloudyIT	5499	7.06	1.18	5.88	Email addresses for NPSG members
13/11/2024	CDS	75250	2,460.00	410.00	2,050.00	Civil Engineer
13/11/2024	ENC Ltd	843	2,442.00	407.00	2,035.00	Marsh Lane, Lower Rd, Chestnut Way
13/11/2024	Parish Online	11UB084-0006	360.00	60.00	300.00	Annual Subscription to Digital Mapping
13/11/2024	SLCC	mem246814-1	360.00	-	360.00	SLCC Membership Fee for 2025
13/11/2024	SMVCA	tables	120.00	-	120.00	Purchase of six tables for events
13/11/2024	Ace Shelters	1931	5,517.00	919.50	4,597.50	Bus Shelter near Fremantle Care Home
13/11/2024	Nolan Support Services	213	230.00	-	230.00	Disposal of Bus Shelter and SMVCA Tables
			11,628.91	1,819.82	9,809.09	
From Clerks Debit Card Account						
31/10/2024	JRB Enterprises Ltd	14236	77.88	12.98	64.90	Dog Waste Dispensing Bags
05/11/2024	Buckinghamshire Council	002JTP	193.00	-	193.00	Section 171 Licence for Bus Shelter
			270.88	12.98	257.90	
Total Payments			19,423.49	2,028.68	17,394.81	
This list of payments has been checked by the clerk and verified for payment.					RECONCILED BANK BALANCES AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2024	
					£ 4,622.22	Treasurers Account
					£ 477,741.44	Deposit Account
Signed	<i>A. Skeggs</i>		(Clerk)		£ 500.00	Debit Card Account
					£ 87,088.44	NatWest 95 Day Liquidity Account
Date	14th November 2024				£ 569,952.10	£341,971.26
The above list of payments was approved by the Parish Council at its meeting on 19th November 2024.						
Signed	<i>K Shanahan</i>		(Chair)			
<i>This is an electronic signature - a hard copy with a wet signature is available.</i>						
Date	19th November 2024					