



Stoke Mandeville Parish Council

Minutes of the **PARISH COUNCIL** meeting held on Tuesday 18th
February 2025 at the Community Centre, Eskdale Road.



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

Buckinghamshire Council Cllrs: R Newcombe, and P Strachan.

Absent: n/a

Clerk: A Skeggs

Assistant Clerk: P Rayner

Public Attendance: Four

No.	Description	Action
25/13	APOLOGIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE Apologies had been received from Cllr Willmer.	
	OPEN FORUM FOR RESIDENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none">SEALR – The work on the SEALR had resulted in numerous problems relating to mud on the road, use of traffic lights, use of the road sweeper, damage to grass verges & pavements, and lorries using the school layby as a turning circle. Some issues had been addressed but overall Buckinghamshire Council had not communicated regularly enough with businesses / residents in the area. There were still issues around the use of the road sweeper and traffic lights. Cllr Strachan requested that all problems be reported on FMS and that he should be emailed at the same time. It was suggested that residents contact the Clerk with their concerns and that the Clerk contact Buckinghamshire Council to resurrect the monthly meeting with the SEALR team.	
25/14	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) There were no new declarations of interest.b) There were no requests for dispensation.	
25/15	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The minutes of the meeting of the 21st January were unanimously AGREED.b) The action plan was reviewed with completed items being removed.	
25/16	WAR MEMORIAL / VILLAGE GREEN <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Cllr Theobald gave an update of the meeting with Buckinghamshire Council on the potential to transfer the village green to the Parish Council. The areas of land had been agreed, and this would now be put to the Highways department for consideration.b) The decision to clarify the Parish Council's position on providing a war memorial was deferred to the next meeting.c) The result of the public consultation on using Brudenell Drive as a location for the war memorial had produce a split decision. The preferred location was still the village green.d) As point b was deferred, the question on maintaining the war memorial was not considered.	
25/17	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN Cllr Prestage gave an update of the meeting with Buckinghamshire Council which had focussed on two main issues, the green buffer and the settlement boundary both of which the Examiner had requested be removed from the Neighbourhood Plan. It was	

hoped that Buckinghamshire Council would agree with the Parish Council's reasoning on both points and either request a second examination or ignore the Examiners comments and allow the policies to remain in the Neighbourhood Plan.

25/18 SOLAR PANELS

- a) Cllr Theobald reported that there was insufficient insulation in the roof space and that there was an opportunity to install some when the solar panels were being installed. It was **AGREED** that he should contact the company to see if there was a product available which could achieve this. There was also a need to have an Energy Efficiency survey undertaken.
 - b) It was **NOTED** that work on installing the solar panels would start on the 7th April, with the scaffolding going up the previous week. Cllr Shrivastava reported that no hires had been booked for the two-week period and so SMVCA would lose income.
 - c) Consideration was given to the need to determine the how the billing process would work. It was **AGREED** that a meeting would be arranged to consider the options.
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25/19 COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Communities Committee meeting of the 4th February were **NOTED** following an update by Cllr Field, who also outlines the role of the Committee. The date of the summer event was now Saturday 19th July 2025, from 12 midday to 9 pm. Cllr Jenkins reported of the free Fun and Fitness session held recently for residents. It has been a resounding success with a great turnout and positive feedback. Further classes would be arranged every two weeks. The size of the Park Room was a problem as was finding free space in the Main Hall.

25/20 FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The minutes of the Finance & Governance Committee meeting of the 11th February were **NOTED** following an update by Cllr Kirve. The meeting had reviewed the following documents in readiness for the 2024/25 internal audit:

- 2023/24 Internal Audit Observations.
- Internal Control policy.
- Risk Register.
- Asset Register.

He commented that the Development Plan still needed to be finalised and that the Staff Working Group needed to meet.

25/21 STOKE MANDEVILLE AND OTHER PARISHES CHARITY

The Parish Council confirmed the appointment of Barbara Ezra, Maureen Reeves, and Paul Walter as trustees of the Stoke Mandeville & Other Parishes Charity for a further four years.

25/22 FINANCE

Payments made since the last meeting were **APPROVED**. See appendix 1.

25/23 CLERKS REPORT

The Clerks report was **NOTED**.

25/24 POINTS OF INTEREST

- EKFB – Cllrs Field, Kirve, and Smith had attended the bi-monthly meeting which had reported on the installation of the Wendover viaduct. Cllr Kirve reported that there was money available from the HS2 Community and Environment Fund.
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25/25 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 18th March 2025.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Signed _____ Dated: 18 March 2025

Action List

Date	Minute	Description	By Whom	Status
16/07/24	24/89	Submit s.106 application for solar panels.	Clerk	Completed
19/11/24	24/135	Organise public meeting – Richborough / MOH.	Clerk	On hold
21/01/25	25/05	Contact Bucks Council on land transfer.	Clerk	In Progress
18/02/25	25/18c	Arrange meeting to determine billing process once solar panels have been installed.	Chair	Completed

APPENDIX 1 – Payments

LIST OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 18th FEBRUARY 2025						
RECEIPTS						
Date Received	Received from	Reference	Amount Received			Details
			Gross	VAT	Net	
10/02/2025	Lloyds Bank	february	330.39		330.39	Interest for February
11/02/2025	Nationwide Memorials Ltd	I Williams	100.00		100.00	Memorial stone for Indie Williams
11/02/2025	Dignity Funeral Services	J Raffel	100.00		100.00	Interment of Ashes
18/02/2025	SMVCA	12024	115.00	-	115.00	Disposing of tables
Total Receipts			645.39	-	645.39	
PAYMENTS - From Current Account						
Direct Debits			Gross	VAT	Net	Transaction Detail
17/01/2025	Onecom	7467871	70.21	11.70	58.51	Office Phone to 31 December 2024
15/01/2025	Drax	1108435128	114.58	19.10	95.48	Street Lighting for November & December 24
15/01/2025	Drax	1108376831	1,063.07	177.18	885.89	Street Lighting for November & December 24
19/02/2025	Peoples Partnership	January	278.28	-	278.28	Pension Costs January 2025
Standing Orders						
28/02/2025	Rosalyn Haines	february	666.67	-	666.67	Grounds Maintenance for February 2025
			2,192.81	207.98	1,984.83	
Online Transfer - Paid 31 January 2025						
31/01/2025	Clerk	january	1,937.67	-	1,937.67	Salary for January 2025
31/01/2025	Assistant Clerk	january	823.60	-	823.60	Salary for January 2025
			2,761.27	-	2,761.27	
Online Transfer - Paid 7 February 2025						
15/01/2025	Richard Max & Co	2967	2,322.00	387.00	1,935.00	Professional fees for Neighbourhood Plan
04/02/2025	Katie Mason	242537	100.00	-	100.00	Delivering a Dance Class
31/01/2025	Tulu Toilet Hire	44557	132.85	22.14	110.71	Portable Toilet for Playing Field - January
31/01/2025	Clerk	january	108.36	-	108.36	Underpayment as incorrect hourly rate used
			2,663.21	409.14	2,254.07	
Online Transfer - Paid 18 February 2025						
18/02/2025	Wendover Shed	bughotel-1	200.00	-	200.00	Donation for first two Bug Hotels
10/02/2025	DJ Dan Blaze	4052	100.00	-	100.00	Deposit for VE Day Compere / Disco
18/02/2025	SM & Other Parishes Charity	refund	115.00	-	115.00	Refund of invoice raised in error
18/02/2025	SMVCA	01-2025-SMPC	844.00	-	844.00	Donation for Room Hire by the Parish Council
13/02/2025	Richard Max & Co	2975	1,770.00	295.00	1,475.00	Legal Fees for BCC S&S Club - Dec & Jan
			3,029.00	295.00	2,734.00	
From Clerks Debit Card Account						
15/01/2025	Amazon	PX34UGLI	15.97	2.68	13.29	ID Card Holders
05/02/2025	Flagpole Express Ltd	58939	149.76	24.96	124.80	Flagpole Starter Kit & VE Day Flag
14/02/2025	The Sign Shed	779360	108.00	18.00	90.00	"Please Clean Up After Your Dog" signs
			273.73	45.64	228.09	
Total Payments			10,920.02	957.76	9,962.26	
This list of payments has been checked by the clerk and verified for payment.						
			Bank Balances as at 18 February 2025			
			£ 16,955.98	Treasurers Account		
			£ 377,181.30	Deposit Account		
Signed	A.Skeggs	(Clerk)	£ 500.00	Debit Card Account		
			£ 87,900.94	NatWest 95 Day Liquidity Account		
Date	13th February 2025		£ 482,538.22			
The above list of payments was approved by the Parish Council at its meeting on 20th February 2025.						
Signed	K Shanahan	(Chair)				
This is an electronic signature - a hard copy with a wet signature is available.						
Date	18th February 2025					

Appendix 2 – Clerks Report

Parish Council Meeting – 18th February 2025

Clerks Report (For Information Only)

Below are updates to the Council on issues that are ongoing where no decision or minimal expenditure is required. The purpose of this update is to keep Councillors and the public up to date on various issues and to save time at the meeting.

Streetlights / Lighting –

- The two lights in Orchard Close are now working. Thank you to the resident for letting me know.

Community Centre / Playing Field –

- Tennis Courts Notice / Bench – Someone likes to cut down the notice on the tennis courts fence and someone has tried to undo the bolts securing the bench.

Parking Review –

- The installation of the scheme is scheduled for the 5th and 6th March.

Environmental Issues – Calls from Residents

- Right of Way – A Right of Way close to the Bell public house has been reported as overgrown. The Assistant Clerk has inspected, and the Parish Council will clear.
- Mud of Footpath – Mud was covering the footpath at the old Belmore Centre development. After contacting Buckinghamshire Council / LAT an officer attended to remind the developer of their obligations.

Environmental Issues –

- Abandoned Vehicles – All vehicles have now gone from the Goat Centre layby and the vehicle in Brudenell Drive now has a Notice placed on it by Buckinghamshire Council.

Allotments –

- Nothing to report.

Burials

- A burial will take place on Saturday 22nd February at 2pm.

Other -

- Coffee – A new enterprise called Coffee Capers will be operating out of the Eskdale Road playing field providing coffee and refreshments at the weekends and holidays.
- Display Boards – The Clerk has lent Aston Clinton PC some display boards for their consultation on introducing parking charges in their recreation ground car park.