

**Minutes of the meeting of the COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE held
in the Committee Room at Eskdale Road Community Centre
on Tuesday 11th March 2025 at 7.30pm**

PRESENT: J Theobald, G Shrivastava, C Jenkins.

Clerk: Apologies

Absent: None

Assistant: P Rayner

Residents: none

C25/23	APOLOGIES – Cllr D Field sent his apologies. Cllr G Shrivastava agreed to chair the meeting.	
	OPEN FORUM FOR PARISHIONERS Nothing was raised by residents.	
C25/24	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION There were no new requests for dispensation.	
C25/25	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING a) The minutes of the meeting of the Communities Committee held on the 4 th February 2024 were unanimously AGREED as a true record. b) The action plan was reviewed and would be updated accordingly.	
C25/26	BRUDENELL DRIVE A more detailed analysis of the difference between survey responses from Brudenell Drive residents and those in other parts of the village was considered and it was found there was little difference. In all cases just under 50% did not want a war memorial on the green and over 75% did not want a flagpole. Regarding other suggestions of wildflowers, hedges, pond, benches and formal flower beds there was no one things that a majority of respondents wanted. a) It was AGREED that we would definitely not erect a flagpole. b) It was AGREED that we would not pursue proposals for a war memorial while we were working with Buckinghamshire Council to get permission to erect it on the village green although we might revisit this at a future date. c) It was AGREED not to pursue any of the other ideas at this time. d) It was AGREED to post a leaflet with our decision to all residents who received the original survey leaflet.	Assistant Clerk
C25/27	VE DAY 80 Cllr Jenkins gave an update on plans for VE Day 80. Updates since the last report were: <ul style="list-style-type: none">On Monday May 5 Fremantle Care Home will host a public garden party and provide afternoon tea for the visiting public and residents. The parish council is providing entertainment from the Vintage Gramophone DJ and Fremantle is providing the D-Day Dollies a 1940s music act.The parish council has agreed to work with St Mary's Church to put together an exhibition of Stoke Mandeville at War and open the exhibition up to the public from 9am till noon on VE Day on Thursday May 8.The Paralympic Heritage Trust at Stoke Mandeville Stadium are to provide photos/artefacts for the exhibition.It was AGREED to print an A5 flyer and to distribute leaflets week commencing 22-April. We may also use the leafleting opportunity to have a double-sided leaflet with information on SMVCA on the back.The Bull have installed an exterior socket that the Vintage Cinema can use so we will take up the offer to locate the cinema in The Bull car park.	Assistant Clerk

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee thanked Cllr Jenkins for her efforts in organising the event and thanked The Bull for installing the outside socket. 	
C25/28	<p>MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins reported on her visit to Southcourt Family Centre Plus facility where they run a series of ongoing courses and activities to support the health and wellbeing of young people. The manager explained that there is a great need to support young people, not just underprivileged families and that she thought it would be of huge benefit to the community for the parish council to provide support for young people. The courses they run are provided by a Community Interest Company called Empower U. They run a course at Southcourt but would be willing to run a one-off taster session for the parish during the summer holidays at a cost of £698.</p> <p>It was AGREED to ask full council for approval to fund a one off 4 hour workshop in the summer school holidays</p>	Cllr Jenkins
C25/29	<p>SENIORS FITNESS CLASS</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins reported that this was very well attended well received. 6 more sessions have been booked.</p>	
C25/30	<p>SERVICES FOR SENIORS</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins reported that she has started discussions on the possibility of setting up some workshops on healthy aging, probably at the end of June.</p>	Cllr Jenkins
C25/31	<p>FUNDRAISING FOR SMVCA</p> <p>It was AGREED that in principle the parish council should run social events to raise money for the Stoke Mandeville Village Community Association although further discussion is needed on the decision making process to approve and event, funding of events and distribution of profits.</p>	
C25/32	<p>REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES</p> <p>It was AGREED to retrospectively approve the schedule of fees for 2024/25 and to approve that these continue unchanged for the 2015/26 financial year. In future the fees should be reviewed earlier in the year.</p>	
C25/33	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will be Tuesday 1st April 2025.</p>	

The meeting closed at 20:50

Signed _____

Dated: 1st April 2025

Action List

Date	Minute	Description	By Whom	Status
1/10/24	C24/79	Investigate whether the gas station on the roundabout opposite the church could be decorated in the same way as the BT cabinets in Ellen Road. 11-Mar, awaiting response from SGN.	Asst Clerk	In progress
14/1/25	C25/09	Add discussion of Church harvest festival meal in October to a future agenda.	Asst Clerk	
04/02/25	C25/17	Obtain further quotes for toilet block	Cllrs Field/ Theobald	In progress
04/02/25	C25/17	Contact Buckinghamshire Council re planning advice for toilet block		
04/02/25	C25/19	Production of summer event flyer	Cllrs Field/ Shrivastava	In progress
11/03/25	C25/26	Produce a leaflet for Brudenell Drive residents to explain the results of the survey about use of the green.	Asst Clerk	
11/03/25	C25/27	Order leaflets for VE Day 80. Before printing confirm whether the SMVCA want anything on the back.	Asst Clerk	