

SOUTH STOKE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 5th March 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Present: Mr. G. Davis (Clerk)
Mr. M. Devenish (Chairman)
Mrs. J. John

Mr. T. Geake
Mr. R. Hellard (Vice Chair)

Also Present: Cllr Neil Butters, for part of the meeting.

Mrs. Sophie Alexander addressed the council at the start of meeting.

Mrs. Alexander addressed the Council to raise the possibility of a play area for the village. Difficulties in identifying a site were discussed and Mrs. Alexander was asked to do some further research so the matter could be brought to and discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting on 16th April.

- 1. 501 Apologies for Absence** – Mr. T. Haines, Mrs. R. Harvey, Mrs. S. Dustin sent apologies as they were unable to attend due to work and other commitments.
- 2. 502 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting** held on 9th January 2012 – Cllr. Jenny John raised the matter of money budgeted for the website. The chairman identified a number ways that this would be taken forward in the year. The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 3. 503 Minutes of Planning Meeting** held on 20th February 2012 – were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 4. Clerk's Report** – The Clerk presented his report. Each item presented was discussed under the agenda items below.
- 5. Parish Council Matters**
 - 504 Allotments** – The clerk reported that Plot 5A had now been taken by Gerard Coles, and that Plot 7B had been let to Mark Jelbert. This left one plot to let, Plot 8B. The council agreed a sum of £25 for Cllr. Jenny John to get this plot strimmed so that it was in an acceptable state to let.
The council agreed the suggested increase of £10 (to £45 per year) in the rental of the allotments to the Parish Council proposed by Charles Hignett.
 - 505 Road Sweepers duties** – The clerk reported that Charles Hignett had agreed to a charge of £40 in future, from the Parish Council to cover the cost of clearing the 'arisings' from the hedge-cutting on South Stoke Lane.
- 6. General Parish Matters**

Footpaths and Open Spaces

 - 506 Wansdyke Interpretation Board – Funding and Progress Report** – The clerk was asked to submit a planning application for all three boards as the single fee would cover them all, and was authorised to raise a cheque in payment of this fee. The clerk was also asked to send details of the Parish Bank Account to Cllr. Neil Butters in order that monies from B&NES Heritage Services and the Ward Councillors Initiative can be transferred into this account to meet the cost of the planning application and the supply and installation of the single South Stoke Parish Wansdyke Interpretation Board. The clerk was authorised to raise an order for this Interpretation Board once approval of the Ward Councillors Initiative Funds had been received from Cllr. Neil Butters.
 - 507 Footpaths - Breach in Wansdyke** The Clerk reported that John Crowther (Service Manager, Neighbourhood Services B&NES Council) had responded to the letter from the Parish Council stating that they were working to restore and correct the situation in respect of the breach. Nick Croxson of English Heritage had also written to confirm their support for this proposal.
 - 508 Village Green – Further improvements** – It was agreed that the removal of the Forsythia bush would be delayed until later in the year, until after it had flowered. The working party to re-paint the railings will be raised as a matter for organisation at the Annual Parish Meeting. The Chairman will again raise the matter of the blocked gully with B&NES Highways Dept.
 - 509 Request for Reserved / Disabled Parking Space outside Churchyard.** The Parish Council will support this application when it is made.
 - 510 Millennium Wood** – Tom Geake reported the Woodland Trust had now given permission for a seat.
 - 511 Queens Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and Beacons** – Robert Hellard reported that a planning meeting will take place on 9th March and details will appear in the Parish Notes.
- 7. Planning Matters**
 - 512 12/00603/FUL - Court Essington Midford Road Midford Bath** - Erection of replacement loose boxes, fodder store and equipment store (Revised Scheme). The Parish Council has NO OBJECTION.
 - 513 Core Strategy – Local Development Framework – Examination process** – The Hearings in Public have taken place and representations were made by Robert Hellard on behalf of the Parish Council. We await the Inspectors report (March/April). Any "Main Modifications" which the Inspector may consider to be necessary to make the plan sound will need to be the subject of a formal consultation.

- 514 Neighbourhood Planning Protocol** – The CPRE event on 13th February and was attended by the Clerk and Councillors. The next event is in Bristol on Saturday 24th March from 9:30 - 4:30. The Protocol will be subject to Cabinet approval on 14th March 2012 and the document subject to further consultation in March / April. It was reported that Freshford Parish Council had found the process of producing a Neighbourhood plan time consuming and difficult.
- 515 Conservation Area Appraisal** - There is no further progress to report. The clerk has failed to get an update from the Conservation Officer. A question has been tabled for the forthcoming Parish Cluster Group meeting to try to establish the current situation.
- 516 Applications Received**
None
- 517 Planning Decisions by B&NES**
Clearbrook Farm Midford Hill Hinton Charterhouse Bath - 11/04422/FUL - Use of agricultural land as a natural burial ground (revised resubmission). **PERMIT.**
Clearbrook Farm Midford Hill Hinton Charterhouse Bath - 11/04423/AR - Display of a pair of simple name boards on posts at the entrance to the burial ground. **PERMIT.**
White Cottage Midford Road Midford Bath - 11/04843/FUL - Erection of single storey rear extension following removal of existing extension (Resubmission). **PERMIT.**
- 518 Decisions Pending**
Packhorse Farm Old Midford Road Midford Bath BA2 7DQ - 11/04606/FUL - Change of use and conversion of existing redundant barn building to 2no. live-work units to incorporate new principal rider and grooms accommodation, addition of 2 stables to existing 2 mobile stables, to create 4 permanent stables for current DIY Livery Business, erection of stabling for 7 event horses and conversion of existing outdoor turnout area/starvation paddock to an all-weather riding arena. The Parish Council has carefully considered this application and **OBJECTS IN PRINCIPLE** in the strongest terms to the proposals. Now **WITHDRAWN.**
1 Laura Cottages, Combe Hay Lane, Midford, Bath - 12/00216/FUL - Erection of a two storey side extension to house. The Parish Council **OBJECTS IN PRINCIPLE** to these proposals unless conditions relating to the appearance and materials are met.
- 519 Enforcement Update**
Church View Packhorse Lane South Stoke - 11/00614/UNDEV - Excavation to form parking area, rebuilding wall and re-cladding garage. – The enforcement officer has confirmed that the owners have undertaken to rebuild the wall within 6 months, i.e. by 1st August 2012.
- 520 Review of the Planning Process within B&NES** – This ongoing matter was taken up at the Parish Liaison meeting. It is also the subject of an agenda item at the Parish Cluster Group meeting.
- 521 Other Planning Matters to Report** – The Clerk was instructed to ask B&NES Enforcement to examine the Paddock on Tucking Mill Lane in order to investigate the fly-tipping of builders rubble.
- 8. Highway Matters**
- 522 South Stoke area gas mains replacement works** – The works on Packhorse lane are complete and the works along South Stoke lane are being completed without closure.
- 523 Winter Maintenance Pilot Scheme** - Bags of Grit Salt were distributed around the Parish, including to Underhill Cottage Combe Hay Lane and Upper Midford Farm. The spreader has been used on one occasion and it proved to be a very arduous task. Nonetheless it was successful in keeping the centre of South Stoke clear, although its use elsewhere outside of the village is likely to be extremely difficult.
- 524 Road Safety Issues** – It was reported that the Highways Authority are now being much co-operative on the issue of signage for height restrictions in Midford and other issues on the A36.
 It was also reported that there is now a significant allocation of funds to complete the Midford footway through the entire village.
 Cllr. Neil Butters will discuss the issue of the Midford Castle wall with Highway Engineers in the light of the number of collisions.
- 9. B&NES Matters**
- 525 Bath Preservation Trust** – Robert Hellard will attend the next committee meeting and further pursue the issues of planning inconsistencies raised in 520 above. He will also discuss the possible planning issues that might arise from the sale of the Packhorse public house.
- 10. Other Matters to Report**
- 526 Report on Parishes Liaison Meeting 22/2/2012** – The Chairman reported on the issues discussed. These covered NHS Changes, Broadband provision, Localism, Core Strategy, A36/A46 Link Road and management by Development Control of planning applications and issues.
- 527 Chairman's Annual Report and Newsletter** – The Chairman identified the timescale in advance of the Annual Parish Meeting and requested contributions from each councillor, both for the newsletter and the meeting.
- 11. Correspondence Received**
- 528 Consultation on Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Site Allocations Plan** – The various consultation documents were noted but it was agreed that there was no need to respond.

12. Financial Matters

529 RFO Report – Received and Noted.

530 Payments for Approval

The following payments have been made as standing payments or were approved at the previous meeting.

1145	Mr. G. Davis – Expenses; Refreshments for PC meeting	£7.20
1146	SSE Contracting Ltd. Lighting Maintenance Oct –Dec 2011	£76.10
1147	E.ON Electricity Bill dated 03-01-2012	£23.46
1148	Mr. M. Bambury – Road sweeping 1/1 – 28/1/2012	£131.64
1149	Mr. D. Brown – Road sweeping 1/1 – 28/1/2012	£82.32
1150	Mr. G. Davis – Parish Clerk 1/1 – 28/1/2012	£187.03
1151	Hignett Brothers – Rent for Allotments 2011-12	£35.00
1152	Mr. G. Davis – Expenses Postage Stamps	£25.12
1153	E.ON Electricity Bill dated 4-2-2012	£23.46
1154	Mr. M. Bambury – Road sweeping 29/1 – 25/2/2012	£131.84
1155	Mr. D. Brown – Road sweeping 29/1 – 25/2/2012	£82.32
1156	Mr. G. Davis – Parish Clerk 29/1 – 25/2/2012	£186.83

Approvals requested for expenditure before next meeting.

None

13. Dates for Future Meetings

The dates for future meetings were confirmed:-

16th April 2012 – Annual Parish Meeting

14th May 2012 – Annual Parish Council Meeting

Geoff Davis (Clerk)

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