

MINUTES OF STOKE HOLY CROSS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
held at the Pavilion on
Thursday 6th January 2022 at 7.45pm

Present: Cllrs Collins, Jinkerson, Thomas

District Councillor and County Councillor: Vic Thomson

Clerk: Mrs A Rose

The chair informed members of the council and the public that the meeting will be recorded for minute purposes.

Due to the rapid increase of covid cases the Council agreed to convene a short meeting three councillors present to remain safe and reduce the spread of Covid.

1. Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Bussey, Hull, SJ Hull, Iaccarino, Knobbs and Hopper

Apologies for absence were also received from District Cllrs N Legg, G Francis and V Clifford-Jackson.

2. Disclosures of interest:

There were none.

3. The Chairman closed the meeting for Public Comment and Questions:

Report from County Councillor V Thomson

Cllr V Thomson had circulated his report to all councillors prior to the meeting and highlighted the following;

- Reminder to use the 111 number first.
- The flooding hotline number is 0344 800 8013, however if people or property in immediate danger to call 999.
- Please do not touch any dead birds, they could be carrying birdflu, instead please report to Defra helpline 03459 335577.
- Please dispose of garden and recycling waste correctly.
- Please do not use lanterns and balloons to celebrate try to use these suggested alternatives; giant bubbles, flying kites, hanging banners and streamers, drumming.

4. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 25th November 2021:

Cllr Collins signed the minutes of the meeting held on 25th November, which had previously been circulated, as a true record of proceedings; proposed by Cllr Jinkerson, seconded by Cllr Collins and unanimously approved.

5. Finance Report:

5.1.

The Clerk tabled the accounts to 6th January showing an income of £3,142.39 and expenditure of £4,934.57 leaving a balance in the Current Account of £54,561.56 and £134,553.78 in the Reserve Account. The figures were checked for the third quarter bank reconciliation for the period 30th September 2021 to 30th December 2021 with the bank statements and found them to be correct. Cllr Thomas proposed, seconded by Cllr Jinkerson that the accounts be adopted; this was unanimously approved. The following invoices were approved for payment:

PAY TYPE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL AMOUNT	VAT	PAYE
DD	IO	Data protection (AP)	35.00		
BACS	Reserve A/C	Transfer	478.80		
BACS	NEST	Dec Pension (AP)	87.55		
SO	A Rose	Dec Salary (AP)	825.72		
SO	A Rose	Dec WAH Allowance (AP)	13.00		
BACS	HMRC	TAX & NI			144.10
DD	AF Affinity Ltd	Electricity (AP)	116.60	23.32	
DD	AF Affinity Ltd	Electricity (AP)	64.79	3.70	

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CREDIT	AF Affinity Ltd	Electricity (AP)	-57.93	-3.31	
BACS	Spring Clean Commercial	Dec Cleaning	153.83	30.77	
BACS	Elysian Associates	VAT Advice	1950.00	390.00	
BACS	CAN	Silver subscription	50.00		
BACS	AT Coombes Associates Ltd	Tree survey	475.00	95.00	
BACS	A Rose	Expenses (Garden waste bins)	37.93	368.22	
BACS	G Jinkerson	Expenses (Pavilion keys)	17.25	3.45	
		TOTAL £	4,247.54	542.93	144.10

Receipts this month:

DATE	ACCOUNT	RECEIVED FROM	AMOUNT
26/11/21	Barclays	Pre-School Nov rent	520.20
03/12/21	Barclays	Hall Hire (band practice)	15.00
03/12/21	Barclays	Allotment rent plot 9	37.00
03/12/21	Barclays	Electric meter	46.00
14/12/21	Barclays	Hall Hire (band practice)	15.00
17/12/21	Barclays	Pre-School Oct rent	367.20
23/12/21	Barclays	Pre-School Dec rent	300.90
06/01/21	Barclays	NCC (pot hole funding)	1841.09
		TOTAL £	3,142.39

Responsible Finance Officer Report:

DETAILS	CREDIT	DEBIT	TOTAL
CASH BOOK BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD (COMMUNITY ACCOUNT) A	56,353.74		
RECEIPTS THIS MONTH (COMMUNITY ACCOUNT LISTED ABOVE) B	3,142.39		
PAYMENTS THIS MONTH (LISTED ABOVE) C		4,934.57	
CASHBOOK BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD (=A+B-C) COMMUNITY ACCOUNT BALANCE			54,561.56
BUSINESS SAVER ACCOUNT BALANCE (INC INTEREST)			134,553.78

DETAILS	S106	CIL	TOTAL
NEW PAVILION	148,381.73	132,772.31	281,154.04
PLAY EQUIPMENT (if cannot be allocated to Pavilion)	80,878.57		80,878.57
TOTAL			362,032.61

6. Budget and Precept for 2022 / 2023:

After discussion and with reference to the agreed budget it was agreed to increase the precept from £41,851.45 to £49,747.74, resulting in an increase to tax band D from £56.33 to £66.24 for 2022/2023. Proposed by Cllr Jinkerson, seconded by Cllr Collins and unanimously agreed.

7. Planning Applications:

2021/2645: Land North of Stoke Lane, Dunston; The installation and operation of a Battery Energy Storage System to provide standby emergency electricity for National Grid in times of high electricity demand or when renewable energy projects are unable to fulfil demand. This would be for the installation of 130MW of modular battery units with ancillary equipment, including power conversion units, 132kV transformer compound, metering cabinet, switch room, DNO control room and welfare container - We were surprised to see the site that had been selected. We believe that a much more suitable site with equal access to the A140 is to the west of the A140. The site selected is breaking into the countryside in a visible position and this alone is a good enough reason in our opinion to keep all the development regarding Batteries and other proposed electrical equipment all in one area. We know there is concern by some regarding the danger of fire from these battery storage sites but this is not the reason for our recommending REFUSAL which is purely due to the proposed location.

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2021/2646: Tagus Farm, Long Lane, SHC; Demolition of garage and erection of single storey side extension – No concerns.

9. Consultees Reports on Planning Applications:

2021/1645: Wood Barn, Stoke Lane; Change of use and conversion of 2 no. outbuildings to holiday accommodation, including parking – **Approval with conditions.**

2021/2215: Land adjacent to 92 Norwich Road; Erection of single storey dwelling, car port and associated works – **Refusal.**

10. Trees

It was unanimously approved to appoint CK Professional Tree Services to carry out the trees works to Long Lang and Carol Close.

11. Date of the next Meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Thursday 17th February held at the Pavilion.

Their being no other business the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 20:38pm.