

STONEY MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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Unadopted Minutes of the Stoney Middleton Parish Council Meeting

Held on: Monday 1st September 2025

At: The Meeting Room, Rock Mill, The Dale, Stoney Middleton

Present:

Parish Councillors: Colin Hall, Chair (CH) Graham Goldspink (GG) Sue Bettney (SB), Harry Grafton (HG), Richard Brisbin (RB) Carol Duncan, Clerk (CD) Barry Aldridge, RFO (BA)

Minute No		Action
09-25-15277	1. WELCOME & TIME COMMENCED The meeting commenced at 19:00 – (CH) welcomed everyone present	
09-25-15278	2. SPECTATORS IN ATTENDANCE DDDC: Cllr Simon Ripton three members of the public	
09-25-15279	3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Accepted from Parish Councillors Anne Flint and Tim Hill, Cllr Alasdair Sutton (DCC) Cllr Kath Potter (PDNPA) and Cllr O'Brien (DDDC)	
09-25-15280	4. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS Item 16) Affordable Housing, Item 14) Flood Management and part of Item 20) Playing Fields brought forward to item 7) Public Speaking	
09-25-15281	5. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS No Councillors had notified the clerk that they needed to register a declaration in the member's interests' book.	
09-25-15282	6. PUBLIC SPEAKING Bath House – a local person has an interest in this grade 2 listed building that belongs to the village (SMPC). She is concerned about preserving its heritage and protecting the purity of the spring water and wondered about a charity being formed (non-profit) to raise grants and funding for its preservation. This person has an archaeological background and has an interest in finding out whether the site pre-dates Roman times. The Councillors requested that she sends in a plan of her ideas to be discussed further at the October meeting. The plan will be emailed to the Parish clerk	
09-25-15283	Cllr Ripton promoted the Shared Prosperity Fund now available for applications: https://www.local.gov.uk/topics/economic-growth/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-ukspf	

09-25-15284	Item 16) Affordable Housing brought forward: Chatsworth have declined the Housing proposal for Goddard's quarry stating that they wish to use it as a 'biodiversity net gain function' to protect habitat and off-set their own development opportunities elsewhere in the County (CH). DDDC is following up one other site with land owners. Due to disappointment regarding Goddard's Quarry, it was agreed that we go back to Niki Wells at DDDC to seek clarity on the biodiversity net gain function criteria and ask for a meeting with representatives from Chatsworth to better understand their position. Clerk to contact Niki Wells.	Clerk
09-25-15285	Item 14) Flood Management Issues brought forward: Dan Hodgson, Flood Warden, presented a proposal for a Risk Management Application to Derbyshire County Council (DCC), which he is keen to pursue with the support of SMPC. He has held preliminary discussions with Richard Ward (DCC), who has confirmed that match funding will be available if Dan secures a grant — with Severn Trent potentially covering 51% of the total cost. To progress the initiative, Dan has requested a meeting involving the Parish Council, Richard Ward, and himself to explore the proposal in greater detail. As the scheme would extend to the upper areas around Eyam, Dan will also attend Eyam Parish Council's next meeting on 29 September 2025. The Clerk has been asked to notify Eyam Parish Council of Dan's attendance at their next meeting and coordinate a meeting with Richard Ward accordingly. Clerk also to formally ask Richard Ward for the Natural Flood Risk Management Survey done by the Trent Rivers Trust.	Clerk Clerk
09-25-15286	Part of Item 20) Playing Fields brought forward: The clerk has got a quote from a local contractor to fit the metal gate/new posts to improve the field security. However, the current access is not thought to be suitable as it is where part of the new village hall is planning to be built. The gate will need moving about 15 metres further along. The boulders (pop stones) will need to be moved to make the new access (and block the original one). It was also agreed that all the pop stones should be moved from the car park just onto the field to widen the car park and improve access. This will be arranged between the Clerk, Alan (SMILE) and local contractors.	Clerk
09-25-15287	7. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th July 2025 were approved and signed by Cllr Colin Hall (CH) All correspondence was circulated before the meeting.	
09-25-15288	8. AGENDA ITEMS TO BE TAKEN WITH PUBLIC EXCLUDED There were no items which needed to be taken with the public excluded.	

9. FINANCE

(BA) updated the meeting with the monthly payments. Annual budget is on target so far. The monthly allotment water bill needs to be monitored as it has increased, although August's reading was a lot less than July's. The two big Events on the Playing Fields have both paid their invoices.

Payments since last meeting in July

Direct Debit 25/07/2025	Water Plus Allotments Water Supply July		£210.00
Bank Transfer 01/08//2025	Carol Duncan Clerk's salary 01.07.2025 – 31.07.2025 25 hours @ £15.84 Less Tax Office expenses: space, lighting, heating, electricity, broadband and telephone calls; July 2025 Reimbursement of Costs 25 th July - MS365 Monthly Subscription	380.16 -17.80 22.00 1.99	£402.19
Bank Transfer 01/08/2025	Barry Aldridge RFO salary 01.07.2025 – 31.07.2025 5 hours @ £17.29 Reimbursement of Costs 11th July – Fawkes Recycling – Allotments Skip	86.45 340.00	£426.45
Bank Transfer 13/08/2025	Marsh Tree Care Ltd Maintenance & Felling of Trees in Bath House Wood		£700.00
Bank Transfer 13/08/2025	William Brindley Contracted Village Maintenance – July 2025		£955.00
Direct Debit 26/08/2025	Water Plus Allotments Water Supply August		£54.66
Bank Transfer 01/09//2025	Carol Duncan Clerk's salary 01.08.2025 – 31.08.2025 23 hours @ £16.35 Backpay 01.04.2025 – 31.07.2025 97 hours@ £0.51	376.05 49.47	

		Office expenses: space, lighting, heating, electricity, broadband and telephone calls; August 2025	22.00		
		Reimbursement of Costs 22 nd August – Markovitz Barrier Tape 25 th August - MS365 Monthly Subscription	9.65 1.99	£459.16	
	Bank Transfer 01/09/2025	Derwent Valley Roofing Bath House Rood Repairs		£120.00	
	Bank Transfer 01/09/2025	Tideswell Band Well Dressing		£200.00	
09-25-15290	10. ALLOTMENTS The allotment tenancies are due for renewal from 01/10/25 – it was decided, after looking at the rates over the last few years, to raise the annual rent for non-residents of Stoney Middleton for a full plot from £55.00 to £60.00 and for residents from £44.00 to £50.00. Half sized plots will be 50% Of these figures, i.e. £30 and £25 respectively. This adjustment is necessary to offset the increased costs of water usage and skip hire and help ensure that the Allotments remain financially sustainable and this will be reviewed annually. Clerk to write out to all current plot holders to inform them of the new rates and send out new tenancies for 2025/26.				Clerk
09-25-15291	11. WEBSITE (BA) said that the SMPC website is a little dated regarding the photographs and new ones are needed – (SB) has a contact that she will follow up regarding this and get back to the Councillors and (BA) to improve this.				(SB)
09-25-15292	12. CONCESSIONARY FOOTPATH Some remedial work has been done; the ditch across the top of the field next to the path has been dug out to alleviate surface water flooding – Denman Estates paid for this. Clerk to write to Jonathon Blackburn (DCC) to check that all the work on the trough was completed.				Clerk
09-25-15293	13. PSPO CONSULTATION A Public Space Protection Order is currently in place for the following: <i>Item 72 – Stoney Middleton Playing Fields: Dogs to be on leads at all times and no dogs allowed into the enclosed Children's Playground Area.</i> This is up for renewal every 3 years and DDDC had a public consultation process from 07/07/25 – 17/08/25 – to allow members of the public to put their views forward about it. This has now ended and the results will be on their website for the meeting on 11/09/25. https://democracy.derbyshiredales.gov.uk Stoney Middleton Parish Council supports the PSPO currently in place. Clerk to check the signage about this once the PSPO decision has been made.				Clerk
09-25-15294	14. FLOOD MANAGEMENT ISSUES Discussed under Item 6) Public Speaking				
09-25-15294	15. CAVENDISH MILL The FOI request concerning the recent inspection report of the Tailings Dams has now been processed; DCC did not commission this report so it cannot be released to us.				

	The current owners got a report done last October (2024) using the same consultant the previous owners used. This report stated that dam TD4 “remains in a robust and safe condition”. The report also states “the water levels appear to be all within safe operating levels with a satisfactory freeboard”. The consultant recommends the next inspection be carried out this September (2025). A separate report also dated October 2024 covered inspection of TD1/TD2 and TD3. The report concluded that all three lagoons were considered to be in a safe and satisfactory condition. Other recommendations were given in the report conclusion; one was to undertake a further inspection in September 2028.	
09-25-15295	16. AFFORDABLE HOUSING Discussed under Item 6) Public Speaking	
09-25-15296	17. BATH HOUSE & WOODS The Bath House is a grade 2 listed building and it needs to have a professional valuation done to ensure that it is insured for the correct amount. Clerk to get quotes from surveyors with experience in valuing listed buildings and come back to the councillors to decide. Possibly Bagshaw’s and PDNPA surveyor.	Clerk
09-25-15297	18. HIGHWAY ISSUES The Highways sub-committee have had some responses back from residents about their concerns and will arrange a meeting to discuss this and make some plans.	(CH) (GG) (AF)
09-25-15298	19. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE • Dog bins – we now have a contact at DDDC who can help us to get a dog bin installed in the layby either by moving another one or getting a new one put in. Clerk to contact him to progress this issue. • Dog fouling signs – Clerk to get the same ones as DDDC use and put them up • Village noticeboards – local person is starting to renovate them soon • Tree bench at the Nook – this has been beautifully restored thanks to the generosity of a local person and the skills of some willing carpenters – the Parish Council extend their thanks for this as it really does lift the area and can be enjoyed by residents and visitors. Very much appreciated by all the village.	Clerk Clerk
09-25-15299	20. PLAYGROUND, PLAYING FIELD & TENNIS COURT Partly discussed already under Item 6) Public Speaking (gate re-installation) Other items involve Playground equipment maintenance and inspection: Outstanding tasks: • Zip Wire – The report states: The cable wire is loose and needs tightening and the tyre needs refixing 2 meters from the supports. Clerk reported that this equipment needs an annual check in September anyway so it might as well all be done now. Clerk has got a quote from a playground maintenance company for this (Playscape). High Low are also going to quote us for this (they have repaired it before) – quote pending. Clerk to follow up • Metal Climbing Frame – needs repainting - Clerk has a quote from a local contractor who has worked for SMPC before and it is <£500. Councillors agreed to go ahead with the labour costs to paint the frame and we use the paint we have stored. Proposed by (GG) and seconded by (HG). Cost £198 labour. Clerk to inform the person and facilitate the paint being supplied to him.	Clerk Clerk

	• Metal Climbing Frame steps are needing an urgent repair and are sectioned off currently following a recent weekly inspection by the clerk. The same contractor doing the repainting has quoted to replace the steps for £173 which was agreed – proposed by (GG) and seconded by (RB). Clerk to progress this. • Clerk has checked with Clear Insurance about the requirements for maintenance and a weekly inspection is recommended which the clerk is happy to do and document and follow up with any remedial actions required. Clerk has requested to go on the DALC training course for playground inspection on 09/10/25 cost of £155. Agreed; proposed by (HG) and seconded by (SB). Clerk to follow up. • Clerk has a quote for repairing the gate by the concessionary path and installing the playing field gate and two new posts and will follow up with the person to liaise with SMILE and another local contractor re location. £480 inc VAT. Agreed – proposed by (SB) and seconded by (GG). Clerk to contact all persons involved about where the gate and boulders can be located.	Clerk
		Clerk
		Clerk
09-25-15300	21. JACOB'S LADDER Nothing to report	
09-25-15301	22. TREE RISK ASSESSMENT Clerk reported that this was last done 4-5 years ago and therefore needs to be done again. Clerk to contact Peak Park and other organisations that can facilitate this and get quotes. SMPC own trees in Bath Wood Gardens, Playing Fields and at Grove Gardens. Clerk to also follow up with Chris Payne at DDDC.	Clerk
09-25-15302	23. DEFIBRILLATORS Nothing to report	
09-25-15303	24. CORRESPONDENCE NP/DDD/0825/0762 – Janesway, Eaton Fold, Stoney Middleton – no objections	
09-25-15304	25. SMILE Nothing to report	
09-25-15305	26. CLERK'S REPORT All items have already been discussed apart from the stone slab at the Bath House needing a stone mason to repair it – Clerk to follow up.	Clerk
09-25-15306	27. POLICY UPDATES Three are now completed: Media, Data Protection and Standing Orders Others are still being worked upon.	
09-25-15307	28. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION OR ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING No items	
09-25-15308	29. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING Monday October 6th at 7pm	
09-25-15309	30. CLOSE OF MEETING AT: The meeting closed at 21:00	