

STONEY MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Carol Duncan

email: smpc.clerk@outlook.com

Tel: 07354693243

website: www.stonemiddletonparishcouncil.org.uk

Unadopted Minutes of the Stoney Middleton Parish Council Meeting

Held on: Monday 1st December 2025

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

Present:

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

Minute No		Action
12-25-15381	1. WELCOME & TIME COMMENCED The meeting commenced at 19:00 – (CH) welcomed everyone present	
12-25-15382	2. SPECTATORS IN ATTENDANCE DDDC: Cllr Simon Ripton, Cllr O'Brien and two members of the public	
12-25-15383	3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Accepted from Parish Councillors: Tim Hill, Cllr Sutton	
12-25-15384	4. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS Items 17) Affordable Housing, 20) Bath House and Woods, 14) Flood Management issues all brought forward to Item 6) Public Speaking.	
12-25-15385	5. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS Cllr Flint (AF) and Cllr Grafton (HG) notified the clerk that they needed to register a declaration in the member's interests' book. Cllr Flint with regard to Item 21) SMILE and Cllr Grafton with regard to Item 23) Correspondence (Toll Bar Chip Shop)	
12-25-15386	6. PUBLIC SPEAKING (CH) updated the meeting with regards to a recent meeting he had with MP John Whitby which was very positive. MP Whitby is very supportive of the need for affordable housing in the area as well as other issues that are of concern to local residents, and a further meeting will be arranged to which the public will be invited.	Clerk
12-25-15387	Item 17) Affordable Housing brought forward Two sites have been identified, and one declined as previously minuted (Goddards Quarry). The other site is still being considered, and Niki Wells (DDDC) is due to inform SMPC about the outcome of the recent meeting with the landowner – Clerk to follow up and let Niki know that there are open market possibilities with this	

	<p>affordable scheme. Cllr O'Brien pointed out that private landowners will be seeking profit, and they will want open market houses built as well as affordable houses which may conflict with the DDDC Housing policy unless it can be linked to the provision of other amenity benefits such as a community building or a car park. It was agreed that MP Whitby's input to progressing the affordable housing plans is needed which will be followed up. (CH) to contact Niki Wells and MP Whitby.</p>	(CH)
12-25-15388	<p>Item 20) Bath House and Woods brought forward</p> <p>A local person linked to Sheffield University, has sent suggestions to (CH) as requested previously (Minute number 09-25-15282). This would potentially link well into the existing heritage community group (SMHCCG) and the visitor centre. They, with (CH), have visited the Bath House at Congleton to understand how things might work as Congleton have a similar building and garden and have managed to renovate it and provide benefit to the local community and visitors. The aims for Stoney Middleton Bath House and Gardens would be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preservation and Restoration of a grade 2 historical asset • Enhance surroundings for wellbeing • Provide community benefit and education and research opportunities <p>The SMHCCG community interest group needs the support of SMPC (Parish Council) to raise funds for this as SMPC own the building on behalf of the village. The next stage (phase one) would be to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Form the group to raise funds for the Bath House looking into its history and archaeology and apply for appropriate grant/s 2. Look at how it can be made more accessible for public use (small scale) 3. Explore the legal structure of the responsibility and public liability which depends upon the grant-givers and how they fund projects – the asset would remain under the ownership of the Parish Council / village <p>PDNPA can assist with these issues and (CH) to follow this up.</p>	(CH)
12-25-15389	<p>Cavendish Mill – concerns were raised about the security fencing that has been damaged and pushed over, allowing access to the half dismantled dangerous buildings there. Clerk to contact relevant authority to report this (public safety)</p>	Clerk
12-25-15390	<p>Item 14) Flood Management issues brought forward</p> <p>There is a proposal to apply for a large grant for flood risk management for the area and up towards Eyam – Cllr Ripton and Cllr O'Brien are fully supportive of this and will provide assistance where needed. Richard Ward (DCC) will be meeting with flood warden Dan Hodgson on 12/12/25 to look at this with DCC involvement</p>	
12-25-15391	<p>7. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3rd NOVEMBER 2025</p> <p>were approved and signed by Cllr Colin Hall (CH) Chair</p> <p>All correspondence was circulated before the meeting.</p>	

12-25-15392	8. AGENDA ITEMS TO BE TAKEN WITH PUBLIC EXCLUDED There were no items which needed to be taken with the public excluded.																																
12-25-15393	9. FINANCE (BA) the financial situation remains stable, and some further predicted expenses are expected to be met without a problem. <u>Payments since last meeting in September</u> <table><tr><td>Direct Debit 05/11/2025</td><td>HMRC Employee Tax</td><td></td><td>£10.08</td></tr><tr><td>Bank Transfer 24/11/2025</td><td>Hydro International Data, Insight & Analysis Ltd: Timeview Telemetry Renewal</td><td></td><td>£186.00</td></tr><tr><td>Bank Transfer 24/11/2025</td><td>Jonathan V Davies Reinstatement Cost Assessment for Bath House</td><td></td><td>£120.00</td></tr><tr><td>Direct Debit 05/11/2025</td><td>HMRC Employee Tax</td><td></td><td>£5.60</td></tr><tr><td>Bank Transfer 25/11/2025</td><td>Clear Insurance Management Ltd Increase in Insurance following Bath House re-assessment</td><td></td><td>£262.66</td></tr><tr><td>Bank Transfer 30/11//2025</td><td>Carol Duncan Clerk’s salary 01.11.2025 – 30.11.2025 24 hours @ £16.35 Less Tax Office expenses: space, lighting, heating, electricity, broadband and telephone calls; November 2025</td><td>£392.40 -£2.40 £22.00</td><td>£412.20</td></tr><tr><td>Bank Transfer 29/10/2025</td><td>RFO salary 01.10.2025 – 31.10.2025 5 hours @ £17.85 Reimbursement of Costs 15 Oct 25 – Wix (Website Hosting)</td><td>£89.25 £129.60</td><td>£218.85</td></tr></table>				Direct Debit 05/11/2025	HMRC Employee Tax		£10.08	Bank Transfer 24/11/2025	Hydro International Data, Insight & Analysis Ltd: Timeview Telemetry Renewal		£186.00	Bank Transfer 24/11/2025	Jonathan V Davies Reinstatement Cost Assessment for Bath House		£120.00	Direct Debit 05/11/2025	HMRC Employee Tax		£5.60	Bank Transfer 25/11/2025	Clear Insurance Management Ltd Increase in Insurance following Bath House re-assessment		£262.66	Bank Transfer 30/11//2025	Carol Duncan Clerk’s salary 01.11.2025 – 30.11.2025 24 hours @ £16.35 Less Tax Office expenses: space, lighting, heating, electricity, broadband and telephone calls; November 2025	£392.40 -£2.40 £22.00	£412.20	Bank Transfer 29/10/2025	RFO salary 01.10.2025 – 31.10.2025 5 hours @ £17.85 Reimbursement of Costs 15 Oct 25 – Wix (Website Hosting)	£89.25 £129.60	£218.85	
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12-25-15394	10. ALLOTMENTS The water has been switched off for the winter. There are a few outstanding allotment tenancies to be followed up by the Clerk				Clerk																												

12-25-15395	11. WEBSITE <p>The photos are ready to be put on to the website along with the links for Council services such as reporting Highways concerns – (BA) to upload onto website soon.</p> <p>Clerk to write to the photographer to thank him for the photographs.</p>	BA Clerk
12-25-15396	12. CONCESSIONARY FOOTPATH <p>The ditch that was dug to allow water to run off the field above the footpath has overflowed onto the path during recent heavy rains causing flooding and damage. The tenant farmer is aware of this issue. Clerk to write to Dan (flood warden) first of all to see what the next step might be to rectify this.</p>	Clerk
12-25-15397	13. JACOB'S LADDER <p>(CH) has contacted MP Whitby to discuss this at an Extraordinary Meeting to be arranged in the New Year along with other issues.</p>	
12-25-15398	14. FLOOD MANAGEMENT ISSUES <p>Discussed under Item 6) Public Speaking</p>	
12-25-15399	15. TREE RISK ASSESSMENT <p>This includes Bath House Woods, Grove Gardens, Playing Field trees and Concessionary Path. The trees that the Parish Council have responsibility for are due for a check by a qualified Arborist. Clerk has obtained 3 quotes including the quote from PDNPA (around £600) – the other two quotes came in at considerably more, so it was agreed for PDNPA to carry out the tree inspection – proposed by (RB) and seconded by (SB). Clerk to write to PDNPA to ask them to go ahead.</p>	Clerk
12-25-15400	16. DEFIBRILLATORS <p>We have a named person who routinely checks that the two Defibrillators in the village (Alphaweld site and near Moon Inn) are working, but the Parish Council have responsibility for checking that the pads and batteries are renewed so it was agreed that the renewal dates will be routinely noted at each meeting.</p> <p>G5 - opposite The Moon - replace battery 15/10/28; pads recently replaced TBC CR2 - Alphaweld - replace battery 20/05/29; pads 31/05/29</p>	
12-25-15401	17. AFFORDABLE HOUSING <p>Discussed under Item 6) Public Speaking</p>	
12-25-15402	18. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE <p>Litter bin/ dog bin needed in layby - DDDC currently considers the layby to be unregistered and therefore not within their remit for routine bin emptying.</p> <p>Clerk has written to DDDC to request them to either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Move the Litter Bin from the concessionary path near Avenue Close to the Layby (currently serviced by DDDC) (ii) Or move the Dog Waste bin (also currently serviced by DDDC) next to the Community Orchard to the Layby <p>That way there is no additional collection of waste, just a different, and easier, location. DDDC have replied to say that they have passed this on to DCC for their</p>	

	<p>comment and response. The issue seems to be the reluctance of DCC to adopt the land as their own as it is unregistered even though in 2005 DCC wrote to SMPC to say that they had accepted the layby as part of the Highway. DDDC don't service unregistered land. Clerk to follow up with DDDC contact again to see what the official response is and inform the Councillors. Currently we are still waiting for a response from DCC. Cllr Ripton has asked to be involved to progress things.</p> <p>There are a lot of jobs that need doing around the village in terms of repair and maintenance – Clerk to follow up with a contact that may be able to help.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
12-25-15403	<p>19. PLAYGROUND, PLAYING FIELD & TENNIS COURT</p> <p>Playground - Two main items for repair are the Cableway and the Swings. Clerk has a new quote from High-Low to do these tasks and fit two second hand swing seats. This was proposed by (SB) and seconded by (GG). Clerk has the swing seats and will follow up with High-Low to get this done. The metal climbing frame is still waiting for a repair and repaint when the weather improves.</p> <p>Clerk has looked at the online company PSS Live to monitor the playground maintenance and inspections – their contact form is not working. Clerk to keep trying and look at other similar options.</p> <p>Playing Fields – field access issue being resolved.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
12-25-15404	<p>20. BATH HOUSE & WOODS</p> <p>Brought forward to Item 6) Public Speaking</p>	
12-25-15405	<p>21. SMILE</p> <p>The design of the village hall is being looked at to see if PDNPA can accept a different style which would be more affordable to build and within budget – SMPC are supportive of this being explored. Clerk to put this on to the next meeting agenda for discussion (02/02/26) and follow up with PDNPA.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
12-25-15406	<p>22. HIGHWAY ISSUES</p> <p>The Highways subcommittee has met – the discussion concentrated on the main highway issues raised by residents –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Traffic noise · Speed reduction · Turning onto the A623 from The Nook – white lines need to be repainted · Pedestrian crossing at the bottom of High Street & by the Chip Shop · Sign to indicate speed vehicle is travelling <p>Majority of the issues raised could be resolved to tolerable levels if the speed through the village was reduced.</p>	

	<p>Agreed actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Engage with MP John Whitby and DCC Councillor Charlotte Hill · Resurrect Community Speed Watch. Clerk to contact PC Boswell regarding this · Start fund raising for an infrastructure fund to enable the PC to implement initiatives such as village gates · Ask the community to let us know of any incidents that have taken place in the last 12 months involving traffic going through the village <p>Clerk to write and thank individuals who raised issues, detailing our initial plans, and asking if they would get involved with community speed watch and fund raising.</p> <p>Clerk to send a general communication via the email list and Facebook to the community advising of the plans.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
12-25-15407	<p>23. CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>All correspondence circulated ahead of the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No objections re planning application NP/DDD/1125/1113. • Chip Shop 100-year anniversary signage for 12 months (2026) – two signs at either end of the village at the shop's expense, no objections but it would be Highways and Planning that make this decision • Poppies on lampposts for Remembrance; a resident has written in asking why the poppies were not displayed this year – (SB) has the poppies and can hand them over with cable ties to the enquirer if they wish to take up this task which (SB) has done for a long time. SMPC are very grateful if this can be done by the residents who wrote in about it. Clerk to contact them 	Clerk
12-25-15408	<p>24. CHRISTMAS TREE</p> <p>The Christmas tree has been delivered £120. (SB) to be reimbursed. Proposed by (GG) and seconded by (AF).</p>	
12-25-15409	<p>25. INSURANCE</p> <p>Clerk to continue to try to get a better estimate of the bus shelter rebuild costs and then inform Clear Insurance with the right valuations.</p> <p>The Bath House has been valued at substantially more for rebuild costs and the insurance has been increased to reflect this. Proposed by (CH), seconded by (RB).</p>	Clerk
12-25-15410	<p>26. CLERK'S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field security – a chain will be used until the permanent site of a gate can be known • Snow warden scheme – Clerk to complete this – (RB) has volunteered to be the snow warden – then we can get a delivery of grit from DCC arranged • Clerk attending the Council Liaison Forum on December 8th at Matlock which will cover Local Government Reorganisation only – Clerk to feed back • Clerk to arrange all the Parish Council meeting dates for 2026 and book room 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

12-25-15411	27. POLICY UPDATES Four are now completed: Media, Data Protection. Asset Register and Standing Orders and sent to (BA) to be uploaded onto the website. (SB) and (AF) recently did a check on all the assets in the village which has generated a list of repairs and maintenance tasks needed which the Clerk will prioritise and follow up. There are also amendments needed to the asset register to reflect the up-to-date situation. Clerk to seek a reliable contractor to quote for the work needing doing which is quite substantial.	Clerk Clerk
12-25-15412	28. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION OR ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING No items	
12-25-15413	29. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING Monday February 2 nd 2026 at 7pm	
12-25-15414	30. CLOSE OF MEETING AT: The meeting closed at 21:20	