

# STONEY MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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## Unadopted Minutes of the Stoney Middleton Parish Council Meeting

Held on: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Present:

Parish Councillors: Colin Hall (CH) (Chair) Sue Bettney (SB) Tim Hill (TH) Anne Flint (AF) Graham Goldspink (GG) Harry Grafton (HG) Carol Duncan (CD) (Clerk)

Minute No		Action
04-25-15141	<b>1. WELCOME &amp; TIME COMMENCED:</b> The meeting commenced at 18:45 following on from the APCM at 18:30.	
04-25-15142	<b>2. SPECTATORS IN ATTENDANCE</b> PDNPA Cllr K.Potter & four residents (Cllr Potter left after item 7)	
04-25-15143	<b>3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Accepted from Parish Councillor Richard Brisbin and Barry Aldridge (RFO finance officer)	
04-25-15144	<b>4. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS</b> Item 11 (Finance - renewal confirmations) was brought forward ahead of Item 4 (Well Dressing Committee)	
04-25-15145	<b>5. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS</b> No Councillors had notified the clerk that they needed to register a declaration in the member's interests' book	
04-25-15146	<b>6. CORRESPONDENCE</b> All correspondence was circulated before the meeting.	

04-25-15147	<p><b>7. PUBLIC SPEAKING</b></p> <p>Cllr Potter gave an update about the redundancies in PDNPA which she was very upset about and made the point that the National Parks are for the whole nation, not just for residents in Derbyshire, so their funding should be protected. Cllr Potter is looking into the Parishes writing letters of objection to the Government. (CH) pointed out that the PDNP is the most accessible National Park in the UK</p>									
04-25-15148	<p>Well Dressing Committee – represented by Nick Ladd and Mark Jones. The WD Committee are seeking some connection with the Parish Council as they explained that they are both new to the Committee and there have been a few people leaving/retiring from it recently. Their aim is to bring younger people and families into it as this is a lost heritage. In the past, SMPC have funded £200 for the Brass Band but this is not guaranteed. Nick asked if the Parish Council can support the event and promote it (dates; 21/07/25 – 27/07/25). The noticeboard by The Cross can be used to promote activities and events. The WD Committee invited Councillors to their next meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Wesleyan Chapel (GG can attend) – to be emailed to the Village and Councillors. It will go on the May agenda so that it is continued.</p>	Clerk								
04-25-15149	<p>Allotments – a resident attended to express concern that they, and a number of other people living nearby to the allotments, are not happy with the state of them – some plots are untidy with rubbish and unused items left on them making the area look a mess. They want this issue addressing. The resident said that the last skip was not used fully. The issue will go onto the May agenda as the Allotment Committee are attending to discuss changes to the tenancy agreement.</p>	Clerk								
04-25-15150	<p><b>8. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3<sup>rd</sup> MARCH 2025</b> were approved and signed by Cllr Colin Hall (CH)</p>									
04-25-15151	<p><b>9. AGENDA ITEMS TO BE TAKEN WITH PUBLIC EXCLUDED:</b> There were no items which needed to be taken with the public excluded.</p>									
04-25-15152	<p><b>10. FINANCE:</b></p> <p>The Parish Council finished the year with a balance of £2,869 across its current and community accounts and has a projected forecasted income for 2025-26 which exceeds the forecasted expenditure. Due to the higher income and expenditure, the Parish Council accounts will need auditing both internally and externally this year. Once this has been done, they will be made available on the Parish Council website as normal along with detailed Income and Expenditure for 2024-2025</p> <p><b>April 2025 Financial Payments</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Payments since last meeting in March</u></b></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="280 1839 1350 2024"> <tr> <td data-bbox="280 1839 480 1935">Direct Debit 25/03/2025</td> <td data-bbox="488 1839 1043 1935"><b>WaterPlus</b> Allotments Water Supply</td> <td data-bbox="1051 1839 1190 1935"></td> <td data-bbox="1198 1839 1350 1935" style="text-align: right;"><b>£11.46</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="280 1946 480 2024">Direct Debit 25/03/2025</td> <td data-bbox="488 1946 1043 2024"><b>Graham Watkins</b> Allotments Ground Rental</td> <td data-bbox="1051 1946 1190 2024"></td> <td data-bbox="1198 1946 1350 2024" style="text-align: right;"><b>£3.50</b></td> </tr> </table>	Direct Debit 25/03/2025	<b>WaterPlus</b> Allotments Water Supply		<b>£11.46</b>	Direct Debit 25/03/2025	<b>Graham Watkins</b> Allotments Ground Rental		<b>£3.50</b>	
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	Bank Transfer 01/04/2025	<b>Carol Duncan</b> Clerk's salary 01.03.2025 – 31.03.2025 22 hours @ £15.84 Tax deduction (March 2025)  Office expenses: space, lighting, heating, electricity, broadband and telephone calls; March 2025  Reimbursement of Costs 25 <sup>th</sup> March - <b>MS365</b> Monthly Subscription	£348.48  <b>-£70.20</b>  £22.00  £1.99	<b>£302.27</b>	
	Bank Transfer 01/04/2025	<b>Barry Aldridge</b> RFO salary 01.03.2025 – 31.03.2025 5 hours @ £17.29	£86.45	<b>£86.45</b>	
	Bank Transfer 01/04/2025	<b>Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC)</b> 2025-26 Annual Subscription		<b>£523.78</b>	
04-25-15153	<b>11. CONFIRM PARISH COUNCIL RENEWALS OF CONTRACTS &amp; SUBSCRIPTIONS 2025-26</b>  The following planned subscriptions and payments were agreed (proposed by (CH) and seconded by (SB): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Insurance for the Parish Council and its assets</li> <li>• Clerk's Salary / hours (up to 25 hours/month) and office expenses</li> <li>• Responsible Finance Officer (RFO) salary (up to 10 hours/month)</li> <li>• DALC Membership Renewal including Group 1 Training (Clerk to clarify)</li> <li>• Internal Audit – annual</li> <li>• External Audit – one off</li> <li>• Allotments Ground Rental (Graham Watson)</li> <li>• Antivirus Software Renewal – Clerk's laptop</li> <li>• HMRC – Clerk Income Tax (direct debit)</li> <li>• Hopkinson Waste Management – annual skip for allotments</li> <li>• Hydrologic Services – Dale Brook Telemetry Sensor and Credit (texts)</li> <li>• John Naylor – Christmas Tree (National Trust)</li> <li>• Microsoft monthly PC storage for Clerk's laptop</li> <li>• Website domain and Wix hosting renewal for SMPC website</li> <li>• Playsafety Ltd – annual Play Area inspection</li> <li>• Harry White Plant Hire – Gritting services</li> <li>• Village maintenance Contractor – as contracted</li> <li>• WaterPlus – for Allotments (direct debit)</li> </ul>				Clerk
04-25-15154	<b>12. FLOOD MANAGEMENT ISSUES:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are current repairs in progress of the major pipes near Avenue Close and across the road. SMPC have got agreement for DCC to dig on the Denman Estate land, if necessary, to divert surface water from their land, under the A623 via the trough on the main road. Currently, this</li> </ul>				

	<p>water is running down the road and contributes to the flooding of houses on Meadow Close</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Flood Map has now been updated to reflect the correct risk level for parts of Meadow Close and the Industrial Estate which will beneficially affect some local properties</li> <li>• It was noted that Cavendish Mill used to maintain Coombs Dale regarding clearing ditches and reducing flood risks</li> </ul>	
04-25-15155	<p><b>13. CAVENDISH MILL:</b> (GG) gave a detailed update about the Title Deeds effecting the land and Tailings Dams at Cavendish Mill. It is complicated with multiple Freehold and Leasehold Deeds. Ownership of the land/dams can infer liabilities upon the owner or relevant Authority. The relevant Authority has to identify and categorise any contaminated land that and ensure that it is cleaned up. The relevant authority would usually enforce this and then claim the costs back from the owner. Apparently, DCC have received an inspection report of the Tailing Dams and are satisfied with it. Clerk to obtain a copy of this report to establish; 1) <i>What are they inspecting?</i> and 2) <i>Are they going to categorise it?</i> Clerk also to make the EA aware that a resident has seen demolition material being brought onto the site from elsewhere (i.e. not from the local demolition of the Cavendish site). This is not permitted if this is correct.</p>	Clerk
04-25-15156	<p><b>14. AFFORDABLE HOUSING:</b> Cllr O'Brien and Cllr Repton were present and updated the meeting about Housing matters as potential sites have been identified. DDDC have a Housing Enabler and land owners are being consulted. Cllr O'Brien advised Councillors to think what the best plan would be for Stoney Middleton regarding any private housing to be included with the Affordable Housing and to contact Nicky Wells with their ideas.</p>	All Cllrs
04-25-15157	<p><b>15. BATH HOUSE &amp; WOODS</b> (CH) mentioned the historic interest in getting the Bath House in use again and accessible to the public. There is archaeological interest as well as the area could date back to use as far as Roman times or even earlier. Currently both sides of the Bath House are full of stored items mostly belonging to the Well Dressing committee- (GG) will ask for these items to be moved to one side of the building to leave one side free to be worked on to see if appropriate access can be made. (CH) discussed whether a store could be built to house the Well Dressing items. There are minor repairs needing to be done on the roof slates which the Clerk will ask a local roofing contractor to quote for.</p> <p>A decision about the tree felling needs to be made. Two quotes have been received and 2 are pending. Clerk to inform Councillors of quotes when received.</p> <p>The Bath House will be moved to the May Agenda for further discussion.</p>	GG  Clerk  Clerk
04-25-15158	<p><b>16. PLAYGROUND, PLAYING FIELD &amp; TENNIS COURT</b> The basket swing has been fitted back. The annual RoSPA inspection is booked for May. Clerk to inform them about the new piece of equipment (clamber frame). The drystone boundary wall will be left as it is for now as it is complicated to repair it due to the trees from the next field pushing into it.</p>	Clerk
04-25-15159	<p><b>17. PLANNING:</b> Application Number: NP/DDD/1224/1396: The Old Grouse, The Bank.</p>	

	The Councillors felt that the rebuild should be designed to look as close to the original building as possible due to its historic importance as the old village pub and its central position in the village in a conservation area.	
04-25-15160	<b>18. DEFIBRILLATORS:</b> Nothing to report	
04-25-15161	<b>19. HIGHWAY ISSUES:</b> A Village entrance Gateway is an idea that needs further progression – the Clerk showed the Councillors some examples from a Local Council supplier (Glasdon). Clerk to get a quote for the design chosen and report back to the Councillors. Clerk to also look up the Neighbourhood Plan from 2021 (June) regarding this too	Clerk Clerk
04-25-15162	Clerk to contact Highways about where the ‘gates’ can be sited.	Clerk
04-25-15163	<b>20. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Pump reinstallation</b> – carried forward to May Meeting – include in agenda</li> <li>• <b>Jacob’s Ladder</b> – The BOAT signs at the top and bottom of Jacob’s Ladder will now be removed by two of the Councillors (SB) and (TH) – Clerk to inform the Right of Way Team at DCC (Vicky) so they don’t have it on their jobs list</li> </ul>	Clerk Clerk
04-25-15164	<b>21. CLERK’S REPORT:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The repairs to the playing field boundary wall are on hold due to the trees being the cause of the damage – Clerk has two drystone wall volunteers who can be contacted as and when they are needed</li> <li>• Clerk presented Village Gate designs (see item 18)</li> <li>• Dog waste signage – DDDC do not provide signs to encourage dog owners to bag and bin their dog’s poop – Clerk is seeking signage options</li> </ul>	Clerk
04-25-15165	<b>22. BATH HOUSE USES/RENOVATION:</b> This has been discussed under Item 14)	
04-25-15166	<b>23. TREK 26 EVENT ON PLAYING FIELDS:</b> This is taking place on August 8/9 <sup>th</sup> 2025 in aid of the Alzheimer’s Society. Clerk to inform them that they can use the whole of the playing fields and Clerk is also to inform residents about it nearer the time	Clerk
04-25-15167	<b>24. VE/VJ DAY CELEBRATIONS:</b> There are small grants available via SMPC to fund a community event to celebrate the forthcoming May 8 <sup>th</sup> (VE Day) and/or August 15 <sup>th</sup> (VJ Day) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £250 for parish councils</li> </ul> <p>These grants aim to assist with events like street parties, lunches, beacon lightings, fetes, cultural performances, and permanent commemorations. The Town and Parish Council can use the grant to support a single event or a series of events providing the event is clearly linked to VE Day or VJ Day commemorations.</p>	Clerk

	<p><b>Anyone interested to contact the Clerk</b> – this has been advertised on the SMPC and SM Community Group Facebook sites.</p> <p>Clerk to inform Nick Ladd re War Memorial Cleaning (Churchyard) – email received</p>	
04-25-15168	<p><b>25. TRAIL RUNNING EVENT – SATURDAY JUNE 7<sup>TH</sup></b> Clerk to inform the public nearer the time</p>	Clerk
04-25-15169	<p><b>26. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION OR ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING:</b> Nothing to report on this</p>	
04-25-15170	<p><b>27. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING;</b>  <b>Monday 12th MAY 2025 at 7pm</b></p>	
	The meeting closed at 21:15	