

STONEY MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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Unadopted minutes of the Stoney Middleton Parish Council meeting held on 4th December 2023.

Present

Parish Councillors: Colin Hall (CH) (Chair), Martina Hodgson (MH), and Richard Brisbin (RB).
Parish Clerk Anne Flint (AF) and Responsible Finance Officer Barry Aldridge (BA)

Minute No		Action												
	<p>WELCOME The meeting commenced at 18.30.</p>													
12.23-14567	<p>1. SPECTATORS IN ATTENDANCE There were no spectators in attendance.</p>													
12.23-14568	<p>2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Parish Councillor Sue Bettney (SB), PDNPA Councillor Kath Potter, DDDC Councillor Simon Ripton and DDDC Councillor Peter O'Brien.</p>													
12.23-14569	<p>3. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS There was no variation of business</p>													
12.23-14570	<p>4. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS No Councillors had notified the Clerk that they needed to register a declaration of interest in the member's interests' book.</p>													
12.23-14571	<p>5. PUBLIC SPEAKING There were no members of the public at the meeting.</p>													
12.23-14572	<p>6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 6th NOVEMBER 2023. The minutes of the meeting on 6th November 2023 were agreed as a correct record. CH signed the minutes.</p>	CH												
12.23-14573	<p>7. AGENDA ITEMS TO BE TAKEN WITH PUBLIC EXCLUDED There were no items which needed to be taken with the public excluded.</p>													
12.23-14574	<p>8. FINANCE November 2023 Accounts Bank Statements to 15th November 2023</p> <table> <tr> <td>Current account:</td> <td>£</td> <td>£100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Account 1:</td> <td>£</td> <td>£5,013.83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Community Account 2:</td> <td>£</td> <td>£9,163.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td><u>£14,277.50</u></td> </tr> </table>	Current account:	£	£100.00	Community Account 1:	£	£5,013.83	Community Account 2:	£	£9,163.67	Total		<u>£14,277.50</u>	
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Payments since last meeting

Bank Transfer 18/11/2023	High Low Ropes Course Consulting Ltd Replacement of Zip Line to Playground			£420.00
Bank Transfer 18/11/2023	Hydrologic Services Timeview Telemetry SMS Bundle (250 Credits)			£48.00
Bank Transfer 21/11/2023	Will Brindley Village Maintenance August to October 2023			£1279.48
Bank Transfer 02/12/2023	A Flint Clerk's salary 01.11.2023 – 30.11.2023 20 hours @ £15.75 Backpay 01.04.2023 – 31.10.2023 155 hours @ £1.27 Office expenses: space, lighting, heating, electricity, broadband and telephone calls; November 2023	£315.00 £196.85 £22.00		£533.85
Bank Transfer 02/12/2023	B Aldridge RFO salary 01.11.2023 – 30.11.2023 5 hours @ £16.67 Backpay 01.04.2023 – 31.10.2023 45 hours @ £1.00 Reimbursement of Costs 15 th November - Water Plus; Allotments Water Supply	£83.35 £45.00 £30.00		£158.35
Bank Transfer 02/12/2023	Wesleyan Reform Chapel, Stoney Middleton: Hire of Wesleyan Reform Chapel for Parish Council Meetings 2023 February, March, April, May, June, July, September, October, November, December - 10 meetings	£35.00		£350.00

	9. FLOOD ISSUES	
12.23-14575	The Clerk purchased 250 sms credits at the sum of £48.00 for the telemetry alarm system in the brook along the Dale.	
12.23-14576	The Clerk reported that after the flooding on 20 October 2023, the alarm system was reading too high which resulted in sms alerts being sent unnecessarily. The alarm has been reset by the Hydrologic Technician who also cleared a build-up of silt from around the sensor.	
12.23-14577	SMPC Flood Warden, Dan Hodgson has asked if the Parish Council can purchase some sand to fill the 20 empty bags supplied by DDDC. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact DDDC to request sand to fill the bags.	Clerk
	10. ALLOTMENTS/COMMUNITY ORCHARD	
12.23-14578	The Clerk reported that one half plot is still available for rent. The Allotment Management Group (AMG) has asked allotment holders if they know anyone who might be interested in taking it on. If there are no takers the Clerk will advertise it wider.	
12.23-14579	Thanks were expressed to Jane Barton who has stepped down from the AMG. Cathy Knights has taken her place.	
12.23-14580	The Clerk has reported the broken water metre grate to Severn Trent. A site visit revealed the grate was an old design; therefore they are will replace it with new unit which will include the meter, casing and cover.	
12.23-14581	It was agreed for the fencing contractor to replace the rotten gate post when he is replacing the concessionary path fence.	
	11. BATH HOUSE WOOD	
12.23-14582	The Clerk has contacted Felicity Stout from PDNPA regarding the ash trees which are overhanging a neighbouring property. A visit will be made in the next few weeks to access the trees.	
	12. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES	
12.23-14583	Nothing to report.	
	13. GROVE GARDENS	
12.23-14584	Nothing to report.	
	14. PLAYGROUND AND PLAYING FIELDS	
12.23-14585	The zip wire cable has been replaced. It was RESOLVED (proposed RB and seconded MH) to cover the cost of this from Parish Council funds rather than the donation for the playground received from the film company, unless Parish Council funds are depleted before the end of the financial year.	
12.23-14586	MH to discuss the quote received for replacement equipment with SB and report back to the next meeting.	MH
12.23-14587	MH will contact Severn Trent to ask if their workforce community volunteers would be able to remove the old equipment and prepare the ground for new equipment.	MH
12.23-14588	The Clerk to contact Eon and ask how much the electricity charge would be to power the defibrillator.	Clerk
	15. OLD TENNIS COURT	
12.23-14589	Nothing to report.	
	16. VILLAGE PLAN	
12.23-14590	The Clerk has received an update from DDDC regarding the Housing Needs Survey. There were 109 forms submitted in total (51 for Calver, 58 for Stoney Middleton). Of the forms submitted 40 were fully completed (17 for Calver, 23 for Stoney Middleton). These will be analysed to check which households are in	

12.23-14591	housing need and if they meet the local connection criteria. DDDC will also follow up on those which were partially completed. A detailed report will be provided in January 2024. The Clerk to ask DDDC if Councillors can have the opportunity to comment on the final report.	
12.23-14592	17. GRANT FUNDING COMMITTEE MH reported that Grant funding applications for the playground will be submitted in the new year.	
12.23-14593	It was agreed for MH and SB to email local businesses to ask for donations towards the playground project.	
12.23-14594	MH reported that a fantastic number of playground design entries were received from children, which were displayed in the Chapel. Thanks were expressed to all those who took part.	
12.23-14595	The Clerk to email and post on Face book asking if any residents with experience of writing grant funding applications could help with the playground applications.	Clerk
	18. CLERK'S REPORT <i>(Standing Items)</i>	
12.23-14596	(a) Jacob's Ladder Nothing to report.	
12.23-14597	(b) Highways Issues Clerk to add a link to DCC Highways to enable residents to report any highways issues.	
12.23-14598	(c) Village Maintenance The Clerk reported that work has started to replace the stock fence along the concessionary path.	
12.23-14599	(d) Defibrillator The Clerk reported St Johns ambulance are only able to offer virtual defibrillator training sessions at this time and the British Heart Foundation don't offer free sessions. It was agreed virtual sessions wouldn't be suitable.	
12.23-14600	(e) Speed restriction report/petition The next meeting of Councillors from local villages will take place on 12 th December 2023.	
12.23-14601	(f) Community Speed Watch Nothing to report.	
12.23-14602	(g) Parish Councillor Vacancies It was agreed to re-advertise to co-opt new Councillors in the new year.	
12.23-14603	(h) Parish Clerk Vacancy One application has been received. CH will phone the applicant.	CH
12.23-14604	The Clerk to re-advertise the vacancy through DALC, Parish Council email and Facebook.	
12.23-14605	19. NEW ITEM: IDEAS TO INCREASE PARISH COUNCIL FUNDS It was agreed extra funding is required for improvements to the village. Possible ideas for raising funds are to hold a monthly raffle draw, hold a regular car boot sale on the playing field during the spring/summer months.	
12.23-14606	20. NEW ITEM: MAVERICK TRAIL RUNNING EVENT - SATURDAY 1ST JUNE 2024 The company organising the event contacted the Clerk to provide information about the event. The route will go through the meadows, The Nook, across the A623, to Eaton Fold, and then down to Coombsdale.	

12.23-14607	21. NEW ITEM: RESOLUTION TO CONFER POWERS ON THE CHAIRPERSON/CLERK TO ACT ON URGENT MATTERS DURING THE WINTER RECESS It was RESOLVED (proposed RB and seconded MH) to confer powers to the Chairperson and Clerk to act on urgent matters during the winter recess.	
12.23-14608	22. NEW: RESOLUTION TO CONFER POWERS ON THE CLERK/RESPONSIBLE FINANCE OFFICER TO DEAL WITH URGENT FINANCIAL MATTERS DURING THE WINTER RECESS It was RESOLVED (proposed CH and seconded MH) to confer powers to the Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer to deal urgent financial matters during the winter recess.	
12.23-14609	23. CORRESPONDENCE Correspondence received by the Clerk is circulated to Councillors prior the meeting.	
12.23-14610	24. PLANNING APPLICATIONS There were no planning applications.	
12.23-14611	25. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION OR ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING Thanks were expressed to Angie Cottle and Karen Wood for their dedication and commitment during their time as Parish Councillors.	
12.23-14612	The Clerk reported that the village Christmas tree would be delivered on 7th December 2023.	
12.23-14613	The Clerk reported that the Village Maintenance Contract is up for renewal in March 2024. A tender document to go out to contractors will be agreed at the February meeting, and the new contract awarded at the March meeting.	
12.23-14614	26. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be held on 5 th February 2024.	
	The meeting closed at 19.55.	