

STONEY MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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Unadopted Minutes of the Stoney Middleton Parish Council Meeting

Held on: Monday 11th May 2026

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

Present:

Parish Councillors: Anne Flint (AF), Graham Goldspink (GG), Sue Bettney (SB), Carol Duncan, Clerk (CD), Harry Grafton (HG), Richard Brisbin (RB),

Minute No		Action
05-26-15507	1. WELCOME & TIME COMMENCED The meeting commenced at 19:00 – (CD) welcomed everyone present	
05-26-15508	2. SPECTATORS IN ATTENDANCE Cllr Ripton and two members of the public	
05-26-15509	3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Accepted from Cllr Alasdair Sutton, PC Boswell, Cllr Colin Hall, Barry Aldridge RFO	
05-26-15510	4. TO ELECT THE FOLLOWING FOR THE FORTHCOMING PARISH COUNCIL YEAR a) Chair Cllr Colin Hall will continue as the Chair of the Parish Council for 2026/2027 – proposed by (GG) and seconded by (HG) b) Vice Chair None required c) Appointment of Internal Auditor for Financial Year 2026/27 Brian Wood has been appointed to be the auditor for 2026/2027, proposed by (HG), seconded by (RB)	
05-26-15511	5. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS Items 17) Affordable Housing was brought forward to Item 6) Public Speaking.	
05-26-15512	6. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS None received.	

05-26-15513	<p>7. PUBLIC SPEAKING Item 17) Affordable Housing brought forward</p> <p>Cllr Ripton gave a brief update regarding the issue of adding extra amenities (such as a car park) into any new affordable housing scheme and the response from the PDNPA (Peak District Authority) is that this would not be possible to 'add benefits' to any scheme. There is an ongoing dialogue with the landowners of the preferred site in Stoney Middleton, but the Parish Council have not been informed of any progress since the last meeting.</p> <p>Regarding the wider area – Cllr Ripton said that there was a lot of information online about the proposed locations for housing development - Agenda for Local Plan Committee on Wednesday, 13th May, 2026, 6.00 pm - Derbyshire Dales District Council. None in this area.</p> <p>Cllr Ripton said that DDDC are reviewing the use of Glyphosate (weedkiller).</p>	
05-26-15514	<p>8. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 13th April 2026 Minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Bettney (SB)</p>	
05-26-15515	<p>9. TO CONFIRM COUNCILLORS ARE WILLING TO CONTINUE TO ACT AS TRUSTEES FOR THE READING ROOM CHARITY All councillors present confirmed that they were happy to continue to act as trustees for the Reading Room Charity. There will be a short meeting for the Reading Room Charity after the next Parish Council meeting on June 8th 2026.</p>	
05-26-15516	<p>10. TO CONFIRM, WHETHER OR NOT, IT IS APPROPRIATE TO APPOINT ANY COMMITTEES AND ANY SUBSEQUENT SUB-COMMITTEES It was agreed that the Highways Subcommittee will continue and meet when decisions and progress are required with issues relating to the Highways.</p>	
05-26-15517	<p>11. AGENDA ITEMS TO BE TAKEN WITH PUBLIC EXCLUDED There were no items which needed to be taken with the public excluded.</p>	
05-26-15518	<p>12. SMILE Allen Hodgkinson reported that SMILE had had a positive meeting on 30/04/2026 and that there were now 6 committee members so they can now proceed with looking at new plans for the community building which would be within the budget. A timber or wood framed building is being considered, and an architect will be commissioned to draw up plans. PDNPA are aware of this plan and are not objecting to it. A MUGA will also be considered for the tennis court area. A further SMILE meeting is planned for 12/05/2026.</p>	
05-26-15519	<p>13. TREE MANAGEMENT PDNPA have recently completed two tree surveys for SMPC – one for the concessionary path alongside the Highway (not SMPC land) and one at Grove Gardens and the Bath House Woods (SMPC land).</p> <p>Three quotes have been obtained from local tree specialists to cut down the dead trees that have been marked as needing attention in the Bath House Woods. The three quotes were looked at and the one that was the best value has been chosen; proposed by (GG) and seconded by (RB) – Clerk to inform the contractor and also the other two companies who were not successful this time. There is an Ash tree detailed in the Bath House Wood report that is growing off the side of the cliff. It is not clear whose land it's on. GG to investigate further.</p>	Clerk (GG)

	<p>The tree report for the trees along the roadside and on the concessionary path has been shared with DCC via the portal and has case numbers which show as 'in progress'. (SB) requested that we find out who the DCC Tree Inspector is to follow up. Cllr Sutton may be able to help find out who is the person to go to. Clerk to follow up.</p> <p>It was agreed to share the tree report for the trees along the roadside and on the concessionary path with Denman Estate who own the land – Clerk to email their land agent.</p> <p>There is a Tree Inspection course run by DALC on 24/07/2026 which one person can attend (TBC). Clerk to follow up with councillors.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>												
<p>05-26-15520</p>	<p>14. FLOOD MANAGEMENT ISSUES</p> <p>Dale Brook flood gauge:</p> <p>Two quotes have been obtained for the repair and maintenance of the Dale Brook flood gauge which is not working and requires replacement equipment. This is expensive as it needs to be done by qualified hydrological professionals. A third quote has been sought but no appropriate company has been found so the decision is between the two quotes received which are for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A maintenance visit now • An annual maintenance visit 12 months later • Replacement battery • Replacement pressure transducer <p>It was agreed at the meeting on 13/04/2026 that the village does want the Dale Brook flood gauge to be repaired and maintained. The company that is the best value was chosen and the clerk is to contact them to request tat the work is booked in as soon as possible.</p> <p>Proposed by (RB) and seconded by (HG). A budget has been put aside for this.</p> <p>Community Funding bid update:</p> <p>Dan (flood warden) has emailed DCC to say Natural England may be interested in getting involved in natural flood defence works. Natural England are custodians of Eyam Delph so their involvement may boost a grant application. The next date to apply for funding is 02/08/2026</p>	<p>Clerk</p>												
<p>05-26-15521</p>	<p>15. FINANCE</p> <p style="text-align: center;">May 2026 Financial Payments</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Payments since last meeting in April</u></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="197 1518 1433 1977"> <tr> <td data-bbox="197 1518 411 1742"> <p>Direct Debit</p> <p>22/04/2026</p> </td> <td data-bbox="411 1518 1117 1742"> <p>DALC</p> <p>Annual Subscription to DALC for 01/04/26 - 31/03/27</p> <p>Optional Enhanced Training Fee</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1117 1518 1267 1742"> <p>£334.49</p> <p>£210.00</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1267 1518 1433 1742"> <p>£544.49</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="197 1742 411 1865"> <p>Direct Debit</p> <p>29/04/2026</p> </td> <td data-bbox="411 1742 1117 1865"> <p>HMRC</p> <p>Employee Tax</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1117 1742 1267 1865"></td> <td data-bbox="1267 1742 1433 1865"> <p>£17.35</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="197 1865 411 1977"> <p>Direct Debit</p> <p>30/04/2026</p> </td> <td data-bbox="411 1865 1117 1977"> <p>Water Plus</p> <p>Allotments Water Supply</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1117 1865 1267 1977"></td> <td data-bbox="1267 1865 1433 1977"> <p>£54.50</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Direct Debit</p> <p>22/04/2026</p>	<p>DALC</p> <p>Annual Subscription to DALC for 01/04/26 - 31/03/27</p> <p>Optional Enhanced Training Fee</p>	<p>£334.49</p> <p>£210.00</p>	<p>£544.49</p>	<p>Direct Debit</p> <p>29/04/2026</p>	<p>HMRC</p> <p>Employee Tax</p>		<p>£17.35</p>	<p>Direct Debit</p> <p>30/04/2026</p>	<p>Water Plus</p> <p>Allotments Water Supply</p>		<p>£54.50</p>	
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	Bank Transfer 01/05/2026	Carol Duncan Clerk's salary 01.04.2026 – 30.04.2026 25 hours @ £16.62 Tax Office expenses: space, lighting, heating, electricity, broadband and telephone calls; April 2026	£415.50 -£83.20 £22.00	£354.50	
	Bank Transfer 01/05/2026	Barry Aldridge RFO salary 01.04.2026 – 30.04.2026 10 hours @ £17.85		£178.50	
	Bank Transfer 01/05/2026	Will Brindley Contracted Village Grounds Maintenance – April 2026		£437.50	
05-26-15522	16. ASSERTION 10 – GOV.UK Approval was sought to begin the process to change the email addresses and website address to a more secure GOV.UK location to meet the new standards for audit and security. Clerk to progress this now and find a registrar and website host (including website maintenance) and 10 GOV.UK email addresses for all the Parish Councillors, RFO and Clerk (10 emails needed). Proposed by (GG) and seconded by (RB).				Clerk
05-26-15523	17. AFFORDABLE HOUSING Discussed under 6) Public Speaking				
05-26-15524	18. BATH HOUSE WOODS Trees have been discussed under item 13) A member of the public present updated the meeting that some physical groundwork had been done at the Bath House in the form of a trench dug around its edges to relieve the water coming down from the slope. There is green mould on the back wall of the property due to a build-up of damp and water in the ground beneath it. The trench has always been there to provide drainage. The bung on the stream, directing water flow over the plinth, has been left in. Historically, it's only put in during well dressings. This may be adding to water ingress. It was agreed to remove the bung to allow the water level to drop and the ground dry out. Proposed by (SB) and seconded by (GG).				

05-26-15525	<p>19. PLAYGROUND, PLAYING FIELD & TENNIS COURT</p> <p>The annual playground inspection is due soon. The appointed contractor is progressing repairs for the multi- play climbing frame steps and repaint – there is a delay in getting materials needed. The playing field access will be temporarily improved with two short fence posts and a chain across it. Awaiting another contractor to confirm start date for this and the footpath gate work. Clerk to contact this contractor about the concessionary path and wall and try to get a start date.</p>	Clerk
05-26-15526	<p>20. CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>All correspondence has been circulated prior to the meeting.</p>	
05-26-15527	<p>21 DEFIBRILLATORS</p> <p>(SB) to update clerk about the expiry date of recently replaced pads**</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>	
05-26-15528	<p>22. HIGHWAY ISSUES</p> <p>A meeting about Jacob's Ladder is being organised with the Council to follow up regarding the issues previously documented. A cleaning team from DDDC is going to dig out the gullies to redirect the water flow.</p> <p>White Lines – are no longer available to be requested from DCC website and require a TRO. No new white lines can now be requested but the Clerk is requesting the existing white lines to be repainted.</p> <p>No Parking signs at the pinch point on the High Street – it was agreed that a yellow A3 size notice is fixed on the school wall (where existing small one is) to request that cars are not parked below the school wall where there is a pinch point. Clerk and Chair (CH) to liaise with the school about this before proceeding. Wording would be; '<i>No Parking downhill of this sign for X metres, by order of the Parish Council</i>'. X to be clarified. A further yellow A4 sign to be mounted on the wall opposite (with owner's permission) to request '<i>No Parking opposite this sign</i>' (where the pinch point is). Proposed by (SB) and seconded by (AF). Clerk to follow up.</p>	Clerk Clerk / (CH) Clerk
05-26-15529	<p>23. VILLAGE MAINTENANCE:</p> <p>Noticeboards</p> <p>Clerk has got 3 quotes for a new metal notice board to replace two of the wooden ones that are currently out of use. There is a third one that is still useable. The three quotes were examined and price varied from £600 - £900. The one that was chosen is approximately £700 +VAT as it was thought to be the best value for money. Proposed by (GG), seconded by (HG). Clerk to follow up and order the noticeboard and check details with Councillors before ordering. Clerk to let the other two quotes know that they have not been successful.</p> <p>Bath House left side door -</p> <p>A temporary repair is pending to the left side door of the Bath House to comply with insurance and prevent further deterioration. Contractor has been given the go ahead. A resident offered to donate 2 pieces of hard wood for the contractor to use.</p> <p>Concessionary Path – Clerk to check with Dan re repair needed where it is flooding.</p>	Clerk Clerk
05-26-15530	<p>24. CLERK'S REPORT</p> <p>All items have been covered in the meeting apart from Insurance which is due for renewal on 01/06/2026 – Clerk to get quotes from Clear (current insurer) and Zurich for this</p>	Clerk

05-26-15531	25. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION OR ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING Ultra Challenge booking for 2027 accepted – price needs to be confirmed. Linked to inflation. Clerk to follow up	Clerk
05-26-15532	26. CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING Monday June 8th 2026 –at 19:00	
05-26-15533	27. CLOSE OF MEETING AT: The meeting closed at 20:20	