

STONEY MIDDLETON PARISH COUNCIL

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Unadopted Minutes of the Stoney Middleton Parish Council Meeting

Held on: Monday 3rd February 2025

Present:

Parish Councillors: Colin Hall (CH) (Chair) Sue Bettney (SB) Richard Brisbin (RB) Martina Hodgson (MH) Tim Hill (TH) Harry Grafton (HG) Barry Aldridge (BA) (RFO finance officer) Carol Duncan (CD) (Clerk)

Minute No	Item	Minute	Action
02-25-15075	1	WELCOME: (CH) welcomed the new clerk (CD) to the meeting TIME COMMENCED: 7.00pm	
02-25-15076	2	SPECTATORS IN ATTENDANCE: PDNPA Cllr K Potter & DCC Cllr S Hobson (left after item 7)	
02-25-15077	3	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: DDDC Cllr P O'Brien, DDDC Cllr S Ripton, PCSO Boswell	
02-25-15078	4	VARIATION OF BUSINESS: Item 20 was brought forward for discussion.	
02-25-15079	5	DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS: No declaration of interest was made.	
02-25-15080	6	CORRESPONDENCE: All Correspondence was circulated before the meeting.	
02-25-15081	7	PUBLIC SPEAKING: Cllr Potter updated the meeting about the regrettable reduced size of the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) partly due to a lack of funding from central government. PDNPA had already undergone cuts and a restructure two years ago. Cllr Potter said that this represented a 50% cut in the last 10 years, taking into account the rising costs. But demand on services has increased regarding nature conservation, the effect of climate change and people's wellbeing. Next meeting of PDNPA to agree next year's budget is on 21/03/2025.	

02-25-15082		Cllr Hobson had a meeting with DCC Highways Officer Steve Alcock and Cllr Cupit and dialogue with the police regarding antisocial motorbike activity around Jacob's Ladder – all incidents need to be reported to the police using 111 or to the SNT (Safer Neighbourhood Team). Then the rural crime team can respond if it's reported.	
02-25-15083		Village Gate idea – Cllr Hobson confirmed that this would have to be funded through the precept, including installation costs.	
02-25-15084		Devolution – Cllr Hobson confirmed that Derbyshire County Council leader Barry Lewis has put DCC forward to join with other councils to become a Unitary – Government will decide.	
02-25-15085		Recycling Centre at Darley Dale – all vehicles need to be registered to use it and especially any vans.	
02-25-15086		Libraries – new IT system being introduced in February (2025)	
02-25-15087		County Hall – transformation plans are being looked at	
02-25-15088		Avian Flu – no cases currently reported in Derbyshire – all poultry keepers should now be registered with the council.	
02-25-15089		Highways – (CH) felt that there was some optimism for SMPC to engage further with this with the Highways Department to develop an achievable plan going forward. (SB) is interested in the shared areas of road such as with the new development in Ashbourne and asked Cllr Hobson to look into this further. Villages are all facing the same issues with the A623 running through them; Peak Forest, Stoney Middleton, Calver, Baslow and are all seeking traffic-calming solutions.	
02-25-15090	8	MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON: 2 December 2024 were approved and signed by Cllr Colin Hall (CH)	
02-25-15091	9	AGENDA ITEMS TO BE TAKEN WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED: There were no items discussed with the public excluded.	
02-25-15092	10	FINANCE: Budget 2023/2024 (BA) stated that the EOY (end of year) balance was £1,500	

02-25-15093

CPRE membership renewal to be confirmed at the next meeting as it was questioned whether SMPC is benefiting from this membership.

Outstanding monies:

- 1) SMILE’s contribution towards the SMPC Insurance – clerk to write to the treasurer (Alan Hodgkinson)
- 2) Allotment 4B belonging to the Wel Dressing committee – fees also due

(BA) (RFO) reported that some expenditure, mainly on Playground refurbishment and spend, had been discussed, but not properly minuted at previous meetings. It was Resolved, proposed by **(MH)**, seconded by **(RB)**, that the following expenditure was agreed at previous meetings.

Repair to Playground Zip Traveller – High-Low Ropes Course Consulting Ltd; £480.00

New Battery for Defibrillator – Defib Store; £336.00

Grass Seed for Playground – Gardener’s Dream; £16.99

Banners for Playground – Vinyl Banners Printing; £33.84

Paint for Playground Equipment – Andy Hibbert; £290.44

Supply & Lay of Turf at Playground – Malcolm Sowerby £318.00

Christmas Tree Lights – B&Q Limited; £40.99

Supply and Installation of Playground Equipment – Premier Play Solutions; £17,368.80

(SB) checked that the VAT will be claimed back **(BA)** confirmed that it will)

January & February 2025 Financial Payments

Payments since last meeting in December 2024

Bank Transfer 02/01/2025	Paula Wilde Clerk’s salary 01.12.2024 – 31.12.2024 20 hours @ £15.84 Office expenses: space, lighting, heating, electricity, broadband and telephone calls; October 2024 Reimbursement of Costs 25 th December - MS365 Upgrade	£316.80	
		£22.00	
		£1.99	£340.79

		<p>Bank Transfer 02/01/2025</p>	<p>Barry Aldridge RFO salary 01.11.2024 – 30.11.2024 5 hours @ £17.29 01.12.2024 – 31.12.2024 5 hours @ £17.29</p> <p>Reimbursement of Costs 14th October 2024 – Wix – Website Software</p>	<p>£86.45 £86.45</p> <p>£129.60</p>	<p>£302.50</p>	
		<p>Bank Transfer 01/02/2025</p>	<p>Paula Wilde Clerk's salary 01.01.2025 – 15.01.2025 12 hours @ £15.84</p> <p>Office expenses: space, lighting, heating, electricity, broadband and telephone calls; January 2025</p>	<p>£190.08</p> <p>£11.00</p>	<p>£201.08</p>	
		<p>Bank Transfer 01/02/2025</p>	<p>Carol Duncan Clerk's salary 16.01.2025 – 31.01.2025 11 hours @ £15.84</p> <p>Office expenses: space, lighting, heating, electricity, broadband and telephone calls; January 2025</p> <p>Reimbursement of Costs 16th January – Tesco; Mobile Phone 26th January - MS365 Monthly Subscription</p>	<p>£174.24</p> <p>£11.00</p> <p>£24.99 £1.99</p>	<p>£212.12</p>	
		<p>Bank Transfer 01/02/2025</p>	<p>Barry Aldridge RFO salary 01.01.2025 – 31.01.2025 5 hours @ £17.29</p>	<p>£86.45</p>		

02-25-15094		<table border="1" data-bbox="512 192 1374 896"> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 192 727 465"></td> <td data-bbox="727 192 1066 465">Reimbursement of Costs 7th January 2025 – Defib Store – Replacement Defib Pads</td> <td data-bbox="1066 192 1222 465">£114.00</td> <td data-bbox="1222 192 1374 465">£200.45</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 465 727 815">Bank Transfer 01/02/2025</td> <td data-bbox="727 465 1066 815">Sue Bettney Reimbursement of Costs 8th November 2024 – BQ Limited Christmas Tree Lights 27th January 2025 – John Naylor; Village Christmas Tree</td> <td data-bbox="1066 465 1222 815">£40.99 £60.00</td> <td data-bbox="1222 465 1374 815">£100.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="512 815 727 896">Bank Transfer 01/02/2025</td> <td data-bbox="727 815 1066 896">Harry White Village Gritting</td> <td data-bbox="1066 815 1222 896"></td> <td data-bbox="1222 815 1374 896">£246.00</td> </tr> </table> <p data-bbox="512 969 1374 1550">Precept 2025 It was Resolved to increase the precept by 10%. This was proposed by (CH) and ratified by a vote of all Councillors by a majority of 5:1</p> <p data-bbox="512 1167 1374 1550">Looking at the costs, it was discussed that SMPC may need to increase its funds. Possible ideas for raising money:</p> <ul data-bbox="568 1240 1374 1435" style="list-style-type: none"> • Car boot sales on the field – some issues with this arose previously and need further follow up • Renting the field regularly to an interested group e.g. a football club with transportable goals etc • Events on the field – held by outside organisations <p data-bbox="512 1442 1374 1550">Clerk to research some organisations that use fields like this</p>		Reimbursement of Costs 7th January 2025 – Defib Store – Replacement Defib Pads	£114.00	£200.45	Bank Transfer 01/02/2025	Sue Bettney Reimbursement of Costs 8th November 2024 – BQ Limited Christmas Tree Lights 27th January 2025 – John Naylor ; Village Christmas Tree	£40.99 £60.00	£100.99	Bank Transfer 01/02/2025	Harry White Village Gritting		£246.00	
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02-25-15095	11	<p data-bbox="512 1559 1374 2016">FLOOD MANAGEMENT ISSUES: MOORWOOD SOUGH: ownership issue. DCC have asked High Peak Geotechnical to do a survey which has now been submitted and a quote sent in to remove a root dam which is restricting the water flow. SMPC will await a response from DCC regarding this. In the meantime, (SB) reported that Helen Marsden from the Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) has asked the firm involved in selling Cavendish Mill holdings, to see if there are any historic documents that might throw light onto the ownership of Moorwood sough Dan Hodgson (flood warden) to be updated regarding this issue.</p>													

02-25-15096	12	<p>CAVENDISH MILL: On 20 January, (CH and SB) met with Helen Marsden, PDNPA and Toby Jesson, Environment Agency regarding the Tailings dams. They provided assurances that the new owners were aware of their responsibilities in respect of the Tailing dams and that conversations with PDNPA, DCC and the EA were ongoing. Cllr Hobson agreed to find out the name of the DCC officer liaising with the new owners</p>	
02.25-15097	13	<p>AFFORDABLE HOUSING: On 14 January, Cllrs Colin Hall and Sue Bettney met with officers from Derbyshire Dales District Council, the Peak District National Park Authority and a Local Housing Association for a 'walkaround' possible sites for local authority housing. Only one of the sites, suggested via the Parish Council, was mooted as a possible option (Goddard's Quarry). DDDC has confirmed that they are awaiting the planners' formal comments on the sites visited in Stoney Middleton before moving forward. Planners may look for further possible sites.</p>	
02.25-15098	14	<p>BATH HOUSE & WOODS The works on the trees in the Bath House Gardens and Woods are set to commence soon, pending a suitable gap in the weather.</p>	Cllr Brisbin
02.25-15099	15	<p>PLAYGROUND, PLAYING FIELD & TENNIS COURT Cantilever head has been refurbished – letter of thanks to be sent to Sigma 6 for doing the work. (SB) reported a number of sections of wall in need of repair. SMPC are responsible for the wall along the main road but it's unclear who has responsibility for the field boundary wall. This needs investigating. Three quotes will be needed for repairs. Photos to be supplied. (SB) suggested asking Derbyshire Stone Centre at Wirksworth if they would be interested in bringing students to repair the walls The gates along the concessionary path also need replacing. There may be grant funding available for this work.</p>	Clerk Clerk Clerk
02.25-15100	16	<p>HOPE VALLEY TRAVEL PLAN Nothing to report.</p>	
02-25-15101	17	<p>DEFIBRILLATORS The pads for the Alphaweld defib have been replaced (Jan 25)</p>	
02-25-15102	18	<p>HIGHWAY ISSUES: This item was also discussed in item 7 The free Zoom call with Design Midlands was thought to be a good idea to proceed with – Clerk to arrange this</p>	Clerk

02-25-15103	19	<p>VILLAGE MAINTENANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grove Garden (HG) was thanked for jet washing the path • Tree above bus stop opposite Toll Bar – (SB) to chase • Concessionary Path (SB) met with Denman’s Land Agent, together with a local contractor, to ask for the drainage ditch at the top of the field adjacent to the concessionary path to be re-dug to alleviate flooding on the path and A623. The Agent asked for proof that Denman Estates had originally agreed to the path in the 1990s. Clerk to look for it. • PDNPA Ash Dieback – Planned Works – Coombs Dale clerk to send this out on the village email and Facebook • School Minibus /Bus Stop SMPC to write to the Primary School to raise safety concerns about the bus stopping on the road and not in the layby (Mon & Fri) 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
02-25-15104	20	<p>CLERKS REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Hodgson has resigned from the SMPC but she will continue her role as a community member on the playground committee for which all were thankful. Cllr Hodgson was thanked by all the councillors for her work as a parish councillor • There are now two councillor vacancies for SMPC and two applicants: Ann Flint and Graham Goldspink • Both are suitable candidates and were proposed by (SB) as being accepted and all councillors present voted to agree this proposal • SMPC thanked the Hancock Family for providing electricity for the Christmas Tree lights and also for the helpers who put it up and removed it 	
02-25-15105	21	<p>NEW ITEM: BATH HOUSE</p> <p><i>This item is to be rolled over to the next meeting</i></p>	
02-25-15106	22	<p>NEW ITEM: PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE</p> <p>All local businesses can request to have their business advertised on the SMPC website and are encouraged to email the Clerk if they wish to do this</p>	
02-25-15107	23	<p>NEW ITEM: DOG FOULING/DOG BINS</p> <p>There is a problem with people not clearing up after their dog’s mess. Dog poo and filled poo bags are littering the village. DDDC will not provide new bins but we may be able to re-site an existing bin (the one by the chip shop) providing DDDC will empty it. Clerk to ask DDDC about this issue and also ask for some Bag it & Bin it signage. This issue will be given further consideration on March 3rd 2025</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
02-25-15108	24	<p>NEW ITEM: Peak Forest Speeding</p> <p>Peak Forest Parish Council have emailed the clerk asking if we had had any success with traffic calming the road speeds. (SB)</p>	

		suggested that the clerk give them her number to make contact about this	Clerk
02-25-15109	25	CONFIRM DATES OF MEETINGS FROM APRIL 2025 TO MARCH 2026 Clerk (CD) to propose dates and circulate to councillors for approval and then to book the rooms.	Clerk
02-25-15110	26	PARISH COUNCIL – exchange of information/items for next meeting Nothing to report	
02-25-15111	27	CONFIRMATION OF NEXT MEETING 3rd MARCH 2025 at 7pm	
	28	CLOSE OF MEETING AT: 9.15 pm	