

STONESFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES 2019/11

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 13th November 2019
in Stonesfield Village Hall.**

Meeting commenced at 19:30

Members present: Cllr David Brown (Chair), Cllr Claire Walton, Cllr David Baldwin, Jim O'Brien, Cllr Mick Heduan, Cllr Phil McArdell, Cllr Geraldine Lawrence and Simon Powell.

Others present: Cllr Richard Bishop, Karen East (Clerk), Richard Norris
Members of Public: None

Declarations of Interest:

Apologies: Cllr Ian Hudspeth

139. There were no **declarations of pecuniary interest.**

140. Minute Approval: The Minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2019 were approved and signed.

141. Matters Arising from the minutes 10th October 2019

None

142. Public Participation

None

143. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr Richard Bishop – Want parishes and town councils to use the community grants in the district. There is £132,000 unallocated so grants should be requested as soon as possible – match funding.

(The clerk will look at grant application for the SAFER equipment).

WODC has produced an empty property strategy.

A Stonesfield employer (Witney Welding) has got in to trouble with planning as they did not get full planning. The planning committee has refused full planning so the business now has to look for new premises.

Bins at Well Cottage are left out regularly. The clerk will write to the homeowner to ask them to put the bins behind the gate when it is not bin day.

144. Questions arising from the clerks report

Allotments – query over additional allotment space (over Woodstock Road / Farley Lane). The clerk will look in to this.

Permission in the legal documentation to access via Pat Hunts in the initial phases to set the land up. Also, need to check the fence cost between the new houses and the field is being covered by Pat Hunt. The clerk will ask the solicitor to check this.

145. Planning

CALA have officially withdrawn their application to the High Court.

No further applications have been submitted.

146. Finance

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the cheque payments and bank reconciliation as provided in the clerks report.

C No 102179	WODC – grass cut	£545.82	Inv 333293369
C No 102180	LGPS pension	£2018.52	incl back date to Oct
C No 102181	Clerk expenses (incl postage)	£54.36	Oct expenses
C No 102182	Clerk PAYE current	£confidential	PAYE
C No 102183	HMRC / PAYE / NI	£confidential	PAYE
C No 102184	LGPS pension (November)	£tbc	November 19
C No 102185	Tudor Stone	£270.00	011019 GLEBE
C No 102186	Village Hall	£18.40	2553
C No 102187	Clive Parsons PAYE	£confidential	Nov
C No 102188	Clive Parsons expenses	£2.00	bin bags
C No 102189	Scribe additional user	£34.80	Phil read only
C No 102190	Royal British Legion	£50.00	wreath
C No 102191	Roberts Garden Machinery	£631.48	brushcutter – common
C No 102192	Morelock – SAFER	£3500.40	Inv 0000081413
C No 102193	Playing Fields Association	£2,000.00	Grant (Nov 19)

SAFER expenditure was formally approved. Council **RESOLVED** to approve the costs. (Proposed: Simon Powell, Seconded: Phil McArdell)

Brushcutter expenditure and rakes etc. costs for the Common was approved. It was **RESOLVED** to approve these costs. (Proposed: Simon Powell, Seconded: Phil McArdell)

Invoice for the MUGA from the maintenance fund £800 – it was **RESOLVED** to issue payment for this maintenance (Proposed: Simon Powell, Seconded David Baldwin). The clerk will wait for an invoice from the Playing Field Association.

Grant for the Playing Fields Association £470 for the fence, it was **RESOLVED** to pay this grant Proposed: Phil McArdell, Seconded Mick Heduan. The clerk will pay the contractor Geoff Booth directly on receipt of his invoice.

It was **RESOLVED** to pay the grant to the Playing Fields Association with the £2,000 grant. Accounts were checked and there is money in the bank but that has been ring fenced and is not working capital therefore the expenditure was considered justified. (Proposed: Mick Heduan, Seconded Phil McArdell). A cheque was raised.

Precept

The finance committee met (insert text from SPC clerks report) – 15% agreed as an increase to the precept. It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with the advice of the finance committee. Proposed Phil McArdell, Seconded Simon Powell

The clerk will submit paperwork once it is due in January.

147. SAFER

Once the new kit is replaced SAFER will release a guided calendar of dates when the camera will be out.

Cllr M Heduan went to the remembrance service this week and it was noted that traffic respected the service. There is no indication that road closures etc. are required.

Mick Heduan met with Roy Cox from Blenheim estates regarding the transport hub. Extra security has been installed at the hub and a roadway to the warehouse has been created. Blenheim wanted to segregate vans from general public hence why this has been put in place. Event traffic (large vehicles) will use the Bladon entrance, not this hub.

Blenheim will put permanent signs up at the hub.

Cllr M Heduan has confirmed he will be offering advice and guidance to Blenheim Estates regarding the dredging etc. Cllr Heduan was reminded that he is welcome to do this but it must be in a personal capacity and not in a Council capacity.

138. AOB

Cattle on the common. There has been a complaint from someone regarding the cattle on the common. There has only been one complaint but we are investigating. Richard Norris will speak to the person who reported the issue.

Common maintenance is being done (cutting back etc.).

Richard Norris – **Neighborhood plan** needs to be considered. Richard will share documents on this around the council. The council will need to look at grants for this. SUSTO have said they are prepared to lead this objective. Initial housing survey would cost – this would need to be done by an independent contractor.

Rural Payments Agency have still not confirmed in writing about the fence (they took over from Natural England). Consensus is to proceed with the fence anyway. The clerk will nudge Phil Archer to do this.

Village Hall – the clerk asked Cllr Geraldine Lawrence to speak with the booking coordinator for the hall. It is proving very difficult to make contact and receive any response via email or phone. The Village Hall are invited to the January meeting. Stonesfield Slate is being taken over by Paul Bates. It was agreed to present them with a voucher for John Lewis - £100. Proposed: Jim O'Brien and Seconded David Baldwin. David Brown to purchase this and the clerk can reimburse at the next meeting via expenses.

Robbery on Woodstock Road has been reported, also significant increase in van thefts.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11th December 2019 – 7.30pm

Meeting ended at 21:20

Karen East, Clerk to the Parish Council

Email: clerk@stonesfieldpc.uk