

STONE-cum-EBONY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 19th March 2025 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

Present:

Parish Cllrs: Cllrs D Lyward (Chair), R. Beckingham, S. Lowrie, M. Bacon, R Parrock

Borough Cllr:

KCC Cllr: Cllr M Hill

Members of Public: 3

Clerk: A Beach

Minute No		ACTION
631	Apologies & Reasons for Absence Cllr J Shilton – conflicting meeting	
632	Declaration by Members i. Declaration by Members of any interest, Pecuniary or Other than Pecuniary, in accordance with the Council's Code of Conduct. ii. To approve or reject any application put to the meeting by the Chairman in respect of Members' seeking a dispensation under the Localism Act 2011, s.33. iii. Request that Councillors' or any other persons' present declare if they intend to record any of the proceedings using any video or audio recording device or camera.	
633	Confirm and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2025 The minutes were approved and signed by Cllr Lyward	
634	Public Session The meeting was adjourned to allow the Residents of the village to raise any concerns or put questions to the Parish Councillors. The owner of Coldharbour Farm asked the PC whether they were happy with the proposed planning application for the installation of solar panels to two existing farm buildings, it was confirmed that the PC would be supporting the application.	
635	Village Matters <u>Highway Improvement Plan</u> Nothing to report <u>Defibrillator in Ebony</u> Cllr Lyward updated Councillors on the advice provided by the maintenance company. The maintenance company will meet with DL next time they are in the area to discuss the matter.	ALL DL/MB

636	Matters Arising Cricket Club Donation – towards the annual insurance and mowing of the field DL will contact the treasurer to discuss further. Cllrs agreed it could be increased slightly Memorial Bench – Cllr Lowrie confirmed that the family of the late Mr & Mrs Bonsall were happy for the PC to purchase a replacement picnic bench in their memory. Councillors agreed to purchase a multi-coloured bench manufactured from recycled plastic designed with a wheelchair space should be purchased. <i>Post meeting this has been ordered at a cost of £849.60 from Gates Hut Limited</i>	
637	Borough Councillor Update Cllr Shilton was unable to attend the meeting	
638	County Councillor Update The KCC elections will go ahead on 1st May and Cllr Hill will not be standing as he is retiring and this is his last meeting. The budget has been very difficult to balance mainly due to adult social care. There are currently 7 county councils that have declared bankruptcy and unless the Government take over the main items particularly the cost of social care other county councils will suffer in the same way.	
639	Planning The following applications have been received and decided on since the last meeting. PA/2025/0104 – Framptons, Lower Road, Stone – Proposed detached annexe Decision: Agreed – 3 agreed, 1 abstained PA/2025/0197 – Island Cottage, Appledore Road, Stone – Proposed 2 self-build chalet bungalows with associated parking Decision: Agreed – 3 agreed, 1 abstained PA/2025/0280 – Coldharbour Farm, Knock Hill, Stone – Installation of solar PV panels to 2 existing farm buildings Decision: Agreed – 4 agreed, 1 abstained PA/2025/0284 – Stone Baptist Chapel, Appledore Road, Stone – Installation of Waste Treatment Plant & associated pipe-works & pump Decision: Agreed The following applications were decided at this meeting.	

	PA/2025/0328 – Greenacres, Rose Hill, Stone – Proposed ground floor front & rear extensions, first floor extension, changes to roof and dormer windows Decision: Agreed PA/2025/0419 – Stone Farm Annexe, Lower Road, Stone – Listed building consent for the refurbishment of the existing single-storey garage with adjoining living accommodation to create a self-contained cottage. Decision: Agreed PA/2025/0422 – Stone Farm, Lower Road, Stone – Single storey rear extension, following the demolition of the existing rear extension, inc. front porch. Replacement of roof dormers, amendments to existing window apertures and fenestration Decision: Agreed PA/2025/0460 – Stone Farm, Lower Road, Stone – Listed building consent for a single storey rear extension following the demolition of the existing rear extension, inc. front porch. Replacement of roof dormers, amendments to existing window apertures and fenestration, along with internal refurbishment to include the removal of walls, creation of new openings and a proposed chimney. Decision: Agreed Current Appeals The Crown – PC comments submitted (Ongoing) Knock House (Ongoing)	
640	Village Sign Refurbishment Defer until spring 2025.	DL/MB
641	Website Update Nothing to report	RP
642	Village Caretaker Update Following a meeting with Ashford BC, Wittersham PC requested an increase in annual funds, these have not been increased since the scheme commenced. Unfortunately, the application was refused ABC as Aspire say they can do the work for £2,000 less. When investigated, Aspire will not be providing a direct comparison to the work currently provided, therefore an Aspire representative has been going round the area with the Caretaker recently to re-estimate the work. If they still refuse an increase, the scheme will have to cease although funds are available for the next year.	DL
643	Payment Authorisation Chq No. 633 - A Beach – Jan-Feb Salary £342.90 Receipts	

	Deposit Account Interest - £6.24 Current Account Payment from Sth East Power Networks - £25.65 Cheque Cancellation The unpresented cheque number 398 payable to C Bonsall for £250 has been cancelled and the funds returned to the current account.	
644	Finance a. Following the transactions above the current account will have a balance of £11,647.73 and £5,268.98 in the deposit account giving a working capital of £16.916.71 Reconciled to bank statement dated 28th February 2028	
645	Correspondence <u>Previously emailed</u> KALC – Chief Executive Bulletin – January & February Newsletters – Training & Weekly Bulletins – Details on Proposed Devolution – Chair's Networking Online meeting 27th January – Parish Council Code of Conduct training on 10th June at Appledore Village Hall, cost £75 per attendee KALC – Ashford Branch – Agenda for Meeting on Wednesday 29th January at 7pm NALC – Chief Executive Bulletins Kent Police – Ashford BC – Minutes for Planning Meeting on 15th January & 19th February – Agenda for Planning Meeting on 19th March 2025	
646	Date of next meeting 21st May 2025	
647	Items for Information	

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30pm

2025-26 Meeting Dates

July	Wednesday 16 th July
September	Wednesday 17 th September
November	Wednesday 19 th November
January	Wednesday 21 st January 2026
March	Wednesday 18 th March 2026