

MINUTES OF STOKE SUB HAMDON
ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 8TH MAY 2019 IN THE MEMORIAL HALL AT 7.15PM

AM/19/01/a PRESENT:

Members: Mrs Barbara Brooks, Mr Hugh Donovan, Mr Andy Dawe, Mrs Suzanne Nelms, Mr Bill Southcombe and Mr Malcolm Uhlhorn

Others: Mr Mike Hewitson (District Councillor), Mrs Sarah Moore (Clerk), Mr Phil Doland (CEO AgeUK Somerset) and 2 members of the public

AM/19/01/b APOLOGIES:

Mr Neil Bloomfield (County Councillor), Mr Graham Middleton and Mrs Rebecca Merrick

Cllr Brooks declared that the meeting was being recorded and asked the public to state if they did not wish to be recorded or whether anyone else wanted to record the meeting.

AM/19/02 DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF NOMINATED COUNCILLORS

The Clerk passed around the Declarations of Acceptance to all nominated councillors. These were signed and witnessed by the Clerk. The Clerk said that Cllrs Middleton and Merrick had signed their Declarations of Acceptance prior to the meeting and these had been witnessed by the Clerk.

(Cllr Hewitson entered the meeting)

AM/19/03 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN & ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman
Cllr Donovan nominated Cllr Brooks for Chairman.

Proposed: Cllr Donovan Seconded: Cllr Uhlhorn agreed unanimously

Cllr Brooks signed the Acceptance of Office which was witnessed by the Clerk.

AM/19/04 ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN & ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Brooks asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Cllr Uhlhorn nominated Cllr Donovan for Vice Chairman.

Proposed: Cllr Uhlhorn Seconded: Cllr Southcombe agreed unanimously

Cllr Donovan signed the Acceptance of Office which was witnessed by the Clerk.

AM/19/05 CO-OPTION

Cllr Brooks said there was an uncontested election on 2nd May and the 8 existing councillors had been re-elected. The Parish Council need to have 11 members therefore there are 3 vacancies. These positions have been advertised on the noticeboard and in the parish newsletter in accordance with Section 87 of the Local Government Act 1972. Hopefully, the parish council will be in a position to co-opt some new members at the June meeting.

A resident said he was disappointed about the depleted number of members on the parish council. Councillors concurred with this remark.

AM/19/07 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL MEETING:

The Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting had been circulated. They were approved and signed.

Proposed: Cllr Donovan Seconded: Cllr Uhlhorn 3 agreed; 1 abstained

AM/19/08 MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

None declared.

AM/19/09 APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS & WORKING PARTIES:

Planning	Cllrs B Brooks, A Dawe, H Donovan & M Uhlhorn	
Finance	Cllrs H Donovan (Chairman), B Brooks, A Dawe, R Merrick, G Middleton & the Clerk	
Memorial Hall	Cllr B Brooks	
Play Equipment Inspection	Cllr M Uhlhorn	
Sport & Recreation	Cllr R Merrick	
Friends of Ham Hill		
Representative Allotments	Cllr S Nelms	
	North Street	Mr Norman Patch
	Furlands	Cllr A Dawe
	Stonehill	Cllr M Uhlhorn
Environmental	Cllr M Uhlhorn	
HR	Cllrs B Brooks, A Dawe & H Donovan	
Footpath Liaison	Mr Dennis Stevens	
Highways	Whole Council reporting to the Clerk	
S.A.L.C.	The Clerk	
Hamdon Youth Group	Cllr B Brooks	
Hamdon Youth Centre	Cllrs B Brooks and H Donovan	
Hamdon Community Arts Project	Cllrs S Nelms and B Southcombe	

AM/19/10 FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Clerk reported that the accounts and annual governance statement were still with the internal auditor and would bring them to the June Parish Council meeting for approval.

The Clerk gave the Year-End bank reconciliation report as at 31st March 2019

	£
Current Account	184.00
Business Reserve Account	107,816.95
Pavilion Reserve Account	16,842.12
Asset Management Reserve Account	30,982.50
Total	155,825.57
Outstanding Cheques	-195.00
Total as Cash Book	155,630.57

Ring-Fenced Amounts:

	£
Pavilion Reserve Account	16,842.12

Cemetery Project	9,916.47
Asset Management Reserve Account	30,982.50
Bequest – Plants	150.00
Hamdon Youth Centre	40,133.47
Total	98,024.56
Unallocated Money	57,606.01

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Members are reminded that the Council has a duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age), The Environment, Crime and Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights.

STOKE SUB HAMDON PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 8 MAY 2019

I would like to begin by thanking all those who have stood as Parish Councillors during the year, and also our District and County Councillors, Sylvia Seal and Neil Bloomfield, who have ably supported us with technical advice and moral support. I would like to pay tribute to Sylvia Seal, who is stepping down as a District Councillor having served Stoke for 23 years. Her active support and enthusiasm have been invaluable. I would also like to thank our Parish Clerk, Sarah Moore, for all the work she does on our behalf. Over the past twelve months, we have said goodbye to councillor Stephen 'Teach' Waldock who has left due to ill health. We thank him for his enthusiasm and help he has given on behalf of our village. We currently have eight councillors in total, with three vacancies. If you are interested in joining us as a councillor, we would love to hear from you! Please contact our Parish Clerk.

By keeping a firm eye on costs, we have been able to keep just under budget. We have continued to support community facilities as we do every year by providing a total of £15,453 grant money towards operating costs for the Sports & Recreation Trust, the Memorial Hall, Hamdon Youth Group, Hamdon Youth & Family Centre, Stoke Working Men's Club, the British Legion and the May Fayre. We prudently continue to put aside each year £7,200 into long term maintenance Reserves for parish assets, the Recreation Ground Pavilion and the new Youth Centre.

We spent £8,363 on grass cutting and ground maintenance around the village, £3,250 on the maintenance of parish asset and play equipment and £1,750 on rent for the Recreation Ground and allotments for residents' use and enjoyment.

Our three-year long project, the Community Right to Bid purchase of the old Methodist Church in West Street for a new Youth & Family Centre finally came into being with completion at the end of 2018. A loan of £150,000 from the Public Works Loan board funded the £130,000 purchase price, and the balance together with monies previously put aside will fund the refurbishment of the building. A new community charity Hamdon Youth & Family Centre Trust has been set up, run by the youth organization leaders and parish councillors, and now runs the Centre on a day to day basis. The Brownies, Guides and the Youth Group are the initial users and we expect more to join once the building has been fully adapted.

In the areas of planning we ensure that we respond to SSSC consultation documents and we firmly supported the village's need for affordable housing, 2 bedroomed houses and improved infrastructure such as bus services, sewage etc. We firmly believe that we need to make our village's voice heard on key issues.

Finally, I would like to thank all those individuals and organisations in the village who have supported us over the past year, and who have shared ideas with us. Villages are all about people working together. This is a wonderful, caring and vibrant village to live in, and it seems to get better each year!

Barbara Brooks
Chair of Stoke sub Hamdon Parish Council