

Stowe Nine Churches Parish Council

Chairman Cllr S Henley

Clerk – Mrs L Carter

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Held on Monday 11 September 2023 at 8.00pm in the Old School Rooms, Church Stowe

Present: Cllrs S Henley (Chair), A Brodie, S Overton and C Newitt.

Also Present: L Carter (Parish Clerk)

2 Members of the Public

2164. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs D Lane and S Callear

2165. Declarations of interest for items on the agenda.

No Declarations were made

2166. Minutes

Councillors **APPROVED** the minutes of the Council meetings on 22nd May, 18th July and 10th August 2023 for signature.

2167. Matters arising from previous minutes for update only.

None other than those on the agenda.

2168. Unitary Councillors

No Unitary Councillors were present, but Cllr Frost had provided evidence of his continued interest in St Alnoth's Barn.

2169. Planning applications

WND/2023/0117 Old Dairy Farm, Main Street, Upper Stowe, Northamptonshire
Building for agricultural use with vehicular access and hardstanding
(retrospective)(resubmission) - REFUSED.

WND/2023/0200 11, Main Street, Upper Stowe, Northamptonshire, NN7 4SC
Construction of two storey rear extension – No Objection

WNC/2023/5751 51 Manor Cottages Main Street Church Stowe
Convert existing garage to non-self-contained annexe
No Objection, subject to condition regarding non- separate dwelling

WNC/2023/6069 High Gables Main Street Upper Stowe
Installation of Air Source Heat Pump -No Objection

WNC/2023/5251 Hollow Ground North Field Lane Upper Stowe NN7 4SL
General Purpose Agricultural Building
No objection but screening requested to lessen visual impact.

WND/2021/0369 Land at Stowe Hill, - Siting of Caravans – no further information.

Following the latest information from the Enforcement Team, there appears to be no application for St Alnoth's Barn, and the caravan was due to be removed by 12th September.

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2170. Complaint re Planning

The Council has, on a number of occasions, raised its concerns regarding the inconsistencies in the local planning regime particularly in connection with enforcement. Councillors **AGREED** that they wished to raise a formal complaint with West Northamptonshire Council in relation to planning, and asked the Clerk to prepare the complaint and circulate before submission

2171. Highways and Footpaths

Handyman – The Clerk reported on the work that the handyman had completed to date and that she would remind him of the work in preparation for Remembrance Day. 30MPH Limit. The Council had been consulted prior to the legal order being prepared and advertised. The Council's request for an extension west bound in Upper Stowe had been accepted and the Clerk was advised that the work would be completed within the current financial year.

There was a discussion about the Highways contract for grass cutting on the 'gravel path' and Cllr Overton agreed to report the issue on Fix My Street as she had been cutting back the nettles herself.

2172. Statement of accounts/accounts for payment.

i. Councillors **APPROVED** payments to:-

HMRC.	(July - September)	£171.80
Clerks Salary	(July - September)	£686.85
Handyman	(Apr, May, June)	£301.84 (Paid)
Defib Charger Packs (Linda Carter Expenses)		£299.98 (Paid)
TOTAL		£1,460.47

ii. To note the balance of £4,830.73 at 31st August 2023

2172. Community Defibrillators.

Replacement Charger packs and pads, for both defibrillators, had been purchased and installed. Sam Callear was now carrying out the checks on the Upper Stowe Defibrillator, and Sharon Henley had offered to take on the checks in Church Stowe as and when Jo Dickson leaves the village.

The Clerk would be liaising with the Community First Responders Team to arrange another training session.

2173. Historic Memorials

The WI would be arranging a display of knitted poppies along the fencing at the Old School Rooms and the War Memorial in time for Remembrance Day.

Tony Sanderson had been in contact with the RAF Air Defence Radar Museum regarding putting a photograph of the local Radar Memorial into their display. He had offered to check the feasibility so that the Parish Council could then formally request its inclusion. Councillors **AGREED** to submit a formal request once Mr Sanderson confirmed that this was the way forward.

2174. Village Newsletter

The next newsletter would be circulated in September, with the addition of the Church Services.

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2175. West Northamptonshire Council.

Community Governance Review – the Parish Council had an opportunity to take part in the Community Governance review which could consider changes to the parish boundaries or the status of the Parish Council. Councillors **AGREED** to ask if a council could revert to being a parish meeting and, if that were possible, what the process would be.

2176. NCALC.

The NCALC AGM was taking place at Moulton Community Centre on Saturday 7th October at 10.00am, and the Parish Clerk would attend.

2177. CPRE

Councillors were asked to consider if they wish to renew the Council's membership of CPRE (due 1st December - £36.00) which continues to provide updates of its campaigns on behalf of rural communities. **APPROVED**

2178. Website and Email

Parish Councils have been advised that they should have a gov.uk domain name and that Councillor e-mail addresses should be controlled by the council rather than through a commercial provider (e.g. yahoo or gmail).

Parish Online had provided the following quotation:- *'We can apply our Existing Customer discount to make your annual subscription £320 ex vat. That discounted price will stay with your account each year of your subscription. Also, as an existing Hugo Fox customer, we can defer your subscription payment until the next accounting year if that helps.'*

The subscription includes the build, hosting, ongoing maintenance, SSL certificate, support, 20 email mailboxes (through webmail and IMAP) and the cost of the gov.uk domain.'

Councillors **AGREED** to proceed with this quotation.

2179. Complaints

2180. Matters for information and discussion

There had been a fatality on the A5 at the junction near the canal bridge and local residents asked if the Parish Council would endorse a campaign to reduce the speed limit. There had been previous unsuccessful campaigns, but the problem had not changed. National Highways (formerly Highways England) were not convinced of the need.

2181. Future Meeting dates

Final Meeting date for 2023 is Monday 11th December.

Proposed meeting dates for 2024 are 11th March, 20th May (AGM and Annual Parish Meeting), 9th Sept and 9th Dec.

Signed

11th December