

Meeting Date: Tuesday 12th November 2024

Location: The Village Hall, Stibbard

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on the above date and venue.

Present:	Also present:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Bill Aldridge • Cllr Colin Clayton • Cllr Tony Hender • Cllr Steve Mayes • Cllr Brian Taylor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nea Horsford – Clerk • One member of the public

1. Welcome and receive apologies and reasons for absence

Cllr Mike Hankins sent his apologies in advance, Cllr Coomber was absent.

2. To receive declarations of interest and consider any requests for dispensations

None received.

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10th September 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2024, having been circulated, were taken as read, **AGREED**, and **SIGNED** by the chair.

4. Update from District and County Councillors

4.1. Cllr Aquarone's report

No report received.

4.2. Cllr Hankins' report

Available on the website.

5. Public Participation

A resident spoke about the Revised Planning document and noted that Stibbard has now become a small growth village with 13 dwellings to be built over 16 years. They stated that it would be appropriate for the parish council to comment on the document by the 19th December and observed that it would be useful for the parish council to have a strong statutory plan and / or a Neighbourhood Plan.

6. To discuss / respond to correspondence received

6.1. Postal staff speeding in Moor End and Stibbard

It was **AGREED** the clerk would draft a letter of complaint to the Royal Mail sorting office.

6.2. Complaint regarding the dog mess bin in Moor End

The clerk received a phone call from Serco and they had not been informed about the location of the new bin which is why it had not been emptied. The bin will be checked twice a week from now on and emptied regularly.

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7. To discuss any planning applications received or approved since the last meeting

PF/24/1427 The Wain, Bells Lane – Erection of a two-storey extension and the first-floor side extension over the garage – **APPROVED**.

8. Finance

8.1. To note the bank reconciliation

The council **NOTED** the bank reconciliation (made in advance of the meeting).

8.2. To note year to date V budget

The council **NOTED** the year-to-date v budget (made in advance of the meeting).

8.3. To agree the payment list and ratify authorised payments since the last meeting

The council **AGREED** the payments and are available on the website

8.4. To note any income since the last meeting

£9,000 from NNDC for precept 2024/25

8.5. To decide and agree on another bank signatory for Barclays Bank

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Taylor would become another bank signatory and was given the forms.

8.6. To decide and agree on an Internal Control Officer

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Taylor would become the Internal Control Officer with immediate effect.

8.7. To note the local Government cost of living pay award of £0.63ph for 2024/25

The pay award for 2024/25 was **NOTED**.

9. To decide on a date and which councillors will attend the clerk's appraisal.

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Aldridge and Cllr Hender would conduct the clerk's yearly appraisal in December at the village hall.

10. To receive updates on the following:

10.1 Village sign and installation

It was **AGREED** that the sign reveal went very well and had been well received on the day. A brick plinth and a brass plaque will be built next year. It was **AGREED** that the Iron Man brick work should have a steam clean and the clerk should obtain some costings to make the word 'Stibbard' visible. It was **NOTED** that the overgrown vegetation surrounding the Iron Man is due to be trimmed when the contractor arrives on site to trim the trees.

10.2 Playground Fencing

ACTION Clerk to keep chasing

10.3 Speed Gates

Cllr Aldridge and the clerk met with Highways a few weeks ago and they had been very helpful and offered some additions to the speed gates. It was **NOTED** that the clerk was still waiting for the paperwork with costs, so the council could proceed.

10.4 Emails and new website

Most of the councillors are now using their .gov.uk email addresses. When the clerk has time, she will start building the new website.

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11. To receive an update on the Biodiversity Policy and agree and action plan

POSTPONED until January 2025.

12. Agree the following policies

12.1. Equality Policy

AGREED and **SIGNED**

13. To discuss and agree ideas from Cllr Taylor to raise funds for the parish council

Cllr Taylor explained he had been looking at how other parish councils make money for their parish.

However, Stibbard does not have the same assets as some parish councils, but it would be worth reviewing next year.

14. To receive an update on the whole council training on the 16th October 2024.

It was **AGREED** that the whole training council was useful and incredibly informative.

15. To receive an update on the proposed plans for cleaning and the renovation of the War Memorial.

It was **AGREED** the War Memorial and gates looked much better after the steam clean from Nick Hindle Stone Mason. Cllr Aldridge thanked The Stibbard Parochial Trust for the grant. **ACTION** clerk to draft a letter of thanks. The clerk wanted to address concerns that Cllr Coomber had said there had been some damage to the lettering. There were before and after photos and the clerk had spoken to Nick Hindle and confirmed there had not been any damage. It was **AGREED** to postpone this until January, as there had been another quote for the work on the War Memorial.

16. To receive and discuss the quote received for cleaning the playground equipment.

Some of the playground equipment had been steam cleaned with the War Memorial and it looked like new. The cost to finish the job would be £250, it was **AGREED** to go ahead with this in the spring.

17. To discuss the email received regarding the Local Plan Further Consultation with the possibility of drawing up a Neighbourhood Plan.

It was **AGREED** that Cllr Mayes, Cllr Taylor and a member of the public would meet up as a working group to discuss the email and draw up a possible response to the email which would then be discussed by the parish council. There are grants for a Neighbourhood Plan and it would be a very timely and costly project. It was **AGREED** to keep this on the agenda.

18. To discuss the budget / precept and any projects for 2025/26.

It was **AGREED** costings for the following projects should be listed:

War Memorial

Iron Man clean

Playground clean

Speed Gates

Build up emergency reserves

Biodiversity

Village Sign plinth and plaque

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19. To receive an update from Cllr Coomber and Cllr Clayton regarding their visit to the Parish Pitt.

Cllr Clayton stated the access to the Parish Pitt was tricky due to its location on the A1065. There is a huge hole with some very large trees growing and lots of bracken. There is evidence of wildlife using it and it would be great to have a wildlife survey done and assess the 4 acres for Biodiversity Plan. It is not suitable for using as a building plot.

20. To agree the date the Christmas lights on the Pond will be turned on.

It was **AGREED** to turn the lights on for Monday 4th December at 4pm and the timer will turn them off at 10pm each night until 6th January 2025.

21. Items that have arisen since the publication of the agenda – for information only, to be included in the next agenda.

Agree Precept / Budget
Bio Diversity
Neighbourhood Plan
War Memorial

22. To note the date of the next meeting on the 14th January 2025 at 7pm.

Meeting closed at 8.27pm.

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