Minutes of a Meeting of the South Stoke Parish Council

Monday 13th April 2026 at 19:30, South Stoke Village Hall

Councillors in attendance:
Vanda Scholey (VS)
Tina Haslam (TH)
Neil Proctor (NP)
John Verill (JV)

Public Forum: MOPS 3

MOP 1: The Pond there is a safety ring for adults, but not for children.
Chair: there are two sized buoyancy aids, but not seems to be child size, it is a safety feature to hold onto not to be placed over the head. We will investigate further.

MOP 2: A couple of meeting ago, there was a possibility of a loan – presumably not needed now, but can I reasonably ask for a breakdown of the grants and monies received, so that the village is aware of where the shop is and a target for this.
Chair: Entirely reasonably for you to ask, it is also reasonable for the parish council to ask for this, we should get more information and publish this in a meeting. VS will be asking this at the board meeting this week and was already on her radar to ask the full financial position and timelines.
AS: A considerable amount of private funding as a gift and an additional grant form SODC has come in, they are confident that they can open and run the shop in the new facility. There are some wants to make it the best they can do, which is why there is still a drive for additional support. There are quotes for each stage from foundation to build to minimum fit out required to run. A non-material amendment has been submitted last week to SODC.

Meeting started 19:33

1. **To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given**
   None
2. **Declarations of interest**
   Members to declare any interests they may have in agenda items
   Resolved: None

3. **To consider requests for dispensations**
   Members may request dispensation to participate in agenda items for which they have a declared interest.
   Resolved: None

4. **To approve the minutes of previous council meetings**
    - Meeting held on 09th February 2026
    - Meeting held on 09th March 2026
      Resolved: Unanimously approved

5. **Chairman's Announcements**
   None
6. **County and District Councillor Reports**

7. **Committees and Community Groups**
   To receive any reports and updates since the last PC meeting and approve actions:

7.1. The Park Project

- Discuss and approve any project actions
  Traffic issue and rearrangement of the bins
  2 dates for spring, autumn and summer for vehicle access, a brief policy is required for vehicle access.
  Proposal for an additional bay next to the chippings for woodchip and the other composting bays to be small and tidy on allotment, there can be no permanent structures.
  Bore Hole – they have instructed the company to proceed with it, there has been a change of location, due to the power supply. The change of position and power supply is not in accordance with planning and power supply. This is an unacceptable change of scope, no work to commence until this is resolved.
  Resolved: Clerk to devise a vehicle access policy. Unanimously approved to amend the licence to allow vehicles on 2 dates in spring, summer and autumn. Dates to be submitted in by CGA, this amendment will be reviewed in a years' time. A proposal for the scheme of compost bays as per a prototype and this is due to be sent by CGA.
  Bore hole needs to go back and PC do not agree with the new plan and this will need to stopped – NP and CGA to pick up.
- To discuss the commemoration of David Kennedy in the Park
  Resolved: Referred to the next meeting.

7.2. South Stoke Community Shop

- Update and discuss and approve any actions
  Resolved: Discussed and closed off as part of the public forum.

7.3. Amenities Charity

- Discuss and approve any actions
  May fayre is going ahead, no complaints of the refusal of an extra grant and they were grateful for 10% of the precept being granted this year for projects within the village.
  There are a number of rabbits on the rec, and there may be some rabbit control required to prevent deterioration of the rec.
  Resolved: Noted

7.4. Lower Meadow Project

- Update on lease
  Summary of where we are was sent by AS if Cllrs are happy with this then he will submit this to the contact at Savills
  Resolved: If everyone is happy with this once budget is reviewed it is proposed that this is then submitted.
- Discuss and approve any actions

7.5 Graveyard Extension

- Discuss and agree any actions
  Tier 1 survey has been submitted, the EA still has an objection, the EA wont talk to the PCC and want to talk to planning, planning wont talk to EA so there is no clear line of communication. The PCC needs to know what the EA wants before anymore money is spent on surveys. The will be requesting a meeting with stakeholders, the planning has been extended until the end of 2026. Can the PC put pressure with Planning or District Cllr. There is a small objection about tree roots from the forestry commission.
  Resolved: Noted

7.6 Slipway Committee

- Discuss correspondence received regarding silt build up
  Residents use a different access route, it is noted this has been built up with the recent weather. The PC notes the comments and will discuss EA and encourage them to get involved
  Resolved: Clerk to respond to MOP
- Discuss findings of the slipway committee review and agree any next steps
  A meeting has taken place with MtG, there is a likelihood that they maybe able to do more than planting, they are able to help with the areas where the bank has been lost. Plans needs to be drawn up and quotes obtained before they can see what they can award a grant for.
  There may be a need to discuss with he EA for approval.
  Resolved: To use the contacts that have been sent to discuss to see what needs to be done and what approvals maybe needed. TS to action.
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8. Parish Finance and Administration

8.1 To approve payments for April 2026

Date	Payee	Amount
27Apr2026	CLERKS WAGES	£779.14
27Apr2026	HMRC	£129.42
14-Apr-26	Mowing	£300.00
31-Mar-26	Service charge	£6.00
07-Apr-26	Emorsgate	£80.00
14-Apr-26	Bus shelter	£15.00
14-Apr-26	Newsletter	£250.00

Resolved: Unanimously approved

8.2 To note the receipts for April 2026

01-Apr	Chickens	£20
02-Apr-26	Precept	£13,656

Resolved: Unanimously approved

8.3 To note the reconciled bank balances, up to 31st March 2026. – Appendix B

Resolved:

8.4 Budget Review

To bring back to the next meeting with EMR, some queries over scribe and how this is working.

Happy based on the budget to go ahead with the summary for the water meadows.

Budget changed to show the new printing costs and increased advertising.

Resolved: Unanimously agreed

9. Planning

9.1. To consider current planning applications and approve response to planning authority

None

9.2. Planning Decisions

None

10. Correspondence and Miscellaneous Matters

10.1. To receive items of correspondence and approve any required actions in response

- Speeding on Wallingford road – request for road markings or repeater signs.
  Resolved: Clerk to raise with highways.
- Any other correspondence
  Personal Trainer to use outside spaces of the village for Personal Training sessions.
  Resolved: Unanimously approved – it is a community area, we would request

there to be no loud music, if there are complaints the PC will come back to you.

- R Small Plaque – waiting to hear form the church as to where this can go.
- Data protection Policy
  Resolved: Unanimously approved.

11. The Newsletter

To agree list of items from this agenda to be included in the next edition of the parish newsletter.

Speeding in the village reminder.

12. Matters for confidential discussion.

13. Matters for future discussion.

Silted footpath – VS to send to Clerk and clerk to see who's responsibly this is.
EMR review and budget
Proposals for CIL money and Projects
DK Plaque

14. To confirm date of the next meeting.

12th May 2025

Meeting Closed: 21:31