

**STOKE FLEMING PARISH COUNCIL**

**Clerk: Louise Soothill-Ward, SouthView, Slapton TQ7 2PN**

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**M I N U T E S**

**A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 at  
7.00 pm remotely in accordance with  
The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and  
Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020**

Present: Councillors	Struan Coupar	Ruth Adams	David Harris
	Phil Elliott	Hazel Smith	Marion Holmes
	Jack Handley	Jojo Szota	John Belli

District Councillor Helen Reeve  
County Councillor Julian Brazil  
Parish Clerk

**151. APOLOGIES**  
None

**152. MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous Remote Meeting of the Parish Council on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 had been circulated and read. Cllr Adams proposed and Cllr Smith seconded that the minutes be accepted. Planning site minutes from February 2021 were also read and approved, proposed by Cllr Adams and seconded by Cllr Smith. All were in agreement that the PC meeting minutes and Planning site minutes should be signed as a true record.

**153. MATTERS ARISING – None**

**154. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None**

**155. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - None**

**156. COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Brazil reported that at the Annual Council meeting the maximum 5% cap for council tax increase had been approved (2% council services and 3% for adult social care).

A379 Slapton Line - It was reported that due to the excellent work of Marcus Evans and his team, the road had been repaired near Torcross by putting the rock armour back into position before serious damage had occurred due to a recent high tide/easterly storm. The incident has focussed urgent attention onto the impact of the loss of the road. The matter has been escalated for discussion in Westminster as Government and Environmental Agency funding is required, along with an easing of legislation in an SSSI area, to enable the placement of more rock armoury along the road. In parallel, DCC are reviewing alternative options if the road does breach, such as making the remaining area a destination place for tourism with car parking at both ends of the road. Cllr Brazil reported there was a meeting with the officers at DCC and SHDC on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021 to discuss tourism management this season.

Cllr J Brazil reported that the flooding in Bugford required a long term water easement plan and had asked that DCC contact the local farmers to take water into their fields.

Cllr Brazil report that in response to the recent issues involving planning and alleged threatening and abusive behaviour, enforcement officers were due to go to the location in question this week. The police were also involved and due to speak to the residents affected to offer assurance and support. Cllr Reeve reported that they had also escalated the matter to SHDC and a case officer was being

allocated to help co-ordinate a resolution. The Chairman reported he was grateful for the support offered to the residents and the PC and hoped the matter would ease after the visits. The Council will ascertain what, if any, action has been taken by the police

The Chairman spoke of a decision by Dartmouth Town Council at its meeting on Monday to seek an alteration to its boundary with Stoke Fleming in order to include the Baker Estates development at Cotton within Dartmouth. The Dartmouth Chronicle had requested a media response, which has been given. The Chairman advised that the issue had been raised and settled five years ago and there is no justification for raising it again now.

#### **157. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Cllr Reeve reported that SHDC had contracted with Airband to provide superfast broadband to communities and an SHDC officer was being appointed by the end of March as a co-ordinator. Cllr Reeve requested that the Council continue to raise issues occurring with waste collection. Cllr Szota reported a recent issue on Venn Lane (Dartmouth end). Cllr Reeve agreed to convey this matter to the SHDC refuse team to investigate. Details on the new service can be found at [southhams.gov.uk/new service](https://southhams.gov.uk/new-service)

It was reported that Fusion Leisure Centre was to open on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and fitness classes were currently available via YouTube.

Cllr Reeve reported that SHDC have launched a volunteer litter picking scheme called 'Clear My Patch' and if the PC were interested in organising, a localities grant could support the purchase of picker tools and sacks.

It was reported that more business support grants were to be released to help support the high street and that a resident had asked Cllr Reeve to remind the community that lockdown is still in place and to continue to follow the Stay at Home Government message.

#### **158. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

##### **(a) Proposed new car park report.**

Cllr M Holmes reported that a sub-committee meeting was held on 12<sup>th</sup> February to discuss the proposed car park plan. Cllr Harris said the proposed location would have an impact on the landscape and as it is further away from the village than the site designated in the Neighbourhood Plan. Concerns were expressed that this would also reduce usage. It was proposed by Cllr Smith and seconded by Cllr Handley to take the proposal forward and seek a meeting with stakeholders.

##### **(b) Bird Walk Signs**

The DCC Public Rights of Way officer has approved the installation of advisory signs restricting use by other than pedestrians on what is a footpath. It was proposed by Cllr Adams and seconded by Cllr Smith to install signs at either end and agreed that messages, costs and installation methods were to be considered and reported back to the PC.

#### **159. COMMUNITY**

##### **(a) Emergency Plan**

The Council unanimously voted to adopt the Emergency Plan policy document that had been circulated to all Cllrs. Cllr Szota reported that a contact list of local farmers, doctors, tree surgeons and emergency services who may have equipment and skills to help in a crisis was being developed. It was agreed all Cllrs would help contribute to finalising the list before the individuals were approached on an opt-out, confidential basis.

##### **(b) Recreation Field – Registered Charity Trustees**

The Chairman reported that in undertaking the Annual Charity return for the Recreation Field, it had become apparent that some Cllrs had been registered as Trustees by the Clerk without their knowledge. Measures will be taken to avoid a repetition. This also linked in with the introduction of an annual review of the bank account signatories and an update to the bank mandate is in progress.

##### **(c) Climate Change**

Cllr Szoto and Cllr Belli reported they had attended a 'Sustainable South Hams' zoom meeting where a wide range of operational models to deliver climate change initiatives had been evident. The Chairman proposed that the model for Stoke Fleming should be a community led group with

involvement from the PC to help gain interest and support from the parish. Cllr Belli commented that climate change should be considered across all aspects of the work of the PC as policy and that working with other PC's would help with sharing ideas. Cllr Brazil advised that DCC had ring-fenced £700K for local climate change initiatives.

**(d) Website and Facebook**

Cllr Szoto and Cllr Belli reported they had reviewed the PC website and other local PC websites for ideas and best practice. It was agreed that all Cllrs would forward best practice suggestions to Cllr Belli and Cllr Szoto. The Chairman reported that a report was pending from the current website provider regarding addressing some of the accessibility issues on the current website. Cllr Belli reported a parishioner had volunteered to take over the running of the Face Book and Instagram pages.

**160 ROADS & TRANSPORT**

**(a) New speed signs**

Cllr Smith thanked Cllr Brazil for forwarding the process to install a speed sign. It was agreed to postpone the installation until all steps had been considered and actions identified.

**(b) Road and Snow Wardens**

Cllr Handley reported that a volunteer approach was being considered to set up the DCC Road and Snow Warden schemes. DCC will cover the costs for Chapter 8 training for 3 people who can then each work with 2 other untrained volunteers.

**161. MAINTENANCE**

**(a) CCTV**

Cllr Harris reported that a quote had been received to install CCTV cameras at each end of the Pavilion. A further quote is due to install CCTV on the apex of the village hall. The air ambulance mast had been considered as a possible site location but this would involve a power supply. This was being investigated further. Cllr Harris is also to contact the village hall committee to see if they wish to consider installing CCTV on both sides of the village hall as part of the overall works.

**162. ACTIONS REGISTER**

The Clerk will update the register as discussed and agreed by the PC.

**163. PLANNING:**

Cllr Holmes reported that proposals from the architect for the outstanding planning matter of Rowan Cottage, Bugford had been received but the timing of receipt meant this was too late for the PC agenda. Cllr Holmes agreed to set up a separate planning meeting to discuss the proposal ahead of the SHDC deadline of 11/3/21.

**APPLICATIONS**

**0109/21/TEX The Rectory, Rectory Lane, Stoke Fleming. TQ6 0QB**

Fell sycamore at the Rectory, Rectory Lane Stoke Fleming T60: x2 stem sycamore - fell, poor vitality, poor structural condition, nearly dead.

**Tree Preservation Order ref 1643467 - Seacliffe, Overseas Estate, Stoke Fleming, SX861479**

T1 English Oak (Quercus Robur), T2 Scots Pine (Pinus Sylvestris), T3 Scots Pine (Pinus Sylvestris).

**4065/20/HHO Southfield House, New Road, Stoke Fleming, TQ7 ONR**

Householder application for front porch.

**0138/21/CLE The Linhay and The Byre, Higher Ash Farm Ash. TQ6 0LR**

Certificate of Lawfulness for existing use of single barn with annexe as two separate dwellings.

**0318/21/ARC Coombe Chalet Shady Lane, Stoke Fleming. TQ6 0PD**

Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 3 and 4 for planning application 0057/20/FUL.

**0119/21/FUL Agricultural building at Sx 829492. Blackawton**

Provision of grain store.

**3423/20/FUL Rowan Cottage, Bugford, Stoke Fleming**

READVERTISEMENT (Revised plans received) Construction of new outbuilding for use as ancillary residential accommodation with associated groundworks including removal of existing garage.

**0157/21/FUL - The Old Piggery, Little Dartmouth, Dartmouth. TQ6 OJP**

Demolition of existing building and rebuilding for use as light industrial units (Class E use).

**0479/20/VAR - Land adjacent to Townstall Road, Stoke Fleming.**

Application for variation of conditions 18, 19 and 20 of planning consent 2609/19/VAR and 15\_51/1710/14/O (to allow additional uses of building merchants, retail or hot food takeaway to be constructed on the employment land).

**DECISIONS**

**3753/20/HHO Greenwood Barn Ash TQ6 0LR**

Householder application for addition of two small roof lights to roof.  
Conditional Approval.

**TPO - Ref: 1507049 - Land adjacent to Keepers Lodge, Hillfield Village, Dartmouth, TQ6 0FA**

South Hams District Council No. 1019 Tree Preservation Order 2020.  
Confirmed as served.

**3442/20/TPO - White Ladies, New Road, Stoke Fleming**

T1: Hemlock - Crown lift to 5m from ground level to increase light to garden. Removal of 1x branch at 8m from ground and 1x branch at 15m from ground on North side to increase light and reduce risk of damage to building. T2: Monterey Pine - Removal of limb at 6m from ground on South West side and small branches at 10m from ground on South West side to reduce risk of damage to conservatory.

Grant of Conditional Consent.

**ENFORCEMENT CASES** Current enforcement list update.

**164. FINANCE**

The Chairman reported that the Public Works Loan Board loan of £30K taken over 25 years to purchase the village hall would be repaid in 2024. This approach should be considered for further large projects given the low interest rates once the load has been repaid.

**a) BANK BALANCE**

Lloyds Bank	£ 4,233.61	Balance at 26th February 2021
Savings account	£12,375.97	Balance at 26th February 2021

b)	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>£</b>
	Lloyds Bank compensation	£100.00
c)	<b>ACCOUNTS TO BE PAID</b>	

It was proposed seconded by the Chairman that the following payments be approved for signature. All Cllrs were in agreement.

**BACS payments:**

Louise Soothill-Ward	£358.40	Clerks salary.
Louise Soothill-Ward	£83.43	Expenses – Home office cabinet and stationary.
Tomlinson Computer Support Ltd	£45.00	IT support for clerk handover (MS OneDrive. (Paid 4/3/21 for noting).
EDF Energy	£38.65	Electricity Toilet Block (Reading Nov 20-Jan 21).
South West Water	£48.64	Water supply recreation field (Estimate Nov-Jan 21).
Barry Morris	£50.00	Website administration
Luke Tom LTD,	£355.19	Annual Website Hosting and domain name renewal and site amends.

**165. Further business**

Cllr Belli asked if a proposal had been received from the Inn Theatre Company regarding hire of the playing field over the summer.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20.19pm.

The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council:  
**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7pm by Zoom conference call.**