

STOURPAINE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, held on 11th February 2025 in the Village Hall at 7pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs P Partridge (Chairman), M Farwell, J Jakes, D Meaden.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs J O'Connell (Clerk). 2 Members of the public.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Sherry Jespersen, Cllr G Cowie, Cllr A Woodland.

1. Declarations of Interest: None received

2. To consider matters arising from the January Minutes. None raised.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2025. The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. Democratic Period:

-It was suggested at the Community Hub that a welcome pack for the village should be collated, printed, and a copy be delivered to every household in the village and additional copies left at the VH to be given to any newcomers to the village. The welcome pack would give details of clubs and groups that operate in the Village and the VH, as well as giving details of DC website where local issues can be reported. The welcome pack would need to be updated as events in the village change. It was requested that the PC assist with this project financially. Cllr Jakes confirmed this would be a good method of communication in the village as well as a regular newsletter to be distributed in the village. Cllr Jakes stated that if others were responsible for collating and typing the information she would be prepared to set it out as an A5 booklet and get the booklet printed.

SPC voted that they would be prepared to offer financial support for this project.

-It was raised that flooding on the road was due to the drains not being cleared. Residents have reported the problem to DC many times. DC Highways had cleared 4 of the 6 drains in the area, however they only cleared surface debris which did not solve the problem, they also failed to check that the drains were working properly before they left. A resident rodded the drains and identified areas where there are blockages – he was issued a job no: 1273403. Clerk to write to DC Highways to request that they return to unblock the drains.

-5. Matters arising:

-Fingerpost ref: 1271835 the post is broken, Clerk to speak to DC Highways to see if they will repair.

6. Dorset Councillor Report: None received.

7. To consider development control matters: No new applications or progress on existing applications.

8. Reports:

a. Neighbourhood Watch: No current update.

b. Highways: No current update.

c. Flood Prevention:

The Chairman had attended a flood prevention meeting on the 6/2/2025, hosted by Rick Pearce and also attended by Scott Norman and Blu Donnebaer. It was noted that some of the flood prevention equipment that had been distributed was now 10 years old and possibly in need of repair. It was suggested that a Repair Shop be held in the Village Hall for these items. Further investigative door to door surveys will be carried out by the flood team in Havelins.

-Scott Norman has offered to take on the role of Resilience Officer to oversee issues such as snow clearing, grit bins and flooding, the Chairman will liaise with him to establish the best way forward.

d. Rights of Way/Footpaths/ Trailway:

-Cllr Jakes asked Cllr Farwell whether he would contribute hardcore to the entrance of the Church as he has in previous years. Cllr Farwell agreed.

e. Play Areas:

-DC have replaced the broken bin in the Grace Upward play area.

-The Chairman reported that the play areas have been inspected and are in a good condition.

-The Chairman had requested quotes from Playdale and Sutcliffe for replacing the swing set and the wooden play equipment in Kidzone. The Chairman had an existing quote from Sovereign of £16,329.00 which has now been revised to £17,212.00. it was hoped that all quotes would be received in time for - the March PC meeting where a decision would be made.

-It was highlighted in the recent Play Inspection Report that the Buddy Swing in Kidzone currently has a single set of chains and will need a second set for safety reasons. The Chairman has requested a quote for a second set of chains to be supplied and installed.

f, Village Hall:

-Scott Norman had attended the Coroner’s Court hearing regarding the death of an attendee of the A350 Pressure Group Meeting in 2023. The gentleman had left the meeting and took a short cut to his vehicle across the grass in the dark and unfortunately stumbled over the low fence. The Coroner acknowledged that this was an accidental death and that everything that could be done had been done.

9. Finance:

a. SPC agreed to make following payments:

-The finance report has been circulated to Cllrs and all payments were approved.

-Clerk (at agreed rate), HMRC Clerk’s PAYE, DC SID Deployment and Maintenance £120.00

All payments were unanimously approved.

10. Other Matters:

-It is to be established who currently hold the keys to the noticeboards to ensure that they are updated.

Date of next meeting: 11th March 2025.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20.13pm

Date:

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Chairman, Stourpaine Parish Council.