

STOKE ST. MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL

To all Members of Stoke St Michael Parish Council

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of Stoke St Michael Parish Council for the purpose of transacting the following business

Kate Egan Clerk to the Council

Agenda for the Meeting of STOKE ST MICHAEL PARISH COUNCIL

To be held on Thursday 27th March 2025 at Stoke St Michael War Memorial Hall, Stoke Hill, Stoke St Michael Starting at 7.30pm

1. **Welcome by the Chairman.**
2. **Apologies for absence**
3. **Absent**
4. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations**
 - (a) **To receive declaration of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda**
 - (b) **To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests**

Cllr Anna Mearns has a written request for dispensation in relation to the Millennium Wood for four years (expires September 2027). Cllr Keith Hambly has a written request for dispensation in relation to Stoke St Michael Community Field for one year (expires October 2025). Cllr Amanda Taylor has a written request for dispensation in relation to Stoke St Michael Community Field, Stoke St Michael Community Events and Stoke St Michael Woodland Group for four years (expires January 2028)
 - (c) **To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.**
5. **Public Session.** The period designated for public participation at a meeting shall not exceed 30 minutes unless directed by the chairman of the meeting. A member of the public shall not speak for more than 3 minutes.
6. **Somerset Councillor Reports**
7. **To consider the approval of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 13th February 2025, previously circulated**
8. **Planning Applications – If other planning applications are received between the date of this notice and the date of the meeting, they may be considered.**
 - (a) **2025/0330/HSE** To reinstate one fireplace, install a wood-burning stove, insert a flue and make minor alterations to an existing chimney. The Mill, Mill Lane, Stoke St Michael. **Recommendation** Due to the tight deadlines and the request for an extension being refused the recommendation was made by delegation and the recommendation was to approve.
 - (b) **2025/0460/HSE** Add a window to the north elevation and a roof-light to the west facing roof (part retrospective). Cooks Farm Cottage, Partmans Hill, Stoke St Michael.

9. Planning Applications – Responses to be noted from Somerset Council

- (a) 2024/2124/HSE** Erection of two-storey side extension and porch. Stoke Lodge, Susannas Lane to Dark Lane, Stoke St Michael. **Decision** Somerset Council have granted approval.

10. To Be Resolved / Discussed

- (a)** To consider the proposal for the installation of a 40mph speed limit in Withybrook and to seek the Council's approval to allocate funding in the range of £5,000 to £10,000 to implement this measure
- (b)** To consider the quote from Somerset Council and approve the cost to empty the litter bins and dog waste bins within the village. Cost for the nine bins in the parish would be £3042 + VAT a year.
- (c)** To consider providing first aid training and defib training for the residents and
- (d)** To consider the removal of the litter bin by the pub from the Asset List and to approve the Asset List for the end of the financial year.
- (e)** To note the hourly rate for the War Memorial Hall will be increasing from the 1st April with an additional cost for heating. To consider prepayment of the hall hire until the end of September, if payment is received by the 1st week of April the current price will be honoured – Amount of prepayment - £120.00

11. Clerk / Councillors Report

- (a)** Verbal Report from the emergency plan workshop held on Tuesday 4th March
- (b)** Complaints were received on 27th February about works being carried out in Yellowgate and the mess being created. A resident created a social media post with the contact details of the developer.
- (c)** No quotes or replies to the tenders have been received in relation to replacing the bridge on the Millennium Green.
- (d)** Somerset Council have issued the programme for resurfacing, surface dressing and footways, and drainage works. There are no entries for Stoke St Michael.
- (e)** A new Senior Bridge Engineer has been appointed to manage the culvert reconstruction. There are still several complications, mostly involving the services and utilities which cross over the top of the culvert. Information received at the beginning of March; an alternative strengthening design is being investigated which will avoid the need to divert the buried utilities / services.
- (f)** Update from Cllr Anna Mearns on emergency vehicles being able to travel over the culvert.
- (g)** Update from Cllrs Amanda Taylor and Simon Collins on the recent Quarry Liaison Meeting.

12. Finance

Bank Balances as at: - 20th March 2025

Unity Current Account – £7,039.70

Unity Savings Account – £36,890.67

Payments

(a) Clerks' salary and expenses February and March £760.84

(b) IONOS – Website Hosting - £13.80 – pd by DD

(c) SSM War Memorial Hall – hall hire - £30

(d) Unity Bank – Monthly bank charges – March - £6.00 – pd by DD

13. Correspondence

(a) Invitation to the LCN Meeting on 3rd March – forwarded 25.02.25

14. Matters to report / items for next agenda

15. Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 8th May 2025 starting at 8.00pm.
Stoke St Michael War Memorial Hall, this will follow the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Council Meeting.