

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 30th July 2026 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 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). Cllr Phil Howard has a written request for dispensation in relation to Stoke St Michael War Memorial Hall for one year (expires May 2027). Cllr Keith Hambly has a written request for dispensation in relation to Stoke St Michael Community Field for one year (expires May 2027).
 - (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 25th June, previously circulated.**
- 8. Co-Option of a Parish Councillor**
 - (a) Signature of the Office of Acceptance Form**
- 9. Planning Applications – If other planning applications are received between the date of this notice and the date of the next meeting, they may be considered.**
 - (a) 2026/1281/HSE** Proposed single storey side extension. Coombe Barn, Frog Lane, Stoke St Michael.

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

- (a) **2026/0825/OUT** Application for outline planning permission with some matters reserved for 4x two storey dwellings with details of access / appearance / landscaping / layout. Land at 365815 146981 Fosse Road, Stoke St Michael. **Decision** Application has been withdrawn.
- (b) **2026/0930/APP** Approval of details reserved by condition 4 (Construction Stage Surface Water Management) on consent 2024/1441/REM. Land South of Fairbanks, Coalpit Lane, Stoke St Michael. **Decision** Somerset Council have granted approval.

11. Grants

- (a) Grant from the Community Field for the installation of a defib at the playing fields, amount applied for £195.00.

12. Policies

To review and approve the following policies

- Volunteer Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy

13. To Be Resolved / Discussed

- (a) To support Holcombe Parish Council with plans to request from Somerset Council to reduce the speed limit on Edford Hill from the National Speed Limit down to 30mph.
- (b) To consider quotes for replacing the gate between the cemetery and Mill Lane and appoint a company to carry out the works.
- (c) To consider appointing Jim Murtagh as the Parish Council's preferred tree surgeon. Any tree works will be subject to the Council obtaining and considering quotations before works are approved and instructed.
- (d) To consider quotes for trimming the hedges once a year on Green Lane – to follow.
- (e) To discuss possible enhancement for the open spaces at The Mead.
- (f) To consider the application from the War Memorial Hall to hold a Duck Race in September on the Millennium Green.
- (g) To consider the provision of village gateway signs and to note that following an inspection by Cllr Dan White, only the gateway sign on the Holcombe approach requires replacement.
- (h) To consider the ongoing issue of overgrown vegetation on Mill Lane following further complaints received, and to determine whether to appoint a contractor to undertake the necessary clearance works.
- (i) To consider whether Councillors wish their home addresses to be published in accordance with the provisions of the English Devolution and Community Empowerment Act 2026.

14. Clerk / Councillors Report

- (a) Following the internal auditor's recommendation to update the Register of Interests for Councillors, new forms were sent out to all Councillors but not all have been completed and returned.
- (b) Following the discussion for Councillors to have photographs on the website, only two photographs have been received.

- (c) The new litter bin has been delivered and waiting installation at the bus shelter opposite the Mead.
- (d) Update from Cllr Anna Mearns on traffic management within the village.
- (e) An email was sent to Somerset Council's Public Rights of Way team regarding the proposed closure of the footpath at Yellowgate and the possibility of a temporary diversion. They have since contacted the applicant to explore whether a temporary route can be provided through the site during the works.
- (f) The Council's contract with IONOS has been updated to remove the old website. Access to the previous email accounts and the domain name has been retained.

15.. Finance

Bank Balances as at: - 23rd July 2026

Unity Current Account – £1,972.04

Unity Savings Account – £44,160.22

Approval of the quarterly bank reconciliation

Review and to note the quarterly budget report

Receipts

(a) Bank Interest – £231.23 – received 30.06.26

(b) Forsey & Sons – Burial Fees - £77.00 – received 21.07.2026

Payments

(c) War Memorial Hall – Hall Hire - £36.00

(d) Primrose Garden Maintenance – Grass Cutting – Two Invoices - £1623.76

(e) Adjustment to Bank Interest - £0.27 – paid 30.06.26

(f) Somerset Council – Emptying of Bins - £1115.40

(g) Staff Salary and expenses – July - £414.60

Transfers

(h) Transfer of £10,000 from the reserve account to the current account

16. Correspondence

17. Matters to report / items for next agenda

18. Date and time of next meeting:

Thursday 10th September 2026 starting at 7.30pm, to be held at the Stoke St Michael War Memorial Hall.