



STONDON MASSEY PARISH COUNCIL

"Westview", Nine Ashes Road, Stondon Massey, CM15 0EL
e mail: clerk@stondonmasseypc.co.uk

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held at Stondon Massey Village Hall, Tuesday 19th November 2024 which commenced at 7.30pm.

In the Chair: Cllr. Brent Smith

Present: Cllr Bonnett, Cllr Mann, Cllr. Loding, Cllr Sach, Cllr Wagland, Claire Mayhew Monitoring Officer, two parishioners

Officers: Heidi Angove, Clerk/RFO

24/25.103 Apologies for absence. Cllr Gelderbloem

24/25.104 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.

Two parishioners stated they had attended the meeting to discuss agenda item 23/24 120.

24/25.105 To receive members declaration of interest in respect of items on the agenda.

Following discussions with Claire Mayhew, Cllr Sach declared pecuniary interest in items 24/25.116

24/25 106 Members considered and approved the minutes of the ordinary parish council meeting held on 15th October 2024.

24/25.107 County & Borough Councillors report

Cllr Wagland gave an update latest on over 9K of additional repairs to routine work as result of a new members highways initiative. Cllr Bonnett enquired why despite reporting, pot holes in Stondon were not getting repaired. Cllr Wagland informed the council to report online and record the reference number. Cllr Wagland also gave a resume regarding digital update from analogue.

25/25/108 Public Participation

Two parishioners stated they would request to speak in item 24/25 120. The Chairman acknowledged this and gave his permission.

24/25.109 Clerks report

The Clerk stated she was spending too much time dealing with conflict in the council and stated moving forward to try and end the conflict she will liaise with all suppliers and contractors where possible and bring the information to the council for decision. All instructions to carry out works must only come from the Clerk. Councillors should not contact suppliers or contractors directly.



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All paperwork to be discussed at parish council meetings will be sent to the Clerk prior to the meeting. The code of conduct must be strictly adhered to with no obstruction or interruption to the proceedings of the council. Councillor's behaviour towards each other in parish council meetings must be befitting to someone who holds public office. If a decision is made by the council to which an individual councillor disagrees with, the Clerk will minute the strong disagreement but that decision will stand. Abusive emails or behaviour will not be tolerated.

The Clerk had obtained a grant from The Locality Fund towards the playing field work and thanked Cllr Wagland for her help in this matter. The planters have been replanted with winter plants. The Clerk reported the NALC pay increase that is back dated to April. The Clerk had chased the tree quotes but had only received one from I D Greenscapes. The Clerk had been speaking with the editor of the magazine and will put the magazine on the agenda for January. The Clerk stated she needs to start looking at the website as she feels the information is hard to find and more could be included. The Clerk had been liaising with N Power as correspondence and disconnection notices had been sent to an incorrect address.

The Chairman brought forward two items to the top of the agenda as the public had attended for these specific items namely 24/25.116 Playing Field Work and 23/24 120 UK Power Networks

24/25.116 Playing field work

Following discussion, the monitoring officer stated Cllr Sach could not take part in any discussion due to a pecuniary interest and was asked to leave the room for this agenda item. Cllr Sach left the meeting.

Chairman outlined the various meetings and agreements that had taken place over the last 18 months, which had previously been strongly disputed by Cllr Sach. The Chairman noted copies of minutes to verify decisions that had been agreed.

Members to review correspondence from a resident regarding the project including alleged boundary dispute, legal threat, lack of environmental study and incorrect agenda description. Previously Cllr Sach stated his wife had sent the email. The Clerk had received two further emails from residents whose properties back onto the project stating support and disputed the boundary disputes. Following discussion, it was agreed for the Clerk to ask the resident to contact the monitoring officer if she had a complaint where it would be investigated by two independent officers.

Proposed Cllr Smith Seconded Paul Bonnett

Cllr Sach returned to the meeting.


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23/24 120 UK Power networks

Following discussion with the council and two residents, Cllr Sach stated he was unhappy about UK power networks rerouting the back-up cable for Blackmore and Stondon Massey through parish council land that had been agreed in September's meeting with a Wayleave agreement. Cllr Sach proposed the council should go back to UK power networks for an alternative route.

Proposed Cllr Sach Not seconded

Cllr Smith proposed to keep the proposal suggested by UK power networks and agreed in meeting.

Proposed Cllr Smith Seconded Cllr Bonnett

24/25 110 Finance

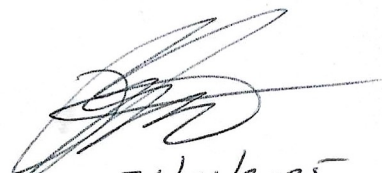
Receipts/payments/cheques signed since the October meeting

payments/cheques signed since the October meeting

SERVICE CHARGE	5.40
DAVID FELON	100.00
BRITISH GAS	16.51

Payments authorised at this meeting

HEIDI ANGOVE	922.53
ESSEX PENSION FUND	299.06
GREENSCAPES	428.00
GREENSCAPES	180.00
SPENCER DOYLE	200.00
CLOUD NEXT	179.98
ANDREW ELMES	90.00
DAVID FELON	100.00
N POWER	127.87
JAMES TODD	28.80
ICO	40.00
RBL POPPY APPEAL	50.00
HMRC	30.11


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24/25.111 Budget

Following discussion and looking at potential costs for 2025/26, it was agreed the Council would need increase the precept by 2%. Cllr Sach proposed to increase clerk's hours. The Clerk stated once the conflict within the council had ceased, her hours were sufficient. The matter would be put on January's agenda.

Proposed Cllr Bonnett Seconded Cllr Loding

24/25.112 Precept

It was agreed to increase the precept for a Band D figure to £117.19

Proposed Cllr Sach : Seconded Cllr Bonnett

24/25.113 Christmas lights and lighting up event

The Clerk gave an update on the Christmas lighting up event. The Clerk had spoken to the insurance company who requested a risk assessment take place, Cllr Smith stated he would complete the risk assessment. Brentwood Borough Council were happy with the event procedures. Cllr Sach requested the clerk go back to the insurance company to enquire if a first aider needed to be present, the Clerk agreed.

Proposed Cllr Mann Seconded Cllr Smith

24/25.114 Key Cabinet

Cllr Sach suggested a key cabinet for entry into the field and stated he would investigate costs and installation.

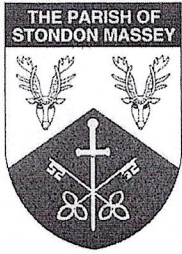
Proposed Cllr Sach Seconded Cllr Loding

24/25.115 Grass by Reeves Close

Cllr Sach had visited the property and the current tenants were moving. New tenants had moved in and a letter would be sent to them outlining the issues regarding damage to the verge. Cllr Wagland was given an update on the issue and stated she would investigate.



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24/25.117 Speed monitors

The Clerk stated she had not investigated the speed monitoring work.

24/25 118 Finger posts

Cllr Sach suggested getting the village green fingerpost done, the Clerk stated she would try and obtain three quotes.

Proposed Cllr Sach Seconded Cllr Smith

23/24 119 Bus shelter Soames Mead and promotion of buses

The Clerk stated she had emailed Cllr Wagland in the first instance to gain approval for a bus shelter in Soames Mead. Cllr Wagland asked if the Clerk could resend the email.

23/24 121 Playground Inspections

Graffiti had appeared in the park, Cllr Smith will go to playground and try to get graffiti off. Clerk to ask BBC to see if they have a team who will remove graffiti.

24/25.122 Planning

The Clerk stated she had received a complaint regarding planning application 24/00841/FUL which was granted permission on the 11th October 2024 and had informed the planning department.

Change of Use of Land for Recreational Dog Walking (Sui Generis) with associated parking and hardstanding, construct 1.8m high post and wire fence enclosure

ADDRESS: Penny Pots Barn Ongar Road Stondon Massey Essex
CM15 0EA

APPLICATION NO: 24/01056/FUL

Following discussion the following was agreed to be sent to the planning department
Stondon Massey Parish Council have no objection to the change of use to a fully fenced dog exercising area. We are however concerned at the positioning of the entrance gate near a bend on the Blackmore Road which we suggest would benefit from warning signs being placed in both directions. Additionally we trust BBC will ensure this change of use does not set a precedent for a further change of use on this site to a residential development.


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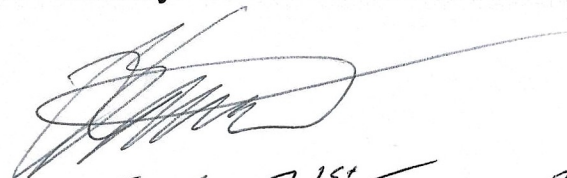
24/25.123 Playground inspection reports

The latest playground inspection report was discussed and accepted.

24/25.124 Items for next agenda.

Clerk's hours, speed monitors, bus shelter, playground equipment

Members to note the date for the next meeting is Tuesday 21st January.


Tuesday 21st January 2025