

## Stoke Albany Parish Council

Chair: Councillor David Benson; [cldr-david-benson@stoke-albany.uk](mailto:cldr-david-benson@stoke-albany.uk); 07754-059-907

Clerk: Mrs Justina Medwell; [parish-clerk@stoke-albany.uk](mailto:parish-clerk@stoke-albany.uk); 07813-696-387

### **MINUTES**

#### **Meeting Number 2511**

Held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2025 in Stoke Albany Village Hall

#### **01. To open the meeting, note attendance and determine the quorum.**

The Chair opened the meeting at 1930h. There being 3 SAPC councillors present, the Chair declared the meeting to be quorate.

#### **02. In Attendance:**

Cllrs D Benson (Chair), H Perry and M Kelly.

J Medwell – Clerk

NNC Cllr H Howes

Peter Holmes – Climate and Nature Champion

#### **03. To receive apologies for absence.**

Cllr L Donnelly

#### **04. To receive any declarations of interest or changes to the members' register of interests.**

There were none.

#### **05. To verify the minutes of the previous meeting.**

Decision: It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> August 2025 be adopted as a true and accurate record. Proposed Cllr Kelly, Seconded Cllr Perry.

The Chair duly signed the minutes.

### **Reports**

#### **06. To receive reports of any new information from NNC Councillors (if present).**

NNC Councillor H Howes informed the Parish Council that, at this time, there were no items or updates to report that were specifically relevant to Stoke Albany Parish Council. He raised a new initiative – the BIG50 which is a collaboration between the public sector, businesses, education and healthcare providers, community groups and residents to work together from this point to make and build on improvements up to 2050. He also advised that the new administration was commencing its 2026/27 budget setting period.

#### **07. To receive reports of any new information from SAPC Clerk & Councillors.**

a. The Chair introduced Peter Holmes, the new Climate and Nature Champion and thanked him for taking on this position. His role will be to represent the Council and liaise with NCALC in matters relating to the environment.

### **Representations**

#### **08. To receive any written representations from any members of the public submitted before the meeting.**

a. Resurgence of invasive weeds from the tree stump at De Roos Way – these had been reported and addressed.

b. Wrong-way traffic on the Market Harborough slip road.

New Action 2511A: The Clerk will refer this to NNC with a request for additional advisory signage.

c. Concerns with the large number of HGVs exiting from a site adjacent to the Old Poultry Farm, Desborough Road

New Action 2511B: The Clerk will check planning in terms of change of use and required visibility displays. The Chair will send through the necessary photographic evidence.

d. The condition of Ashley Road due to the continuous water leak

New Action 2511C: NNC Cllr H Howes will follow up with NNC Highways on progress with this.

e. Concern that latest Permission in Principle planning proposal at Stoke Farm was approved without any reference to increased traffic. The opportunity to comment on this will be possible if and when a full planning application is submitted

f. Dog fouling – residents witnessing such were urged to refer to the NNC dog fouling policy on reporting.

g. Potholes on Desborough Road, and a request to resurface this area.

New Action 2511D: NNC Councillor H Howes will consult with NNC Highways to determine if this section of road meets the criteria for resurfacing.

### Projects

#### **09. Progress on outdoor gym / play area (Section 106) project.**

There was nothing further to report at this point– the Council is awaiting action from NNC.

New Action 2511E: Chair will follow up with Dave Lane

#### **10. Purchase of a permanent TVAS**

The Council was pleased to note that the new TVAS equipment had been received. Cllr Kelly was thanked for all his work with this project.

New Action 2511F: Cllrs Kelly and Benson will fix the equipment to the new post sited on Desborough Road.

### New Items

#### **11. To consider hosting a Defibrillator training session**

The Chair referred to an offer from the local First Responder to run a defib awareness event.

New Action 2511G: The Chair will pursue this and seek some possible dates.

#### **12. To consider the donation of £50 to the Poppy Wreath Appeal**

Proposed Cllr Benson, Seconded Cllr Kelly – Approved

#### **13. To consider expenditure of £1,044.07 on deep-cleaning and repainting of the War Memorial.**

A detailed quote had been received to deep clean and repaint the war memorial. The Council considered this and were minded to accept the quote subject to budget constraints and adherence to financial regulations.

#### **14. To consider in principle whether to make a financial contribution towards the renovation of bells at St Botolph's Church (subject to the project going ahead).**

The Council discussed making a small donation of £300 should the project go ahead.

#### **15. To commence setting the 2026/27 Budget and Precept -**

Preliminary discussions took place on the 2026/27 budget. The Council looked at including an allocation of £1,044 for war memorial renovations and a £300 donation towards the renovation of the church bells. The Council also considered an option offered by NNC to manage its own urban grass mowing, with a grant of £740 to support this. The Council will approve the final budget and set the 2025/26 precept at the next meeting.

New Action 2511H: The draft budget will be circulated to residents and a contribution to the proposed projects will be sought from the NNC Ward Initiative Fund or Community Fund. A map of the existing Urban Highway grass area will be sought in order to obtain a relevant quote from Birch Sports.

### Planning

#### **16. 25/00842/LBC The Manor House External Repairs**

The Council supported this application.

### Meetings Management

#### **17. To consider the dates of the next meetings**

6<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – new start time of 7pm

#### **18. To review matters arising from previous meetings.**

There were no further matters arising raised at this point.

#### **19. To consider priorities for the next meeting cycle.**

To approve the 2026/27 budget and to set precept

To consider taking responsibility for the 2026/27 Urban Highways Grass Cutting Contract

### Banking

#### **20. To review and verify the bank statement.**

The Bank Reconciliation was unanimously approved and duly signed by the Chair.

#### **21. To review and verify the statement of accounts.**

Savings Account      **£10,766.88**

Current Account      **£3,668.22**

The statement of accounts was verified as accurate and signed by the Chair.

**22. To consider approval of any payment vouchers.**

Decision: It was **RESOLVED** that the following payments be made:

Total Amount	VAT Element	Payee	Reason for Payment	Legal Authority
£216.00	£36.00	Birch Sports	Mowing	OSA 1906 s.15
£52.00		Information Commissioner	Data Protection	LGA 1972 s.111
£50.00		R M Peach	Bus Shelter	LGA 1953 s.4
£50.00		Royal British Legion	Poppy Appeal	LGA 1972 s.137
£56.25		Stoke Albany Village Hall	Hire Charges	LGA 1972 s.111
£280.00		Stoke Albany PCC	Donation towards Mowing	OSA 1906 s.15

**23. Meeting closed**

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 2101 h.

Signed ..... Dated.....