STOKE ST GREGORY PARISH COUNCIL

51 Polkes Field, Stoke St Gregory, Taunton, Somerset. TA3 6EX.

Minutes of meeting held on Monday 10th November 2025 in The meeting room. Williams Hall, Dark Lane, Stoke St Gregory at 7.30pm

Present: John Hardy (Chair), Jessie Cartwright, John Hembrow, Ann Finn, Lawrence Bostock, Julie Monro, Samantha Smith, David Fothergill, Sally Taylor (Clerk) and two members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Peter House

All agreed to accept apologies

317. Approve and sign minutes of the August meeting:

The minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting and were signed accordingly.

318. Declarations of interests and dispensations: None

319. Questions and comments from the public (limited to 15 minutes in total)

CP asked for support with putting tractor warning signs up in village. She had a visiting friend who was unfamiliar with the village and the number of tractors travelling around and had a nasty bicycle accident when braking to avoid collision with one.

It was agreed that red triangle warning signs with an image of a tractor would be helpful to inform visitors.

As DF was copied in on the original e mail he wrote to Kate Brown she knows it is dangerous and is willing to support.

DF said this was an issue with North Curry as well and he will raise at the next PC meeting.

JHe would like to know where they should be sited. Maybe add onto another sign.

From NC before bends by sewage works and at bottom of Slough Lane were suggested.

JHE said hedges are overhanging too low down and it difficult for tractors, maybe look at that as well.

ST to make contact with Kate Brown – LB is willing to attend site meeting with her if required.

AS representing Footpath Group – Has looked over the maps together with JM – ideally two stiles replaced with gates/kissing gates to enable less able to move around the village.

1. Windmill by paddock – replace stile with kissing gate preferably a wooden kissing gate. JHe says metal kissing gates are more durable. Prices quoted by County Footpaths Officer seem high Stile no 9865 T2511

2. Location at crossroads needs small gate.

Stile no 9902 crossroads of t25 and 20A and T2519

JHe suggested asking Dan Taylor to price. Approval to be sought from landowner. (NW)

320. Planning

36/25/0014 Garage/Store at Cames Mead, Meare Green
It was noted that the revised plans make it look less like a residential building, however JHe said we Should make the same comments as on the previous application to make it a condition it remains a store/garage.

All agreed – ST to respond to planning application

AF left at this point with apologies.

321. Neighbourhood Plans

JHa said the presentation at the last meeting was very interesting. With NC with amount of people on hand to volunteer to help with the project, and with the funding available it was feasible, however there were doubts that it would have value in SSG for the cost and resources. There is no certainty in the outcome.

More of a priority in SSG is the need to protect the village envelope.

Need something to say what we do or don't support. Need criteria to rate against planning applications.

All agreed the Village needs more houses and to keep businesses going.

All agreed to set out our own criteria - ie this is what we as a Parish would support.

Road access is an issue

ST to agenda for future meeting.

322. Insurance for Project Play

LB wasn't able to attend the rearranged date for the PFMC.

Technically we are custodians of the field so there is a degree of responsibility although it was unfortunate this hadn't been flagged up before.

Is the £307 just a part year payment? Need to know for budget purposes. It was suggested a grant could be sought.

Could the PFMC obtain other quotes from insurance as this seems a lot.

All agreed for ST to go back to the PFMC to ask the above and then agenda for a decision next month.

323. Christmas Sing Along

It was questioned whether contributing to the costs of holding an event which has the intention of raising money for the school is a good use of precept.

SS suggested they consider applying for grants - she can share information to signpost them to where they may be able to be approved.

It was also suggested that commercial sponsorship for event could be sought.

All agreed that the PC is unable to support - ST to reply to original e mail.

324. Verge at Broomfield Park Entrance.

Who owns the verge/ hedge – it is owned by owners property

JHA doesn't believe it is a PC issue

325. Somerset Councillor report

End of 12 week provisions for planning
21 vacancies.
17th December final plan
Cost of living support is available if we know of anyone struggling.
Green bin collection changes
Street collections = collecting tins now have to be a registered charity.

326. Highways

AF advised the pole was moved on 30 October.

Now can erect the machine. Paul Deacon from NC has offered to help. Simon Van Looy also said would help and knows electrics. Jack Freer may also be available to help. Done from long ladders could be done off road due to location. JHE said he could help.

To meet Friday 3pm at AF house.

Q for DF - said have slinky buses lined up for NC? DF will check as usually don't put a slinky where bus services are in place.

327. Footpaths

Covered above

328. Flooding

Nothing to report

329. Playing Field

Nothing to report

330. Heart of the Village

Aircon fitted

Revised fire risk asst positive.

Focus on Christmas

New supplier of wine.

Leaflet drop

Celebration in January for the volunteers - funding grant application to cover costs has been successful.

331. Councillor Training

332. Financial matters

Payments to be authorised

DATE	REFERENCE	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
1-11-25	SALARY October	SALLY TAYLOR	CLERK SALARY Oct 25	£338.51

1-11-25	Cheque 001062	British Royal Legion	Wreath for Remembrance Day	£100.00
28-10-25	INV-70	JOSH WILLIAMS	GRASS CUTTING	£110.00
30-10-25	INV 825	NICK SLOAN	WEBSITE October	£120.00
31-10-25	SSG Donation	HOTV	INSTALLATION OF aircon system	£3315.00
9-10-25	INV-616	Williams Hall	Room Hire	£45.00

333. Other items for discussion.

Hedge cutting IN Burial Ground has been completed and there is no charge.

ST to Speak to James to cut back the side of the hedge alongside graves.

The next meeting date will be as follows:
Monday 8th December 2025 at 7.30pm at The Williams Hall, Stoke St Gregory.

Meeting Closed at 21.11