STOKE ST GREGORY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 10th August 2026 in The Meeting Room, Williams Hall, Dark Lane, Stoke St Gregory at 7.30pm

Present: John Hardy (Chairman), Jessie Cartwright (Vice Chair), Ann Finn, John Hembrow, Peter House, Becky Goodchild (Clerk), Norman Cavill, 2 members of the public.

Apologies for Absence: Julie Monro, Samantha Smith, David Fothergill.

Apologies accepted.

451. Approve and sign minutes of the July meeting:

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

452. Declarations of interests and dispensations: None

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

Members of the public raised their concern about the recent power cuts which have been frequent. There are concerns for how this might be affecting local businesses and people working from home.

Clerk to contact Western Power to ask why this is happening and how it will be resolved.

(All members of the public leave)

454. Planning

36/26/0008 Squab Cottage, Curload - Erection of a first floor extension to the rear

36/26/0002 Pound Close Cottage, Woodhill Road - Replacement of dwelling with associated works

36/26/0009 Normans, Griggs Hill - Erection of a car port, a front porch and accessible ramp and relocation of a front door

The parish council agreed to support all of the above applications.

Clerk to submit the responses to the Planning Department.

455. Somerset Councillor report

NC gave a monthly report of news from Somerset Council (report to be circulated by email to councillors).

456. Hemlock

AF advised that she has found hemlock and asked how it should be disposed of. Being harmful

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to people and animals it must be treated with care to prevent accidental poisoning or seed dispersal. All parts of the plant remain toxic after dying. It should not be put into garden waste bins or burned due to the release of toxins which can affect breathing. NC suggested asking for advice at Priorswood recycling centre.

457. Volunteer editors for the Newsletter required

The Newsletter currently has no editor and will no longer be produced unless someone volunteers to take on the role. It has been delivered to every household in the parish quarterly and the parish council believe it plays an important role in delivering local news to all residents including those who might not use social media. If you are interested in this role please contact the clerk or any of the parish councillors (email addresses are on the village website) for more information.

JHa to contact the outgoing editors to ask if it is possible for one more edition to be produced.

458. Defibrillators

-Replacement case for defibrillator at the Royal Oak £579 +VAT – The parish council agreed that a lockable replacement case should be purchased.

-The **new bleed kit** is now in place next to the defibrillator at the Royal Oak.

-Community event for training on use of defibrillator and bleed kit (suggested 12th Sept) – The parish council agreed to support this event.

PC to purchase defibrillator case.

459. Financial matters

The following payments were approved:

DATE of invoice	PAYEE	DETAIL	AMOUNT
10-8-26	Rebecca Goodchild	Clerk salary for July plus 9 extra hours in June	£429.54
10-7-26	Josh Williams	Grass cutting Inv 33	£115.00
220-7-26	Mark Curtis Computer Services	Reimbursement for purchase of laptop for clerk use. Inv 26210	£592.80
25-7-26	Samantha Smith	Reimbursement for purchase of bleed kit	£297.54
3-8-26	Samantha Smith	Reimbursement for purchase of defibrillator pads	£156.00
1-8-26	Nicholas Sloan	Village website maintenance for July 2026. Inv 841	£120.00

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Clerk banking access and signatories - JHe advised that he had been in contact with Lloyds bank as the clerk did not have the correct level of access. The payments agreed at the July meeting were set up for payment by the clerk for approval by JHe and AF but the transactions completed immediately. Lloyds have said this has now been resolved.

Clerk's extra hours – JHa advised that the clerk had needed to work extra time due to problems with banking and IT issues.

Laptop – The new laptop has been ordered.

Previous month's invoices to be signed – The invoices approved for payment at the July meeting were signed by JH and AF as having been paid.

460. Other items for discussion – None

Meeting closed at 8:25 pm

The next meeting will be on Monday 14th September 2026 at 7:30pm
at the Williams Hall, Stoke St Gregory.

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