

Minute Number 09 (24 - 25)

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Stockton Parish Council
Held in Stockton Village Hall at 7.15pm on 16th December 2025.**

Those present: -

Parish Councillors: Cllrs. C.Millidge, H.Kittendorf, J.Emberton , W.Rumsey, R.Rumsey, and T.Warner.

District Councillor: District Cllr.A.Crump

County Councillor: County Cllr.A.Crump

Public: 3 members of the public.

Item 1. Election of Chair for the meeting on 16th December 2024

It was proposed by Cllr.Kittendorf and seconded by Cllr.Emberton that Cllr.Millidge be elected as Chair for the meeting, there were no further nominees therefore Cllr.Millidge was elected unopposed.

Item 2. Acceptance of office declaration

Cllr.Millidge signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Chair then welcomed all to the December 2024 meeting of Stockton Parish Council

The Chair brought agenda items 17 and 18 forward to accommodate the Principal Authorities member present

Items 17.& 18 District and County Council Issues

Cllr.Crump sent his report to the meeting to all Cllrs prior to the meeting.

SDC.

Cllr.Crump noted that there could be a further local government reorganisation with the possible abolishment of District and Borough Council to be replaced by Unitary Authorities, Combined Authorities, with an overall elected mayor. This system could well defer the WCC elections for a year, with a shadow authority in 2026 and a new authority in 2027.

Cllr.Crump noted that HVO fuel is not being used in SDC refuse trucks in spite of the £750K costs.

Cllr.Crump noted that only 151 concessionary SDC parking permits have been sold despite 34,000 residents being eligible.

Cllr.Crump noted that consultation regarding sites for the SWLP starts in January 2025 with 12 potential new settlements (including near Deppers Bridge and Ufton). The plan means that that SDC and WDC will need a supply of 2,200 houses per year to 2050. Currently WDC has a 5 year Housing Land Supply (HLS), and SDC has a 24 year HLS, it was noted that Coventry and London housing requirement numbers have fallen while Warwickshire's requirement has almost doubled.

Cllr.Crump noted that the car parking income has dropped by £100K

Cllr.Crump has been helping residents with benefits and Orbit issues.

WCC

Cllr./Crump noted that the WCC local welfare hotline 0800 4081447 remains open for those in need of help for food and wellbeing

Cllr.Crump noted that WCC is not in S114 financial trouble but that the situation is challenging with a likely tax increase of 2.99% plus 2% adult social care premium.

The Fire Revenue budgets will increase by £2.1.M over the next 3 years with a

New Fire Training Centre to open in Rugby in Jan 25
 Stockton Crossroads – there will be a meeting on Wednesday at the crossroads.
 A request for a path to Long Itchington will not be met
 IT was noted that the latest accident at the crossroads was caused by driving without due care, speed not a factor.
 Noted unemployment in Warwickshire is down to 1.7% , however since September business growth has fallen
 Cllr,Crump noted that there could be 200+ extra pupils from private schools due to worries on VAT with fees however pupil places are at a premium.

Item 3. Open Forum

Representatives of the Village Hall Committee (VHC) indicated that they spoke to Napton Parish Council; the Church; Priors Marston PC; Football Club; and the Nelson club about their broadband connections and costs. It was noted that the Nelson Club uses Soler who provide more than a broadband connection and will do a service provision if required. The cost of Soler is £50 per month plus VAT which is £600 per annum plus VAT, in addition to the £1500 grant from the Parish Council. The VHC will put a proposal together, and send it to the Clerk for addition to a future agenda.

Item 4. Apologies for absence

Cllr.Collerson gave his apologies for absence.

Item 5. Acceptance of Apologies

It was proposed by Cllr.R.Rumsey and seconded by Cllr.Emberton that this apology for absence be accepted – **this motion was unanimously agreed.**

Item 6. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest

Item 7. Dispensations

No Dispensations were required

Item 8. Minutes of the 18th November 2024 Parish Council meeting.

These minutes having been previously circulated, It was proposed by Cllr. Warner and seconded by Cllr. R.Rumsey that the minutes of the 18th November 2024 be accepted as a true record - **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

Item 9. Matters arising from the minutes of the 18th November 2024 Parish Council meeting.

There were no matters arising

Item 10. Planning Matters:

a. New Planning applications

There were no planning applications received.

Planning Decisions by District Council or County Council

Item 11. Financial matters

It was proposed by Cllr.R.Rumsey and seconded by Cllr. Kittendorf that all invoices identified on the December 2024 agenda appendix 1 be paid – **This motion was unanimously agreed.**

December 2024 Invoices

Payee	Amount	Cheque Number
SSE	£178.11	001742
R. Stephenson	£16.00	001743
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd.	£358.06	001744
Midland Sign &Light.	£282.00	001745
F.Mann Farmers.	£1692.00	001746

	<p><u>Item 12. Budget and Precept for the financial year 2025-2026</u> After detailed discussion it was agreed in principle that the precept will be the same for the financial year 2025 – 2026 as it was in 2024 – 2025 (£31, 000), however should the financial circumstances of the Parish Council materially changes this level may be changed prior to the precept demand being made on Stratfor on Avon District Council in January 2025.</p> <p><u>Item 13. Village Hall Broadband and Heaters.</u> See discussion at open forum</p> <p><u>Item 14. Correspondence</u> There were no items for discussion.</p> <p><u>Item 15. Ongoing References</u> There were no items for discussion.</p> <p><u>Item 16. Removal and addition to ongoing references</u> There were no additions to or removals from ongoing references</p> <p><u>Item 17.Parish Council Calendar Actions</u> Budget Monitoring: The Clerk will send the spreadsheet to all Cllrs. Safety Audit of cemetery and Playing Field: The audit of the cemetery will be carried out as soon as practicable, and the Playing Field has been externally audited.</p> <p><u>Item 18. Training and Meetings</u> There were none attended</p> <p><u>Item 19. District Council Issues.</u> See prior to open forum.</p> <p><u>Item 18. County Council Issues</u> See prior to open forum</p> <p><u>Other Issues for information only</u> It was noted that although there was a notice to close Mount Pleasant, STW did not turn up now it appears that STW will not get another closure permit for 12 weeks (March 25). Rectory Close needs a road sweep Gully in Stockton Road and the gully by the Barley Mow are blocked.</p> <p>There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 9.15pm.</p>		