Parish Council
Thursday 18-Dec-2025 @ 18:30
Dave Law Sports Pavilion, Park Crescent, Stewartby

MINUTES

1: Apologies
Apologies were received from Cllr Sartain, Burnage (maternity leave) and Borough Councillor Spice.

2: Declarations on Interest in items on the Agenda
None.

3: To consider any applications for dispensation
None.

4: Public Participation
None.

5: Minutes of the previous meeting
The Council RESOLVED that Cllr Melville should sign the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on the 20th November 2025 and the confidential minutes as true and accurate records

6: Matters arising from previous minutes
Cllr Melville advised that there had been no progress with the Brickworks Site. Harworths will be attending the Parish Council meeting in January 2026 to provide an update.

Cllr Melville advised that he had not heard anything further from the contractor about the Sports Field paths. The Council RESOLVED to arrange for a solicitor's letter to be sent in the New Year.

Bedford Borough Council will seek to take enforcement action against the developers of the site on Broadmead Road as no planning application has been received or approval given

7: Chairman's Report
Cllr Melville advised that the Universal Studios planning application had been approved. A meeting will be scheduled with the Parish Council in January 2026.

Cllr Melville raised concerns about further flooding of the A421 which is of grave concern. The Council RESOLVED to write to Highways England to express their concerns.

Cllr Melville advised that a meeting of the Event Committee will be held on the 22nd January 2026.

The Chair advised that more Councillors were required and it was RESOLVED that a leaflet drop of all households in the Parish would be undertaken in the New Year.

Cllr Melville thanked Councillors for their efforts this year and advised that next year would be a very important and busy year for the Parish Council as it deals with large scale developments and celebrations for 100 years of Stewartby.

8: Report from Bedford Borough Council
In Cllr Spice's absence, Cllr Melville advised that Bedford Borough Council were equally concerned about the flooding on the A421.

Bedford Borough Council have pledged to support the Parish Council with Universal and any concerns. A working committee will be setup as soon as possible to facilitate this.

9: Clerk's Financial Report
9.1 Authorise payments for BACS Transfer

The Council RESOLVED to authorise the BACS Reports for the Parish Council and the Sports Pavilion.

9.2 Balances of Accounts

Members were advised that as at the 30th November 2025, the balances of the Parish Council and

Sports Fields accounts were as follows:

£33,169.44
£97,996.34 (includes part of the grant for the play area)
£10,966.11
£360,359.24

9.3 Internal Auditor's 2nd Quarter Bank Reconciliation Review

The Clerk advised that this had not yet been received.

9.4 Annual Return 2024-25 External Auditor Report

The Clerk advised that this has not yet been received from Mazars.

10: Quotations for authorisation

10.1 Replacement Water Tank for the Village Hall Flat

The Council RESOLVED to accept the quote from Rushton Plumbing.

11: Village Hall Flat

Cllr Melville advised that the tenancy had not got off to a great start as the flat had not been cleaned and there have been some other issues. The tenants would also like the wooden trellis replaced with metal bars for security reasons.

12: Planning Applications & Decisions

12.1 Planning Applications & Decisions received after the despatch of the Agenda

Ref: 25/02465/PIP Planning Permission in Principle Application

Proposal for for Permission in Principle for the erection of up to 6 Dwellings @ Land Rear Of Railway Cottages, Ampthill Road, Kempston Hardwick, Bedfordshire, MK45 3JG

The Council RESOLVED that it had no objections in principle to this application however the dwellings should be used as permanent homes, not holidays lets or short-term rentals.

13: Items of an urgent nature or for inclusion on the next agenda

None

14: Close of Meeting and items for the next Agenda.

Meeting closed at 7.15 pm.

15: Date and Time of Next Meeting

Precept Meeting will be held on the 8th January 2026 @ 7.00 pm.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 15th January 2026 @ 6.30 pm.