

**Minutes of Brook Parish Council Meeting held in
Brook Village Hall on Thursday, 22nd October 2015**

Present

John Tomkins (Chair)
Janet Jessop
Larry Linin

Simon Betty
Jamel Medhurst

In Attendance

2 members of the public

To be actioned by

The meeting started at 7.00pm	
Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Mrs Finn.	
Declaration of interest in items on the agenda There were no declarations of interest.	
Minutes of the Meeting on 17 th September 2015 were approved as a true record.	
Matters Arising from the Minutes The fencing around the play area is still to be done, it is agreed that a working party will complete this at 10 am on 26 th October. Ownership of Stonebridge is being looked into. The mill pond has been cleared.	
Playground 3 areas have been highlighted in the RoSPA report that require remedial work are due to be undertaken: 1. the signs on the gate have sharp edges protruding, 2. the fence on the back edge of the play area needs replacing (already scheduled to be undertaken) and 3. the mat at the base of the slide is a trip hazard, it needs burying to be flush with the wood chippings.	
Caretaker Scheme Mr Michael Hinchliffe joined the Parish Council for a discussion regarding the Caretaker Scheme. Mr Hinchliffe gave an update as to the current situation regarding the Village Caretaker Scheme. He explained that at the meeting on 21 st October it had been agreed that the wage would be £7.85 per hour increasing to £9.10 per hour. There is a shortfall of £2.5K initially rising to £7.5K. The Parish Councillors discussed their fears of not being given enough time as the village of Brook is significantly smaller than that of Mersham or Brabourne. Cllr Tomkins asked the Councillors to respond with their preference: 1. Accept the Village Caretaker Scheme with proposed costs 2. Accept the Village Caretaker Scheme but cap the costs at an additional £600 or 3. Decline to be part of the Caretaker Scheme.	
Finances The Financial Statement was circulated. A budget against expenditure was also circulated. A cheque was signed for £40 to Lawncare.	
Correspondence The Clerk had circulated all correspondence.	
Public Participation The Public had no further comments to make.	

Any Other Business Cllr Medhurst reported that dog fouling on the recreation ground is an issue. The Clerk was asked to obtain further signs from the dog warden and a fly tipping sign from KCC.	
The next meeting was confirmed as Thursday, 12 th November 2015, the Clerk would like any items for the agenda by Monday 2 nd November, please.	All
There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 8.35 PM.	