



# CROMMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
Held at Crommarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2015,  
starting at 7.30pm**

**Present:**

Mr J Griffin (Chair)	Mrs F Jones
Mrs F Cheeseman	Mr S Sherbourne
Mr N Hannigan	Mr S Soames
Prof A Johnson	Mrs F Stevenson

**Attending:** Ms C M Malcolm (Finance Officer) and Mrs S Rance (Clerk). Three members of the public attended part of the meeting.

**Apologies:** Received from County Cllr M Gray, District Cllr K Crabbe, Mr S R Brown and Mrs A Lowes.

**Declarations of interest:** Cllr Hannigan declared an interest in planning application P15/S0059/HH.

NO.		ACTION
4295	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>  The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 <sup>th</sup> December were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
4296	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>  <u>Item 4285:</u> Jethro Tull Gardens: the trees have been planted and are doing well.  <u>Item 4290:</u> Cllr Stevenson has circulated details of the Facebook page.  Councillors have been deeply shocked by the fire at the SODC offices and Chadwicks' Funeral business. The Clerk will write to the Chadwick family on behalf of the council.	<b>Clerk</b>
4297	<b>REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES</b>  <u>Environment and Recreation Ground</u>  Cllr Johnson presented draft plans which have been drawn up for possible change of use of two of the changing rooms at the	

	<p>Pavilion. One possibility was to convert this part of the pavilion into a new meeting room. Alternatively, these two rooms could be retained, converting one into a store and the other a kitchen. The club room could then be enlarged and possibly divided into two. The improvements could cost up to £30k - £40k.</p> <p>The aim of the modifications would be to increase hirings and therefore revenue, whilst improving the facilities available. The meeting rooms might be of interest to local businesses now that SODC is no longer an option.</p> <p>It was noted that considerable work would be required to convert the changing rooms.</p> <p>The first option would mean removing the load-bearing wall, installing a steel lintel and creating new windows. Cllr Sherbourne expressed concern about the cost of such major structural alterations. He suggested researching possible grant funding.</p> <p>The project would need to be considered in conjunction with other demands on the council's funds, such as the proposed pedestrian crossing and the need to retain contingency funds. The Finance Officer will present a summary of the council's funds for the March meeting.</p> <p>It was agreed that councillors should visit the facilities first in order to consider the options in more detail and Cllr Johnson will arrange this.</p> <p><u>Traffic and Transport</u></p> <p>Cllr Jones had circulated notes on the Parish Transport Representatives meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January.</p> <p>Bus Stop Poster Keys: Cllr Jones is obtaining a key for the bus timetable case at Jewsons.</p> <p>Details of the County Council budget cuts will be finalised on 17<sup>th</sup> February. The transport budget has now been pooled, which may lead to a more equitable share of the cuts.</p> <p>Local Transport Reviews: tendering is now in process and will be presented to the Cabinet on 19<sup>th</sup> March. There are likely to be some cuts in rural bus routes.</p> <p>Bus Subsidies: new pupils will have to go to their catchment school to qualify for school transport subsidy.</p> <p>Community Driving Scheme: Age UK is recruiting volunteer drivers as over 6,000 people are no longer eligible for ambulance</p>	<p><b>RFO</b></p> <p><b>AJ</b></p>
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	<p>type transport to hospital appointments.</p> <p>Didcot Orchard Centre Expansion: this will build on the current bus route from Broadway to the railway station, so buses will have to be re-routed.</p> <p>Real Time Information and Signage: Not all Thames Travel buses are compliant with real time information. OCC is taking this up with them. There is no X39/40 timetable at the St Aldates bus stop. David Bellchambers will take this up with Thames Travel.</p> <p><u>Traffic Calming on Portway</u></p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne has been liaising with OCC on possible traffic calming options. £130K is the estimated cost of a pedestrian crossing. A digital speed camera could be considered. This would cost around £40K. Cllr Sherbourne recommended that a feasibility study could be carried out into a speed camera which covers both directions simultaneously. It is important to be sure that the police would provide the necessary support for the system.</p> <p>Another consideration is whether the Parish Council should get involved in funding equipment which is a Highways issue.</p> <p>Local people have reported that there has been a problem for a long time for traffic exiting from Cox Lane. The road is very wide and this encourages traffic to travel faster.</p> <p>It was agreed that Cllr Sherbourne will consult the police and OCC Highways to ascertain whether a camera is an option. He will liaise with Cllr Gray.</p>	<p><b>SSh</b></p>
<p><b>4298</b></p>	<p><b>FINANCE</b></p> <p>a) <u>Payments made in December, January and February to date</u></p> <p>Payments of £726 and £1014 have been made to Arrow Fencing for new posts at the Recreation Ground and for work on the play area which was recommended by ROSPA.</p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne will take a water meter reading at the allotments.</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Soames that the payments be approved and this was agreed.</p> <p>b) <u>Accounts Status at 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015</u></p> <p>The accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> January were presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An increase of £400 in income from the pavilion was</li> </ul>	<p><b>SSh</b></p>



	<p>It was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that a donation of £50 be made and this was agreed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wallingford Volunteer Centre</li> </ul> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Stevenson that a donation of £100 be made and this was agreed.</p> <p>g) <u>Any Other Matters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Soames queried how long the Council is likely to be able to settle invoices by cheque. It was agreed to take no action at present as there could be problems meeting the requirement for two authorisations when paying electronically.</li> <li>• Unit Trust Account: a bank mandate was completed, removing Mr Owen as an officer and replacing him with Ms Malcolm.</li> <li>• Backing Up of Parish Council Data: it was agreed that the Clerk will purchase a high capacity memory stick which will be kept off-site. This is the system currently used by the Finance Officer.</li> </ul>	<b>Clerk</b>
4299	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p> <p>It was noted with regret that the SODC Planning Department had been totally destroyed in the recent fire but valiant efforts are being made to get back to normal working.</p> <p><b>Decisions:</b> The Council noted the following decisions from SODC.</p> <p>P14/S3333/HH (Householder): Application proposal, including any amendments: Erection of front porch extension and forming additional side elevation window opening for new cloakroom. 31 Robert Sparrow Gardens, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8DQ: PERMISSION GRANTED.</p> <p>P14/S3544/HH (Householder): Application proposal, including any amendments: Proposed hard standing area. Mulberry Cottage, 69 The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EF: PERMISSION GRANTED.</p> <p><b>Applications:</b> The Council agreed its response to SODC on the following applications:</p> <p>P14/S3055/HH (Householder): Amended details. Remove existing rear extension and replace with new timber framed extension with increased footprint, (as amplified by Shadowing Report accompanying e-mail from agent received 20<sup>th</sup> December</p>	

	<p>2014). Church Cottages, Church Lane, North Stoke, OX10 6BH: RECOMMEND APPROVAL.</p> <p>P14/S4073/HH (Householder): Part retrospective application for erection of extensions to accommodate enlarged kitchen/dining area, home office and studio, (amendments to approved application P14/S1177/HH). 39 Thames Mead, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EY: RECOMMEND APPROVAL.</p> <p>P15/S0059/HH (Householder): Three storey rear extension with third storey in roof space. 10 Jethro Tull Gardens, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8DS: RECOMMEND APPROVAL.</p> <p><b>Correspondence</b></p> <p>P/14/S3055/HH and P14/S3056/LB: Proposed removal of existing rear extension and replacement with new timber framed extension with increased footprint, (as amended by drawing 767-2B altering roof material). Church Cottages, Church Lane, North Stoke, OX10 6BH, The Council have been informed that these applications will come before the planning committee on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015. The meeting will start at 6:00 p.m., in the Fountain Conference Centre, HR Wallingford, Howbery Park.</p>	
<p><b>4300</b></p>	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <p>The following correspondence was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter about an Oil Buying Club – passed to Cllr Soames.</li> <li>• Letter from Network Rail about electrification of the railway line.</li> <li>• Letter from a Goring resident about moorings at the Riverside Park. It was noted that the moorings are not in Crowmarsh Parish and this matter is being dealt with by SODC and Wallingford Town Council. The Clerk will respond.</li> <li>• Information from Earth Trust about forthcoming activities.</li> <li>• ‘Chalk and Trees’ magazine from the Chilterns Conservation Board.</li> <li>• A letter had been received from Wallingford Town Council requesting the Parish Council to nominate a Trustee for Wallingford Bridge Estate Charity. The Parish Council’s current nominee is Mr John Bellamy, who has indicated his willingness to stand for a further term of four years. It was agreed to nominate Mr Bellamy once more. The Clerk will reply accordingly.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>4301</b></p>	<p><b>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</b></p> <p>The website will be updated with the current traffic and transport</p>	

	information.	<b>FS</b>
<b>4302</b>	<p><b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b></p> <p>Cllr Crabbe had submitted a written report on the current thinking about future plans for the Crowmarsh offices. The insurance assessor's findings are awaited and a decision about whether to rebuild or redevelop the site will be made in the light of this. Meanwhile the District Council is considering medium term options in Milton Park and Abingdon.</p>	
<b>4304</b>	<p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March, starting at 7.30pm. A date for the Annual Parish Meeting will be considered at that time.</p>	
<b>4305</b>	<p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Jones reported on a flood prevention meeting at which it was suggested that Parish Councils could take over riparian responsibilities.</li> <li>• Cllr Jones will send the Mongewell Residents' Group a copy of the Parish Council's emergency plan.</li> </ul>	
	The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.	