



CROWMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at North Stoke Village Hall on Thursday 6th October 2016
starting at 7.30pm**

Present:

Mr J Griffin (Chair)	Mr D Mannering
Mr N Hannigan	Mrs A Sharp
Prof A Johnson	Mr S Sherbourne
Mrs F Jones	Mr S Soames

Attending: Mr K Moloney (Finance Officer) and Mrs S Rance (Clerk). County Councillor Gray attended part of the meeting. Four members of the public attended part of the meeting.

Apologies: Received from Mr A Hermsen and Mrs F Stevenson.

Declarations of interest: None.

The meeting was quorate.

NO.		ACTION
4518	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW FINANCE OFFICER Mr K Moloney, the recently appointed Finance Officer, was welcomed to the meeting. Mr Moloney has worked in finance throughout his career in a variety of settings and is a Fellow of the Institute of Management Accountants.	
4519	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the meeting held on 8 th September were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
4520	MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES <u>Item 4508: Noticeboards.</u> This will be discussed at the November meeting. <u>Item 4508: Roadside Vegetation.</u> Cllr Sherbourne reported that vegetation at the Crowmarsh roundabout has been cut back, partly by the county council's contractors and partly by Mr	Clerk (Agenda)

	<p>Sherbourne himself. Mr Sherbourne will photograph the roundabout as a record of how it should look. This will be kept under review.</p> <p><u>Item 4508:</u> Cllr Jones will report the large pothole at the entrance to the Riverside Park to the Highways Authority via 'Fix my Street'.</p> <p><u>Item 4508 Ash Tree at Jethro Tull Gardens:</u> Cllr Sharp has arranged to meet with the resident to discuss her concerns.</p> <p><u>Item 4514 Bus Shelter on A4074:</u> Cllr Griffin reported that Benson Parish Council does not consider there is a need for a bus shelter at the bus stop on the A4074 opposite the end of Benson Lane. This will be kept under review.</p> <p><u>Item 4517:</u> In addition to the three grit bins which are needed at Park View, Cllr Sherbourne reported that there is a need for an additional bin at the entrance to Crowmarsh Hill from the Henley Road. The Clerk will contact Oxfordshire County Council. County Councillor Gray recommended the use of the Highways Liaison Service for raising concerns with OCC.</p>	<p>FJ</p> <p>AS</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>4521</p>	<p>PLANNING</p> <p><i>Decisions: The Council noted the following decisions from SODC.</i></p> <p>P16/S2357/HH (Householder): Application proposal, including any amendments: Loft conversion with velux roof windows to both side elevations. 15 Jethro Tull Gardens, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8DS. PERMISSION GRANTED.</p> <p>P16/S2500/LB (Listed Building Consent): Application proposal, including any amendments: To remove all existing ceilings upstairs, insulate between rafters with 50mm celotex insulation, counter batten all areas and apply tri-iso multi layer foil insulation, counter batten again and re-board complete area with 12.5mm plasterboard and apply plaster finish. 1 Church Cottages, Church Lane, North Stoke OX10 6BH. PERMISSION GRANTED.</p> <p>P16/S2659/HH (Householder): Application proposal, including any amendments: Proposed loft conversion. 35 Howbery Farm, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8NR. PERMISSION GRANTED.</p> <p><i>Applications: The Council was asked to agree its response to SODC on the following applications:</i></p> <p>P16/S2961/FUL (Full Application): Erection of two detached houses with new (shared) highway access. Land fronting Wallingford Road, North Stoke OX10 6BD. RECOMMEND REFUSAL for the following reasons.</p>	

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Crowmarsh Parish Council considers this application is over-development of the site. 2. The shared access arrangement and limited on-site parking for two four bedroomed properties have the potential to create a dangerous situation on the B4009, taking into account the close proximity of the bus stop. 3. The size, design and positioning of the proposed development will have a significant impact on the neighbouring properties with the scale and bulk resulting in overlooking and potential loss of light. <p>P16/S3040/HH (Householder): Single storey, front, side and rear extensions. 15 Newnham Green, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EW. RECOMMEND APPROVAL.</p> <p>P16/S3175/HH (Householder): Demolition and replacement of existing lean-to boiler housing, replacement of timber boards forming the roof the front porch and alterations to the front door. 1 Church Cottages, Church Lane, North Stoke OX10 6BH. RECOMMEND APPROVAL.</p> <p>P16/S3176/LB (Listed Building Consent): Demolition and replacement of existing lean-to boiler housing, replacement of timber boards forming the roof the front porch and alterations to the front door. 1 Church Cottages, Church Lane, North Stoke OX10 6BH. RECOMMEND APPROVAL.</p> <p>P16/S3186/HH (Householder): Garage conversion to habitable accommodation and second-storey extension above. 27 Howbery Farm, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8NR. RECOMMEND APPROVAL.</p>	
4522	<p>REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR</p> <p>County Councillor Gray reported that the county council has decided to opt for a single unitary authority for the whole of Oxfordshire with locality meetings for the five districts in the county. Oxfordshire would be the third largest authority in the country, along with Birmingham and Leeds. This arrangement is expected to save £20-30 million per year. The government is now encouraging councils to coalesce. However, the District Councils have proposed an alternative.</p> <p>Grammar Schools: a large majority of councillors have voted to oppose this.</p> <p>Proposed crossing at A4074: Cllr Sherbourne reported that the invoice and hard copy of the initial survey report is awaited. Cllr Gray will talk to Keith Stenning and ask what is the next step to get the crossing project adopted.</p>	MG

	<p>Access path to riverside from Stephen's Field: Cllr Griffin has spoken to Councillor David Nimmo-Smith, the county council cabinet member responsible, who has said he will chase this up. Cllr Gray will make enquiries about progress.</p> <p>It is hoped that grants for community projects will continue. It is also planned to offer training for volunteers.</p>	
4523	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>a) Consideration of payments made in September</p> <p>A schedule of payments made in September was presented and the following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £714.00 was paid to Scofell for grass cutting. • £186.94 was paid to Grundon for refuse collection. <p>It was proposed by Cllr Hannigan and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that the payments be approved and this was agreed.</p> <p>b) Accounts Status at 30th September</p> <p>A report on receipts and payments at 31st August was presented. The bank balance on the current account was £48,375.83. Funds on deposit were £91,286.97 and there was £2850.50 in the Unity Trust Account. The Finance Officer reported that the council's accounts are run on a cash basis and after discussion it was agreed to continue with this system.</p> <p>c) Any Other Matters</p> <p>It was recommended that the Finance Officer should become a member of the Society of Local Council Clerks. This would be funded by the Parish Council. The Clerk will forward the contact details to him.</p> <p>d) Grass Cutting</p> <p>Cllr Sharp recommended that for next season's cutting of the verges and open spaces, two cuts should be carried out in April, May and June and one cut for July, August, September and October, a total of ten cuts in all. This could be adjusted if necessary, depending on the weather conditions. The Crowmarsh Recreation Ground is cut on a weekly basis.</p>	Clerk

	<p>After discussion it was agreed that ten cuts would be preferred for the North Stoke Recreation Ground. However this would require initial remedial work to prepare the ground for ongoing maintenance. The scouts have cleared the pathway to the recreation ground. Cllr Soames will speak to the contractor.</p> <p>Cllr Sharp will request quotes for the above three areas for next year.</p>	<p>SS</p> <p>AS</p>
4524	<p>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</p> <p>The Chairman has contacted Nettlebed Parish Council about the question of neighbourhood plans and will discuss this with them.</p>	JG
4525	<p>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</p> <p>Cllr Hermsen has circulated an email about re-designing the website. He and Cllr Stevenson will work together on this. Suggestions from councillors are welcomed.</p>	ALL
4526	<p>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</p> <p><u>Environment and Recreation Ground</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Johnson is in the process of completing a Centenary Fields application for the Crowmarsh Recreation Ground. He will consult Mr David Beasley for some of the necessary information. • Some of the saplings planted at the nature area by Scofell are now becoming established, along with a number of black poplars. Cllr Johnson will arrange for Scofell to spray the nettles in the area and obtain bark chippings for the path to improve the conditions underfoot. • It has been agreed to accept the cheapest of three quotes for the basketball court, £5,400 plus VAT. It was agreed to delay installation until after applying to SODC for a grant: the grant scheme opens on 31st October. Planning permission will not be required because the Parish Council has permitted development rights to make an addition to a recreation ground. • Water Supply for Allotment Holders: it was noted that the Emery Owen Trust allotments have covers on their water troughs which prevent the water from becoming stagnant. An alternative solution would be to have a tap with an automatic shut off. It was agreed to investigate this further. 	Ssh

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drainage Issues: the recent heavy rain caused drainage problems. Cllr Griffin may have a schematic of the drainage system. If not, it was agreed to request one from Thames Water. <p><u>Traffic and Transport</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The minutes of the recent Parish Transport Reps' meeting will be circulated by Cllr Jones. The county council has cancelled the Go Ride contract for the school run to Wallingford School and is now using a taxi service, which costs more. Cllr Gray will be asked to take this up. There has been some traffic speed monitoring on the A4074 recently. The police would be asked to continue regular speed checks. 	<p>JG</p> <p>FJ</p>
4527	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>The following correspondence was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letter from a resident about the proposals for a new housing development behind the Newnham Green estate. Email from Mr Rupert Shute regarding a planning application he plans to submit shortly. The Clerk will respond. Letter from a resident expressing concern about possible flooding in The Street which could result when the spring is running as the ditch has been filled in. It was noted that ditches are the responsibility of the riparian landowner. 	Clerk
4528	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 3rd November at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.</p>	
4529	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Sharp raised the question of footpath improvements needed in Crowmarsh. This will be discussed at a future meeting. IT equipment needed for parish council officers will be discussed at the next meeting. A draft letter from Cllr Sherbourne regarding possible future use of the SODC site will be circulated to councillors. 	<p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)</p> <p>)Clerk-Agenda</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic spending priorities to be reviewed at the November meeting. • Storage of sandbags will be discussed at the November meeting.)))
	The meeting closed at 10.00pm.	