



# CROWMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
Held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2015,  
starting at 7.30pm**

**Present:**

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

**Attending:** Ms C M Malcolm (Finance Officer) and Mrs S Rance (Clerk). County Councillor M Gray attended part of the meeting. One member of the public attended part of the meeting.

**Apologies:** Received from Cllr M Fillmore, Cllr A Hermsen and Cllr A Johnson.

**Declarations of interest:** None.

The meeting was quorate.

NO.		ACTION
4414	<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>  The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 <sup>th</sup> November were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
4415	<b>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>  <u>Item 4392 Grass Cutting:</u> Cllr Sherbourne has planted bulbs at Crowmarsh Hill and has also cut the grass at the entrance to the footpath from Crowmarsh Hill to Park View. This will be added to the specification for next season.  <u>Item 4403 Waste Regulations:</u> The Clerk has circulated information on the new waste regulations. Consideration will be given to whether all the existing dog bins are needed in view of the new regulations. This will be discussed at the February meeting. The Finance Officer will check on the duration of the contract to empty dog bins.  <u>Item 4401: Former SODC offices:</u> the Clerk has been in contact with SODC about air monitoring and pest control at this site.	<b>RFO</b>

	<p><u>Item 4404</u>: The quote from Mr Cottrell for remedial work to the ash tree at Jethro Tull Gardens was approved.</p> <p><u>Item 4405: Village Green North Stoke Charity</u>: The Clerk has contacted the Charity Commission and the details of the charity have been amended to reflect the fact that the land at the Village Green is owned by the charity.</p>	
4416	<p><b>FINANCE</b></p> <p>(a) <u>Consideration of payments made in November</u></p> <p>A schedule of payments made in November was presented. It was noted that there are now 18 allotment plots and the affiliation fee to the Allotments and Gardens Council is £18.00. The fee for public liability insurance for allotment holders is £75.70. Income from the allotments is about £150. A new pump has been fitted at the pavilion at a cost of £407.76. It was proposed by Cllr Hannigan and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that the payments be approved and this was agreed.</p> <p>(b) <u>Accounts Status at 30<sup>th</sup> November</u></p> <p>It was noted that the recreation ground/pavilion accounts are almost at breakeven point, which is an improvement on previous years.</p> <p>(c) <u>Draft Budget for 2016/17</u></p> <p>Possibilities for future capital projects were discussed at an informal meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November. Cllr Johnson has drawn up a project comparison sheet and this was circulated. Councillors are asked to rank the projects in order of preference and return the sheet to Cllr Johnson with comments and/or other ideas. This will be discussed further at the February meeting.</p> <p>The draft budget was presented. An inflationary increase of 3% has been allowed for general costs. £500 has been budgeted for possible extra costs resulting from County Council delegated items. Miscellaneous costs have been increased by £500 as a possible donation to support an alternative to the Dial a Ride service, which is being withdrawn by the County Council.</p> <p>It is hoped to undertake a Tree Survey in the next year.</p> <p>Cllr Griffin has contacted Arrow Fencing regarding the possible provision of a bus shelter opposite the village hall now that the bench has gone.</p>	ALL

	<p>A precept of £38.201 was proposed; this would result in the council tax for a Band D property increasing by £1 per annum. Due to the withdrawal of the council tax revenue support grant, this would result in the Parish Council's income remaining the same. An announcement to this effect will be published in Crowmarsh News.</p> <p>After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Griffin that the budget be approved and this was agreed.</p> <p>(d) <u>Requests for Grants and Donations</u></p> <p><b>South Oxfordshire Food and Education Alliance (SOFEA)</b> This local charity redistributes surplus food from supermarkets and provides work and training for young unemployed people. It was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that a grant of £100 be made and this was agreed.</p> <p><b>Oxfordshire Befriending for Life (OxBEL)</b> This local community service is run by the charity Age UK Oxfordshire and supports adults who are living with a terminal illness. It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Hannigan that a grant of £100 be made and this was agreed.</p> <p>(e) <u>Other Matters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Finance Officer requested permission to write off an unrecoverable debt of £45 and this was agreed.</li> <li>• The Finance Officer reported that it is now possible to opt out of the system of having an external auditor appointed by the government. A decision has to be made now for the next three years. However, it is unlikely that the audit would be any cheaper under a new arrangement as an external auditor would still have to be found. The Finance Officer recommended maintaining the status quo. This was agreed.</li> </ul>	
4417	<p><b>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</b></p> <p>A Thames Mead resident reported on problems with inappropriate parking. This became a serious issue during the recent Head of the River Race, when the road became so congested that it would have been impassable for emergency vehicles. Jewson's delivery vehicles can also cause a blockage, partly because the layby outside their premises is usually occupied by residents' vehicles. Lorries also still park in the bus layby. When challenged one driver claimed that he had the right to park for twenty minutes. This will be checked.</p>	

	<p>The resident suggested that double yellow lines could be introduced at the junction of Thames Mead with The Street, or possibly bollards could be placed there. White lines (not mandatory) had been there for several years but are not always observed.</p> <p>Regarding the above request for bollards at Thames Mead, Cllr Gray considered that these could constitute a hazard for some pedestrians. Double yellow lines need formal consultation which is costly; white lines are easier to obtain. Cllr Gray will arrange for a Highways Officer to visit and meet with councillors.</p> <p>It was agreed to refer these matters to the Traffic and Transport Committee for further investigation.</p> <p>A copy of a letter sent to the race organisers has been received from H. Chadwick Funeral Directors about the parking problems experienced during the Head of the River event. The organisers have replied direct to H. Chadwick and copied to the Chairman. It was agreed that in future organisers of any major event should be expected to advise the Parish Council in advance to discuss suitable parking arrangements.</p>	<p><b>MG</b></p> <p><b>Traffic/ Transport</b></p>
<p><b>4418</b></p>	<p><b>REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR</b></p> <p>County Councillor Gray reported that the proposed cuts in household waste and recycling centres have been deferred to 2017. Opening hours may be reduced at some or all sites.</p> <p>Further cuts in services are expected in February's County Council budget. Research is being done into the financial impact of the introduction of the 'living wage' on local council services.</p> <p>Cllr Gray will arrange a meeting between the Parish Council, a representative of the County Council and Chris Hulme of the police force to discuss the proposals for traffic calming measures on the A4074,.</p> <p>Cllr Jones reported that the emergency plan is due for review but no update had been received from the County Council. Cllr Gray will look into this.</p>	<p><b>MG</b></p> <p><b>MG</b></p>
<p><b>4419</b></p>	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p> <p><b>Decisions:</b> The Council noted the following decisions from SODC.</p> <p>P15/S3211/HH (Householder): Single storey side and rear extension. 14 Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8ED: PERMISSION GRANTED.</p>	

P15/S3221/HH (Householder): Double and single storey rear extensions. Replacement glazing. Provision of PV panels to rear roof slope of existing house and roof slope to new rear extension. Demolition of existing outbuildings (as amended by revised plan received on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2015 showing a reduction in the depth of the two and single storey extensions). 24 Wallingford Road, North Stoke OX10 6BB: PERMISSION GRANTED.

P15/S3350/HH (Householder): Garsons Cottage, Pocock Lane, North Stoke, OX10 6BG: PERMISSION GRANTED.

**Applications:** The Council was asked to agree its response to SODC on the following applications:

P14/S2860/O (Outline) Amendment No. 2, dated 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015: Residential development comprising 555 dwellings, a one form entry primary school, associated landscaping and open spaces, construction of a new access onto the A3140 Calvin Thomas Way/Bosley Way, construction of a public transport link/emergency access onto Wantage Road and other supporting infrastructure works and facilities. (As amended by revised drawings and supporting information received 16<sup>th</sup> September 2015 and as amended by additional information, planting schedule, assessment of Mill Brook and highway information received on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2015). Land to the West of Wallingford (Site B), Wallingford (in the parishes of Wallingford and Brightwell cum Sotwell). NO STRONG VIEWS.

P15/S3751/HH (Householder): Proposed two storey rear extensions, and conversion of space over garage to study, and additional roof openings. 2 Jethro Tull Gardens, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8DS. RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

P15/S3764/FUL (Full Application): Removal of condition 15 on application P10/W1752 (demolition of existing dwellings and associated ancillary buildings. Construction of five detached replacement dwellings. Creation of three new vehicle and one new pedestrian gates through existing boundary wall.) Willow Lake, Mongewell Park, Mongewell (in the parish of Crowmarsh), OX10 8DA. NO STRONG VIEWS.

P15/S4085/HH (Householder): Double and single storey extensions. 12 Thames Mead, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EU. RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

### **Change of Property Name**

The Council have been informed that the name of the property formerly known as Jalna has been changed to Sunnyside, Old Reading Road, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford, OX10 8EN.

4420	<p><b>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</b></p> <p><u>Environment/Recreation Ground</u></p> <p>Any necessary action regarding the willow trees at the nature area will be considered at the next committee meeting which will be held in late January or early February.</p> <p>It was noted that Lister Wilder have planted trees on their site.</p> <p><u>Traffic and Transport</u></p> <p>It was noted that following the County Council budget meeting, more information will be available on the future of transport services including Go Ride. Meetings are to be held between bus providers and Parish Councils. It was noted that the 134 Go Ride bus service between Wallingford, The Stokes and Goring has about 100 passengers per day.</p>	
4421	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A letter has been received from a resident, sent to SODC and copied to the Parish Council, regarding air quality in Wallingford High Street where it meets Wallingford Bridge. The Clerk will circulate this to all councillors.</li> <li>• OALC have an on-line petition to the government campaigning for Parish Councils to have a right of appeal against planning decisions.</li> </ul>	<b>Clerk</b>
4422	<p><b>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</b></p> <p>Councillors were reminded to use the Crowmarsh Facebook page.</p>	
4423	<p><b>DATES OF MEETINGS FOR 2016</b></p> <p>Dates of meetings for 2016 were agreed and will be circulated with the minutes.</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> February at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.</p>	<b>Clerk</b>
	<p>The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.</p>	