



CROMMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at North Stoke Village Hall on Thursday 7th July 2016
starting at 7.30pm**

Present:

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

Attending: Ms C M Malcolm (Finance Officer), and Mrs S Rance (Clerk). County Cllr M Gray attended part of the meeting.

Apologies: Received from Mrs A Sharp.

Declarations of interest: None.

The meeting was quorate.

NO.		ACTION
4486	<p>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>Two items had been omitted from the previous minutes under Any Other Business.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cllr Sherbourne reported that quad bikes had damaged the banks, walkway and grass along a stretch of the Ridgeway in the parish.• Cllr Soames reported that the parish noticeboards are in a very poor state and consideration should be given to repairing or replacing them. Cllr Jones will contact Cllr McMillan of South Stoke Parish Council, to ask who made their noticeboards. <p>Subject to these amendments, the minutes of the meeting held on 9th June were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	FJ

<p>4487</p>	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</p> <p><u>Item 4475 Emergency Plan:</u> Cllr Jones has this in hand.</p> <p><u>Item 4475 Allotment Land:</u> Cllr Sherbourne has contacted the resident who is interested in purchasing a piece of unused allotment land. The resident is aware of the complexity of the process and will research the costs and valuation before making an offer.</p> <p><u>Item 4475: Section 106 funding from proposed development at the former Springs Hotel:</u> Cllr Gray has spoken to Mark Francis of OCC Highways who arranged a site meeting with Cllr Soames and Mr Tony Kirkwood. The suggested chicane at the entrance to North Stoke is not practical as there is no street lighting in the wooded area where it would be needed. Speed bumps are a possibility; alternatively the speed limit could be reinforced with white gates or 30mph roundels in the road. The cost of the measures could be around £2000 to be sought from developer contributions. Cllr Gray will monitor this. The planning application has not yet been determined.</p> <p><u>Item 4475: Grass Cutting Contract:</u> Cllr Sharp has contacted Scofell and has negotiated additional cuts in some public areas of Crowmarsh to raise them to acceptable standards. A vote of thanks was made to her for taking this forward.</p> <p><u>Item 4475: Parking at Stephen's Field.</u> Cllr Gray will investigate the reason for the delay in opening the road leading to the riverside park.</p> <p>The Clerk will contact Croudace for information about the timeframe for handing the public space over to the Parish Council.</p> <p><u>Item 4482: Inappropriate parking at Howbery Farm:</u> this matter has been resolved.</p>	<p>FJ</p> <p>JG/SSh</p> <p>MG</p> <p>MG</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<p>4488</p>	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>a) Consideration of strategic priorities for capital expenditure</p> <p>Cllr Johnson reported that councillors had rated traffic issues as the highest priority, followed by improvements at the recreation ground. Cllr Stevenson will post the list of identified projects on the website as a guide to possible spending priorities. Cllr Griffin will send it to the Crowmarsh News. Costings will be added in due course.</p>	<p>FS JG/</p>

	<p>b) Consideration of payments made in June</p> <p>A schedule of payments made in June was presented and the following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree work was carried out at the Recreation Ground by Tom Cottrell at a cost of £816.00 • A payment of £272 for geraniums planted at the Queen's Head roundabout, was approved and a vote of thanks made to Cllr Sherbourne for planting and maintaining them. <p>It was proposed by Cllr Hannigan and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that the payments be approved and this was agreed.</p> <p>c) Accounts Status at 30th June</p> <p>The Finance Officer reported that receipts for the first quarter were slightly lower than the previous year. However, the grass cutting grant had not yet been received.</p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne recommended that a new pair of defibrillator pads should be purchased at a cost of £74.95 plus VAT for a pair. This was approved.</p> <p>d) Grant Application from Home-Start South Oxon</p> <p>Home-Start supports families in South Oxfordshire and is based in Didcot. A request for a grant had been received from them and after discussion it was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Mannering that a donation of £100 be made. This was agreed.</p> <p>e) Any Other Matters</p> <p>The Finance Officer has registered herself as a delegated user for online banking and will email signatories with details of how to register.</p>	RFO
4489	<p>REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR</p> <p>County Councillor Gray reported that services for elderly people are now being consolidated under one roof and this is working well.</p> <p>Cllr Gray and Cllr Griffin had attended the County Council's recent meeting for parish councils about their unitary authority proposals. Feedback and a copy of the presentation had been issued. The aim of a unitary authority would be to save money and to be more democratic. Any proposal would have to be approved by central government. There is currently an online</p>	

	survey available for completion by 8 th July.	
4490	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT The Chairman will advertise the Parish Council vacancies in Crowmarsh News and on notice boards.	JG
4491	PLANNING Decisions: The Council noted the following decision from SODC. P15/S3387/FUL (Full Application): Demolition of existing buildings and creation of a new headquarters for CABI, erection of 91 dwelling houses, comprising open market and affordable housing, provision of open space, landscaping and parking and other associated works. The residential part of the proposal is made in full, while the CABI headquarters part is made in outline form with all matters reserved for future consideration, except access. CABI International, Nosworthy Way, Mongewell OX10 8DE. PERMISSION REFUSED. Applications: The Council agreed its response to SODC on the following applications: P16/S1250/HH (Householder): Amendment No. 1. Extension and refurbishment of the existing stable block. As amended and amplified by the Agent's letter and drawings received on 8 th June 2016. Amendment No. 2. Revised drawings received on 22 nd June 2016, which increases the height of the extension by 200mm. Chaise House, 67 The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EF. NO STRONG VIEWS. P16/S1251/LB (Listed Building Consent): Amendment No. 1. Extension and refurbishment of the existing stable block. As amended and amplified by the Agent's letter and drawings received on 8 th June 2016. Amendment No. 2. Revised drawings received on 22 nd June 2016, which increases the height of the extension by 200mm. Chaise House, 67 The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EF. NO STRONG VIEWS. Consultation for South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2032 SODC will be holding a "Drop-in" public event at Crowmarsh Village Hall on Friday, 15 th July 3 – 7 p.m. to present their Preferred Options for the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2032. SODC staff will be on hand to answer the public's questions.	

4492	<p>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</p> <p>Cllrs Hermsen and Stevenson will discuss possible development of the website. Cllr Stevenson could get the domain name transferred to the Parish Council at a cost of about £15. This will be discussed at the August meeting.</p>	FS/AH
4493	<p>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</p> <p><u>Environment and Recreation Ground</u></p> <p>The Recreation Ground Management Committee had met and the minutes were circulated. The following points were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are still some problems with grass cutting and Chris Strange is researching the possibility of purchasing a mower for the cricket outfield. The Parish Council would need to pay him for any additional work carried out. The insurance implications would need to be researched. • The hard court area is underused. It was agreed to advertise the facilities at a cost of £30 per annum or £4 per hour. Cllr Mannering will advertise this in Crowmarsh News. The Clerk will email him the logo. There is now a keypad on the gate and the code is changed regularly. Cllr Soames had researched online booking systems but these are very expensive and we will continue with telephone bookings. • It is hoped to install basketball practice facilities at the recreation ground. Three quotes have now been received; the preferred option is for a 7 x 7m court at a cost of £6,000 plus VAT. This will be presented to the Parish Council for approval in due course. • Consideration will be given to improving the play area at the recreation ground. This is about 25 years old. Wood chips need frequent replacement, which is expensive and a rubber surface could be better in the long term. Other play areas such as Watlington and South Stoke might be good models. • Drainage improvements have been carried out at the nature area and this will be monitored when it rains significantly. • Playing Fields in Perpetuity: A letter has been received about a scheme to dedicate playing fields as a World War I memorial. The land has to be kept for recreational purposes. Cllr Johnson will pass the letter to the Clerk to research this further. 	<p>DM Clerk</p> <p>AJ/ Clerk</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A complaint has been received from a resident of Jethro Tull Gardens about the large ash tree on the open space there. This has been professionally pruned recently and, following an inspection by councillors, it was agreed that no further action is needed at present. <p><u>Traffic and Transport</u></p> <p>Cllr Jones reported that new bus timetables start this month following Oxfordshire County Council's withdrawal of subsidies. Details of the 134 GoRide service (Wallingford – Crowmarsh Gifford – North and South Stoke – Goring have been published in Crowmarsh News.</p> <p>Cllr Soames reported that the revised timings for the North Stoke bus do not fit with the Wallingford School timetable but it has been agreed that, from September, the first bus will run earlier and the last bus later, in order to fit in with the school day. The bus will also drop off and pick up from Wallingford School.</p> <p>The 139 Henley bus will be routed through Crowmarsh Gifford again. The 125 service to Watlington has been discontinued. The 136 Cholsey bus will also go to Benson and RAF Benson. New timetables will be issued from 24th July.</p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne reported that Peter Brett Associates have now been commissioned to carry out a survey and initial design for the proposed crossing of the A4074 at Portway. This will be done in the next few weeks.</p> <p>Crowmarsh School has been successful in their bid to obtain funding for a school crossing patrol through the Churchill Insurance Lollipopers campaign. The county council has expressed concern about the safety of a patrol officer operating at Portway. The Clerk will keep Cllr Gray informed of progress.</p>	Clerk
4494	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>The following correspondence was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thames Valley Police Neighbourhood Update. There will be a 'Have Your Say' meeting with two PCSO's outside Waitrose on 23rd July from 1 – 6pm. • Notice of a consultation on the South Oxfordshire Local Plan to be held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Friday 15th July from 3 – 7pm. 	JG

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration form for the Town and Parish Forum to be held on Tuesday 12th July at Cornerstone Arts from 6 – 8.45pm. • Letter from a local resident congratulating the Parish Council on the work carried out by Cllr Sherbourne in planting and maintaining the flower tubs at the end of Benson Lane. The Clerk will respond. • The new Chilterns AONB magazine. • The May issue of the Chilterns Society magazine. 	Clerk
4495	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 11 th August at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.	
4496	ANY OTHER BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairman reported on feedback received from the small number of residents who attended the Annual Parish Meeting in May. 	
	The meeting closed at 9.00pm.	