



CROWMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 6th June 2024
starting at 7.30pm**

Present:

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| Mr John Griffin | Mr Julian Park |
| Ms Anna Best | Mr Stephen Sherbourne |
| Prof Andrew Johnson | Ms Julia Streete |

Attending: Dr Yvonne Peet and Mrs Sue Rance. District Cllr Sue Cooper attended part of the meeting as did four members of the public.

Apologies: Received from District Cllr Andrea Powell, Mr David Rowley, Mrs Fleur Stevenson and Mr David Topliss.

Declarations of interest: Cllr Sherbourne declared an interest in planning application P24/S1565/FUL Blackburn Farm, Church Lane, Ipsden OX10 6AE and took no part in the discussion.

The meeting was quorate.

Prior to the meeting a short silence was observed in recognition of the 80th anniversary of D-Day.

A member of the public requested that the area next to the allotments, formerly designated as a children's play area, but now overgrown, should be regularly maintained by cutting the grass in order to enable children to play there.

A member of the public requested that the speed limit at Portway be reduced in the interests of road safety, particularly for pedestrians. A toucan crossing is planned as part of the Newnham Manor development and it is intended that this will improve safety and reduce speed.

5607

PLANNING

Decisions by SODC

[P24/S0589/S73](#) The Sycamores, Land East of 206 Crowmarsh Hill, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8BG Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans), 3 (materials), 9 (Landscaping) and 10 (carbon reduction energy efficiency measures) on planning application P21/S4223/FUL (Alterations to extant planning permission P20/S0267/FUL. (As amended by revised drawings received on 23 May 2024 addressing concerns of Tree Officer and revise boundary details to Whitebanks). (Erection of five dwellings and associated works) - revisions to the external materials and alterations to some of the fenestration and door designs. The proposals will not make any changes to the internal layout or external above ground dimensions. Permission is also sought for the provision of subterranean basements to Plots 3, 4 and 5 and replacement of the approved post and rail fencing to the south of the Site with close board, timber fencing). Planning Permission.

[P24/S1296/FUL](#) Shepherds Barn, Clacks Lane, near Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8BE

Erection of straw and farm stores with apron between. Planning Permission.

[P24/S0992/FUL](#) Former Council Offices, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EE. Application to continue to occupy land on the car park at the former South Oxfordshire District Council offices and extend the current planning permission for a further three years. This is for the temporary location of a storage compound for machines, tools and equipment that provides council services for both councils. Planning Permission.

[P24/S1084/HH](#) 174 Crowmarsh Hill, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8BG. Increasing pitch of garden studio roof (retrospective). Planning Permission.

Consultations

[P24/S1565/FUL](#) Blackburn Farm, Church Lane, Ipsden OX10 6AE. Erection of a livestock building with associated feed bins. No objection. (Cllr Sherbourne declared an interest and took no part in the discussion.)

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| | <p>P24/S1537/HH 15 Jethro Tull Gardens, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8DS. Proposed ground floor rear extension and partial garage conversion. No objection.</p> <p>P24/S1792/LDP 12 Home Farm, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EL. Single storey rear extension. No objection.</p> <p>Appeal</p> <p>P23/S2127/FUL - Nosworthy Way, Mongewell, for an EV charging station has gone to appeal and will now be decided by a planning inspector.</p> <p>Major developments</p> <p>Newnham Manor site legal agreement. No further news.</p> <p>Neighbourhood plan</p> <p>Results of the consultation will be reported on the parish website.</p> | |
| 5608 | <p>REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</p> <p><u>Update on Interpretation Boards</u></p> <p>It was agreed that CIL money will be used for this project.</p> <p><u>Update on defibrillators for Mongewell and East Crowmarsh</u></p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne reported that a quote has been received for cases for the defibrillators at £2,050 each. The total cost for two cases plus the same model of defibrillator as those already fitted in the parish would amount to £7,130 plus fitting. Cllr Sherbourne is obtaining alternative quotes. Delivery would be 6-8 weeks. The preferred site in Crowmarsh Gifford is at the entrance to Park View near to the postbox. At Mongewell it was noted that CABI has their own defibrillator but there is no public access to it. Pads cost £300 per set (adult and child) and these last 2-3 years. Batteries are relatively inexpensive. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Park and seconded by Cllr Griffin that two defibrillators and cases be purchased and this was agreed. Cllr Sherbourne will obtain quotes for installation.</p> <p><u>Update on pedestrian safety in Benson Lane</u></p> <p>A speed survey in Benson Lane has been arranged for 17th June for a duration of one week.</p> | SSh |

| | <p>Cllr Griffin has spoken to and emailed the Footpaths Officer, Jackie Smith. He will chase up the notices to be served on residents where vegetation is encroaching on Footpath 2. Bloor has cut the grass on part of the footpath.</p> <p>Cllr Griffin will follow up enquiries to the OCC Development Team about the remaining requirements of the S.106 legal agreement and the £20,000 they are holding from Bloor.</p> <p>It was noted that the overgrown vegetation at the entrance to the French Gardens development should be cut back by OCC Highways but agreed that the parish council's contractor will do this as it is a health and safety issue.</p> <p><u>Improvements to Watery Lane</u></p> <p>It was agreed to accept the lowest quote received for cutting back the vegetation. This will be done in September, after the bird nesting season. Cllr Sherbourne has met with Grundons about improvement to the surface, materials to be sourced from the quarry at Cholsey. The parish council will pay for the distribution of 2 x 20 tonnes. It was agreed to attend the section from the main road to the Thames Mead turn initially. Cllr Sherbourne will circulate information when received.</p> | <p>JG</p> <p>JG</p> <p>SSh</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| <p>5609</p> | <p>FINANCE</p> <p>a) <u>Consider and agree payments since last meeting</u></p> <p>The Finance officer had circulated a list of payments to be authorized. In addition to salaries and PAYE these were as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="363 1406 1217 1854"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Company</th> <th>Details</th> <th>£ inc VAT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>05.06.24</td> <td>Chris Strange</td> <td>Fuel and keys</td> <td>163.46</td> </tr> <tr> <td>05.06.24</td> <td>Yvonne Peet</td> <td>Stationery</td> <td>10.47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16.05.24</td> <td>SSE Energy</td> <td>Electricity April</td> <td>185.89</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30.04.24</td> <td>Grundon</td> <td>Refuse collection April</td> <td>131.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22.05.24</td> <td>Ashburton</td> <td>Grass cutting village 21.05</td> <td>378.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>03.06.24</td> <td>Ashburton</td> <td>Grass cutting N. Stoke rec and NM church</td> <td>240.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Date | Company | Details | £ inc VAT | 05.06.24 | Chris Strange | Fuel and keys | 163.46 | 05.06.24 | Yvonne Peet | Stationery | 10.47 | 16.05.24 | SSE Energy | Electricity April | 185.89 | 30.04.24 | Grundon | Refuse collection April | 131.08 | 22.05.24 | Ashburton | Grass cutting village 21.05 | 378.00 | 03.06.24 | Ashburton | Grass cutting N. Stoke rec and NM church | 240.00 | |
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| 13.05.24 | Ashburton | Grass cutting N. Stoke rec | 108.00 |
| 01.05.24 | Cathedral Leasing | Hygiene services | 561.60 |
| 30.04.24 | Crowmarsh village hall | Hall hire | 20.00 |
| 31.05.24 | Shield Maintenance | Dog bin emptying | 225.42 |
| 29.05.24 | Purely Plants | 120 geraniums | 273.60 |

It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Streete that the above payments be approved and this was agreed.

b) Requests for Grants and Donations

A grant request had been received from Enrych Oxfordshire, a small charity which supports adults in Oxfordshire who have a physical disability. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Park and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that a donation of £200 be made under Section 137 and this was agreed.

c) Accounts Status at 31st May 2024

The financial summary was presented. It was noted that total receipts were £76,250.50, including £9,000 CIL money, the balance of the grant funding from SODC for the pavilion improvements and the first half of the precept. Expenditure was £14,809.06. Total funds stood at £242,024.22.

It was noted that the pavilion improvements project showed a deficit of £17,276.19. After discussion, it was agreed that the parish council would fund this from CIL money received.

All accounts information has now been submitted to the external auditor.

g) Allotments

One allotment holder has not yet paid the rent for the current season. It was agreed to let the tenant know that if payment has not been received by 24th June, the plot will be re-allocated to the next person on the waiting list.

Clerk

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| | <p>The tenancy agreement will be revised for next season, stipulating that rent must be paid by 31st May and cultivation must begin by 30th June.</p> <p>h) <u>Grass Cutting</u></p> <p>Ben Pitts, of Ashburton has requested the opportunity of a two-year contract in future. He will strim the play area adjacent to the allotments.</p> | |
| 5610 | <p>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Request for support for Benson Community Shed</u> A letter of support had been requested for Benson Community Shed. It is hoped to build the shed on land near to the Benson allotments. It was agreed to draft and send a suitable letter. • <u>Feedback from Annual Parish Meeting</u> The Chairman reported that Gigaclear aims to provide faster broadband in the area. Speeding traffic was raised as an area of concern and the headteacher of Crowmarsh Gifford School outlined issues affecting them. <p>From next year it is hoped to arrange a key speaker of interest to attend the annual meeting, in the hope of increasing attendance.</p> | JG/Clerk |
| 5611 | <p>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</p> <p><u>Environment and Recreation Ground</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire call points will be fitted on 7th June. • The new Xylem sewage pump will be fitted on 19th June. • The tent pitched at the nature area has now been removed. • Repairs to damaged playground equipment are to be carried out by Eibe. • Samples are being obtained for new signage. • Bookings have been received for the servery in the summer holidays. • Mr Andrew Nesbitt is to be appointed as assistant groundsman with effect from July. • Cllr Best has requested three quotes for an automated booking system and will circulate the information received. It is also hoped to arrange a demonstration. It was noted that the Lawn Tennis Association has an | AB |

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| | <p>automated booking system for tennis. An automated system should result in time-saving for Mr Chris Strange. It is planned to put regular bookings on the website for the information of hirers. Any system must be cost effective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Johnson suggested the boarded up frontage of the former Jewson site could be the subject of a mural. The Clerk will try to find out who now owns the site. <p><u>Traffic and Transport</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Sherbourne hopes to meet with interested parties from other parishes in the next week. Some members of the Crowmarsh Community Speedwatch team are no longer available but it is hoped to encourage North Stoke residents to start up their own group. • Cllr Best and other residents of Robert Sparrow Gardens would be interested in joining the Crowmarsh Speedwatch group. • Cllr Johnson suggested local parishes might consider setting aside some funding to buy a speed camera. Cllr Sherbourne suggested speaking to our new local MP following the general election. This is something the traffic and transport committee could look into. | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Traffic/ Transport</p> |
| 5612 | <p>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</p> <p>The Finance Officer has updated the website with financial information and the current hire charges for hire of the pavilion.</p> | |
| 5613 | <p>REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES</p> <p>No new reports received.</p> | |
| 5614 | <p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>The following correspondence was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Bulletin • Update from Chilterns National Landscape • Police and Crime Bulletin • Charity Commission Guidance on Elections for Village Green North Stoke • NALC updates • OALC updates • SODC updates • Healthwatch Oxon update • Parish Online Newsletters. | |

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| 5615 | <p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 11th July at North Stoke Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.</p> | |
| 5616 | <p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ben Pitts of Ashburton has reported that dog mess is an increasing problem. This will be publicized in Crowmarsh News. • The bus shelters opposite Home Farm and outside the church have been damaged. It was agreed to ask Mr Nigel Aplin if he could repair them. | Clerk |

The meeting closed at 21.10.