



CROWMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 7th November 2024
starting at 7.30pm

Present:

Mr John Griffin (Chair)	Mr David Rowley
Ms Anna Best	Mr Stephen Sherbourne
Professor Andrew Johnson	Mrs Fleur Stevenson
Mr Julian Park	Mr David Topliss

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

Apologies: Received from Ms Julia Streete and District Cllr Andrea Powell,

Declarations of interest: None.

The meeting was quorate.

A member of the public thanked Cllr John Griffin and District Cllr Cooper for their letters in response to their concerns expressed about possible future use of the former SODC site which could result in sewerage problems. It was noted that consultation on the local plan ends on 12th November but the site has not been allocated for anything specific yet in this plan. Residents and the parish council will have an opportunity to respond to any future planning applications when they arise.

NO.		ACTION
5666	MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3RD OCTOBER 2024 The Minutes of the parish council meeting held on 3 rd October 2024 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
5667	MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES <u>Item 5656:</u> The review of pavilion income was deferred to the December meeting. The Finance Officer is still seeking quotes for a replacement internal auditor. Cllr Johnson has a possible contact and will send details to the Finance Officer.	Clerk (agenda) RFO AJ

	<p><u>Item 5661</u>: Cllr Sherbourne will train Cllr Johnson in the on-line payment authorization system before the December meeting.</p> <p><u>Item 5661</u>: Cllr Park has received no response from the SODC Forestry Department to his enquiry about a tree survey. The Clerk will chase this up.</p> <p><u>Item 5661</u>: The Clerk has submitted the parish council's request for items to be included in the forthcoming deep cleanse. These are litter picking in Clacks Lane and litter picking and weeding in Benson Lane and at the end of Thames Mead. The cleaning of street signs has also been requested.</p> <p><u>Item 5662</u>: Cllr Sherbourne was unable to attend the River Users' Group (RUG3) meeting held on 10th October.</p>	<p>SSh/AJ</p> <p>Clerk</p>
5668	<p>REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR</p> <p>County Councillor Bloomfield's report had been circulated. It was noted that applications to the County Councillor Priority Grant Fund need to be submitted by 30th November. The Clerk will apply for £300 for tree planting at the recreation ground.</p>	Clerk
5669	<p>REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</p> <p>The District Councillors' report had been circulated and District Cllr Cooper highlighted the new waste strategy and the trial of an electric refuse collection vehicle.</p> <p>The deadline for applications to the District Councillor Community Grant Scheme is 29th November.</p>	
5670	<p>REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</p> <p><u>Watery Lane</u></p> <p>Vegetation has been cleared from Watery Lane and the next stage is to try to improve the surface. Ongoing maintenance will be needed to manage the vegetation. Cllr Sherbourne will ask the council's grass cutting contractor, Ashburton if they wish to quote.</p> <p><u>Defibrillators at Park View and Mongewell</u></p> <p>Defibrillators have been installed at Park View and Mongewell. This will be publicized in Wallingford Piper and Crowmarsh News. Special thanks were recorded for the assistance of Mr Liam Bridges who fitted both.</p>	SSh

	<p>It was noted that there is a defibrillator inside the CABI building.</p> <p>It was agreed to review the strategic priorities at a special meeting to be held in January. The Clerk will recirculate the list.</p>	Clerk
5671	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Decisions by SODC</p> <p>P24/S3031/HH Morrells Farm, Nuffield Lane, near Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 6QQ. Proposed pitched roof over existing front porch, proposed side dormer, alterations to existing front and rear dormers and new front and rear roof lights and Juliet balcony to rear (As amended by plans received 28 October 2024). Planning Permission.</p> <p>P24/S3050/HH 151 The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EQ. Construction of front extension to form a porch. Planning Permission.</p> <p>P24/S2752/HH 15 Thames Mead, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EU. Single storey side extension. Planning Permission.</p> <p>P24/S2586/FUL Carmel College, Mongewell OX10 8BU. Part retrospective temporary permission for filming for up to 14 Days as well as preparation and clean-up of the site between August - December for a total of 28 days. Planning Permission.</p> <p>Consultations</p> <p>P24/S3334/HH 18 Wallingford Road, North Stoke OX10 6BB Two storey side and rear extension. Single rear extension Replacement single garage. Associated landscaping and internal and external works. There are strong objections from the connected neighbours at 1 Whitehouse Road, who say the extension will be oppressive and overbearing, there will be loss of biodiversity from removal of a hedge and intensification of use of the common septic tank (managed by SOHA and shared by four properties), which is already inadequate for the current development, would lead to more sewage pollution affecting 1 Whitehouse Road. No concerns on the impact on the wider area but the neighbour's views should be taken into account.</p> <p>P24/S3436/LB & P24/S3435/FUL The Grange, The Street, North Stoke OX10 6BL. Residential conversion self-build of an existing barn with associated access off Pocock Lane, together with parking, landscaping and all enabling works. No objection.</p>	

Major developments

A decision on the Newnham Manor application legal agreement is expected by the end of the year.

Neighbourhood plan

Nicholas Robins has consulted the planning officer who recommended going for the simplest and quickest review that wouldn't require inspection except by SODC. The local plan and national policy framework are still going through revision and we will need to revisit our plan again soon. The important thing is to have a live, recently approved neighbourhood plan that will be robust in defending against speculative development applications.

In the emerging Joint Local Plan, Table TCR1 has misclassified Crowmarsh Gifford as a Tier 3 village/local centre: this will be challenged with SODC.

5672**FINANCE**a) Consider and agree payments since last meeting

The Finance officer had circulated a list of payments to be authorized. In addition to salaries and PAYE these were as follows:

Date	Company	Details	£ inc VAT
07.11.24	Chris Strange	Expenses	180.38
04.11.24	Yvonne Peet	Expenses (Clerk laptop)	579.00
31.10.24	Ashburton	Grass cutting Crowmarsh Newnham church	510.00
04.11.24	Ashburton	Grass cutting N. Stoke rec.	108.00
25.10.24	Shield	Dog bins	225.42
30.09.24	Grundon	Refuse collection Sept	131.08
02.11.24	N.Stoke village hall	Hall hire (4 meetings)	120.00
05.11.24	N. Robins	Neighbourhood plan expenses	57.05
30.09.24	Crowmarsh Village Hall	Hall hire 05.09.24	£20.00
07.11.24	Liam Bridges	Installation of defibs on bases	160.00

06.11.24	First Class Tree Surgeons	Clearing of Watery Lane	2,400.00
07.11.24	N. Stoke Village Hall	Grass cutting grant	682.00
23.10.24	Gallagher Ltd	Additional insurance premium	210.48

It was proposed by Cllr Park and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that the above payments be approved and this was agreed. Cllrs Griffin and Sherbourne will authorise the payments on-line.

It was noted that the pavilion had been re-valued at £1.487 million resulting in the additional premium of £210.48.

b) Consider requests for grants and donations

North Stoke Village Hall Committee

A grant request for £682 had been received from North Stoke Village Hall Committee to fund the grass cutting charges for the year. It was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that this be approved and this was agreed. More financial information would be welcomed and it was resolved to request a copy of their accounts.

Wallingford Volunteer Drivers

A grant request had been received from Wallingford Volunteer Drivers. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that a donation of £250 be made and this was agreed.

Hope After Harm

A grant request from Hope After Harm was deferred to the December meeting, pending receipt of further information.

c) Review of accounts status at 31st October 2024

The financial summary was presented. Total receipts for the year to date were £123,170.01 Total payments for the year to date were £65,790.26. The balance at the bank was £237,962.53.

d) Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Annual Report

The Finance Officer presented the CIL annual report. This was reviewed and approved. It will be posted on the website.

	<p>e) <u>Pay Scales</u></p> <p>The Finance Officer reported that revised pay scales had been announced for local government services. She will refer to this and report back.</p> <p>f) At the next meeting the precept and budget for next year will be considered. The Finance Officer will circulate a draft before the meeting.</p>	<p>RFO</p> <p>RFO RFO Clerk (agenda)</p>
5673	<p>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</p> <p>OALC has recommended that parish councils should sign up to the Oxfordshire Councils' Charter. The Clerk will circulate this and it will be discussed at the December meeting.</p>	Clerk
5674	<p>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</p> <p><u>Environment and Recreation Ground</u></p> <p>Cllr Rowley and Caretaker Chris Strange have met a representative from Eibe, the Crowmarsh playground installer, to discuss some of the grounds maintenance issues, in particular the surface of and round the tunnel mound, where it has turned to mud and worn areas under the basket and rocker play equipment. Eibe designers are to discuss options discussed and quote for their recommendations. Cllr Rowley is to report for the next meeting. Extra grass grow matting is also to be quoted for the gate area towards the new pavilion terrace.</p> <p>Tree planting at recreation ground: Cllr Park reported that 130 of the 420 trees planted had died, due to the flooding earlier in the year. The Clerk will contact Cllr Bloomfield and request his support for a grant application from the Councillor Priority Fund.</p> <p>Review of CCTV Policy: The CCTV Policy was reviewed and approved with no amendments.</p> <p><u>Traffic and Transport</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting with the Highways Engagement Team, took place on the afternoon of 7th November. This was a useful meeting and various sites in the parish were visited. Speed reduction measures in Benson Lane, Nosworthy Way and en route to North Stoke were discussed. This will be followed up with details and specific requests. Cllr Griffin has passed on the correspondence he has had with Jackie Smith. Cllr Sherbourne reported that the SID in Benson Lane is not working. Dropped kerbs on the village estates will be 	<p>DR</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>considered and can be requested via the traffic department via the highways engagement team. There is a proposal to extend the pavement in Benson Lane as well as improving Footpath 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Best reported that OCC Highways has agreed to the Autospeed watch camera being sited on one of their lamp posts. A licence is needed to view the data. Cllrs Best and Johnson will do this. Cllr Best will request a pro forma invoice for the camera and will also obtain a 'Speed Camera' sign to be sited on the next lamp post. Cllr Park offered to help with the fitting of the camera. • Cllr Topliss reported that the 30mph sign by Wallingford Bridge has been removed and the speed limit will now be 20mph all through. He would like to request some more repeater 20mph signs to be fitted in The Street. 	<p>AB</p> <p>JP</p>
5675	<p>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</p> <p>Cllr Stevenson does not currently have time to review the accessibility of the website. Cllr Best offered to do this and will let Cllr Stevenson know if any action is required.</p>	<p>AB</p>
5676	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>The following correspondence was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Funding Digest • Police and Crime Bulletin • SODC updates • News from Chilterns National Landscape • Healthwatch Oxon update • Parish Online Newsletter. • Rural Network update • OALC updates • NALC updates 	<p>Clerk</p>
5677	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 5th December at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.</p>	
5678	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Cllr Best reported that local residents had made the following requests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A dog bin for Cox Lane. It was noted that there is a dog waste bin on the left hand side of Cox Lane between the junction with Portway and Robert Sparrow Gardens • Benches on the grassy area near to Botany Allotments. It was noted that the future of this area is being 	

	<p>considered by the Environment and Recreation Ground Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trimming of the trees at the bottom of Cox's Lane and between Robert Sparrow Gardens and Park View. It was noted that this is in hand.	
--	--	--

The meeting closed at 21.04.