

CROWMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting Held at North Stoke Village Hall on Thursday 14th May 2015, starting at 7.30pm

Present:

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

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

Apologies: Received from Mrs F Jones.

Declarations of interest: Cllr Stevenson declared an interest in planning application P15/S1408/PSP as she is employed at Howbery Park.

The meeting was quorate.

NO.		ACTION
4331	ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN	
	It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Johnson that Cllr Griffin be elected as Chairman and this was unanimously agreed.	
	It was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that Cllr Hannigan be elected as Vice-Chairman and this was unanimously agreed.	
4332	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	
	Correction to previous minutes: Item 4327 District Councillor's Report – Riverside Update was reworded as follows. 'The previous issue for the delay was due to the trees and the current issue is the necessity to remove some of the soil from elsewhere in the flood plain in order to compensate for the roadway into Riverside'.	
	Subject to this correction, the Minutes of the meeting held on 9 th April were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	

4333 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES Item 4324: It was noted that the car and caravan are still parked MG next to the A4074 close to the turning to Mongewell. County Councillor Gray will make enquiries It was noted that Superintendent Andy Boyd has been replaced by Jim O'Ryan. It was noted that Lucy Murfett, formerly SODC Planning Policy Officer, has taken up a post with the Chilterns Conservation Board. Item 4322: Cllr Griffin attended the Scouts St George's Day Parade and Service at Dorchester Abbey on 26th April. Item 4324: The Travel and Transport Representatives' meeting scheduled for 20th May has been postponed until June. Item 4330: Cllr Griffin will send a formal letter to outgoing councillors Anne Lowes, Stephen Brown and Faye Cheeseman, thanking them for their contribution to the work of the Parish Council. It is hoped that some new candidates will come forward to fill the vacancies. Item 4330: Cllr Gray reported that he had been in touch with some North Stoke parents and has put them in touch with County Council officers regarding their choice of secondary schools. 4334 REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR County Councillor Mark Gray reported as follows: Clacks Lane is to be closed for carriageway widening and resurfacing work. Although OCC had originally ruled out 'Go Ride' as a contractor to run the 134 bus, they are now being asked to do this on a temporary basis. Cllr Gray has requested a meeting to discuss this and would like a letter of support JG from the Parish Council. The Chairman will action this. Clirs Gray and Hannigan will consult local contractors MG/NH regarding the provision of a pedestrian crossing in The Street. MG Cllr Gray gave his apologies for the Annual Parish Meeting but will send a written report.

4335	FINANCE	
	a) Payments made in April A schedule of payments made in April was presented. In addition payments amounting to £1,225.39 were submitted for approval. It was proposed by Cllr Griffin and seconded by Cllr Hannigan that these be approved and this was agreed.	
	b) Accounts Status at 30 th April 2015 The accounts status report was presented. The new finance system is now up and running and includes the facility to report on a variety of levels to obtain a breakdown of expenditure. It was agreed to review expenditure against last year on a quarterly basis during this first year. Next year the figures will automatically feature in the print-outs as a comparison. Councillors agreed that the new system was an improvement.	
	A check will be made on units of consumption for electricity and gas.	
	c) Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2015	
	The accounts are currently with the auditor and the audited accounts will be presented in June, at which time the Annual Return will be reviewed and signed.	RFO
	A strategic review of proposed expenditure will be carried out at the end of the calendar year. Items under consideration are Traffic calming on Portway Improvements at the Pavilion Proposed pedestrian crossing in The Street.	
	d) Contract for Grass Cutting	
	A meeting has been held with Scofell to discuss some queries relating to the grass cutting contract and agree the schedule. Cllr Soames will contact Scofell about work to be carried out at the recreation ground in North Stoke.	SS
	Cllr Johnson will be the contact for grass cutting in Crowmarsh Gifford. Cllr Griffin will provide him with an annotated map, indicating the areas included within the scope of the contract.	JG
4336	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT	
	 The Chairman asked councillors to encourage those interested in filling the five current vacancies on the Parish Council. It is hoped to co-opt some new councillors at the June meeting. An announcement will be made at the Annual Parish Meeting on 19th May and Cllr Griffin will draft 	

an advertisement. Candidates need to live in the parish or within three miles of it, work in the parish, own a property in the parish or own a business in the parish.

 Outgoing councillor Anne Lowes had requested two additional dog bins and a litter bin for Mongewell. The Clerk will clarify the proposed location of these.

Clerk

 The bus shelter at St Mary Magdalene Church, Crowmarsh, has been vandalised and arrests made. The Clerk will contact Arrow Fencing for an estimate for repairs and will pass this information on to Thames Valley Police.

Clerk

 Wallingford Town Council has indicated that they will no longer be able to plant and maintain the flower tubs at the roundabout at the Queen's Head pub, due to a Health and Safety issue. The Clerk will try to ascertain the nature of this issue so that an informed decision can be made about any future arrangement.

Clerk

- Cllr Hannigan and the Clerk, plus Cllr Johnson and guest will attend the Annual Reception at RAF Benson on 21st May.
- A local resident has complained about a camper van parked in Bellamy Way. Little can be done at present as this is a private road. However when the riverside road is completed it could be an obstruction of the highway.

4337 PLANNING

Decisions: The Council noted the following decision from SODC.

P15/S0134/HH (Householder): Application proposal, including any amendments: Demolition of single storey front extension, construction of new larger single storey extension, internal alterations and creation of a new rear door. The Old Farmhouse, The Street, North Stoke (in the parish of Crowmarsh), OX10 6BL: PERMISSION GRANTED.

P15/S0135/LB (Listed Building Consent): Application proposal, including any amendments: Demolition of single storey front extension, construction of new larger single storey extension, internal alterations and creation of a new rear door. The Old Farmhouse, The Street, North Stoke (in the parish of Crowmarsh), OX10 6BL: PERMISSION GRANTED.

P15/S0704/HH (Householder): Application proposal, including any amendments: Demolition of existing garage and erection of a double garage with home office over. 1 Park View, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BJ: PERMISSION GRANTED.

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

P15/S0947/FUL (Full Application): Erection of a two storey, four-bay building to be used as a maintenance shed, garden machinery store and garage for two cars on the ground floor and storage for the kennels business on the first floor. Avalon Kennels Ltd, Benson (in the parish of Crowmarsh), OX10 6PP: RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

<u>P15/S1272/FUL</u> (Full Application): Provision of floodplain compensation areas, to compensate for floodplain volume occupied by proposed access road to Riverside Park. Land South of The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford: RECOMMEND APPROVAL.

P15/S1408/PSP (Other): Prior Approval for a rooftop mounted solar PV system at Howbery Park. Howbery Park, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8BA: RECOMMEND APPROVAL. Having declared an interest, Cllr Stevenson took no part in the discussion.

Application Withdrawn

P15/S0625/FUL (Full Application): Erection of 2 x 2 bed semidetached dwellings together with associated parking. Land adjacent to The Old Coach House, The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8EJ: This application has been withdrawn by the applicant. An entry to this effect has been made in the Statutory Register and no further action will be taken on the application.

4338 UPDATE ON WEBSITE

The website will be updated with details of the Annual Parish Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 19th May at Crowmarsh Gifford School, starting at 7.30pm. Light refreshments will be available and there will be a talk by Richard Neale on the archaeology of the immediate area. Cllr Soames will raise the question of mains drainage for North Stoke.

4339 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Environment & Recreation Ground

The next committee meeting will be held on Monday 18th May. One of the adult football clubs would like a temporary alcohol licence for a forthcoming event. It was noted that twelve temporary licences may be granted per annum for the premises. Each licence costs £21. It was confirmed that the pavilion would not become licensed premises.

	 Scofell is the new grass-cutting contractor for the recreation ground and nature area. The committee will discuss whether paid secretarial support is needed for their meetings. <u>Traffic and Transport</u>	
	 Cllr Soames reported that traffic through North Stoke has increased and speeding is common. This is a particular problem in the mornings when school children are waiting to board the school bus. Cllr Hannigan will ask Mrs Barton, the Headteacher, to contact the police about this problem. It was noted that motorcycles are a continuing problem on the main roads around Crowmarsh and through North Stoke. 	NH
4340	CORRESPONDENCE	
	 A card has been received from Cllr Jones, currently on an archeological dig in Egypt. 	
4341	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	 The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at Crowmarsh Gifford School on Tuesday 19th May, starting at 7.30pm. The next Parish Council Meeting will be held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 4th June, starting at 7.30pm. 	
	The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.	