



CROMMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at North Stoke Village Hall on Thursday 9th September 2021,
starting at 7.30pm

Present:

Mr John Griffin (Chair)	Mr Stephen Sherbourne
Mr Julian Park	Mr Robin Smith
Mr David Rowley	Mr Stuart Soames

Attending: District Cllr Sue Cooper, Dr Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer) and Mrs Sue Rance (Clerk).

Apologies: Received from Prof Andrew Johnson, Mrs Liz Ryall, Mrs Fleur Stevenson, Mr David Topliss, County Councillor Felix Bloomfield and District Councillor Andrea Powell.

Declarations of interest: None.

The meeting was quorate.

NO.		ACTION
5212	MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5TH AUGUST 2021 The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record.	
5213	MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING <u>Item 5199:</u> The Finance Officer has distributed some of the 20s Plenty stickers to local residents. <u>Item 5199:</u> Noise from Motorcycles: The letter to the Police & Crime Commissioner, Matthew Barber, has been sent by Royal Mail and email. Copies will be emailed to District and County Councillors as appropriate as well as to John Howell, MP and local parish council clerks. <u>Item 5199:</u> A traffic speed survey is in hand close to the crossroads in North Stoke. Cllr Sherbourne will pursue our request for one near The Springs.	Clerk SSh

	<p><u>Item 5203</u>: Cllr Sherbourne has supplied the Finance Officer with an allotment water meter reading. One more allotment tenancy agreement has been returned; there are still two outstanding.</p> <p><u>Item 5205</u>: The Finance Officer reported that the auditor had requested details of the parish council's strategic priorities.</p> <p><u>Item 5206</u>: The gov.uk email addresses which are needed for the tendering process should be available in the next few days. The cost of the pavilion improvements could be as much as £200,000. Consideration will be given to applying for grants. The Finance Officer will seek advice on procedures from OALC.</p> <p><u>Item 5199</u>: Following receipt of the Council's letter regarding the future of the The Bell, Greene King had reported that their intention is to reopen it as a Chef and Brewer though this will not take place before 2022.</p> <p><u>Item 5204</u>: The mower for the recreation ground has been delivered.</p> <p><u>Item 5205</u>: A site meeting was held in August to discuss double yellow lines at Stephens Field and it was agreed that lines will be marked by OCC. It is hoped to obtain some funding from County Councillor Felix Bloomfield.</p> <p><u>Item 5205</u>: A site meeting has been scheduled for 1pm on 16th September to discuss the resurfacing of Watery Lane. Some resurfacing work has been carried out CABI near to the CABI housing development.</p>	SSh/JG
5214	<p>REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR</p> <p>No report available.</p>	
5215	<p>REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR</p> <p>Consultations</p> <p>It seems that there is a never-ending stream of consultations at the moment, all of which appear to be rather important. To help keep track of them all, we have created a new page on the SODC website with links to the relevant place; it can be found at www.southoxon.gov.uk/consultations and then by clicking on the "live consultations" link.</p> <p>At the moment open consultations (all of which can be accessed from the SODC page) include:</p>	

- **Call for Land and Buildings available for Change for the Joint Local Plan to 2041** – deadline is 16th September and anyone can propose land for particular uses, not just housing.
- **Oxfordshire Plan 2050** – deadline is 8th October
- **OxCam Arc** – deadline 12th October (this is a UK Govt. Consultation)
- **Oxford City Local Plan** – early stage consultation (no deadline given)

Report on crime in Oxfordshire

According to a recently published report on crime and community safety, South Oxfordshire has relatively low levels of crime compared to other districts in the county. The figures have come via a county-wide partnership we're part of called the "Safer Oxfordshire Partnership". The partnership works to reduce crime and create safer communities across the county and every year it receives a "Strategic Intelligence Assessment" for Oxfordshire that summarises our local crime and community safety stats.

Afghan Refugee Resettlement Scheme

SODC has already agreed to resettle at least one family under the Afghan Locally Employed Staff (ALES) resettlement scheme, and has pledged to find further ways to support refugees arriving from Afghanistan in the UK. However, such support does depend on funding from central Government in order to provide the "wrap-around" services that such families need, and SODC has urged the Government to put such funding arrangements in place as quickly as possible.

Covid-safe Transportation Funding

Over the course of the past few weeks, SODC has provided £74,000 to voluntary and community groups across the District to enable them to provide transportation and delivery services to vulnerable residents (e.g. to take them to vaccination appointments, to the supermarket or for the delivery of food parcels). One organisation helped locally was Syrian Community Oxfordshire, which received £11k to help their work in Didcot, Wallingford and Garsington.

Support After Shielding

SODC is working with partners across Oxfordshire to investigate ways in which vulnerable residents (i.e. those who were advised to shield in the early days of the pandemic) can be supported into the future. This is part of the county-wide “Move Together” campaign which was launched earlier this year. It is designed to support hundreds of Oxfordshire residents most affected by Covid-19 to move more and protect their health and wellbeing.

Move Together is co-ordinated by Active Oxfordshire and the city and district councils are working with them to provide support that is needed. The support provided is personalised to each individual based on their specific needs and is provided by physical activity specialists.

You can find out more about Move Together via this website www.getoxfordshireactive.org/move-together

Garden Waste Collections

At the time of writing, garden waste collections remain suspended, but this is being kept under constant review and we aim to recommence the service as soon as possible. In the event of subscribers not receiving the 20 collections to which they are entitled, it is likely that the length of the subscription will be extended to compensate. Nobody should be left out of pocket on this. Home composting is recommended. SODC would like to thank everyone for their understanding; the collection of other types of waste is prioritised in our Business Continuity plan for waste management, and Biffa, who provide the waste collection services, are of course affected by the national shortage of HGV drivers.

Councillor Grant Scheme Opens

This year’s scheme, which once again allocates £5k to each Councillor for use on community projects in their ward, has now launched. Organisations which are ‘not-for-profit’ can now apply for grants from £250 up to a maximum of £5,000 per councillor in their ward for projects that will bring positive outcomes for local residents. Applicants are asked to consider how their project will align with SODC’s key strategic objectives, such as protecting and restoring nature, and improving community well-being. All details of how to apply can be found on the SODC website, but applicants are encouraged to discuss their application with their Ward councillor in the first instance. This year the fund will be allocated in two tranches so that projects emerging later in the year don’t miss out.

	<p>Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>Congratulations on getting there! SODC should adopt it at the Council scheduled for 7th October</p>	
<p>5216</p>	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Decisions by SODC</p> <p>P21/S2302/A The Springs Golf Club Wallingford Road North Stoke OX10 6BE. Application for the siting of two new main entrance signs and new brick walling. Advertisement consent granted.</p> <p>P21/S2951/FUL</p> <p>Stallion Cottage, Mongewell Park Farm Wallingford Road Mongewell OX10 8DY. Change of use to allow extension of Stallion Cottage (ancillary residential) into adjoining existing building and related works of alteration. (Farm office retained). Planning Permission.</p> <p>P21/S2654/LDP</p> <p>29 Benson Lane Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8ED. Erection of 1100m high balustrade and use of part of roof area as for incidental purposes. Certificate of Lawful Use or Development.</p> <p>Consultations</p> <p>P21/S3336/FUL</p> <p>74 The Street Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8ER. New dwelling in the rear of the property. There are some potential issues with this: all the other backland developments are bungalows, the access road is a route to school, there may be some impact on the Queen's Head (listed building), first floor windows overlooking private gardens of 8 and 9 Newnham Green, loss of rear parking for 74 The Street, impact on mature trees.</p> <p>P21/S3534/HH</p> <p>5 Carmel Terrace Mongewell OX10 8BX. Two storey side extension to dwelling. Window alterations to the Eastern elevation. Resubmission of P20/S3059/HH. Recommend approval.</p> <p>P21/S3395/HH</p> <p>Archgate, The Street, North Stoke OX10 6BL. Removal of three existing 1960s windows and make good reveals. Remove a bay window and block in with brickwork and stonewalling to match the adjacent farm buildings. Replace the three windows with newly painted hardwood frames. Infill one brick recess with local flint stonewalling to match the adjacent farm buildings and the bay window infill above. Make good old brickwork and pointing as required. Recommend approval, subject to hand-built flint walling (not prefabricated panels).</p>	

	<p>P21/S3465/HH</p> <p>Old School House Constitution Hill Mongewell OX10 8BS. Enlargement to existing dwelling house and annexe; creation of outdoor swimming pool and erection of new garden store.</p> <p>P21/S3392/HH</p> <p>Rose Cottage 65 The Street Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EF. Erection of a carport. Not adjoining the property.</p> <p>Neighbourhood plan</p> <p>The referendum was held on Thursday 2 September and 96.6% voted in favour. 374 voted yes, only 13 voted no. The turnout was 28.3%, slightly lower than Benson's 35%. Thanks to Nick Robins and the team for this success.</p>	
5217	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>a) Payments to be made in September</p> <p>The Finance Officer presented a list of payments to be made. As well as salary payments and expenses, this included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £220.50 for nettle spraying at the nature area • £580.00 for nettle strim and cut at the nature area • £231.80 for annual inspection of the play area • £1098 for grass cutting in July • £1488 for grass cutting in August • £120 for Zoono treatment • £127.42 for refuse collection in July • £105.18 for refuse collection in August • £70.80 for software support for the accounting package • £3,268.28 for replacement of the pavilion sewage pump • £16.00 for hall hire • £84.20 for rings to secure the parasols at the pavilion. <p>It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Park that these payments be approved and this was agreed.</p> <p>b) Accounts for Year to Date</p> <p>The Finance Officer presented a summary of the accounts to 31st August 2021. Total receipts were £92,186.52 including £65,000 CIL money. Total expenditure was £48,007.81. The balance at the end of August was £294,762.55.</p>	

	<p>c) Payment of CIL monies due</p> <p>It was agreed to request that any CIL money due should be paid to the Parish Council. The Clerk will action this.</p>	Clerk
5218	<p>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</p> <p><u>Standing Orders</u></p> <p>The draft standing orders have been circulated. These are based on the NALC model. After discussion, the standing orders were approved. The Clerk will ask Cllr Stevenson to post them on the website.</p> <p><u>Big Green Week</u></p> <p>This will begin on Saturday 18th September and there will be a number of activities available.</p>	Clerk/FS
5219	<p>REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</p> <p>An invoice is on its way for the painting of double yellow lines in Stephens Field.</p> <p>A speed survey is planned in The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford in connection with the proposed pedestrian crossing near the church.</p> <p>Plans for the pedestrian crossing near The Bell have been modified and the project should proceed in the near future.</p> <p>The pedestrian crossing proposed at Portway forms part of the planning application for the Newnham Manor housing development which should go to planning committee soon.</p>	
5220	<p>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</p> <p><u>Environment and Recreation Ground</u></p> <p>Cllr Rowley reported that the CCTV will be installed on 13th September. The draft CCTV policy had been circulated. It was agreed that the list of those entitled to access the data should be by designation and not by name. The draft was approved and will be considered for ratification at the October meeting.</p> <p>The last Zoono treatment currently booked is 28th October. Cllr Rowley and Cllr Johnson have asked for this to continue due to the continuing Covid risk and increasing cases. However, it was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Soames that no further treatments will be booked this year. This was agreed by a majority vote.</p>	

	<p>Some brickwork improvements have been carried out at the pavilion by Cllr Johnson and Chris Strange.</p> <p>Three quotes have been received for replacement lighting on the hard court: £3550, £8539 and £11875. It was agreed to accept the lowest quote. This has a 5-year warranty.</p> <p>The proposed improvements to the pavilion have been submitted for Building Regulations approval. Actions are being taken to prepare for tendering.</p> <p>A jubilee lunch is proposed for Sunday 5th June to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. Cllr Rowley proposed setting up a working group to plan the event. Mrs Linda Parker is willing to assist and she has spoken to the village church the scouts and the school PTA. Cllr Rowley has mentioned it to the school headteacher. The recreation ground has already been booked on 4th and 5th June for a football tournament. Cllr Rowley will ask if this could be moved a day or two earlier. Priorities are booking a band and sourcing marquees. It was agreed that a working group will be set up. The group will be asked to come up with a proposal and the Parish Council will consider the funding of the event.</p> <p>Horse Chestnut Tree: Cllr Griffin has received four quotes for the surgery on the tree: £1400, £1500, £1535 and £1700.. It was agreed to accept the lowest quote, submitted by Bowards.</p> <p><u>Traffic and Transport</u></p> <p>Cllr Soames reported that the verges on the B4009 at North Stoke are being damaged by large agricultural vehicles. It was agreed to write to the contractor.</p>	DR
5221	<p>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</p> <p>The Clerk will ask Cllr Stevenson to post the recent minutes of council meetings on the website.</p>	Clerk/FS
5222	<p>REPORTS OF REPS ON OUTSIDE BODIES</p> <p><u>North Stoke Village Hall</u></p> <p>Cllr Soames reported that surgery may be required on an oak tree in the village hall grounds. The hall committee may need to apply to the council for a grant towards the cost.</p> <p>The Clerk will circulate the list of council committees and outside bodies.</p>	

5223	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>The following correspondence was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on the River Thames Clean Up on 26th September • Information about Queen’s Green Canopy initiative • Temporary road closure (TRC) for Wallingford Mayor’s Service and Parade on 15th August • August Newsletter from John Howell, MP • TRC for Benson British Legion Remembrance Parade on 29th August • Police and Crime Bulletin for August • SODC Updates • Healthwatch Update • Information from Sustainable Wallingford about ‘Have a Grow’ event on 14th August • Notice of temporary road closure at Eyres Lane, Ewelme from 11th October • OALC Update for August • Update from Oxfordshire Youth • NALC Update • Rural Services Network Update • Notice of Sustainable Wallingford AGM at Centre 70, starting at 8pm on 4th October. 	
5210	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next parish council meeting will be held on Thursday 7th October 2021 at North Stoke Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. Cllr Griffin gave his apologies for the meeting which will be chaired by Cllr Sherbourne.</p>	
5211	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs Eve Hunt has requested permission to plant an oak tree on the recreation ground in memory of her late husband. Chris Strange has found a suitable site for it. This was approved in principle. • Cllr Soames reported that the telephone box in North Stoke is a Grade II listed building. It has a card operated phone and is useful to keep as it is on the Ridgeway Path. Cllr Smith offered to repaint it. Cllr Soames will contact BT to ascertain whether this can be permitted. • A local resident has reported that her car window was broken by a stone thrown up during grass cutting at Crowmarsh Hill and has asked for reimbursement. The Clerk will investigate. 	<p>SS</p> <p>Clerk</p>
	<p>The meeting closed at 21.55.</p>	

