



CROMMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at North Stoke Village Hall on Thursday 3rd October 2019,
starting at 7.30pm

Present:

Mr John Griffin (Chairman)	Mr Julian Park
Mr Jon Grove	Mr David Rowley
Ms Gaynor Hopkins	Mr Stuart Soames
Mr Ken McCrea	Mrs Fleur Stevenson

Attending: Dr Yvonne Peet (Finance Officer) and Mrs Sue Rance (Clerk). District Councillor Andrea Powell attended part of the meeting.

Apologies: Received from Prof Andrew Johnson, Mrs Liz Ryall, Mr Stephen Sherbourne and Mr David Topliss.

Declarations of interest: None

The meeting was quorate.

NO.		ACTION
4933	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ms Gaynor Hopkins, newly co-opted parish councillor, signed the declaration of acceptance of office and was welcomed to the meeting. Councillors introduced themselves.	
4934	MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5TH SEPTEMBER <p>Corrections to previous minutes:</p> <p><u>Item 4925:</u> It was noted that Cllr McCrea wishes to join the Environment and Recreation Ground Committee rather than the Planning Committee.</p> <p>Item 4929: It was noted that the District Council has appointed a Brexit officer who has taken on this role in addition to their existing responsibilities.</p> <p>Subject to these corrections, the Minutes of the meeting held on 5th September were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	

<p>4935</p>	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</p> <p><u>Item 4923:</u> It was confirmed that the kerbside weeds in Benson Lane had not been attended to as part of the SODC deep cleanse.</p> <p><u>Item 4923:</u> The Chairman has submitted to Crowmarsh News an article about the history of names chosen for the streets at the CABI development and this appears in the October edition.</p> <p><u>Item 4923:</u> Wallingford School students, under the leadership of Kevin Brophy, have offered to carry out more environmental work in Crowmarsh Gifford and this is in hand.</p> <p><u>Item 4923:</u> Cllr Griffin will ask OALC for advice on how to proceed with the draft contracts for the Finance Officer and Clerk.</p> <p><u>Item 4923:</u> All grit bins in the parish are partly empty and are in need of refilling. The Clerk has reported this to OCC.</p> <p><u>Item 4924:</u> Grass cutting contract: Cllr Sherbourne and the Finance Officer are dealing with issues raised on this contract.</p> <p><u>Item 4928:</u> Safeguarding Policy: Cllr Johnson is fine tuning the wording on this policy.</p>	<p>JG</p> <p>JG</p> <p>SSh RFO</p> <p>AJ</p>
<p>4936</p>	<p>REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR</p> <p>The District Councillor's report had been circulated.</p> <p><u>Local Plan</u> At the Cabinet meeting on 3rd October it had been decided to withdraw the Local Plan and to start again with a new plan. This decision will be submitted to the full council on 10th October. Adoption of the new plan is likely to be no later than early 2024. Neighbourhood plans should be continued as they will not be invalidated by this new project.</p> <p><u>New Council Offices</u> An additional Cabinet meeting will be held on 8th October to discuss the District Council's plan to rebuild their offices in Benson Lane, Crowmarsh, which should be eco-friendly and provide facilities for community use. There is on-going consultation about the new offices which are to be built in 2021 and should open in April 2022.</p> <p><u>Climate Emergency Advisory Committee</u> The CEAC held its first meeting on 19th September and a group has been set up to look at priorities.</p>	

Wallingford Neighbourhood Plan

The pre-submission consultation for the Wallingford Neighbourhood Plan is underway and concludes on Sunday 20th October.

Oxfordshire Resources and Waste Strategy

Oxfordshire County Council has launched a new countywide waste strategy. South and Vale are the best districts in the county with over 60 per cent of waste sent for reusing, recycling or composting. The strategy aims to help keep household waste growth to zero, increase recycling rates and to send less waste to landfill. To report a missed collection or any fly tipping, please use the reporting process via Biffa.

Cutting congestion and improving public transport.

A meeting was held on 13th September to consider the new joint initiative from OCC and Oxford City to address the problem of traffic congestion in the city. The two councils have produced a new 'Connecting Oxford' proposal to improve air quality and travel times into and around the city by:

- Restricting car traffic
- Introducing additional 'bus gates'
- Reallocating road space to pedestrians and cyclists
- New high frequency bus routes
- Charging for workplace parking
- Discounts for new bus services for those paying workplace parking levy.

The two councils are asking for feedback to develop a more detailed project proposal.

Oxfordshire Growth Board Review

The Oxfordshire Growth Board resolved on 24th September to review its role and functions. It has developed a short survey to canvass views on how the Board should work in future. The deadline is 26th November and there is a workshop on 18th November at 6.30pm for those interested in learning more about the review process.

District Councillor Grant Scheme

Each District Councillor has a fund of £5,000 to be used to benefit the community. Applications are open until the end of the year. Community groups are asked to apply as soon as possible.

District Councillor Powell will investigate the likely start date for the Bloor development in Benson Lane.

4937

FINANCE

a) Payments made in September

A schedule of payments made since the last meeting was presented. This included:

- payment of £2,814 to Arrow Fencing for construction of the platform for the double aerial cableway at the playground
- £720 to Moore Limited for the external audit fee
- £360 to Coulton Tree Services for removal of a eucalyptus tree at the recreation ground
- £1,320 to RCOH Limited for Neighbourhood Plan consultancy work.

It was proposed by Cllr Park and seconded by Cllr McCrea that these payments be approved and this was agreed.

b) Consider accounts for year to date.

The accounts for the six months to 30th September had been circulated. It was noted that the figures were slightly skewed due to the receipts and payments for the playground project but aside from that expenditure is in line with budget. The precept has not been raised for the last three years.

c) Audit Report

The auditors have returned the audit report and the following was noted:

On the initial submission of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, the Internal Audit report and Section 1 the council had responded N/A to questions in relation to the council acting as a sole Trustee (boxes 11 and 9 respectively). The Council is a sole trustee so these pages were updated and resubmitted on the correct basis. The external audit for 2018/19 has now been completed. Notice of the conclusion of the audit will be posted on noticeboards and on the website.

d) Other Matters

- It was noted that VAT is now submitted automatically to HMRC.
- The change of signatories form is now ready to go to the bank. Two out of three signatories are required on cheques and for internet banking.

4938	<p>REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</p> <p>A discussion took place on the Council's future priorities and the Chairman will circulate a list for consideration.</p>	JG
4939	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Decision P19/S2340/HH Replacement garage and alterations at 1 Winterbrook Wallingford OX10 9DX – Planning Permission P19/S2254/HH 69 The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EF Single Storey Glazed Extension. Planning Permission</p> <p>P18/S4138/RM Amendment (no. 2) on reserved matters application for development of 150 houses at Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford. Planning Permission.</p> <p>Applications withdrawn</p> <p>P19/S1536/FUL The Springs Golf Club Wallingford Road North Stoke OX10 6BE The reorganisation of tourism facilities to deliver a Spa and Reception building, a replacement green keeper maintenance and laundry building, extension to the existing clubhouse and provision of 43 hotel lodges.</p> <p>P19/S2713/PDH 17 Robert Sparrow Gardens Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8DQ Addition of a single storey conservatory to the rear elevation.</p> <p>Consultation on applications</p> <p>P19/S2889/HH 17 Robert Sparrow Gardens Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8DQ Addition of a single storey conservatory to the rear elevation. Recommend no objection</p> <p>Neighbourhood plan</p> <p>There is a detailed report in Crowmarsh News. We have been granted £7700 for professional consultancy to help prepare the plan for consultation and submission. The chosen consultants, O'Neill Homer, have begun work.</p>	

	<p>Enforcement complaint</p> <p>The chairman has asked the SODC planning department why the listed gate pier and wall at the Carmel College entrance have still not been rebuilt: according to the permission they were to be rebuilt further back immediately after demolition.</p> <p>Newnham Manor housing site</p> <p>An informal update meeting was held on Friday 6 September with the agents for the development of 100 houses. The revised plans are apparently ready to resubmit to SODC's planning committee.</p> <p>Planning Training</p> <p>Cllrs Rowley and McCrea attended a training session on 17th September, led by the District Council. Cllr McCrea reported that the County Council has a sum of Section 106 money which is available to apply for. Cllr Griffin has made enquiries about money associated with the development at Stephens Field and Bellamy Way. It was agreed to ask OCC Cllr Gray for further information and also to enquire when the original entrance to the riverside park will be closed to traffic.</p> <p>Cllr Rowley offered to attend a day conference in London on Environmental Planning: Preparing and Responding to Climate Change locally. The cost is £255 plus travelling expenses. It was agreed that the Parish Council will fund this and that Cllr Rowley will report back.</p>	DR
4940	<p>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</p> <p><u>Environment and Recreation Ground</u></p> <p>Cllr Rowley reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A meeting will be held on 10th October with Green and Tidy to discuss soft landscaping at the playground. • The new platform for the double aerial cableway at the playground is now in place. • The DBS enhanced (with barred list check) certificate for Peter Etchells has been issued and Chris Strange's is being processed by Oxfordshire Youth. • Oxfordshire Youth will be asked to publicize the Recreation Ground and Pavilion facilities to help increase their use and income. Cllr Rowley to discuss with Chris Strange. • The committee will meet on 14th October. • Chris Strange is keeping the toilets open to playground users whenever possible and no issues have been reported by Chris. 	DR

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A suggestion has been made for a modification to the access arrangements to the toilets opposite the playing fields, which, if acceptable, could still fulfil the need for dedicated toilets and changing to those hiring the sports fields and also allow access to other toilets for others such as playground users. This would be an alternative option to building a new facility. This will be discussed with sports fields hirers and by the committee. <p><u>Traffic and Transport</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Hopkins suggested the speed indicator device in Benson Lane would be more effective if placed further up the road. Cllr Sherbourne had suggested the original 30mph flashing sign in Portway should now be removed. The Clerk will make enquiries. There had been a number of complaints from residents about traffic congestion caused by deliveries to Jewsons. This will be investigated by Traffic and Transport. 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>TT Cttee</p>
4941	<p>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</p> <p>The Chairman reported that the OALC newsletter mentioned a requirement for accessible websites. The deadline for this is 2020. Cllr Grove has experience of this and would be happy to assist.</p>	
4942	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>The following correspondence was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Email from a resident about overgrown vegetation at the junction of Cox Lane and the A4074. Notice of making of order for public path diversion of Crowmarsh Bridleway 17a and Crowmarsh Footpath 43 (part) at Mongewell. This notice will be posted on noticeboards at North Stoke and Mongewell as well as in Crowmarsh Gifford. Email from a resident of The Street, Crowmarsh, suggesting more trees should be planted, starting with the grass verge in The Street. It was noted that 30th November is Tree Charter Day. 	<p>Clerk</p>
4943	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will be held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 7th November, starting at 7.30pm.</p>	

4944	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tree by the bus stop in North Stoke has been pruned to improve visibility, paid for by North Stoke Village Hall Committee. • The litter bin at the bus stop opposite Home Farm has gone missing. The Finance Officer has reported this on 'Fix My Street'. 	<p>Clerk (Agenda) JG</p>
	<p>The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.</p>	