



CROWMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 7th April, 2022
starting at 7.30pm

Present:

Mr John Griffin (Chairman)	Mr David Rowley
Mr Jay Anderson	Mr Stephen Sherbourne
Prof Andrew Johnson	Mr Stuart Soames
Mr Julian Park	Mr David Topliss

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

Apologies: Received from Mrs Liz Ryall, Mrs Fleur Stevenson and Ms Julia Streete.

Declarations of interest: Cllrs Griffin and Johnson declared an interest in planning application P22/S1045/FUL, as employees of UKCEH and took no part in the discussion.

The meeting was quorate.

NO.		ACTION
5290	MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3RD MARCH 2022 The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
5291	MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES <u>Item 5278:</u> It was agreed to accept the quote received from The Landscape Group for cutting the grass verges and other areas in Crowmarsh Gifford and the recreation ground at North Stoke. Cllr Sherbourne will ask them to do a cut as soon as possible. <u>Item 5278:</u> The Parish Council is awaiting receipt of the agreement with Crowmarsh Youth Football Club when it will be signed as agreed. <u>Item 5282(e):</u> Allotment invoices and tenancy agreements for new tenants have been sent out. <u>Item 5279:</u> Cllr Rowley reported that applications have been submitted for the County Councillor's grant scheme by the school and the Cubs.	SSh

	<p><u>Item 5282(h)</u>: Contract for emptying dog bins. The contract with SODC has been terminated and a new contract signed with the Shield Group who will collect the waste every Tuesday.</p> <p><u>Item 5283: Litter picking</u>. The Wallingford 1155 charity have already carried out litter picking in Wallingford and included some areas of Crowmarsh. Equipment for cleaning signs may be borrowed from Wallingford and this will be considered for the autumn. The Chairman will circulate a request for a councillor to lead this.</p> <p><u>Item 5290: Jubilee Mugs</u>: The issue of commemorative mugs is being considered.</p>	JG
5292	<p>REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</p> <p>The District Councillors reported on the progress of the Homes for Ukraine Scheme.</p> <p>Plans for the Platinum Jubilee will be posted on the District Council website.</p> <p>Proposals for the former SODC office site in Benson Lane are being drawn up and Crowmarsh Parish Council will be kept informed of developments.</p> <p>Biffa is trialling an electric bin lorry over the next few weeks. The current waste and recycling collection contract has two more years to run.</p>	
5293	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Decisions by SODC</p> <p>P22/S0399/HH North Stoke Farmhouse The Street North Stoke OX10 6BL First floor rear extension including alterations to front door and first floor front window. PLANNING PERMISSION</p> <p>P22/S0234/HH Archgate The Street North Stoke OX10 6BL Construction of a new timber barn garage with an electrical charging point, integral log store, ground floor outside covered dining area and a first-floor gym space in part of the attic without restricted headroom. PLANNING PERMISSION</p> <p>P21/S5379/FUL Land to the east of Reading Road Cholsey OX10 9HG (PART RETROSPECTIVE). Repairs to 15.5m of the river bank, comprising woven willow spiling, backfilled soil and turf (In Cholsey parish). PLANNING PERMISSION</p> <p>P22/S0306/LB 1 Church Cottages Church Lane North Stoke OX10 6BH</p>	

<p>Repair/replace the porch roof and bread oven roof. LISTED BUILDING CONSENT</p> <p>Consultations</p> <p>P22/S0930/HH Laliq, Mongewell OX10 8BP Two storey rear extension, thermal upgrade, replacement windows and new entrance canopy. Alterations to existing extension. No objection.</p> <p>P22/S1045/FUL Maclean Building, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology Benson Lane Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8BB. A number of locations on the UKCEH Wallingford site are proposed for installation of a ground mounted solar array, maximum area of 580m² in any location. Recommend approval.</p> <p>P22/S0925/LB & P22/S0866/HH Brook House, The Street, North Stoke OX10 6BL Conversion of 19th century plant room into boot room, including creation of new doorway and new window. No objection.</p> <p>P22/S0958/HH The Grebe 13 Chalmore Gardens Wallingford Oxon. First floor extension, replacement porch, wood burning stove flue to south elevation, addition of PV array & alterations under permitted development. No strong views – not affecting our parish.</p> <p>MW.0115/21: Application for planning permission to extract and process sand and gravel at land at White Cross Farm, Wallingford. Objection to gravel extraction opposite the former Carmel College listed buildings and the Chilterns AONB, which would have a harmful impact on the River Thames and users of the river and the Thames Path and harm biodiversity recovery in the Wallingford to Goring Conservation Target Area.</p> <p>SODC has asked the Parish Council whether we wish to adopt all or part of the open space at the Newnham Manor development and what commuted sum we would ask for. The District Councillors will research what is happening at other local developments and this will be considered at a future meeting.</p> <p><u>Neighbourhood Plan</u></p> <p>Dr Nick Robins reported that the made version of our neighbourhood plan has not yet been posted on the SODC website. He will assist SODC with the completion of a Post Adoption Statement (PAS) that is required.</p>	<p>SC/AP</p>
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	<p><u>Other Matters</u></p> <p>Concern has been expressed by residents about a fence which has been erected at the bottom of Constitution Hill. The Chairman will discuss this with SODC's planning enforcement section.</p>	JG
5294	<p>FINANCE</p> <p><u>a) Payments to be made in April</u></p> <p>The Finance Officer had circulated a list of payments to be paid in March. In addition to salaries this included the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1,950 for Simpson Architecture for work on the pavilion project • £148.32 for the Jubilee lunch posters • £480 for Suggs Security for repairs to the pavilion fire alarm • £40 for village hall hire in February and March • £109.86 for refuse collection • £1,148.63 to Scofell for supply and planting of 15 trees at the nature area, funded by a District Council grant • £60 for North Stoke Village Hall hire in 2021 • £6.00 for domain hosting paid to Public Internet Ltd • £45 for membership of the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association • £206.73 to Southern Electric for the church floodlighting for Quarter 4. <p>It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Park that these payments be approved and this was agreed.</p> <p><u>b) Requests for grants and donations</u></p> <p>A grant request had been received from Riverside Counselling Service. It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Park that a grant of £300 be made and this was agreed.</p> <p><u>c) Accounts Status at 31st March 2022</u></p> <p>The accounts status at 31st March was noted. Total receipts were £128,010.70 and total expenditure £103,813.50. The current balance was £172,428.33 and there was £102,352.71 on deposit. These are draft accounts; final accounts will be presented at a later date.</p>	

	<p>d) <u>Review of financial regulations</u></p> <p>The financial regulations had been circulated. The tender threshold was amended to £25,000 in line with NALC regulations and a number of minor amendments were also made. Subject to these alterations the financial regulations were approved.</p> <p>e) <u>Review of publications scheme</u></p> <p>The publications scheme was reviewed and approved without amendment.</p>	
5295	<p>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</p> <p><u>Plans for Annual Parish Meeting</u></p> <p>The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Thursday 26th May at the Pavilion, starting at 7.00pm. The PCSOs and the OCC Councillor have been invited and the District Councillors will attend. The Parish Council will report on activities over the past year. Cllr Griffin will invite Thames Water to send one or more representatives.</p> <p>The Clerk will contact Greene King to enquire about the timescale of their their plans to reopen The Bell public house following the improvements and refurbishment recently applied for.</p>	<p>JG</p> <p>Clerk</p>
5296	<p>REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</p> <p>As well as the pavilion improvements, plans are in hand for a pedestrian crossing near The Bell and an improved surface at Watery Lane.</p>	
5297	<p>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</p> <p>Environment and Recreation Ground</p> <p><u>Improvements to Pavilion</u></p> <p>Cllr Johnson had circulated an update on the project. The decision taken on 9th December to accept the SODC grant terms and conditions and to allocate £75,000 to this project, plus a 10% contingency if needed, was confirmed. It was agreed to start the project with an expected grant of £73,000 from SODC, and an initial budget of £148,000. It was agreed that the Parish Council's contribution will be taken from CIL money. Costs are increasing so it is important to accept the quote from the builder. The parish council agreed to accept SCM as the contractor and its updated quote. If further funding is made available by the Communities Foundation (FCC) it may be possible to extend the scope of the project.</p>	

	<p>Under the terms of the SODC grant, 50% of the funding will be made available at the start of the project and the balance of 50% at the end.</p> <p>Cllr Rowley has spoken to the South and Vale Equality & Inclusivity Officer and as the ramp is an existing one we are not obliged to improve it but it is hoped that funding will permit us to go for a new ramp which will comply with current legislation.</p> <p>If no funding is received from FCC the maximum parish council expenditure will be no more than £90,000 including 10% contingency. FCC will inform us of their decision by mid-June.</p> <p>It is hoped that work will be able to start on the project on 6th June. Project duration is estimated at 20 weeks. During most of the project, access to the toilets from the playground will still be possible.</p> <p><u>Big Jubilee Lunch – Sunday 5th June at the Village Hall</u></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Topliss and seconded by Cllr Rowley that a maximum of £500 be allocated from parish council funds for bunting, banners etc. for the marquees and the hall. This was agreed.</p> <p>Cllr Rowley reported that parking at the former SODC office site would cost £150 and a risk assessment would be needed. It was agreed that the working party will review nearer the time, whether this will be needed.</p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne proposed that we order a 6-metre hinged flagpole for the Pavilion and one for Crowmarsh Village Hall, plus a union flag for the village hall. The pavilion already has a flag available. The total cost would be £628 and the village hall committee would contribute the cost of equipment for the hall. Planning permission is not required. It was proposed by Cllr Park and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that this expenditure be approved and this was agreed.</p> <p>Traffic and Transport</p> <p>Matthew Barber, the Police and Crime Commissioner has announced a Road Safety Summit in May. Cllr Sherbourne plans to attend and will raise motorcycle speed and noise.</p> <p>The Clerk has sent a reminder to OCC Highways about the requested speed surveys at the A4074 (Portway).</p>	<p>SSh</p> <p>SSh</p>
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	Cllr Griffin suggested that a councillor might register as a Fix My Street superuser.	
5298	UPDATE ON WEBSITE The website has been updated with documents required by the auditor. Cllr Topliss will research the possibility of having the website hosted and managed by a third party and will report to a future meeting. The Finance Officer has requested information on uploading documents, which would also reduce the pressure on Cllr Stevenson.	CT
5299	CORRESPONDENCE The following correspondence was noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update from Ridgeway National Trail • Police and Crime Bulletin March 2022 • Update from Thames and Chilterns in Bloom • SODC updates • Chilterns Conservation Board update • NALC update • Rural Services Network update • Health Watch Oxfordshire Briefing • OALC update • Consultation on Cholsey's neighbourhood plan. 	
5288	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council meeting to be held on Thursday 5 th May 2022 at North Stoke Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. It was agreed to meet at 7.00pm to allow time to visit the recreation ground in order to ascertain its condition. The Clerk gave her apologies for this meeting.	
5289	ANY OTHER BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Sherbourne will source geraniums for the wooden tubs in the village. • Cllr Anderson reported that the gate and fence at the end of Old Reading Road has been damaged by a car. This will be reported on Fix My Street. • SODC's waste team will be carrying out a deep cleanse in the parish from 6th June until 9th June and has asked for information on the areas to concentrate on. It was agreed to prioritise The Street in Crowmarsh and the residential roads attached to it, plus the Newnham Green service road behind Jewsons. The Clerk will respond. 	SSh Clerk Clerk
	The meeting closed at 21.30.	

