



CROMMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at North Stoke Village Hall on Thursday 7th July, 2022
starting at 7.30pm**

Present:

Prof Andrew Johnson	Mr Stephen Sherbourne
Mr David Rowley	Mr Stuart Soames
Mrs Liz Ryall	

Attending: Dr Yvonne Peet and Mrs Sue Rance (Clerk). District Councillor Sue Cooper attended part of the meeting. A local resident, Mr Nick McGregor, also attended the meeting.

Apologies: Received from Mr Jay Anderson, Mr John Griffin, Mr Julian Park, Ms Julia Streete, Mrs Fleur Stevenson and Mr David Topliss.

Declarations of interest: None.

The meeting was quorate.

NO.		ACTION
5329	MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9TH JUNE 2022 The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
5330	MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES <u>Item 5317:</u> Cllr Johnson is in discussion with Chris Strange about reimbursement for the additional mowing he is doing at the recreation ground. <u>Item 5324:</u> Action on rabbit control at North Stoke Recreation Ground is under discussion.	AJ JS/SS
5331	REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR County Councillor Felix Bloomfield had submitted a report and this had been circulated.	

5332	<p>REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</p> <p>The District Councillors' report had been circulated.</p> <p>District Cllr Cooper reported that improvements to the riverside pools are in hand and there are plans to introduce swimming lessons for children and aqua classes. The temperature of the swimming pool has been reduced by 2 degrees and it is planned to cover the pool when not in use to retain the heat. The splash pool is to be improved for the benefit of small children. A special effort is being made to improve the cleanliness of the facilities and it is hoped to provide a kiosk café close to the splash park.</p> <p>The adjacent camp site has also been improved.</p> <p>Cllr Ryall reported that work on the pumping station at Newnham Farm has been paused, pending Thames Water being available to connect it up. Cllr Cooper reported that a proposal is in hand to ensure that Thames Water has capacity to deal with the requirements of all the new housing.</p> <p>Re. the bathing water initiative near Wallingford Bridge, the public will need to be able to access data on water quality.</p>	
5333	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Decisions by SODC</p> <p>P22/S1705/FUL: Change of Use of Former SODC office site for a grounds maintenance depot consisting of 5 shipping containers for storage, provision of a welfare unit, fuel storage and skip area. Permission granted for two years from start of activity.</p> <p>Consultations</p> <p>P22/S21176/HH Detached garage at North Stoke Farm, The Street, North Stoke. No strong views.</p> <p>P22/S2233/FUL Proposed two storey single dwelling. Demolish rear single storey extension, existing garage and dwelling retained. Recommend refusal due to over development of the site and proximity to the Portway.</p> <p>P22/S2320/FUL Erection of a two-storey, detached dwelling with garden and attached garage at land adjacent to Jasmin Mews, The Street, Crowmarsh. Recommend refusal due to over intensive development of the site which would restrict access by emergency vehicles.</p>	

5334

FINANCE

a) Consider and agree payments since last meeting

A list of payments was presented. In addition to salaries and regular items, this included payment of £7,228.16, being the third party funding payable to FCC for the pavilion project.

Other payments included £1,708 consultation for the zebra crossing at The Bell, £1,027.20 for lighting assessment and design of the zebra crossing and £1,777.93 architect's fees for the pavilion project. £510 was paid for drain clearing at the pavilion, £336 for mower repairs and £75 for repairs to the bus shelter at North Stoke.

It was noted that £2,650 in architect's fees has been included in the SODC grant. The council is not permitted to charge for architect's work incurred prior to receipt of the grant.

It was proposed to make a donation of £222.22 for the North Stoke Jubilee Party and £58.36 for the Mongewell Jubilee Party.

It was agreed to renew the council's membership of Community First Oxon at a cost of £55.

It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Johnson that the payments be approved and this was agreed.

b) Requests for Grants and Donations

A grant request had been received from Oxfordshire Association for the Blind. After discussion, it was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Johnson that a donation of £300 be made under Section 137 and this was agreed.

c) Consider accounts to date

A summary of receipts and payments to 30th June had been circulated. Income for the year to date was £157,273.04 and expenditure was £22,735.07. Total funds stood at £409,319.01.

d) Consideration of Investment Strategy

A draft had been circulated but it was agreed to defer this to the August meeting. Meanwhile, the finance officer will seek the advice of OALC on this matter.

RFO

	<p>e) Other Matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Finance Officer reported that the notice of public rights to view the accounts will be removed from the noticeboard on 15th July. All information has now been sent to the external auditor. • The first invoice from SCM (approximately £10,150) for the pavilion work is now with the architect, Michael Simpson. It was agreed that this can be approved by circulating an email to councillors. 	
5335	<p>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</p> <p>Environment and Recreation Ground</p> <p><u>Improvements to Pavilion</u></p> <p>Cllr Johnson reported that SCM has started work at the pavilion and this is going well. FCC has agreed to award the full amount of the grant requested (67,238.74). A meeting has been held to discuss the management of the project. It was unanimously agreed to construct the extended patio and improved wheelchair ramp.</p> <p>Two windows in the hall on the west side opposite the tennis courts and one in the new meeting room could now be installed as FCC has approved the funding for this. Windows could be fitted with external shutters for security and to prevent vandalism. The cost of the hall windows would be £3762 and blinds and shutters would cost £2976. While funding from FCC has already been agreed for the windows and external blinds, if it is decided not to proceed with these, the money could not be accepted. Lead in time for the windows will need to be checked but is thought to be about two months. If the FCC can finalise their agreement with the parish council earlier, it may help the program for the parish council to have agreed whether the items the FCC have said they would pay for, including the windows and external blinds, can all go ahead.</p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne noted the parish council had previously resolved that any controversial items of expenditure would be put to the full council to vote on and suggested deferring this decision to the August meeting. However, if an urgent decision is required in respect of the hall windows it may be necessary to consider voting by email.</p> <p>The Finance Officer requested costings to be sent to her for the project which currently will amount to approximately £235,500.</p>	

	<p>Traffic and Transport</p> <p>A total of 23 residents had responded in favour of the 20mph speed limit on residential streets, following the article in Crowmarsh News. No objections have been received to date.</p> <p>The closure of the old access road to the Riverside has now been actioned.</p> <p>Dropped kerb crossing at North Stoke. No action has yet been taken on this but plans are in hand to repeat the speed surveys in two locations in North Stoke.</p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne has emailed roads policing about the council's request for additional speed surveys at Portway and on the A4130. The police have confirmed that they ceased carrying out speed checks at Portway in 2019.</p> <p>Mr Nick McGregor has recorded motorbike noise of 115 decibels at Crowmarsh Hill. There are bikes reaching 85mph in the 30mph limit.</p> <p>Cllr Johnson suggested filming on Portway. District Cllr Powell has a media contact who may be able to assist with this. It was agreed to give Thames Valley Police a chance to take action before taking this step.</p> <p>No response has yet been received to the emailed list of highways issues to be addressed. The Clerk will chase this up.</p>	Clerk
5336	<p>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</p> <p>The Finance Officer reported that she can now upload documents to the website.</p>	
5337	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>The following correspondence was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police and Crime Bulletin • SODC updates • Rural Services Network update • Health Watch Oxfordshire Briefing • NAHT update • OALC update • Chilterns Conservation Update • Enquiry about wire fencing adjacent to river (on private land) • Request for a bench adjacent to the river (on private land). 	

5338	<p>REPORTS OF REPS ON OUTSIDE BODIES</p> <p><u>Wallingford Town Council</u></p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne reported on a meeting at Wallingford Town Hall to make plans for Wallingford in 10 years' time. Items discussed included improved cycle/footpath routes, smaller buses and an eco swimming pool.</p> <p><u>Emery-Owen Trust</u></p> <p>The trust has met and is keen to hear from local organisations who might benefit from financial support. Interested parties are advised to write and request a grant.</p>	
5339	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 4th August 2022 at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm.</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 21.15.</p>	