



CROWMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 7th November 2019,
starting at 7.30pm**

Present:

Mr John Griffin (Chairman)	Mr David Rowley
Ms Gaynor Hopkins	Mrs Liz Ryall
Prof Andrew Johnson	Mr Stephen Sherbourne
Mr Ken McCrea	Mr Stuart Soames
Mr Julian Park	Mr David Topliss

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

Apologies: Received from Mr Jon Grove and Mrs Fleur Stevenson.

Declarations of interest: Mr Stuart Soames declared an interest in planning application P19/S3063/HH Summerlea Cottage, North Stoke OX10 6ET.

The meeting was quorate.

NO.		ACTION
4945	MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3RD OCTOBER 2019 The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 rd October were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
4946	MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING <u>Item 4935:</u> It was confirmed that the kerbside weeds in Benson Lane have now been removed by the District Council as part of the deep cleanse. <u>Item 4935:</u> The environmental work to be done by Wallingford School students is in hand. <u>Item 4935:</u> The County Council has refilled the grit bins in the parish as requested. <u>Item 4935:</u> Cllr Sherbourne and the Finance Officer will meet before the start of the next season to discuss the grass cutting contract.	

4947

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

The District Councillor's report had been circulated.

Local Plan

The Council has been prevented by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government from doing anything with the controversial Local Plan 2034. The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP wrote to the Leader (Sue) the day before Council was due to debate the Plan's future preventing any further discussions or decisions on it. This meant that we were unable to hear the views of the 35 members of the public who had registered to speak at the Full Council meeting on 10th October, and we were unable to hold any debate or to take any decisions on whether to withdraw the plan. And it looks as though this will remain the case until after the election.

Needless to say we are not happy with this unacceptable intervention of national government into local democracy.

We believe we have acted reasonably and responsibly throughout the process of reviewing our options since the local elections back in May, and we are dismayed that the Government now seems to want to prevent us from making decisions about important planning issues in South Oxfordshire. It seems ironic that the Minister himself has publicly stated how important it is to respect the democratic wishes of the British people over the Brexit referendum, and the MHCLG's own website states "The Ministry's job is ... to give more power to local people to shape what happens in their area."

Protecting the rights of EU Citizens

A motion we were able to pass (unanimously) at the Full Council meeting was to offer as much support as possible to EU citizens living and working in our area. We are lucky to have two EU citizens as District Councillors, both of whom have successfully applied for Settled Status, but there are many thousands residing here who may be unaware of the risks of not applying, or who may find the process daunting and distressing. Council voted to write to EU citizens directly where possible, and to publish more information on its website to help them during these uncertain times. If you know of any EU nationals living locally who haven't yet applied for Settled Status do suggest they do so if they wish. Help is available if needed.

New Offices in Crowmarsh

In a confidential session at the Council meeting a budget was agreed so that work can proceed on the rebuild of the SODC offices in Benson Lane. Members are keen to invest in a sustainable, energy-efficient building that will be fit for the future, will set the standard for anyone else wishing to develop commercial buildings in our district and will be an office of which

	<p>we, the local community and the SODC/Vale officers can be proud. Such a building should have much lower running costs than the one it replaced. But we do have to show value for money at all stages. A members group and the cabinet member responsible (Andrea) will oversee the project.</p> <p>Councillor Grants</p> <p>We both still have small amounts left in our ward grants budget so if you know of any local organisation needing a modest grant towards something which will be of value to the people of Crowmarsh, please ask them to apply soon through the SODC website.</p> <p>Affordable housing</p> <p>The cabinet have asked officers to prepare a paper on ways in which the Council can start to provide affordable housing again.</p> <p>Extra Garden Waste collection.</p> <p>During the week beginning 18th November, those using the brown bin garden waste service will have the opportunity to put out an extra bin or up to 3 sacks of garden waste. You can find out more information on what can be collected as part of the garden waste from the SODC website www.southoxon.gov.uk</p>	
4948	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>a) <u>Payments made in October</u></p> <p>A schedule of payments made since the last meeting was presented. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment of £50 was made to Oxfordshire Youth for Chris Strange's DBS application • Payment of £250 re. neighbourhood plan to Dr Robins • Payment of £1498.50 to Scofell for two cuts at the nature area. • Payment of £4054.59 to Came and Company for the parish council's insurance. This has been upgraded to include the playground and the price has been fixed for three years. • Proposed donations of £100 each to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeals for Crowmarsh Gifford and North Stoke. <p>It was proposed by Cllr Ryall and seconded by Cllr Sherbourne that these payments be approved and this was agreed.</p> <p>b) <u>Consider accounts for year to date.</u></p> <p>The accounts to 31st October had been circulated. Payments were £6,862 and income was £12,409, including £7,700 from</p>	

	<p>Groundwork UK consultancy and £2,230.36 CIL money for two houses built in North Stoke. The CIL money has to be spent within a certain time frame but may be spent anywhere in the parish. Income for the year to date was £203,000 and expenditure for the year to date was £80,000. No invoice has yet been received from Mr Cottrell for grass cutting at Newnham Murren Church</p> <p>c) <u>Other Matters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft budget for next year will be presented at the December meeting. • The Finance Officer has applied for £1,000 from Cllr Gray's fund for the third speed indicator device. It was noted that data can be downloaded from the SIDs; they may need to be re-calibrated. • Invoices and receipts for the playground have now been completed. 	
4949	<p>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</p> <p>A discussion took place on how to mark the many years of service given by Mr Nigel Hannigan as a Parish Councillor. A certificate of service was suggested. Cllr Ryall will research the length of time he served.</p>	ER
4950	<p>REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</p> <p>A residents' survey had been published in Crowmarsh News and is also available on-line in Survey Monkey. Thirteen on-line responses have been received so far plus a few others. Some North Stoke residents have requested a SID for North Stoke and a mirror at the cross roads to improve visibility. The survey is on-going.</p>	
4951	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>In response to a query from SODC's planning department, it was confirmed that the parish council has no objection to the planning application P19/S2889/HH for 17 Robert Sparrow Gardens. The Clerk will contact SODC to clarify this.</p> <p>Decisions P19/S1217/DIS CAB International Nosworthy Way Mongewell OX10 8DE Discharge of appeal condition 9 (travel plan) following refusal of P15/S3387/FUL. The development proposed is the demolition of existing buildings and erection of a new headquarters for CABI; erection of 91 dwellings, comprising open market and affordable housing, provision of open space, landscaping and parking and other associated works. DIS Details Agreed</p>	Clerk

P19/S2624/LB 79 The Street Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EF
Repairs and redecoration to the external fabric of the building.
Listed Building Consent

P19/S2545/HH Crowmarsh Stores 64 The Street Crowmarsh
Gifford OX10 8ES Single storey rear extension. Planning
Permission

Consultation on applications

P19/S3063/HH Summerlea Cottage, Pocock Lane, North Stoke
OX10 6ET Minor alteration to roof on main dwelling; conversion
of garage to annexe; conversion of carport to annexe – NO
STRONG VIEWS

Discharge of conditions (to note)

P19/S3326/DIS Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8ED
Discharge of conditions 4 - surface water drainage and 5 -
surface water drainage on application ref. P18/S4138/RM
Reserved matters application for the erection of 150 dwellings to
include appearance, landscaping, layout and scale (all matters
reserved except access) pursuant to outline permission

P16/S3608/O, appeal reference APP/Q3115/W/17/3186858.

P19/S3325/DIS Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8ED
Discharge of condition 6 - sample materials required (walls and
roof) on application ref. P18/S4138/RM (as above).

P19/S3324/DIS Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8ED
Discharge of Condition 21 - Electric Vehicle Charging Point - of
application P16/S3608/O (Outline planning application for up to
150 dwellings together with associated access, public open
space, landscaping and amenity areas.)

P19/S3323/DIS Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8ED
Discharge of Condition 17 - Drainage Details - of application
P16/S3608/O (as above)

P19/S3124/DIS 69 The Street, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8EF
Discharge of condition 3 - Tree Protection to application
P19/S2254/HH. Single Storey Glazed Extension.

Neighbourhood plan

The plan is being updated by consultants and prepared for
consultation, which will now take place early in 2020.

Newnham Manor housing site

The revised plans are apparently ready to resubmit to SODC's
planning committee.

4952

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Environment and Recreation Ground

- The latest version of the safeguarding and child protection policy was circulated, discussed and agreed. It will be reviewed annually. Thanks to Cllrs Johnson, McCrea and others for their hard work. Hirers will be given a copy of the policy.
- The Smart Lock has been discussed by the committee and it has been agreed to go ahead with the installation.
- Toilets/meeting room: Cllrs Sherbourne and Johnson will try to find an architect who can take this forward. Cllr Rowley suggested that, as two of four main changing rooms are rarely, if ever, used, consideration be given to converting one of these to take extra toilets for public access, with direct access from outside, using the existing ramp and to converting another into a meeting room. Provision for drinks vending machines could also be considered.
- Some more work has been done on the maintenance of the play area.
- DBS certificates have now been issued for Chris Strange and for Peter Etchells.
- There have been two accidents from falls from the play equipment.

Traffic and Transport

The Clerk will ask SODC for a supply of posters advising motorists to switch off their engines if stationary for more than one minute.

The Clerk will ask County Councillor Gray about the following:

- Request for lane markings on the approach to the Mongewell roundabout from North Stoke direction.
- Advice on the problem of lorry parking at Jewsons.
- Whether the school could display on the highway, speed awareness signs made by pupils.

Cllr Sherbourne requested all councillors to let him know whenever they see a speed enforcement van in Crowmarsh Gifford or North Stoke.

Clerk

ALL

4953	<p>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</p> <p>Cllr Grove is happy to assist in developing an accessible website. It may be necessary to involve an outside agency to achieve this. Cllr Hopkins is happy to assist with the Council's Facebook page.</p>	
4954	<p>REPORT OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES</p> <p><u>River Users' Group (Sandford to Cleeve) RUG3</u></p> <p>Cllr Ryall reported that efforts are being made to cut back trees on the Wallingford side of the river towards Benson so they will not block the river. The path between Wallingford and Benson has been resurfaced. The Head of the River Race will take place on 1st December. There is now an accessible boat based in Wallingford which may be hired for anyone with disabilities. It will be moored next to the university boat club but will be housed elsewhere during the winter.</p> <p><u>Emery Owen Trust</u></p> <p>Cllr Johnson reported on the trust, which owns allotment land near The Street. The Parish Council nominates two of the trustees, currently Dr Helen Aplin and Cllr Johnson. Income is received from allotment rent and also rent from the Bridge Villa caravan park which occupies some trust land. Income is used to support people in need in the parish and the trust supported the fundraising for the accessible boat. There is currently a waiting list for the allotments.</p>	
4955	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Leaflet from Community Information Network, which supports older people living on their own. It is hoped to appoint a link person to liaise with them. Cllr Hopkins may be interested in doing this. Meanwhile the Clerk will act as a link. ➤ Invitation to a 'Punchbowl Event' at the Corn Exchange on Tuesday 3rd December. Cllr Rowley will attend. ➤ Poster about primary school applications for September 2020 admission. 	DR
4956	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The date of the next meeting would have to be changed from Thursday 12th December, as a General Election has been called for this date. Subject to North Stoke Village Hall being available, the meeting will be held on Thursday 5th December. The Clerk will contact the Bookings Secretary.</p>	Clerk

4957	ANY OTHER BUSINESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Sherbourne reported that daffodil bulbs donated by Grundon are available to plant. Councillors may collect bulbs from the pavilion. • Cllr Sherbourne reported that vegetation at Cox's Lane and Robert Sparrow Gardens needs cutting back. Quotes will be sought from Cottrells, Coulton Tree Services and another. 	
	The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.	