



CROWMARSH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held at Crowmarsh Gifford Village Hall on Thursday 4th September 2025
starting at 7.30pm

Present:

Mr Stephen Sherbourne (Chair)	Mrs Fleur Stevenson
Mr David Rowley	

Attending: Dr. Yvonne Peet (RFO) and Mrs Sue Rance (Clerk). District Cllr Andrea Powell attended part of the meeting. Four members of the public attended the meeting.

Apologies: Received from Ms Anna Best, Mr John Griffin, Prof. Andrew Johnson, Mr Julian Park and Mr David Topliss.

Declarations of interest: P25/S2612/HH Councillors declared an interest in this planning application as the applicant is a former councillor.

The meeting was quorate.

NO.		ACTION
5782	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 th August were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.	
5783	MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES <u>Item 5777:</u> Cllr Best has done the training for Community Speed Watch and will hold training sessions for the other volunteers in the near future.	
5784	REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR Cllr McLauchlan's report had been circulated and this was noted. On Monday 8 th September, Martin Reeves, CEO of Oxfordshire County Council, will visit each parish in the local area.	

5785	<p>REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The District Councillors' report had been circulated and the following points were noted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The local government reorganization is ongoing. The deadline for proposals is the end of November. ➤ The two councils option, proposed by the District Councils would cover 450,000 residents. The OCC option would cover 700,000 residents. Designs for the Benson Mobility Hub will go out to consultation on 17th September. 	
5786	<p>REVIEW OF STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</p> <p><u>Consideration of Replacement Bus Shelters</u></p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne has obtained three quotes for replacement bus shelters outside the church, at the end of Thames Mead and opposite Home Farm.</p> <p>Woodscape quoted £9,877 each plus VAT and delivery. Littlethorpe quoted £6,795 each plus VAT and delivery. Arrow Fencing's price is £4,915 plus VAT, including installation. The shelters would be constructed from opepe wood, which is a sustainable hard wood.</p> <p>After discussion it was agreed to accept Arrow Fencing's quote. This was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Stevenson. It was agreed that three shelters would be ordered, one only to be constructed initially in case any design modifications are needed. Two additional shelters for North Stoke would be considered at a later date. Cllr Sherbourne will take this forward.</p>	SSh
5787	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Decisions by SODC</p> <p><u>P25/S2210/LB</u> 15A Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford OX10 8ED Repointing of the north, east and west elevations of the north wing, etc.. Removal of non-original 1990s kitchen and replacement with a modern kitchen, etc.. Listed Building Consent</p> <p><u>P25/S1886/LB</u> Rectory Farm House, Church Lane, North Stoke OX10 6BQ Retrospective application for alterations to Rectory Farmhouse and Barn. Listed Building Consent</p>	

	<p>Consultations</p> <p><u>P25/S2612/HH</u> 26 Park View, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford OX10 8BL Replacement of shed with pre-fabricated garage outbuilding. Councillors declared an interest as the applicant is a former councillor.</p> <p><u>P25/S2534/LDP</u> 2 Lane End, Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford OX10 8DG New garden room replacement for existing conservatory/ Recommend approval</p> <p><u>P25/S2184/HH</u> Mongewell Byre, Constitution Hill, Mongewell OX10 8BS Proposed rear single extension and side 1.5 storey extension. No strong views.</p> <p>Major developments</p> <p>There is still no news about the signing of the Newnham Manor application legal agreement.</p> <p>There has been no news of the Jewson site, which is now very untidy.</p>																					
5788	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>a) <u>Consider and agree payments since last meeting</u> The Finance officer had circulated a list of payments to be authorized. In addition to salaries and PAYE these were as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Company</th> <th>Details</th> <th>£ inc VAT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>29.08.25</td> <td>Shield</td> <td>Dog bin emptying</td> <td>225.42</td> </tr> <tr> <td>08.08.25</td> <td>Castle Water</td> <td>Allotment water</td> <td>9.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31.07.25</td> <td>Grundon</td> <td>Refuse collection</td> <td>166.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15.08.25</td> <td>Playsafety</td> <td>Annual playground inspection</td> <td>278.40</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Stevenson that the above payments be approved and this was agreed. Cllrs Sherbourne and Stevenson will authorise the payments on-line.</p>	Date	Company	Details	£ inc VAT	29.08.25	Shield	Dog bin emptying	225.42	08.08.25	Castle Water	Allotment water	9.30	31.07.25	Grundon	Refuse collection	166.97	15.08.25	Playsafety	Annual playground inspection	278.40	
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	<p>b) <u>Review of Accounts Status for Year to Date</u></p> <p>The accounts status at 31st August had been circulated. Payments made in August amounted to £16,058.19, including the new speed indicator device in The Street and the new sewage pipework at the Pavilion. Income received was £1,858.50. The bank balance at 31st August was £201,926.79. The budget will be reviewed at the end of September.</p> <p>c) <u>Insurances</u></p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Rowley to continue with the arrangement with Hiscox for the second year of the three-year agreement.</p> <p>d) <u>Standing Orders</u></p> <p>The standing orders document had been circulated for review. It was proposed by Cllr Sherbourne and seconded by Cllr Stevenson that this be approved without amendment and this was agreed.</p>	
5789	<p>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT</p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne had reported on overgrown vegetation on the footpath from Portway towards Robert Sparrow gardens and Park View. This will be considered at the October meeting.</p> <p>Cllr Sherbourne also reported that a complaint had been received about the overgrown hedge at the end of The Street.</p>	Clerk (agenda)
5790	<p>REPORTS OF COMMITTEES</p> <p><u>Environment and Recreation Ground Committee</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Rowley reported that Eibe has suggested laying another layer of grass matting on top of the existing one for the climbing frame and slide which is currently out of use. This would provide extra protection. The area is 80 m sq. The cost of this would be £7,250 plus VAT – to be confirmed following a site survey by Eibe. The alternative, removal and replacement, would cost £11,266. The other matting at the playground will also be considered and it is hoped that, if any maintenance is required, Mr Strange and Mr Nesbitt could do the other areas themselves. Two more quotes will be obtained if possible and it was agreed that this project could be 	

	<p>funded from CIL money. The environment and recreation ground committee will meet on 15th September.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Nesbitt had run the tuck shop on certain days during the school holidays as agreed, with some assistance from Mr Strange. Many compliments have been made on its provision. While confirmation is needed, it is thought no profit had been made but costs had been covered. From an initial trial, it is expected that, when run on days when cricket or football are on, this will see profitable trading. <p><u>Traffic and Transport</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council welcomed increased speed checks by the police on Portway. It was noted that the visit by the CEO of OCC on 8th September will focus on speeding issues. • Cllr Sherbourne reported that the County Council is working towards reducing speed limits to 50mph on the A4074 and in some stretches to 40mph, including Nosworthy Way and on the B4009 at North Stoke. • Cllr Stevenson reported that there have been frequent instances of motorists failing to stop at the pedestrian crossing in The Street and parents would like a school crossing patrol to be introduced. However, this would not be possible on a pedestrian crossing. It was suggested that a rota of parents could be introduced at the start and end of the school day if possible. Meanwhile the Clerk will contact the Thames Valley Police PCSO's for advice. 	Clerk
5791	<p>UPDATE ON WEBSITE</p> <p>Cllr Best is researching website and email suppliers and will report back to the October meeting.</p>	AB
5792	<p>REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Sherbourne reported that the Wallingford Bridge Estate Charity has funds available for charitable donations to local groups. Applications should be sent to the Clerk or to Wallingford Town Clerk. Grants may be made to local organisations but not to individuals. 	

5793	<p>The following correspondence was noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Weekly News • Parish Online Update • SODC Updates • Healthwatch Oxon update • OALC updates • NALC updates • Update from police on cyber crime support 	
5794	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</p> <p>The next meeting will be held on Thursday 2nd October 2025 at North Stoke Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.</p>	
5795	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Cllr Stevenson reported that parents of children living in Home Farm have asked whether the hedge could be extended to improve the safety of children playing on the green. This will be considered at the October meeting.</p>	

The meeting closed at 20.25.