

# STONESFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES 2017/11

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017 in Stonesfield Village Hall. Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

**Members present:** Cllrs Wendy Gould (Chair), Frank Huddleston (Vice Chair), David Brown, Geraldine Lawrence, Phil McArdell, Nigel Villiers

**Others present:** Gill Hill (Clerk), District Cllr Richard Bishop plus five members of the public.

259. It was not apparent the meeting was being recorded.

260. **Public Participation**

Howard Elkins announced that he would be leaving Stonesfield in the New Year. He was not resigning yet as Chairman of the Village Hall. There are now seven trustees of the Village Hall and Cllr Nigel Villiers offered to be the representative from the Parish Council. A long discussion ensued on the management issues between the Village Hall and SPC. These were resolved.

261. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Dave Baldwin & Jim O'Brien

262. **To receive declarations of pecuniary interest.**

There were none.

263. **The Minutes** of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017 were approved and signed.

264. **Matters of report arising from previous minutes.**

There were none.

265. **District County Councillor's Report**

Cllr Richard Bishop mentioned the problems encountered with the new contractor for waste disposal. He was hopeful these would have been sorted by next weekend. With regard to planning matters it looked as though building would have to be made in the AONB. The Cala and Pye planning applications may be coming up on an extended Planning Committee day i.e. 4 and 6 December. The new mobile phone mast should be legalised anytime now. WODC and Blenheim Estates are working on providing 300 discounted homes to be available for rent and part-buy houses.

**County Councillor's Report** is attached although Cllr Ian Hudspeth did not attend.

266. **Playing Field Report (FH)**

The mobile phone legal documents to be signed at the end of the meeting. It will take three weeks to complete the installation. There will be a certain amount of disruption on the playing fields.

267. **SCT**

There was still no news on any new trustees, advertising would occur this month. Cllr Nigel Villiers showed an interest in becoming one. Blenheim Estates may be interested in working with SCT. Hopefully the conveyancing is happening with the Oxford Community Trust land. SCT need to have a website which could be linked to the new SPC website.

268. **Pre-School Update (Chair)**

Nothing to report currently.

269. **Village Hall**

Management issues were resolved in Public Participation.

270. **Glebe Land**

The steps and handrail have been repaired.

271. **New Cemetery**

Land still being cleared.

272. **Working Group for Finance and Planning**

Phil McArdell presented the figures with recommendations for the budget.

273. **The Common**  
Heather McCulloch will be sending a colleague to discuss the Noticeboard for the Common at the January meeting.
274. **Maintenance of War Memorial**  
The possibility of someone maintaining the War Memorial was raised regarding the Civic Voice grants. **Action: David Brown to investigate**
275. **Rights of Way Update**  
Nothing to report yet. **Action: Clerk to follow up**
276. **Proposed Crematorium in Woodstock**  
Councillors were reminded of the invitation extended to them to visit which they plan to do.
277. **Planning:**  
Applications received from WODC:  
17/03191/FUL Demolition of existing dormer bungalow & replace with new zero energy dwelling. Old Orchard, Woodstock Road. SPC has no objection.  
17/02559/FUL Demolition of existing bungalow & erection of new two storey dwelling with detached garage (amended plans). Eastcote, Peaks Lane. SPC has no objection.
278. **Other planning issues:**  
CALA Homes – after the report from the Local Plan inspector this application appears to have been submitted at 50 houses which is a reduction from the original 68 houses. **ACTION: Clerk to check with WODC**  
Pye Homes – no further information.  
The chicane at Woodstock Road was approved minute ref 101 2016/11 'CONSULTATION – Woodstock Road (Stonesfield) – Proposed Traffic Calming/Amendments. Council recorded that Councillors favour the use of a full width hump with associated narrowing of the road. It is understood that this would require some form of lighting and councillors also want a VAS system in place.' SPC have no intention of recommending this be changed.  
North Farm – no further action.
279. **OCC Highways**
- 279.1. Awaiting speeding survey at Laughton Hill – OCC Highways Nigel Clarke.
- 279.2 Speeding at Woodstock Road – the chicane does not have much effect.
- 279.3 Peaks Lane to be closed for an anticipated 6 weeks from 13 November for new gas main connection works.
280. **OCC Housing Survey**  
Considered only applicable for new residents.
281. **WODC – Publica**  
An email received from Cabinet Cllr Colin Dingwall supporting the formation of Publica.
282. **MP Robert Courts**  
Message in a Bottle and Wallet scheme considered to be a good idea and to be advertised in the Slate.
283. **Financial Matters**
- 283.1 The monthly financial summary was circulated at the meeting.
- 283.2 The Bank reconciliations were agreed and signed.
- 283.3 The following invoices were approved for payment:
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| C No. 101923 Came & Company – Insurance Renewal          | £280.00 |
| C No. 101924 Geoff Booth – Repair Glebe Handrail & Steps | £290.00 |
| C No. 101925 Selena Hatton – refund o'payment allot rent | £ 32.00 |
| C No. 101926 Royal British Legion- poppy wreath          | £ 50.00 |
| C No. 101927 Citizens Advice West Oxon donation          | £ 50.00 |
| C No. 101928 Blenheim Palace Vanbrugh Unit Trust Rent    | £150.00 |
| C No. 101929 Clerk's Salary Nov 2017                     | £432.12 |
| C No. 101930 HMRC Nov 2017                               | £108.00 |
- 283.4 Amended Grant Policy discussed and approved payment of grass cutting for churchyard to be a donation.

285. **Clerk's Hours**  
It was agreed to increase the Clerk's hours to 15 hours a week in view of the extra work involved with planning, legal matters and finance.
286. **Allotments**  
Most of the allotment rents have now been collected for 2016-17 and 2017-18. There had been confusion over the actual lists of ownership provided by Blenheim Palace. This has now been sorted out.
287. **Website**  
The Working Group consisting of Frank Huddleston, Nigel Villiers and Gill Hill had their initial meeting with Paul Bates
288. **The Slate Report**  
Due in by 15 November. This issue will cover December 2017 and January 2018.  
**ACTION: Clerk to handle**
289. **Correspondence**  
There was none.
281. **Any Other Matters**  
There was none.

Meeting closed at 10.15pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> December; 2017.  
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