

STONESFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES 2021/02

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 3rd March 2021
via Zoom – Covid 19**

Meeting commenced at 19:00

Members present: Cllr David Baldwin, Cllr W Gould, Cllr Mick Heduan, Cllr Phil McArdeall (Chair), Cllr Simon Powell, Cllr Jim O'Brien, Cllr David Brown, Cllr Richard Bishop (DC), Cllr Geraldine Lawrence

Others present: Karen East (Clerk), Steve Callaghan (White Horse Pub), Claire Brooks (White Horse Pub), Paul Orsi, Paul Barrett

Apologies: Cllr Ian Hudspeth

Members of Public: None

338. Declarations of pecuniary interest. Cllr D Baldwin declared interest in the planning section.

339. The Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2021 were approved.

340. Matters Arising from the minutes 3rd February 2021

None

341. Reports from Parish, District and County Councillors

Cllr R Bishop – preparation and consideration of the budget has been going on. All services have been maintained in full. For the first time in several years the budget was passed unanimously by all parties. A climate change strategy was accepted (5 key areas: protect and restore, energy, active travel and low carbon transport, standards in new developments, engage and support and educate public).

District and County Elections in May. (This Parish does not have elections this year).

342. Public Participation

White Horse Pub: Steve Callaghan – sent the clerk record of how the £4,000 grant that PC gave the pub has been spent. The pub has been purchased by Jon Bowers (not by Community Group). Cllr Brown has managed to speak to Jon Bowers does intend to open as a pub. He has had vandalism against the pub which has flooded some areas of the pub. Cllr McArdeall noted that the Parish are impressed at how well the community tried to raise funds.

343. Trees

Paul Orsi (Sylva Foundation) gave a short presentation on trees. Promotes sustainable forest management.

We all need to act, inspire the community to see what can be developed. A few trees may inspire other land owners, companies, children.

It was noted that there needs to be enforcement with planning that trees are put in when building takes place. Cllr Bishop was asked to take this up with District planning.

With regards to tree planting in Stonesfield we need to know what options we should consider and costs.

We need to look at a short, medium and long term plan including locations, maintenance plan and costs. **Action Point: Cllr D Baldwin, Cllr S Powell, Paul Orsi will put the plan together.** We have in the past had £250 provided for tree planting which has not been used yet.

The clerk reminded that The Common may not be an ideal are for planting because it is protected under Natural England. Permissions would need to be sought, which is difficult. Other areas should perhaps be considered first.

Any trees near the highway need permission from County Council. Trees on the common need Natural England permission. If the land is County Council land, we must have permission from OCC.

344. Questions arising from the clerk's report

Recycling Centre – Stonesfield recycling will be going – we do not know what date that will happen.

Defibrillator –this is not working. A replacement battery and a service has been booked. The clerk will investigate a grant for a second one.

345. Planning

(Cllr Baldwin declared an interest in this application)

21/00414/HHD – The Parish council resolved to have NO OBJECTION against this application.

346. Finance

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the cheque payments as presented below.

Defib shop	£ 438.60	102280	defib battery and service
Clerk paye	£ confidential	102341	paye clerk
Clive Parsons PAYE	£ confidential	102342	Clive paye
HMRC -PAYE	£ 300.54	102343	hmrc paye - includes employer NI contributions
Oxfordshire County Council Pensions	£ 302.15	102344	pensions paye
clerk expenses - Feb	£ 62.94	102345	home office Feb, stamps, print etc
OALC	£ 343.54	102346	Annual membership renewal
B&Q	£ 9.50	102347	war memorial repair materials
Wild and Grace Flowers	£ 36.95	102348	Flowers for Geraldine

Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the bank reconciliation.

Online banking: Cllr McArdell asked if the signatories could go to Barclays and request online access. This will assist us moving from cheque to online banking.

347. Village Survey

It was agreed to try and move forward with neighborhood plan instead of survey. The clerk will have a look to see if there is a dedicated officer at District regarding this (Astrid at WODC) and will look at grants.

Neighborhood plan council champions will be Cllr W Gould, Cllr P McArdell, Cllr D Baldwin, Cllr S Powell initially.

The clerk will ask if Shipton and Thrupp councils have any information they could share, they have just worked through a neighborhood Plan.

348. Art Project

The council **RESOLVED** that the clerk can instruct Genny Early to commence on the bench art project that we have funding from WODC through S106 for.

Cllr Brown suggested we should look at purchasing the Glebe. The clerk will contact the Diocese to see if they would consider allowing us purchase the Glebe.

Potentially we could look at trees in the same area.

349. Climate Emergency / Trees

No further discussion as trees discussed earlier.

349. AOB

- House facing Woodstock Road has put 6ft panels up along the road (Linden). Query whether this was too high with planning as its fencing. The clerk will check this out with WODC.
- A lady contacted the council interested in becoming a councillor. There are no vacancies at the moment.
- Thanks to Cllr Heduan for his **SAFER** report this month. SAFER is a working group of the Parish Council. Considering pushing the 30mph further up the Woodstock Road out of the village, the 20mph would then start at the chicane as you come in to village, this is the current proposal but a consultation process will take place. The same would apply up the Combe Road, Laughton Hill. The Parish Council supports a 20mph village limit. Cllr Heduan will ask Cllr Hudspeth what support OCC can provide to fund this.
- Cllr W Gould noted how bad the North Leigh Road is. The clerk has reported this on Fix My Street.
- The clerk passed thanks to the council on behalf of Jess Huband for the cycle signs which are being put up.
- There are incidents of trespassing across Ollie Stobo land still. The police are involved and Blenheim have been repairing the fence damage (3 times) which is costly. Cllr Baldwin challenged the cost and access and stated he will continue to walk his dog on the land. The clerk reminded Cllr Baldwin that she can only convey the information provided and that councillors should respect this. The clerk also reminded councillors that as a resident and land owner Ollie Stobo has a right for this discussion to be had in this public council meeting.

**Date of next full council (public) meeting: Wednesday 7th April 2021 – 7pm –
Zoom Virtual Meeting**

Meeting ended at 20.35

Karen East, Clerk to the Parish Council

Email: clerk@stonesfieldpc.uk