

STONESFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES 2021/05

**Minutes of the Stonesfield Parish Council Meeting
held on Wednesday 5th May 2021
via Zoom – due to Covid 19
Meeting commenced at 19:00**

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

Others present: Karen East (Clerk),

Apologies: Cllr Ian Hudspeth

Members of Public: Paul Barrett +1, Frank Huddleston

360. Declarations of pecuniary interest. None

361. The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th April 2021 were approved.

362. Matters Arising from the minutes 7th April 2021

Lock Up – Diocese of Oxford have said they do not own the lock up. The clerk will ask the solicitor to run a land registry to check ownership on this. It needs repairing.

363. Election of Chairman and Vice Chair

Chairman – Phil McArdell Proposer: Wendy Gould Seconder: Simon Powell

Vice Chair – David Proposer: Jim O'Brien, Seconder Geraldine Lawrence

Cllr Phil McArdell was elected as **Chairman**.

Cllr David Brown was elected as **Vice Chair**.

364. Questions arising from the clerks report

None

365. Planning Applications

Applications received from WODC for this parish. Councillors are asked to consider these at the meeting:

Comments by: 18th May 2021.

APPLICATION NO: 21/00921/HHD

PROPOSAL: Demolition of existing store and outbuildings and erection of one and a half storey and single storey side extension.

Town and Country Planning Act

LOCATION: Silver Birches Woodstock Road Stonesfield

APPLICANT: Mr M Ward

REGISTERED: 17th March 2021

No objection to 21/00921/HHD

Comments by 17th May 2021.

APPLICATION NO: 21/01404/HHD

PROPOSAL: Erection of two storey front extension.

Town and Country Planning Act

LOCATION: Beehives 17A Busby Close Stonesfield

APPLICANT: Mr Mark Brewer
REGISTERED: 21st April 2021

No objection to 21/01404/HHD

Comments by: 10th May 2021.

APPLICATION NO: 21/01156/HHD

PROPOSAL: Erection of single storey rear extension and alterations to replace existing rear

dormer with larger dormer window.

Town and Country Planning Act

LOCATION: Home Close High Street Stonesfield

APPLICANT: Mr Simon Warr

REGISTERED: 22nd March 2021

No objection to 21/00156/HHD

(The below was discussed ahead of the meeting as due date for comments 30th April 2021)

APPLICATION NO: 21/00738/FUL

PROPOSAL: Erection of two dwellings

Town and Country Planning Act

LOCATION: 19 Combe Road Stonesfield Witney

APPLICANT: Mr Terry Barlow

REGISTERED: 3rd March 2021

No objection to 21/00738/FUL but comments regarding parking have been noted to planning.

365. Finance

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

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

The below were issued after the last meeting but approved.

23/04/2021	Diocese of Oxford	£ 1,080.00	102360	lease payments - glebe
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Newly issued:

04/05/2021	Clerk paye	£ confidential	102361	paye
04/05/2021	HMRC -PAYE	£ 313.11	102362	PAYE
04/05/2021	Oxfordshire County Council Pensions	£ 310.63	102363	pensions paye
04/05/2021	Norton Anti-virus - annual	£ 94.99	102364	software pc
04/05/2021	clerk expenses	£ 106.82	102365	Richard bishop leaving voucher and home office, stamps, post it notes

The £confidential relates to PAYE. Councillors signing see these figures for approval during the meeting.

Phil McArdell reviewed the bank reconciliations and bank statements. Councillors were also sent the bank reconciliation.

A copy of the expenditure summary for the year to date was sent to all councillors for transparency and questions.

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.

Donation from Empire Homes

Suggestion that no more than a £1000 for each project we can do some good. Initial ideas list is as follows:

Councillors need to consider this over the next couple of months. There is no urgency to spend this.

We did seek advice from Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils before accepting the donation from Empire Homes to the council. It was given to the Council with no caveats on how it is spent (not a gift to individual councillors or with stipulations). This is not a personal donation in any way.

The donation came **after** any planning discussions involving the developer (not before, this was key to being able to accept it). There are no applications in progress. The development Empire Homes had approved **prior** to the donation is not within S106 and therefore we will not receive any S106 money from that development. It is very clear that this donation has been accepted for the Parish Council use and we can spend as a council in ANY way needed and without time constraint. We are not aware of any further planning applications being submitted by this developer and councillors **MUST BE** wholly aware that any donation here does not mean they should receive preferential treatment at any time.

As such the council is seeking to ensure the donation is spent wisely and carefully to ensure complete transparency. Full council will approve spending of any of the funds. We may use it for a neighbourhood plan in part but further discussions will take place over the coming months. There is no urgency to spend the money in this financial year.

365. Any Other Business

Face to face meetings may resume if we can hire a room large enough. The clerk will speak to the Village Hall.

The village hall will be used as a polling station on 6th May 2021. Gigaclear are keeping space clear on the road to allow people to pass.

Richard Morris has confirmed that there is some grassland close to the river which forms part of the common which we had not had confirmed previously. This is just for information.

We can confirm the defibrillator positioned at the Village Hall is currently working.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 9th June 2021 – 7pm
Meeting Closes: 7.35pm