

Stonesfield Parish Council

Minutes of the full council meeting held at St James Centre on Wednesday 6th September at 7pm

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Meeting commenced 1900

Councillors Present – Cllr Phil McArdell (Chair), Cllr Wendy Gould, Cllr Geraldine Lawrence, Cllr Eleanor Bailey, Cllr Simon Powell, Cllr Jim O'Brien, Cllr David Brown, Cllr Mick Heduan, Cllr Matthew Parkinson (OCC / DC), John Sampson, Bill Oddie, Richard Morris, Jim Astle

Also in Attendance – Clerk to the Council (K East), 2 members of public

No Declarations of interest.

22/522 Apologises for absence

Apologises accepted for: Cllr A Graham & Cllr J O'Brien

22/523 Declarations of interest:

None

22/524 Public Participation

None

22/525 To discuss trees on Stonesfield Straight

John Sampson discussed adding a Cotswold stone on the Stonesfield straight. Highways have approved location. Funding has been raised from members of the public who have agreed to pay for this. The council needs to contact OCC to confirm we can insure this stone (public liability etc.).

Proposed Cllr D Brown, Seconded Cllr M Heduan to agree to adding the stone. It was therefore RESOLVED that this could proceed.

Trees due end Oct / Nov – plan is to do planting in November.

22/526 To discuss the bins in the village

Bill Oddie gave an overview of what WODC does with regards to waste disposal and explained why the litterbins were changed and combined across District. All dog waste and general litter goes to Ardley incinerators.

Bus stops – evidence was that bins in bus stops are not being used so policy decision was to put bins in strategic positions (not residential areas or bins). This is also to encourage people to take litter home with them.

If there is an identified need then more bins can be put in.

Stonesfield had 15 bins, there are now 12. We do however have increased capacity despite the reduction in bins. This has reduced overflowing bins by 50%.

The PC has to pay to empty the bin at a cost of £400 per bin to empty (annually)

Suggestion is to move the one at the shop to the lane with Scout hut and the one by Rose and Crown is going to Witney Lane. WODC will proceed to do this.

Recycling bins – glass bottles are in a separate section in the lorries. Glass should continue to go in the black boxes.

22/527 To confirm the minutes of the previous council meeting held on 6th July 2022.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 6th July 2022. (There was no August meeting)

22/528 Update on progress from the minutes held on 6th July 2022.

Old Jail – we need to register the Old Jail before we spend public money on it. Councillors in general in support having this done. The clerk has requested to speak with the solicitor. The solicitor has this on her list.

Drains – these need emptying, Cllr Parkinson will take this away. It has already been reported to Highways.

22/529 To receive reports from County, District & Parish Councillors and questions arising from the clerks report.

Cllr Matthew Parkinson

- The local plan has been launched and there are online opportunities that people can attend.

Cllr Wendy Gould

- A resident has flagged a request for a skate park in the village. The resident was directed to the playing fields committee.

Cllr David Brown

- Playing Fields committee are potentially looking at purchasing a hedge cutter. North Farm (Hunts Farm) has been rotavated and stone picked. It will be seeded in due course.
- One step at the Glebe is broken (needs repairing). Cllr Parkinson will share details of someone who may be able to do this.

22/530 Financial Matters

(22/530.01) Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve payments listed below. All payments are made by cheque.

Clerk salary	102509	£ confidential	
HMRC PAYE	102510	£ confidential	
Pension	102512	£ confidential	
Venue Hire	102514	£ 90.00	inv 668 and 671
Clive Parsons PAYE	102511	£ confidential	
Insurance	102513	£ 485.12	inv 26338381 annual
West Oxfordshire DC	102515	£ 430.00	invoices 33478995 and 33475008
Clerk expenses	102516	£ 90.60	July and August

£Confidential relates to payroll figures – these figures are shared with councillors along with invoices prior to the meeting. Two councillors sign the cheques and all councillors are provided information on invoices ahead of the meeting.

(22/530.02) The parish council **RESOLVED** to receive and acknowledged acceptance of the finance report.

22/531 Planning Applications

No current applications

22/532 SAFER Update

Cllr Heduan is looking to purchase a mobile SID. More info will follow. There is budget in the SAFER budget for this.

22/533 VELOCITY update

No update at this time and no current information. Blenheim has a new community officer; the clerk will invite her to a future meeting.

22/534 Stonesfield Community Trust *(Update from Cllr McArdell)*

Rents being held for next 12 months due to cost of living.

£1,575 has been granted to tree group in the village.

New website is aiming to go live in October.

22/535 Items for information or next agenda only

(22/535.01) The pub has some events on, some parish councillors did attend.

The pub group offer is currently on the table and await further information. The parish council still supports the pub group campaign and appreciates the work that the pub is doing. The parish council notes that the council will still object to any change of use on the pub.

(22/535.02) Cllr Brown noted that councillors should attend councillor training.

(22/536.03) Cllr Powell noted the pollarding at the Common has done a good job and looks good.

21/536 Date of the next full council meeting

(21/536.01) The date of the next full council meeting is 5th October 2022 – St James Centre at 7pm

Meeting ends 20:35