

Stonesfield Parish Council

Minutes of the full council meeting held at Stonesfield Primary School

on Wednesday 5th April 2023 commencing at 7pm

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Meeting commenced 1900

Councillors Present –, Cllr Simon Powell, Cllr Phil McArdeall (Chair), Cllr Wendy Gould, Cllr Mick Heduan, Cllr Jim O’Brien, Cllr Eleanor Bailey, Cllr David Brown, Cllr Matthew Parkinson, Cllr Andy Graham

Also in Attendance – Clerk to the Council (K East), 3 members of public (Viv Kendall, Simon Warr, Richard Morris)

No Declarations of interest.

23/599 Apologises for absence

Apologises accepted for: Cllr Geraldine Lawrence,

23/600 Declarations of interest:

None

23/601 Public Participation

Viv Kendall – Getting together volunteers to be involved with volunteer event held on 8th May. Detail is in the Slate. It will be at the Village Hall. Councillors invited – all volunteer groups invited. It was noted it is the Kings Coronation weekend so councillors not able to confirm attendance until closer.

Richard Morris – gave a NP update. Survey about to conclude. Very good prelim results and uptake. Results will be published online when ready and a copy in the library. Whole village meeting planned for June. Landscape assessment in progress, consultant appointed. Reports expected in Autumn. The parish council formally thanked the NP group for all of their ongoing work.

23/602 To confirm the minutes of the previous council meeting held on 1st March 2023

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 1st March 2023.

Proposer Cllr S Powell, Seconded Cllr M Heduan

23/603 Update on progress from the minutes held on 1st March 2023.

The clerk will follow up regarding the common sign. Also noted we can have further sheep on the common if we wish, waiting for Natural England to confirm numbers and requirements as we must take their guidance.

23/604 To receive reports from County, District & Parish Councillors and questions arising from the clerk’s report.

Mat Parkinson:

Botley West solar motion went to OCC full council, impact assessment being done before official responses.

Trees at Woodstock Road (Blenheim) ash die back main cause for removal but also density concerns to allow forest floor recovery and safety next to road. Trees will be replaced.
Review of household waste services have commenced. Value for money and efficiency being considered.

Andy Graham:

Road safety survey referred to in SAFER report is supported by Andy Graham. Parish council supports the survey. Cllr Heduan will connect with Highways.
New school governor for Stonesfield Primary School is coming on.
Flooding issue at Ridings noted. Drainage issue is being sorted.
Freight strategy engagement coming up to try and ensure HGV do not cut through the villages.
Cost of living measures announces including council tax support, funding for children in receipt of school meals during school holidays. People should go to DC but if issues can contact via the clerk to connect through senior District leaders.
Woodstock surgery – no update on whether will move to new location.
Pothole repair – noted by Andy Graham this needs sorting.

Cllr Eleanor Bailey:

Noted that the food group would like to apply for some funding for food support to local families.
Council advised the group needs to submit a detailed grant request.

Cllr Wendy Gould:

Dark skies – need to remind residents. Lots of people have increased lighting. The clerk will add a note on the dark sky policy to the slate. There is no legislation for the parish council to stop residents having ‘solar lights etc’ but we can encourage people to light carefully.

Cllr Brown:

Playing fields committee would like to purchase hedge trimmer. Asked if council can contribute. Clerk advised a grant form needs to be submitted. Also asked if council can pay to use this equipment instead of our District landscaping for hedges. Clerk advised would need formal tender, supported by risk assessments and relevant insurances (including licences for those operating the equipment) as alongside highways etc. We could then consider. WODC are currently very reasonably priced, tender would need to be competitive and compliant for us to switch provider.

Clerks report

10th May is APM – councillors noted.

Natural England extension for funding to 2028 which includes permission for larger number of sheep for grazing.

23/605 Financial Matters

(23/605.01) Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve payments listed below. All payments are made by online this meeting. It was also **RESOLVED** to approve to set up a standing order for the clerk’s salary, pension and HMRC payments for the full financial year. Cllr McArdell and Cllr Brown to arrange at bank.

Clerk salary	online payment	£	confidential
HMRC PAYE	online payment	£	confidential
clerk expenses	online payment	£	confidential
Pension	online payment	£	confidential

Glebe fence – Ian Hedges	online payment	£	300.00
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£Confidential relates to payroll figures – these figures are shared with councillors along with invoices prior to the meeting. Two councillors approve online payments and all councillors are provided information on invoices ahead of the meeting.

(23/605.02) The parish council **RESOLVED** to receive and acknowledged acceptance of the finance report.

(23/605.03) New financial year commenced 1st April 2023 for the council. Audit is about to commence.

23/606 Planning Applications

23/00670 Limbeck Way - office

(Cllr Heduan declared interest as neighbour)

No comment of objection on this application.

23/607 Items for information or next agenda only

This is the last meeting for Cllr W Gould. The council thanked Wendy for her work as a councillor.

23/608 Date of the next full council meeting

(23/608.01) The date of the next full council meeting is 10th May 2023 at Stonesfield Primary School. This will be Annual Council and Annual Parish meetings.

Meeting ends 8.45pm