

## Stonesfield Parish Council

### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Stonesfield Primary School on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 7pm

*Meeting starts at 7pm*

**Attendees:** Cllr Phil McArdell, Cllr Simon Powell, Cllr Tim Sumner (District), Cllr David Brown, Cllr Andy Graham (DC and OCC), Cllr Eleanor Bailey, Cllr Jim O'Brien, Cllr Simon Warr

**Others present:** the clerk, 1 member of public

**23/649 To receive and accept apologies for absence:** Cllr Mick Heduan,

**23/650 Declarations of interest:** None

**23/651 Public participation:** Richard Morris came to the meeting to discuss the common with the council. The fence adjacent to neighbouring farmer land has been inspected by council and Richard Morris. It is noted there are a lot of rabbits on the land and they could spread on to the farmers land. It has been noted that Natural England has stated that we must not damage this hedge line. However, the fence does need repair in places. The clerk is looking into this.

It does look like we need to manage the rabbit population on the common, the council will look into this.

The log on the common has been replaced with thanks from Blenheim Estate for supplying this.

Neighbourhood plan update from Richard Morris – wrong statistic provided on speed at village hall. The group will put an apology in to update this figure. Policies are being drafted to go with the plan. Meeting has been had with the District Council about status of the plan. Suggestion for independent housing needs assessment. Character assessment is also taking place looking at the built environment of the village. Landscape assessment is being done. Field work and desk work has been done and we expect a draft outline of the assessment.

Letter of correspondence received from member of public regarding signage on Woodstock Road near William Buckland Way. This was read out. Council noted there is a lot of signage in the village. Cllr Graham will take this back to OCC to consider the number of signs.

**23/652 To approve the minutes of the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023:** It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

**23/653 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023:** Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023:

- Ongoing discussion with the village hall and Stonesfield players to discuss storage. Cllr Bailey is supporting this discussion.

- Social club asking for signage to them, this is ongoing, we have requested this via OCC.

**23/654 To receive reports from Parish, District, and County councillors and clerks report.**

*Cllr Andy Graham (OCC & DC)* The A44 works are almost complete.

The OCC council has changed administration due mainly to the OFSTED report for SEND. The labour party left the administration on those issues. Someone separately has now been appointed for SEND.

*Cllr Tim Sumner (DC)* 16<sup>th</sup> October there is an online workshop regarding grants – West Hive (grants).

Mobile network coverage is being considered to see if adequate in some areas of the district. The DC are looking into this.

App called Go Fantastic offers services locally, there is scalable work on this. Recommended for people to look at this.

The parish council would like to say well done to all those involved in the White Horse pub. It is a fantastic achievement to have the pub as a community pub in the village.

### **23/655 Finance**

(23/655.01) Council needs to carefully look at budget in the following meetings as the common need's expenditure but also, we may have additional recreational costs to consider.

(23/655.02) The following payments were RESOLVED to be approved. Confidential relates to statutory payments which have already been approved. Councillors are able to see all invoices for detail.

Clerk salary	PAYE statutory payment	£ confidential
HMRC PAYE	PAYE statutory payment	£ confidential
Pension	PAYE statutory payment	£ confidential
Clerks expenses	Clerk expenses – office costs	£ 42.40
Moore audit	external audit	£ 378.00
Pest solutions oxford	Wasps nest	£ 75.00
West Oxfordshire DC	West Oxfordshire DC	£ 1,044.56

(23/655.03) The council considered and approved a grant for the church yard grass cutting. This was for the sum of £200. Proposed. P McArdell, Seconded D Brown.

(23/655.04) The bank mandate paperwork is with Cllr McArdell to process. This will add additional signatories to the account.

(23/655.05) The clerk will ask WODC to cut the glebe. The cost will be covered from the general funds budgeted for grass cutting and maintenance.

**23/656 Planning**

The council needs to put together a collective council response for the local plan. Councillors will look at the plan and will send comments to the clerk by 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023. Cllr Brown said he will look to write this.

**23/657 Items for information or next agenda only**

None

**23/658 Date of the next full council meeting:** 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023, 7pm – Stonesfield Primary Council.

*Meeting ends 8.30pm*