

Stonesfield Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Stonesfield Primary School on Wednesday 5th July 2023

Meeting starts at 7pm

Attendees: Cllr Eleanor Bailey, Cllr Mick Heduan, Cllr Jim O'Brien, Cllr Phil McArdell, Cllr Simon Warr, Cllr Simon Powell, Cllr Tim Sumner (District)

Others present: 2 x member of the public, the clerk

23/628 To receive and accept apologies for absence: Cllr David Brown

23/629 Declarations of interest: None

23/630 Public participation: None

23/631 To approve the minutes of the meeting on 7th June 2023: It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting on 7th June 2023.

23/632 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 7th June 2023: There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting on 7th June 2023.

23/633 To receive reports from Parish, District, and County councillors and clerks report.

Cllr Tim Sumner (DC): Community Grants have been realigned and when things are clearer Tim will report back. Under community grant schemes there is potential to access funding there. Council asked Tim to take back an action to see if the village hall could qualify for funding for a new kitchen which is where a lot of meals are cooked for the food bank etc.
Question arising from clerk's report: a member emailed about verge cutting. The clerk will respond via email to confirm the cutting information and will add a note to the slate about 'villagers might be interested to know', noted the village does not feel one way about it.
Cllr Jim O'Brien: It has been noted that a gate has been put back on at the White Horse Pub. The clerk also received an email from Cllr Brown asking on behalf OF Jon Bowers (owner of White Horse pub) if the parish council would support a future planning application. The council would like to make it clear that Cllr Brown has not been instructed by the parish council and is not acting in his position as a councillor to liaise with Jon Bowers. The Parish Council continues to support the ACV is not able to advise on the pub and is not able to give planning or legal advice for this and Jon Bowers should be speaking to West Oxfordshire District Council if he requires advice on these matters.

23/634 Finance

(23/634.01) Council RESOLVED to approve the finance report circulated by the clerk. Council also RESOLVED to approve the budget shared with council. The council spend is in line with as expected. We have received the first half of the precept money expected for the financial year. The council RESOLVED to increase the reserve to the £18,000 to cover six months spend in line with reserve policy.

(23/634.02) The following payments were resolved to be approved in addition to the statutory clerk PAYE salary, HMRC and pension payments annually approved.

The ENTIC invoice is the annual expected maintenance and payment comes from the ringfenced MUGA maintenance fund.

Clive paye	Cheque number 102573	£ 168.84
clerk	online payment	£ 42.40
Stonesfield Gardening Club - war memorial summer planting	online payment	£ 48.78
WODC - Grounds maintenance / grass	online payment	£ 236.51
ENTIC MUGA fund	online payment	£ 2,994.00

(23/634.03) The council considered grants:

Grant considered and approved for Stonesfield Mutual Aid £350 grant, Proposed P McArdell, Seconded Jim O'Brien – Unanimous decision to approve this grant. This is £200 towards a freezer and £150 towards staple foods to help stock it.

Grant considered and approved for Septemberfest £500 grant, Proposed P McArdell, Seconded Jim O'Brien – Unanimous decision to approve this grant. This is towards the community festival supporting the village.

Grant considered and approved for Playing Fields Association £2,000 grant, Proposed P McArdell, Seconded Jim O'Brien – Unanimous decision to approve this grant. This is to pay towards the hedge cutter.

(23/634.04) The Neighbourhood Plan group has recommended an independent assessment following advice from WODC. The clerk will apply for a grant for the cost of this once a formal quotation has been received from the Neighbourhood plan group. We anticipate it being circa 5k.

Grant payments approved in this meeting to be paid:

Septemberfest grant	online payment	£ 500.00
Stonesfield mutual aid grant	online payment	£ 350.00
playing Fields Association grant	online payment	£ 2,000.00

23/635 Planning

Application No. 23/01394/HHD – single storey extension, 11 Cockshoot Close – There was no comment or objection on this application.

Paul Bates, Waterloo Barn – solar panels and heat pumps – There was no comment or OBJECTION to this application

Expansion of Marlborough CofE school, Woodstock – 23/01361/FUL – Exhibition of the plans at school on 17th July 2023 between 6-8pm. The parish council supports the school expansion.

Paul Bates, Waterloo Barn – solar panels and heat pumps – There was no comment or objection to this application.

Botley West solar scoping report has been released. Response deadline 13th July 2023.

23/636 Working groups: Litter Picking group – the council supports this remaining as a working group and will reach out to Jess Huband to see if we can arrange a litter picking day and give this is a push.

Several councillors and the clerk met at the Common with Richard and Alan – it was agreed that we will get the strip around the cricket area and towards it cut. Richard Morris is speaking with a local contractor to see if he can support that.

Richard Morris is going to speak to the Ed at Witney college to see if we can have more cows and the sheep back.

Gates – Agreed that kissing gates will be put in. The clerk will get some quotes.

Trees – agreed two more trees to be cut down and we also need to pay to have the logs taken away. The clerk is arranging quotes.

23/637 Items for information or next agenda only: None

23/638 Date of the next full council meeting: 6th September 2023 – Stonesfield Primary School. 7pm.

Meeting ends 8.40pm