

STONESFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Stonesfield Primary School on Wednesday 5th March 2025 at 7pm

Meeting starts at 7pm

Attendees: Cllr Ursula Rice (Chair), Cllr Claire Renshaw (Vice Chair), Cllr Simon Powell, Cllr Jessica Huband, Cllr Philippa Lowe.

Other present: The Clerk, D Cllr Genny Early, DCllr Tim Sumners (WODC) and 6 members of the public

24/850: Public Participation: None

24/851: To receive and accept apologies for absence: Cllr Laura Bate, Cllr Simon Warr, Cllr David Brown, were noted. CCllr Andy Graham (OCC), were accepted.

24/852: Declarations of interest: Cllr Claire Renshaw as they are Village Hall Committee Members. Note: There is no item on the agenda relating to this.

24/853: To approve the minutes of the meeting 5th February 2025. It was *RESOLVED* to approve the minutes.

Proposer : Cllr Claire Renshaw **Seconder :** Cllr Simon Powell – all in favour.

24/854: Actions Register: Was noted.

- i. Ubico response re litter bin: Cllr Claire Renshaw advised that it has been winter so less litter, the litter in summer a lot worse. Cllr Jess Huband suggested using a map of bins current location and consider the village litter hot spots. Then devise a plan, to install a bin best fit for the spot.
Action to Register – ask Ubico for their map look on the drive.
- ii. Cllr Jess Huband noted that the Cllr information on the WODC website is not up to date. Action to Register.

24/855: To consider and receive reports from District Councillors:

DCllr Genny Early updated the following:

- WODC presented representation to BWSF, they highlighted that the development is not adequate in the main areas, there is also little mitigation on the effect of the landscape.
- Thames Water restructuring hearing went to court to on 18th February. It was approved by the High Court, but with sanctions imposed on Thames Water, which will add an additional £3m to their debts. It is going to appeal and will be heard next week. The best outcome is that they are forced into special liquidation,
- Local plan has been timetabled and out for consultation end of May.
- WODC have set a balanced budget. She noted that the Fly tipping officer will come and speak at PC meeting.

DCllr Tim Sumner updated the following:

- Botley West spoke at the Development Control meeting at WODC, from a heritage point of view, there are acts of parliament which may preclude any third-party

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development in the grounds of Blenheim Estate. They enforce keeping the land and estate intact, as one and under control of the Duke.

- Local Governance Review: reassured that WODC's ambition and aim is to keep the strength and importance of parish councils at the forefront – they aim to set up a robust way forward rather than be less active.

24/856: To consider and receive reports from the County Councillor: CCllr Andy Graham updated the following:

- Positive outcome regarding a school highway management plan. Following a meeting with James Wright OCC Officer, the priority is the High Street.
- Reconfiguration of junction at Judds Garage, received undertaking from officers that they will look at a plan on what is needed. Perhaps traffic lights and relocation of the bus stop, including a proper bus shelter with cover.

24/857: To consider and receive reports from Parish Councillors.

- Recruitment of New Clerk:** Cllr Claire Renshaw introduced Kay Linnington as new Parish Clerk. The PC welcomed her. Following training from OALC, it was proposed that the PC set up HR Cttee: 3 members.

Proposer: Cllr Ursula Rice, Seconded Cllr Claire Renshaw – proposed members Cllr's Claire Renshaw, Philippa Lowe, and one other. The Action to draft Scheme delegation and Terms of Reference for the May annual meeting. It was agreed that a Communication's Working Party will also be beneficial to the PC, this will be brought to the May annual meeting for adoption.

- Lease for Library at Village Hall:** Was deferred.

24/858: To receive reports from Stonesfield PC working groups:

- Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group: to discuss and agree the following with the PC:**

- Regulation 14:

- Survey update: Further tweaks are necessary, Cllr Ursula Rice, seconded by Cllr Claire Renshaw, that this is delegated to Cllr's Philippa Lowe and Jess Huband. All in favour.

- Exhibition(s) reminder: Cllr's were reminded of the dates and asked to work out a rota of attendance between themselves.

- Update on comms around exhibitions/consultation window: posters will be put up around village, extra copies of the information inserted into the Slate have been printed. It will be posted on social media.

- Consultation with statutory and non-statutory consultees: The Locum Clerk has a list issued by WODC Officer; the neighbouring parishes will be added into consultee list. She is to obtain to get 4 quotes for an independent review of the plan and feedback.

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- b. Local Green Spaces: it was agreed to seek advice on the next steps from Community First Oxfordshire.
- c. Timeline and resourcing for Regs 14, 15 and 16: an updated timeline will be available by the next PC meeting: resourcing can be delegated at that time.

ii. **SAFER:** Minutes of Feb meeting was previously circulated with no questions.

a. **Mirror at Laughton Road:** It was

- proposed by Cllr Philippa Lowe, seconded by Cllr Ursula Rice, that the PC accept responsibility for the mirror, AGREED – all in favour
- Proposed by Cllr Ursula Rice, seconded by Cllr Simon Powell, to reinstate the height of the mirror, but reduce the pole height, AGREED - all in favour.
- The PC recorded their thanks to the SAFER team and Paul Bates for last 3 years. It was advised that updated Terms of Reference were required and 2 Cllr's to run it. Action to be added to register.

iii. **The Glebe:** Management Plan 2025-2030:

- a. PC to commit to annual cutting: AGREED: Proposed Cllr Ursula Rice, Seconded Cllr Claire Renshaw; all in favour.
- b. The PC agreed to start discussions with PCC regarding land for Community Orchard.

24/859: To consider matters of finance and policies.

- i. **Ratification of Payments** – all are paid via bank transfer: The council *RESOLVED* to approve the payments. Proposer: Cllr Ursula Rice, Seconder: Cllr Simon Powell

Gross Amount (£)	VAT Value (£)	Payee	Details	Power
1350.00		Locum Clerk & RFO	Feb 2025	LGA 1972 S111
365.00		PB designs	Website, Domain hosting 2025	LGA 1972 S111
390.59	65.10	OALC	Annual Membership	LGA 1972 S143
126.00		Stonesfield primary School (OCC)	Hall hire – Cllr Training	LGA 1972 S111
155.00		The Slate	Additional colour insert for NP	LGA 1972 S144
60.00	10.00	JDP solutions	A4 posters NP	LGA 1972 S144

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24/860: Items for the next agenda:

- Biodiversity Policy – April
- ACV Shop – June
- SAFER Working Party, delegation and constitution at May meeting

24/849: Date of the next Full Council Meeting: 2nd April 2025 at 7pm (Stonesfield Primary School)

Meeting closes 8:35pm