



**MINUTES OF THE STRATTON AUDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
ON TUESDAY 3 JUNE 2014 AT 6.30PM
AT ST MARY & ST EDBURGA CHURCH, STRATTON AUDLEY**

Present: Mr N Ferguson (Chair), Mr Anthony Flack (AJF), Mr J Honsinger (JRH), Mr J Ormerod (JMO), Mrs H Smithers (HCS)

In attendance: Mrs J Olds (Parish Clerk), Mr Michael Gore (from 6.55pm)

Apologies: None

Public Participation: None

On arrival, the Councillors all signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms and completed their Register of Members' Interests forms.

1. To elect the Chairman for the year 2014/15

The Councillors unanimously proposed and elected Nigel Ferguson as Chairman.

2. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies from Councillors.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. To appoint the Responsible Financial Officer for the year 2014/15

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to appoint Mrs Jane Olds, Parish Clerk, as Responsible Financial Officer.

5. To appoint the Parish Internal Auditor for the year 2014/15

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to appoint Mr Clive Morton as Internal Auditor.

6. Public participation

No members of the public attended. Mr Gore attended as contractor to discuss the grass cutting further.

7. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13 May 2014

It was **RESOLVED** that these be accepted as a true copy and were signed by NF as a true record of proceedings.

8. Matters arising from the Minutes

a. Dog Bin

JRH had installed the dog bin the previous weekend. The Councillors thanked him for his work. The Clerk would let CDC know that it had been erected and was available so that they could arrange for it to be emptied.

b. Repeal of s.150 (5) of the Local Government Act 1972

The Clerk has not yet had the opportunity to look into this further.

c. Insurance

The cheque had been posted and the Clerk had received the relevant documentation.

d. Verge Cutting

The Clerk had written to Mr Gore to confirm all the details as agreed in the previous minutes.

Mr Gore attended the meeting at 6.55pm to report. He had received positive comments about the cutting. He has discovered that more strimming is necessary in places than mowing and some areas of grass required more than one cut to get a good finish; the Councillors therefore **RESOLVED** to agree to pay Mr Gore for all the work he had done (including work in the Playground) to a total of two cuts.

For the next few months, in order to gauge the work more effectively, NF and Mr Gore would liaise about when the work needed to be done.

e. Playground Maintenance

NF had spoken to Mr Ken Leach and explained that the Parish Council wished to put the mowing and maintenance on a more formal footing. He thanked Mr Leach for his care of the Playground over many years.

Mr Gore had been asked to take over the playground garden maintenance which would include cutting the grass, trimming the verges, strimming where necessary, trimming the bushes and keeping it clean, putting the brown bin out ready for collection when necessary. He quoted £30 per per complete cycle which the Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept

Mr Gore agreed to give a quotation for restoring the cast iron bench.

f. Broadband

The Clerk reported that the Cabinet Map has now been updated on the broadband website and it appears that the exchange upgrade is now scheduled for next year.

g. Planning Application Procedure

The Councillors considered the revised procedure and **RESOLVED** to agree to adopt it. The Clerk would send it to NF to put on the website.

9. Report from District and County Councillors

No Councillors attended the meeting.

10. Finance

a. To receive the financial report

As at 9 May the Accounts stood at

Current Account	£2,986.51
Savings Account	£15,599.39

There are three outstanding cheques totalling £226.50.

The Grass Cutting Grant of £1,261.04 and £395 of money from the 100 Club has been received. The Clerk has acknowledged receipt of the 100 Club money; there is now £893.36 in the 100 Club budget.

b. To consider invoices for payment

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments.

Payment to:	Budget	Cheque No	Amount
Barstows Stationery	Stationery etc	500052	£8.29
JMC Olds for Clerking Duties (9 May – 8 June)	Clerk's salary	500053	£149.59

The Councillors also **RESOLVED** to pay Mr Mike Gore for £300 on production of an invoice prior to the next meeting for works completed in May.

11. Community Led Plan

JRH reported that he had received the Marquee. The Clerk has notified the insurers who agreed not to charge an additional premium for this year; she would add it to the Fixed Assets Register. The Clerk had also enquired about the need for insurance for CLP events and the insurer had assured her that provided that they are just community events under the auspices of the Parish Council they are covered under the Parish Council insurance.

All the plans for the various events are going well. The first time the marquee will be used will be for the village picnic at the end of June.

12. Parish Matters not otherwise mentioned in Matters Arising

a. Playground

The Clerk had received a rough third quotation which will be enough for her to start the process for applications for grants.

b. Village Tidy-up Day

NF reported that there was a disappointing turnout for the village tidy-up day, but some jobs were completed.

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to arrange a further day for mid-October to get the village ready for winter.

13. Planning Applications - to discuss recent Applications and note Notices of Decision

The following notices of decision had been received:

a. **14/00458/F**, Mr Philip Taylor, Garden House, Bicester Road; Erection of conservatory. Permission granted.

b. **14/00544/F**, Miss Rachel Stuart-Buttle, Rigden Lodge, Bicester Road; Extension and conversion of existing garage to form home office and additional bedroom. Permission granted.

14. Correspondence received

The Councillors noted the correspondence received and discussed where necessary.

- a. **A villager** – regarding the grass cutting and strimming carried out before Mr Gore was contracted. The Clerk had written to the villager and had received a further acknowledgement accepting her reply.
- b. **Banbury CAB** – annual report.
- c. **SLCC** – branch meeting on 17 June at Carterton
- d. **CDC** – re Parishes Liaison Meeting on Wednesday 18 June from 6.30. The Clerk hoped to attend.
- e. **OALC** – Members Update (circulated by email)

15. Reports from meetings

No meetings had been attended.

16. Any other business – for information or next Agenda only

a. Painting the white gates

Whilst working on the grass cutting, Mr Gore had noticed that some of the paintwork on two of the white gates is already deteriorating. The Parish Council asked Mr Gore to provide a quotation for making good the paintwork.

b. Caversfield Planning Appeal

Caversfield Parish Council has reported that the Planning Inspector has decided in favour of CDC's original planning decision regarding the Cala Homes appeal to build 200 homes on South Lodge Riding Stables land off Fringford Road and rejected it.

c. The Rev'd Christable Hargraves

The Clerk informed the meeting that the Rector has decided to resign as Rector of the benefice and will be moving to Wales. Her last service will be on 12 October.

17. Date of next meeting – the Councillors **RESOLVED** to confirm the next meeting as Tuesday 8 July at 7pm in the Hunt Room of the Red Lion.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

Signed

Dated