



**MINUTES OF THE STRATTON AUDLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
ON TUESDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 7.00PM  
IN THE HUNT ROOM OF THE RED LION PUBLIC HOUSE**

**Present:** Mr N Ferguson (Chair), Mr J Hill (JCGH), Mr J Honsinger (JRH), Mrs H Smithers (HCS)

**In attendance:** Mrs J Olds (Parish Clerk)

**Apologies:** Mr J Ormerod (JMO)

**Public Participation:** One member of the public and a Joint Chairman of the CLP, Amanda Reynolds attended for part of the meeting

**1. Apologies for absence**

The Councillors accepted Mr Ormerod's apologies

**2. Declarations of interest**

There was one declaration of interest regarding the verge cutting as JCGH employs the current contractor on an ad-hoc basis.

**3. Public participation**

The planning application reference Mr J Rawicz was presented to the Council. The Chairman of the CLP attended the meeting to present a report about the event on Sunday 8 September.

**4. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 July 2013**

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

**5. Matters arising from the Minutes**

**a. Speed check**

The Clerk had spoken to the Clerk at Steeple Claydon regarding that village's project. It was a Police (PCSO) initiative with the school children. The Clerk has contacted Bicester Rural Policing Team to ask for further help.

**b. OCC Community Emergency Planning Survey**

The Clerk has completed the survey and returned it to OCC.

**c. OCC Winter Service**

The Clerk has completed the salt order and sent it to OCC.

**d. Broadband**

OCC has announced that the supplier for the rural broadband project would be BT. According to the map supplied, the village will be covered in the fibre rollout. The Clerk will be keeping a close watch on the project.

**6. Report from District and County Councillors**

No Councillors attended the meeting,

**7. Finance**

**a. To receive the financial report**

The accounts stand at:

Barclays Account	£0.00
Co-op Current Account	£1,818.92
Co-op Savings Account	£16,536.13

There are no outstanding cheques. The Co-op Current account has received £0.94 in interest. The Clerk has transferred £6,000 from the Current Account to the Savings Account.

**b. To consider the NALC pay agreement for Clerks (Confidential)**

**c. To consider invoices for payment**

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve the following payments and to transfer £180.00 from the general fund into the noticeboard budget.

<b>Payment to:</b>	<b>Cheque No</b>	<b>Amount</b>
P Fitzgerald for making and painting a new door (as agreed in Minutes section 11a on 13/11/2012)	500014	£180.00
JMC Olds for Clerking Duties (9 July – 8 September)	500015	£305.07
A Reynolds for CLP event expenses	500016	£51.34
J Manley for CLP event expenses	500017	£25.00

**8. Verge Cutting and Weed Spraying**

The Councillors had been unable to inspect the village verges but arranged to do it on Sunday 15 September and would make notes of all that needed doing. Once the information had been obtained, the Councillors **RESOLVED** to ask the Clerk to prepare a comprehensive tender brief which would be given to the current contractor and at least two other contractors to ensure that the Council was paying a competitive, but fair, rate for the work.

The Clerk would also prepare a tender brief for the weed spraying.

**9. Community Led Plan**

The Councillors were pleased to hear from the Chairman of the CLP that the picnic / fun day on Sunday 8 September was a success, was well attended and generated a great deal of positive feedback. A report would be written which would go on the Parish Website and in the Parish Magazine. One concern about the lack of committee was raised by Mrs Reynolds; a secretary and treasurer still need to be found and no grants can be applied for until the committee has been properly constituted. There will be a further CLP meeting on 17 September at 7.30pm.

## 10. Parish Matters not otherwise mentioned in Matters Arising

### a. Communication and Website

NF was concerned about the Parish Council's communication with the villagers which is currently by leaflets and is costly. The Councillors hoped that the website may well get more traffic as the CLP gains momentum. NF mentioned that the website was not updated very regularly as no one looks at it. The Clerk said that she would be able to update the Parish Council parts.

The Councillors **RESOLVED** that NF would write a signup form to go on the website so that villagers could receive emails from the CLP and the Parish Council.

### b. Playground Inspection and Refurbishment

Following the Inspection JRH had visited the Playground and agreed to remove the bracket protruding by the gate which serves no purpose and look at the base movement in the spring camel by lifting the astroturf to check the fixings.

The Councillors were very grateful to one of the villagers for repairing the picnic table.

Other things needing doing include lubricating the swing chains and the horse head rocker; and cutting back the vegetation including the buddleia.

Once the playground is refurbished a new litter bin will be purchased.

The Clerk is in the process of obtaining further quotations for turfing the playground so that a full comparison can be made between the artificial surface and the grass.

### c. Trees at Stratton Audley Park

The Clerk had been contacted by OCC's Assistant Arboricultural Officer who had recently carried out an arboricultural survey of the parish and other parishes. He wanted to know more about who maintained the verge and trees through the Park. JRH had contacted the owner who did the maintenance and received the information. The Clerk would let OCC know and would contact the owner to explain the reason for the request.

### d. Dog Bin – to consider the purchase of an additional dog bin.

The Councillors recognised that there is no dog bin on the east / Launton Road side of the village. The Clerk informed the meeting that there would be an additional cost of approximately £180 per year from CDC to empty a new bin. After discussion, the Councillors **RESOLVED** to ask the Clerk to order a green Fido25 dog waste bin with a post from Glasdon and agreed to add £180 to the dog bin emptying budget. The Councillors would decide on the most appropriate place to site the bin on their walk round the village later in the week.

## 11. Planning Applications - to note recent Applications and Notices of Decision

The Councillors considered the following applications and had no objections:

- a. Application 13/01087/F, Mr and Mrs Howson, West Farm, Launton Road; Alterations to and change of use of barn to provide shop
- b. Application 13/01204/LB, Mrs E R Gosling, Willow Farm House, Cherry Street; Replacement windows to house

- c. Application 13/00229/TCA, Mr Jo Rawicz, 10 Cavendish Place; T1 T2 x Yew – fell  
The Councillors noted the following Notices of Decision
- d. 13/00166/TCA, Mr Adams, St Mary and St Edburga’s Church, consent granted.
- e. 13/00918/TPO, Peerless Properties, Stratton Audley Manor, consent granted.
- f. 13/00242/TCA, Mrs Sarah Moujaim, 15 Cavendish Place; five day notice received for T1 x Robinia – fell on the grounds of safety.

## 12. Correspondence received

The Councillors noted the correspondence received.

- a. **Bicester and Kidlington Ramblers** requesting to come and talk to the Parish Council to hear the views of a wide range of people on what things affect their enjoyment and use of the outdoors. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to invite the group to attend a meeting.
- b. **OALC Members’ Update** circulated by email
- c. **CDC Community Event** on 7 September which had been circulated by email
- d. **Letter from Playbus** asking if the village would like the Playbus, which will be turned into a mobile Christmas grotto, to village the between 6pm and 9pm on a December evening. There will be a £5 charge per child. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to the suggestion. The Clerk would confirm the event.
- e. **Playbus** had also contacted NF to discuss bringing the Playbus into the village every Monday morning from 10.00 – 11.30am until March of next year. Their suggestion was to park it on Church Street, but the Councillors were concerned about the congestion so suggested parking it on Mill Road outside The Green instead. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to the Playbus visiting the village, but to change the location.
- f. **SLCC Branch Meeting** - on 17 September at Banbury Town Hall.

## 13. Reports from meetings

- a. **Boundary Commission Review of Cherwell District Council** 30 July

The Clerk attended the meeting. The Boundary Commission is an independent organisation reporting to Parliament, responsible for reviewing local authority electoral arrangements, administrative boundaries and structure.

An electoral review commences when 30% of wards have an electoral variance of more than 10% from average and / or one ward has an electoral variance more than 30% from the average. In Cherwell, 36% of wards have a variance of more than 10% and in Grimsbury & Castle ward in Banbury there are 25% more electors than average.

The review will decide the pattern of wards for the entire district, not just the wards where there are levels of electoral inequality. The Commission will decide the total number of Councillors at District level, the number of wards, the names of the wards and the boundaries of the wards. As the DC elects Councillors by thirds, there is a presumption that there will be a uniform pattern of three-member wards (although this may not be practicable in the rural wards such as Fringford).

The review process. Cherwell are in the process of discussing their needs and suggestions internally and have to make their submission to the Commission by 21 October. Once this has been submitted, there will be a ‘Council size consultation’ open to the public between 7 January and 17 February 2014. Next will be a further 10 week information gathering exercise from 29 April – 7 July 2014 where the Commission will invite comments on warding patterns from all concerned parties including Parishes and will tour the area.

The Commission will then publish their draft recommendations and open consultation on these recommendations from 16 September – 8 December 2014.

Following the consultation, the Commission will publish their final recommendations in the Spring of 2015 and it will be laid before Parliament for 40 sitting days before the order can be made.

It is a long procedure and Parish Councils will be brought up to date with it all at the Parishes Liaison Meeting in November.

**14. Any other business** – for information or next Agenda only

- a. The CLP event raised the suggestion of a Halloween Party for children to be held at the Red Lion. The Councillors welcomed the suggestion; JCGH has the Halloween box.

**15. Date of next meeting** – Tuesday 8 October 2013 at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed .....

Dated .....