



**MINUTES OF THE STRATTON AUDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
ON TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2014 AT 7.00PM
IN THE HUNT ROOM OF THE RED LION PUBLIC HOUSE**

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

In attendance: Mrs J Olds (Parish Clerk)

Apologies: Mr J Ormerod (JMO)

Public Participation: Seven members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

The Councillors accepted Mr Ormerod's apologies.

2. Declarations of interest

HCS declared an interest in Planning Application 14/0008/F as she is a near neighbour.

3. Public participation

Seven members of the public attended to discuss Planning Application 14/0008/F, Ms P McSteen, Lime Cottage, 12 Cherry Street.

NF opened the discussion by welcoming everyone to the meeting, explaining the planning process including the fact that the Parish Council can only make representations to the District Council, and does not have the power to reject applications. He also outlined the issues which the Parish Council could and could not consider.

Concerns were raised over the height of the roof line, the closeness to the boundary and the over bearing / overlooking nature of the extension. However, there was no visual impact from the front of the property.

The applicants explained that the plans were in the early stages and they were happy to take the comments on board.

Following the discussion the members of the public left the meeting at 7.45pm.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 14 January 2014

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. Dog Bin

The Clerk had contacted the Contractor and discussed the location. The Councillors agreed to pay the contractor for the Postcrete.

b. Christmas Tree

The ‘thank you’ article which the Clerk had written for the *Shelswell News* has been published.

c. Precept

The Clerk has notified CDC of the Precept request.

d. Broadband

The Clerk reported that a short video entitled ‘The Big Build’ is available to watch on the Better Broadband for Oxfordshire website which explains the upgrade process (<http://www.betterbroadbandoxfordshire.org.uk/home>).

BT is still undertaking the surveys County-wide so the timetable for action is still not known. The Clerk has been assured that the fact that a couple of villages in Buckinghamshire share the Stratton Audley exchange will not have an adverse impact on the timescale and that BDUK is managing the boundary issues at a national level.

e. Parking on corner of Cherry Street

PC Caroline Brown sent a written report. The Police have been monitoring the situation over the last month. On one occasion there was a problem and they located the driver and gave advice regarding parking; the police then requested that the vehicle was moved to a more suitable position.

6. Report from District and County Councillors

No Councillors attended the meeting.

7. Finance

a. To receive the financial report

The accounts stand at:

Co-op Current Account	£1,073.76
Co-op Savings Account	£13,803.61

There is one outstanding cheque of £19.99.

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to transfer £900 from the Savings Account to the Current Account to cover the anticipated expenditure for the rest of the financial year.

b. To consider invoices for payment

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

Payment to:	Cheque No	Amount
OALC for Chairmanship Course	500033	£78.00
R Howson for Christmas Tree	500034	£72.00
R Howson for Weed Spraying	500034	£720.00
JMC Olds for Clerking Duties (9 January – 8 February)	500035	£149.59

8. New Councillor

No progress had been made on this.

9. Community Led Plan

The group had met the week previously and are working on the plans for the year. The Treasurer is working on the application for funding from ORCC.

ORCC Workshop

NF and some members of the CLP group attended the workshop on 25 January. Unfortunately, it was a little disappointing as it was biased towards Neighbourhood rather than Community Led Planning. However, it is hoped that it has enabled the CLP group to understand the nature of the CLP and the next steps.

10. Walk around the village

NF had undertaken a walk around the village.

11. Verge Cutting and Weed Spraying

NF had arranged to discuss the verge cutting and weed spraying with a contractor who has provided a quotation, but it was not detailed enough. NF has asked for further detail including the price per cut and is awaiting this information.

12. Parish Matters not otherwise mentioned in Matters Arising

a. Playground

NF and the Clerk had met with a representative of Sovereign Playgrounds and requested further proposals, this would reuse as much of the equipment as possible, but also with suggestions for new equipment.

The Clerk has started to investigate further sources of funding.

b. Debris round the Pond

Reports had been received about vegetation debris which had been left by the side of the pond near the footpath. Unfortunately because it is on private land CDC is not able to clear it up. The Clerk would discuss the matter with the owner of the pond and would also take the opportunity to discuss dredging it.

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

a. Current Application

- i. 14/00008/F, Mrs P McSteen, Lime Cottage, 12 Cherry Street, OX27 9AA; First floor part two storey rear extension with associated internal and external works. Following the earlier discussion the Councillors **RESOLVED** to make the following comments to CDC.
 - The roofline is too high as it is understood that new rooflines should be lower than the existing house to define the new extension. This would also reduce the overshadowing / overbearing impact of the development.
 - The first floor windows should not overlook any of the gardens in Cavendish Place.
 - The boundary wall will be only 30cm from the extension.

The Councillors also **RESOLVED** to ask Cllr Wood to consider referring the application to the Planning Committee.

b. Recent Applications

The Councillors had recently considered the following applications and had no objections

- i. **14/00019/TCA**, Mrs Magner, Chestnut Tree Cottage, Launton Road; T1 x Apple – Reduce height by 20% and remove two lower limbs to help balance crown.
- ii. **14/00030/TCA**, Mrs Charlotte Van Rooyen, Manor Cottage, Mill Road; T1 x Weeping Birch – Fell.

14. Correspondence received

The Councillors noted the correspondence received and discussed where necessary.

- a. **Alex Wynick**, reporter on the Oxford Mail who had requested that the Clerk add her to the Parish Council Mailing Lists. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to the Clerk adding her to the Agenda Distribution list which has a wide distribution.
- b. **OCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan** – consultation. JMO volunteered to be the Parish Path Warden.
- c. **John Hicks – Playground Inspector**. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to engage Mr Hicks to carry out the inspection of the playground.
- d. **OALC** – Council Tax Referendum Principles. There is no change to the status quo this year, but larger councils may be capped next year.
- e. **Aylesbury Vale District Council**. The Councillors noted that AVDC's Local Plan had been rejected by the Inspector and that they would be working on a new plan shortly.

15. Reports from meetings

- a. **ORCC CLP Workshop** – 25 January
See point 9 above

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

- a. **CDC Local Plan**
The Clerk informed the meeting that this had been submitted to Inspector Nigel Payne on 31 January. There will be a Public Enquiry lasting two weeks later in the year.
- b. **Elections**
The Clerk has heard from CDC Elections. The Notice of Election will be posted on Monday 14 April and the Clerk should receive the nomination forms at a briefing at Bodicote House in late March. The forms need to be returned to CDC by Thursday 24 April. The Clerk had drafted an article for the Parish Magazine.
- c. **Flooding on Bicester Road**
The Clerk had received a report from CDC of flooding of a house off the Bicester Road on 11 February. The Environment Agency and the Fire Service had attended and discovered a blocked culvert. This was unblocked and there was no further threat to the village.
- d. **Sewerage on Launton Road**
The Clerk had also received a report of sewerage on the Launton Road on 11 February. Thames Water reported that there was nothing wrong with the pumping station, but the Parish Council will continue to monitor.
- e. **Police 'Coffee Morning'**
The Clerk had noted that PCSO Cooper would be attending a coffee morning at the Red Lion at 11am on 18 February and suggested that a member of the Parish Council might like to join her to meet the villagers and help with answering questions.

There was no further business.

17. Date of next meeting – HCS reported that 11 March fell in Cheltenham Gold Cup week; the Councillors therefore **RESOLVED** to change the date to Tuesday 18 March 2014 at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed

Dated