



**MINUTES OF THE STRATTON AUDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
ON TUESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2014 AT 7.00PM
IN ST MARY & ST EDBURGA CHURCH, STRATTON AUDLEY**

Present: Mr Anthony Flack (AJF), Mr J Honsinger (JRH), Mr J Ormerod (JMO), Mrs H Smithers (HCS) (chairman for the meeting)

In attendance: Mrs J Olds (Parish Clerk), Mrs Amanda Reynolds (CLP Chair)

Apologies: Mr N Ferguson (Chairman),

Public Participation: One member of the public

1. Election of Chairman of the Meeting

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to elect Mrs Smithers to Chair the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to accept Mr Ferguson's apologies for absence due to a family illness.

3. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4. Public participation

One member of the public attended the meeting. Mrs Reynolds made her report under the CLP.

5. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 8 July 2014

It was **RESOLVED** that these be accepted as a true copy with the amendment of the removal of the word 'loan' from the heading of item 5d and were signed by HCS as a true record of proceedings.

6. Matters arising from the Minutes

a. Restoration of playground bench

The Clerk had confirmed the figure with Mr Gore.

b. Facebook

The Clerk has received the photographs from NF and the page is now live. The link is <https://www.facebook.com/StrattonAudleyParishCouncil>.

c. Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association

The Clerk had received confirmation that the Parish Council is now a member.

d. Painting the white gates

The Clerk had confirmed the agreement to start the work with Mr Gore.

e. Give Way signs at the top of Mill Road

The signs have now been fixed.

f. Direction sign at the top of Mill Road

The Clerk reported that this was a Highways issue and she had reported it on 'Fix my street', but had also emailed her contact responsible for road signs directly. She hopes to hear more before the October meeting.

7. Report from District and County Councillors

No Councillors attended the meeting.

8. Finance

a. To receive the financial report

As at 3 September the Accounts stood at

Current Account	£1,526.76
Savings Account	£15,903.58

There were two outstanding cheques amounting to £60.

The Current Account has received £0.40 in interest and the 2013/14 VAT Refund of £304.19 has been paid into the Savings Account.

The Clerk presented a printout of the current state of the accounts and budget.

b. To consider invoices for payment

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

Payment to:	Budget	Cheque No	Amount
M Gore –			
July village mowing / strimming	Grass cutting	500067	£150.00
Playground Mowing (2 cuts) and maintenance	Playground Maintenance	500067	£97.50
Paint for playground bench	Playground refurbishment	500067	£35.56
August village mowing	Grass cutting	500067	£150.00
Playground mowing	Playground Maintenance	500067	£30.00
Playground maintenance including greasing the swings and rocking horse and attending to the gate	Playground equipment	500067	£30.00
Fringford Village Hall Committee for CLP Hire of tables for tea party	Community Led Plan	500068	£20.00
JMC Olds for Clerking Duties (9 July – 8 September)	Clerk's salary	500069	£299.18
JMC Olds for expenses (thank you gift for former grass cutter)	Playground Maintenance	500070	£35.99

One payment was made over the summer break to pay Mrs H Smithers for the cakes she made for the CLP Tea Party. Cheque number 500065 for £76.00 to come out of the CLP budget.

9. New Financial Regulations

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to defer discussion until the October meeting.

10. Community Led Plan

a. To Receive an update

It was with great sadness that the Councillors received the news that Mrs Reynolds had decided to step down as Chair of the Community Led Plan Group due to ill health. The Councillors thanked Mrs Reynolds for all her hard work and dedication over the last sixteen months and hoped that she would be able to become involved again in the future.

It will be up to the Community Led Plan Group to appoint a new Chair.

Mrs Reynolds reported that the Tea Party on 12 July in Church was very successful with between 40 and 50 people attending.

The Group would like to thank Mrs Gosling for hosting the boules evening which was well attended and great fun.

On 16 July, Mrs Reynolds and Mrs Edwards made a presentation to an event about setting up a Community Led Plan which was organised by ORCC and was well received. They also met with another group to discuss the processes of producing a village questionnaire which is currently being compiled.

The children's Halloween Party will take place on Friday 31 October in the Red Lion. The decorations from last year were kept and can be re-used. There will be a charge per child for the food which is to be agreed by the CLP. The Clerk informed the meeting that there was £50 set aside in the budget to subsidise the party and that any additional expenses could come from the Community Led Plan budget.

Mrs Reynolds asked whether she could re-claim some of her travel expenses. The Councillors **RESOLVED** that if she make a reasonable estimate on the mileage, the CLP budget could fund the claim.

Mrs Reynolds informed the meeting that both Anton Nath and Alan Foulkes had left ORCC and that Tom McCulloch had taken over the support of Community Led Planning.

b. To discuss plans, roles and responsibilities between the Parish Council and the Community Led Plan group for the next twelve months

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to defer the discussion until the October meeting.

11. Speedwatch

The Clerk had received information about a Speedwatch campaign from the Police. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to ask PC Christopher Kidd to the October meeting to present the project.

12. Letter from the Red Lion Publican

The Clerk had drafted a response. The Councillors requested that the wording be softened and **RESOLVED** to agree to JRH making some changes for the Clerk to send a revised letter.

13. Parish Matters not otherwise mentioned in Matters Arising

a. Playground

The Clerk reported that Mr Gore has been keeping the grass well cut, the shrubs, particularly the buddleia, have been tidied up and he has been ensuring that the whole playground is kept clean, tidy and safe for the children to use.

As per the recommendations in the Playground Inspector's report, Mr Gore has greased the swings and the horse mechanism and has fixed a new spring to the gate (which he has also stained with wood preservative). The 'No Dogs' sign needs replacing as the old one has broken. The Clerk would look into a replacement.

Following agreement at the July meeting, NF and the Clerk had met Nicole O'Donnell from the Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association who gave a great deal of helpful advice. She recommended that an Access Audit be undertaken on the site as the entrance is not easy to negotiate with large pushchairs / prams and there is funding available to help with getting the access changed. The Clerk has asked the Playground Inspector to carry out the work with the costs coming out of the Playground refurbishment budget.

Mrs O'Donnell also suggested that designs from a bespoke playground builder may be able to be much more flexible than those already received. The Clerk had therefore contacted and met a local playground builder who hoped to have a quotation and designs very shortly. He builds in wood and his recent work includes the playgrounds at Ardley and Islip which have been very well received by the respective Parish Councils. He suggests keeping the grass but strengthening it using matting under wear points, which will reduce the cost of the surfacing.

The grant funding bodies, particularly Viridor and WREN have specific deadlines for applications to be made.

The Clerk agreed to produce a timetable of action.

b. Management and storage of the Marquee

The Marquee had had to be moved from its original storage place because the farmer needed the barn for agricultural storage. A new home therefore has to be found. The Councillors requested that the Clerk look into alternative places to store it and **RESOLVED** to agree that the storage may need paying for.

Regarding the Management of the Marquee, the Councillors **RESOLVED** to defer the discussion until the October meeting.

c. Wooden seat outside the Red Lion

The Clerk reported that it had been noticed that the 'throne' is starting to rot at the base. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to JRH discussing with the wood carvers how best to care for it and what the best remedy for the current rot would be.

d. Gravel by the trough and entrance to the Pond on Mill Road

The Clerk provided three quotations for the purchase of the gravel. The Councillors **RESOLVED** to agree to the purchase of two tonnes of 20-5mm flat gravel from Bagforce at a cost of £38.50 plus VAT per tonne.

The Clerk would liaise with Mr Adams as to when would be convenient to place the order and receive delivery.

e. Autumn Village Tidy-up Day

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to finalise the details of the jobs to be done at the October meeting, but in the meantime, the Clerk would put a poster up on the noticeboard and would ask the Shelswell News editor to put an article in the Parish magazine.

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to ask JMO to purchase bulbs up to the budget of £45 to be planted on the day or shortly after.

The Councillors agreed that each Councillor, together with CLP members would try to ask two additional volunteers each to help. JRH was asked to start to co-ordinate the list of things to be done.

f. Village Hall Fund

The Councillors **RESOLVED** to defer the discussion until the October meeting.

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

a. 14/01184/PAMB – The Green Barn, Stoke Lyne Road: Application withdrawn

The Clerk reported that she had not received the paperwork for this application which is under the 'Permitted Development Rights' aegis and had notified CDC's Planning Officer in mid August to this effect. However she did, subsequently, receive the Notice of Withdrawal.

The Councillors noted the following Notices of Decision and Intent

b. 14/01000/F – Mill Barn, Mill Lane, Two storey rear extension: Permission for development subject to conditions

c. 14/01037/F – Chase House, Bicester Road, Proposed single storey car port. Additional rooflights: Permission for development subject to conditions

d. 14/01227/F – Rigden Hall, Bicester Road, Single storey side extension: Permission for development subject to conditions

e. 14/00214/TCA – 7 Cavendish Place, T1 T2 x Lawson Cypress – Fell. Notice of intent to undertake works to trees in a conservation area

15. Correspondence received

The Councillors noted the correspondence received and discussed where necessary.

a. Consultation on Proposed Modifications to the Submission Cherwell Local Plan 2014 (August 2014) – submissions and comments need to be made to CDC by Friday 3 October.

The Clerk and JMO had read through some of the documents and could not find anything which might affect Stratton Audley

b. ORCC Formal Notice of AGM on 18 September

c. OCC Community Resilience team – regarding suggestions as to further places / events they can take their adverse weather 'survival' roadshow

d. Flowering Plants Ltd – offering a biological control method of pests

- e. **CDC** – re Housing Liaison meeting on 15 October for villages looking to provide, or who have, affordable housing
- f. **Stowe House Christmas Gift Fayre** – 25 / 26 October. I have forwarded it to Shelswell News
- g. **Cllr Rodney Rose** – OCC regarding Community Resilience Roadshows (circulated by email)
- h. **Stables Launton Road** – regarding further agricultural machinery hitting the wall by the road. The Clerk had raised the Speedwatch programme with the villagers and also suggested that Cllr Catherine Fulljames might be able to help.
- i. **Age UK Community Information Network** – a local information service for older people in Oxfordshire. The Clerk had forwarded on the information to the Church and put the poster up on the noticeboard.
- j. **OALC** – July and August updates (circulated by email)
- k. **Clerks and Councils Direct**

16. Reports from meetings

No meetings had been attended.

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

a. Village Sports Facilities

AJF requested that Village Sports Facilities be added to the October Agenda as he has concerns that there are no facilities available in the village.

b. Bicester Heritage Sunday Brunch Scramble

The Clerk reported that the next Sunday Brunch Scramble at Bicester Heritage is on 5 October between 10.30 and 1.30. Anyone wishing to attend needs to register. Bicester Heritage have provided a link on their website <http://bicesterheritage.co.uk/events/sunday-brunch-scramble-oct14/>.

c. Good Councillor’s Guide

The Clerk would add the ordering of the new edition of the Good Councillor’s Guide to the next agenda.

18. Date of next meeting – the Councillors **RESOLVED** to confirm the next meeting as Tuesday 14 October at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Signed

Dated