



Minutes of the Stratton Audley Parish Council on Wednesday 6th November 2019

Present: Mr J Honsinger (Chairman) Mr A Flack (Vice Chairman), Mr J Edwards, Mr M Hedgecox, Ms M Ling and Mrs K Walker .

Apologies: Cllr I Corkin (CDC and OCC)

Members of the public: 2.

77. Public participation

One member of the public attended to discuss commercial signage in the village, with particular reference to signs indicating his business. He explained that he felt he was not able to apply to OCC for formal permission for these signs as his business did not run for 12 months every year. The Chairman explained that the OCC Area Manager had commented on the signs on his recent visit, and suggested that he would be prepared for the resident to contact him and discuss options with OCC. Following discussion it was also agreed that the Parish Council would be happy to add links to local village businesses on its web site.

Another member of the public attended to suggest that the Village placed itself in a position to take advantage of the 5G rollout, when it comes to rural communities in 2021. He was asked to prepare a note of the implications of this technology, and the Clerk suggested that the topic should be placed on the Agenda for the December meeting.

78. Minutes of the meeting of 2nd October 2019

The Minutes of the meeting of 2nd October 2019 were agreed.

79. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Flack declared a personal interest as a member of the Stratton Audley PCC.

80. Progress on Parish matters

Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust

Ongoing. As there has been no recent response from the Wildlife Trust, Cllr Edwards agreed to make contact with OCC's Environmental Advisor.

Traffic White Lines in Church Street

These have now been painted. It was noted that parking on the other side of the road has been observed.

Conservation Area Review

Awaiting publication.

Village Improvement Fund

After discussion about the provision of another Christmas tree in the Village, it was agreed that Christmas lights would be purchased to be placed on the oak tree in the middle of the Pound. Agreement would be sought from the residents of Pound House for the supply of electricity.

Additionally Cllr Hedgecox put forward the idea of creating a permanent village map which could be situated in the centre of the village. All thought this was a good idea and it would be progressed in due course.

Second VAS for Stoke Lyne Road

The Council has been awarded £1800 from Cllr Corkin's Priority Fund and has been given £675 from the Village Fund as a result of the closure of the bank account. This had been agreed at the Annual Meeting of the Parish. The Clerk was asked to acknowledge thanks to the three residents who had managed this old fund raising account. The shortfall will be made up from the Village Improvement Fund and possibly local business contributions.

Second Defibrillator

Ongoing.

Bicester heritage/The Quarry

The Chairman reported that he will be attending a meeting at County Hall where the Quarry restoration proposals will be discussed. The Parish Council is committed to ensuring that some public access is created, and that a cycleway by the A4421 along the edge of the BH property is created forms part of any arrangement.

E/W Rail

It was reported that passing bays have been marked out along the Park Road/Poundon Road, and the road will be closed on 27th November.

Fibre Broadband

The Council understands that properties outside the village will benefit from faster broadband once the box on the Park Road has been connected later in November.

Footpaths

The Chairman has been in correspondence with OCC about footpath markings particularly near and around Poodle Gorse. It was noted that signage by the new properties at the Green barn site may need to be moved. Additionally a request has been made to open a small section of path of the Bicester Road just beyond the Hunt Kennels.

81. Finance

The Council noted the Bank reconciliation at Appendix A and authorised the following payments:-

| <i>Cheque Number</i> | <i>Payee</i> | <i>Reason</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 500737 | A resident | rose | 22.95 |
| 500738 | The Green man | Plants/weed clearance | 636.51 |
| 500739 | The Green man | Fruit trees | 65.00 |
| 500740 | The Red Lion | Room hire | 20.00 |
| 500741 | RBL | wreathe | 100.00 |
| 500742 | Mrs A Davies | Salary and expenses | 173.22 |
| 500743 | HMRC | Clerk tax | 40.40 |
| 500744 | M Gore | Grass | 420.00 |

82. Pound Area Pocket Park

There is some final planting planned for February 2020, and otherwise the work is finished. Many residents have congratulated the Parish Council on this additional village resource. The Clerk will be submitting final invoices to CDC for payment and will produce a summary of all costs.

83. Second VAS in Stoke Lyne Road

Cllr Edwards, having investigated options, noted that both the current supplier of the VAS in Bicester Road (Westcotec) and a supplier called Messagemaker could provide VAS equipment to the specification requested by the Parish at a cost of approximately £3600 and £3000 respectively. This would include solar power and the ability to download speed information via blue tooth. The Vas would require a new post on the Stoke Lyne road, some 75 yards inside the 30mph sign. The Parish Council agreed to proceed with the purchase from Messagemaker, unless Westcotec offered a discount as they already supply one VAS to the Village. The Chairman would contact OCC to arrange for installation of the post which would be an additional cost.

84. Potholes

The Chairman, Cllr Flack, Cllr Corkin and the OCC Area manager for roads have walked through the village, and OCC have agreed to attend to potholes outside Stratton House, by the entrance to the Manor and along Launton Road within the village. OCC will instruct the maintenance crews to patch the road, rather than fill individual potholes. This should result in wider pieces of road being resurfaced.

OCC have clarified that they aim to clear drains every 4 years, but will try to make arrangements for their machine to visit the village shortly in particular to address the issues on Mill Road by the stream.

Renovation to the surface of part of the footpath at the bottom of Cherry Street leading down to the pond was identified as a priority by the Chairman. He was aware that OCC have a maintenance gang that can be hired for a

daily fee of £500 and asked the OCC Area manager if this would be possible. He confirmed that they could do the work and that following a conversation with Cllr Corkin an additional discretionary fund from both of them could be made available provided the PC could confirm that £500 would be put towards the cost from the village Improvement Fund.

85. Church usage for Community Activities

Cllr Hedgecox outlined concerns received regarding the proposed cancelation of the Yoga classes in Church. The Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting with the church wardens to clarify the situation. It was agreed that a meeting should take place between the Church Wardens and Yoga teacher and this subsequently had taken place. The matter is to be reviewed at the next PCC meeting on 3rd December to try and resolve the matter.

All Councillors are keen to ensure that the building is used for as many community activities as possible and all were please to know that the PCC also supported this view. This is important because the Parish Council has been able to support the church financial as a result of it being designated as the community centre and none of us would wish to see this change.

86. Dog Fouling

An increasing number of resident have reported Dog fouling on verges in the village but it is unclear as to whether this is due to owners not clearing up after their pets or dogs that have got loose from their gardens. It was noted that this was disappointing as it gives all dog owners a bad name. The dog warden will be asked to visit the village more regularly and the PC will produce a leaflet to be delivered to all houses to remind residents to clear up after their dogs

87. CLP update

There were six attendees at the recent CLP meeting to discuss the 2020 Street festival and advertising, PR, sponsorship and stalls are areas requiring support. There will be another meeting to discuss the festival in early December, but this remains a matter of concern. There will be another meeting on 24th October, when a decision will be made whether to run the event, or whether to look at holding smaller events that are less demanding to organise.

88. Planning

Withdrawal of planning applications no. 19/01260/F and no. 19/01212/F was noted.

A new application had just been received for 8 Stratton Audley Manor – new windows. Details would be circulated and would be discussed at the next PC meeting.

89. Correspondence received - to note any correspondence received not otherwise on the agenda where decisions are not required.

The Parish Council noted correspondence about mobile phone compatibility with the web site, and agreed to make appropriate changes to facilitate this for a cost of £80.

Cllrs Honsinger and Flack will attend CDC's Parish Liaison meeting on 18th November.

A resident is urging increased awareness of food recycling facilities and encouraged by the Chairman had submitted some draft copy which is due course will be turned into a leaflet.

90. Reports from meetings - to receive any reports; for information.

None.

91. Items for information or next Agenda

By 14th November 2019 please.

92. AOB

None.

93. Date of next meeting

4th December 2019 in the Hunt Room of the Red Lion PH at 7.00pm.

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www.strattonaudley.org. See also Facebook – strattonaudleyparishcouncil

