



Minutes of the Stratton Audley Parish Council on Wednesday 8th January 2020

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

Apologies: Mr J Edwards, Mr M Hedgecox and Cllr I Corkin (CDC and OCC)

Members of the public: None.

104. Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the meeting of 4th December 2019 were agreed.

105. Declarations of Interest

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

106. Progress on Parish matters

Launton Road Pumping Station

Thames Water started pumping water out of the pumping station in mid December and tankered it away on a daily basis up until Christmas Eve. The activity continued until Christmas Eve. They have agreed to carry out a camera survey of all the foul water drains once the water table subsides with the intention of repairing any leaks into them from the surrounding land.

Second VAS

Money from Cllr Corkin's Community Fund has now been received and the second VAS has been purchased. Plans are in hand for it to be installed and up and running early in February. The Council will also erect another post on the Bicester Road to enable the current VAS to be moved.

Bicester Heritage/The Quarry

Bicester Heritage's original appeal against the planning enforcement notice and subsequent planning application have been withdrawn, and a new application for restoration of the quarry site will shortly be submitted.

E/W Rail

The Operator hopes that full work on East/West Rail will start in the Summer of 2020, assuming 'Powers' are granted by the Secretary of State to proceed. The proposed operator is currently carrying out enabling works.

Oxford to Cambridge Express Highway

An update is awaited.

Pot Holes

The Parish Council is waiting for the roads in the village to be patched, not the potholes repaired. This work has been scheduled and in the case of the Launton Road is the subject of a road closure notice.

Footpaths

The Parish Council had agreed to replace the stile on the footpath behind the old Green barn development with a gate, to make the path more accessible for users with mobility difficulties. The Chairman reported that delivery of the gate was imminent.

OCC will carry out resurfacing to the path by the Pond when weather permits, subject to a contribution from the parish Council towards the cost which was previously agreed at £500. Separately two bags of gravel for the Cross Bucks Way path have been purchased and will be put in place once the weather has improved.

CLP

The Parish Council thanked the Chairman for the celebration held by him to acknowledge Anthony Flack for his service as Chairman of the CLP committee.

107. 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>
500251	M Gore	buddleia	37.50
500252	The Red Lion	Room hire	20.00
500253	Mrs A Davies	Salary and expenses	173.02
500254	HMRC	Clerk tax	40.60
500255	The play inspection company	report	78.00
500256	J Honsinger	Purchases	388.33
500257	The Red Lion	Unpaid cheques	40.00

The question as to whether there were official guideline for reserves was raised and the Clerk advised that it was usually prudent to retain 1.5 times annual expenditure. On this basis the accounts for SAPC have a healthy margin and allow for additional capital expenditures, should the case for anything be made.

Having considered the draft Budget submitted by the Clerk the parish council agreed to raise its precept for the year 202/21 by £340 to £11683, **an increase of 3%**, which is an extra payment of £1.50 per annum for a band "d" property.

108. Pound Area Pocket Park

The work on the Pound is virtually completed, mainly within the envelope of the grants made by CDC and the MHCLG. The Parish Council thanks Mr and Mrs J Hill for supplying the electricity required for the lights on the oak tree over the Christmas period.

109. Playground Inspection report

The Council agreed to carry out the minor repairs as identified in the latest Inspectors report such as adding additional bark to the playground surface. Once again there were no major issues to address.

102 CLP update

No further events will be organised by the CLP until a new chair person is found. All are asked to consider taking on the role and anyone interested in organising an event should approach the PC who will enthusiastically support such initiatives. It is sincerely hoped that some small events will take place in 2020.

One such that the Council is keen to promote is a celebration of the 75th anniversary of VE Day on the bank holiday weekend of 8th May. The PC has passed information on the subject to the History Society for consideration at their next meeting.

110. Planning

None

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

OCC update

OALC Update

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

The next Police Rural Area meeting will take place on 22nd January in Ardley Village Hall.

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113. Items for information or next Agenda

By 14th January 2020 please.

114. AOB

None.

115. Date of next meeting

4th February 2020 in the Hunt Room of the Red Lion PH at 7.00pm .

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