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**Minutes of the informal meeting of Stratton Audley Parish Council on Wednesday 16th June 2021**

**Present:**  Mr J Honsinger (Chairman) Mr A Flack (Vice Chairman), Mrs K Walker, and Mr M Gore.

**Apologies:** Cllr I Corkin (CDC and OCC) Ms M Ling

**Members of the public:** 3

1. **Parish Council update**

It was reported that, due to other commitments, Cllr Hedgecox had resigned from the Parish Council. A casual vacancy has been advertised.

# Declarations of Interest

None.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meetings were agreed as circulated.

1. **Public Participation**

A member of the public raised concerns about vehicle damage to the verge opposite the Pound. One option might be to build up the soil and plant wild flowers, but the Chairman agreed to discuss the issue with OCC and perhaps put some traffic cones on the verges in the short term.

Wildflower seeds have been planted by the back gate entrance to the Church opposite the Pound, and it was suggested this could be continued along the verges.

The Clerk was asked to ascertain whether OCC was considering making a blanket road traffic order to provide a 20mph speed limit through villages.

A resident has suggested that the Parish Council consider making an application for the Red Lion PH to be registered as a Community asset. After discussion with the current landlord it was agreed this application should proceed. Mr Jon Hill agreed to handle this matter together with the Clerk.

# Progress on Parish matters

**Annual Parish Meeting**

Due to ongoing COVID restrictions, it is currently planned that the Annual Parish Meeting will take place at 7.30pm on 4th August in the Parish Church.

**E/W Rail**

A temporary speed awareness sign has been placed on Mill Road and has been greatly appreciated by residents.

Cllrs Honsinger and Flack will be visiting the Launton compound.

**Stoke Lyne Road Waste Land Project**

The Chairman reported that top soil for this redevelopment may be available from Fringford PC due to changes they are planning to their village green. Additionally funding might be available from a Government “Welcome back” scheme for economic rejuvenation following the pandemic. Cllr Ian Corking will also be approached for support.

**Flooding**

Thames Water have confirmed that the pumping station at the Bradbury’s is working as expected. They are still analysing the video footage from the drain survey but have found a number of ingresses. They are putting together a programme to carry out further repairs.

**Weed Spraying**

The current contractor has indicated that he does not intend to renew his weed spraying licence at the end of 2021. The Council will look at alternative options.

# Finance

The Council approved the following payments:-

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Payee* | *Reason* | *Amount* |
| Mrs A Davies | Salary and expenses | 166.33 |
| HMRC | Cl tax | 41.60 |
| MG | Grass cutting | 210.00 |
| J Honsinger | Wild flower seeds | 20.00 |

The Clerk reported that the finances were in a healthy state with over £32000 in the bank.

1. **Parish Matters not otherwise mentioned above:**

**Village signs**

Cllr. Flack is co-ordinating efforts to clean the gates and road signs at the entrance to the village.

**Village Day**

The PC proposes holding a Village day in August for which volunteers are needed. Further discussion required.

**New Councillors**

The PC has received interest in becoming a Councillors from four people. Possible co-optees to the Council will be considered in August.

**Village Store Room**

The current store room forms part of a property that is currently being marketed for sale and so will not be available in the future. The Chairman will look to see whether any other options are available.

1. **Planning**

None.

It was confirmed that the Council had submitted a response to the Bicester Motion outline planning application for the Automotive Experience Centre and has been in touch with the Bicester Biking Group with regard to cycle ways and footpath access.

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

CDC/OCC/OALC updates

# Reports from meetings - to receive any reports for information. None

# Items for information or next Agenda

# Concerns have been raised about the enforcement of Conservation Area planning and tree preservation rules.

# Date of next meeting

4th August 2021 Parish Meeting at 6.30pm followed by the Annual Open Meeting. Both subject to the lifting of corona virus restrictions. Venue to be the Church.

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