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**Minutes of the meeting of Stratton Audley Parish Council held on Wednesday 6th October 2021 in the Hunt Room of the Red Lion.**

**Present:**  Mr J Honsinger (Chairman) Mr A Flack (Vice Chairman), Mr M Gore and (from agenda item 3) Ms A Short.

Attending via ZOOM: Mrs K Walker and (from Agenda Item 3) Mr M Arroyo and Ms E Jones.

**Apologies:** Cllr I Corkin (CDC and OCC)

**Members of the public:** None

# Declarations of Interest

The Clerk clarified the interests – personal and prejudicial, which should be disclosed, and explained the appropriate action to be taken accordingly. It was felt that there were none that met the appropriate criteria.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meetings were agreed as circulated.

1. **Co-option of new councillors**

The Council agreed to co-opt Ms A Short, Mr M Arroyo and Ms E Jones onto the Council to fill current vacancies.

# Progress on Parish matters

**Pot Holes**

All residents are urged to report any pot holes on “Fix my Street”. However it was reported that major holes were being filled on Launton Road on the morning of the meeting, and the plan remains with OCC to carry out resurfacing works in the village in the Spring 2022.

**Stoke Lyne Road entry to the village**

Ongoing. In view of the new councillors the Chairman agreed to circulate the plans for this land enhancement project to all Councillors.

**Church Tidy up.**

5 residents carried out work to cut and remove debris to the rear of the church yard and acknowledgment was given to a job well done. It was reported that the Church clock is not chiming correctly. This issue will be investigated further.

**Flooding**

Thames Water have been active in the village replacing manhole covers, and checking for surface water leakages into the drainage system.

**The Pound/wildflower verges**

The Council has taken expert advice on the replanting and maintenance of the wild flower area in the Pound Pocket Park and have been advised to rotovate the soil, seed it with wild flowers in the Spring, and then strim after flowering making sure to remove the cuttings. The Council agreed to proceed with the maintenance programme suggested by the advisor.

**Traffic calming**

The Chairman has been in discussion with OCC about traffic calming options, as there is considerable concern at the speed of traffic driving through and the accompanying safety issues. This includes ideas for reducing the speed of vehicles entering the village, as currently the Bicester and Stoke Lyne roads are unrestricted when turning off the A4421 (which is 50mph). Any significant changes such as new speed restrictions or the introduction of humps in the road will require consultation and this can incur significant costs for the village. In the meantime the Chairman proposed producing a Parish wide questionnaire to address this issue and one or two other matters. Cllr Walker agree to prepare an initial draft. It was agreed that the Chairman and Vice Chairman would discuss traffic calming measures with representatives from the village of Evenly which appear to have some effective measures in place. Additionally Cllr Corkin will be approached for his views,

It was also noted that OCC are currently trialling options to reduce the cost of introducing 20mph zones in villages, and the outcome of this trial is awaited. Also whilst street lighting is a requirement for most measures, a new solar powered single light unit is under investigation and might prove to be a solution.

It was noted that the VAS at the entry point on the Bicester Roads has down loadable data, which Cllr Gore agreed to investigate.

**Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebration**

It was agreed the Parish Council would organise a street party and Sunday 5th June was tentatively pencilled in for the celebration event. All parish councillors agreed to participate on the committee and there will be a call for volunteers from the community.

**Path on the Bicester Road**

A resident has suggested that a footpath along the Bicester Road is required to ensure pedestrian safety and has presented a plan. The Chairman is waiting for a response from OCC.

**Flag pole on the Church Tower**

Councillors agreed, in principle, to support proposals for a flag pole on the Church Tower, put forward by Cllr Flack, subject to costs, agreeing the design of the pole, and confirmation of which flags and when they would be flown.

# Finance

The Council approved the following payments:-

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Payee* | *Reason* | *Amount* |
| Cherwell DC | Dog Bins | 481.04 |
| MG | Grass cutting | 755.00 |
| Mrs A Davies | Salary and expenses | 332.66 |
| HMRC | Cl tax | 83.20 |
| The Red lion | Room hire | 20.00 |

1. **Planning**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [**21/02302/DISC**](https://planningregister.cherwell.gov.uk/Planning/Display/21/02302/DISC) | 3 The Green Barn Stoke Lyne Road Stratton Audley OX27 9AT | Discharge of Conditions 5 (hard and soft landscape works), 7 (boundary enclosures), 8 (turning area and parking spaces) and 12 (water efficiency limit of 110 litres/person/day) of 21/00519/FApplication permitted. | 02/07/2021 | Under Consultation |

AVDC Planning Reference 21/03284/APP

[Temporary 7-year change of use of agricultural land for the establishment of an operator skills hub for training operatives in relation to the development of major infrastructure projects and caravan park and erection of temporary buildings](https://publicaccess.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=QXSBFWCLMWU00&activeTab=summary)

The Parish Council had been alerted by Poundon parish council to this application, which could increase the traffic considerably along the top road by Stratton Audley Park.

The Council agreed that they would wish to ensure that conditions imposed on the consent do not permit traffic to travel through the village.

The Chairman reminded councillors that CDC were holding a webinar about the Cherwell local Plan on 19th and 20th October.

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

CDC/OCC/OALC updates

**AOB**

The Clerk reported difficulties obtaining new parts for the Defibrillator situated in the Church porch. She had been advised that it was obsolete and required replacement. It was agreed that she should raise the matter with South Central Ambulance services.

The Chairman has received suggestions from a resident to improve the footpath by the pond. The Council agreed to purchase three jumbo bags of stone chippings, to be dropped off near the waste bins at the bottom of Cherry Street. These would be used initially to fill the dips in the path where debris and water form puddles. Further remedial action could be taken in the Spring if necessary.

After discussion the Parish Council agreed not to support the installation of a red telephone box by the playground in Cherry Street.

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

# Items for information or next Agenda

# Items as soon as possible please.

# Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be 3rd November 2021 at 7pm in the Red Lion PH, subject to the continuing lifting of corona virus restrictions.

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[www.strattonaudley.org](http://www.strattonaudley.org). See also Facebook – strattonaudleyparishcouncil

