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**Minutes of the meeting of Stratton Audley Parish Council held on Wednesday 7th December 2022 in the Red Lion Public House starting at 7.00pm.**

**Present:**  Mr J Honsinger (Chairman),

Mr M Arroyo, Mr M Gore and Mr J Edwards.

**Apologies:** Mr A Flack (Vice Chairman), Mrs K Walker. Cllr I Corkin (CDC and OCC)

**Members of the public:** 4

1. **Public Participation**

Residents attended to express concern at proposals to develop an Out-Building adjacent to the Kennels Bicester Road Stratton, Audley OX27 9BT, into 3 residential properties, which, they suggested, generate parking issues that would affect all properties adjacent to the development.

# Declarations of Interest

Cllr Honsinger declared an interest in discussions about the development at Mattingley barn (later in the meeting) and took no part in the discussion of this matter.

1. **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as circulated.

# Progress on Parish Matters

**Bicester Motion Experience Quarter**

Ongoing.

**Parking on verges in Bicester Road**

It was again remarked that there is one property on the Bicester Road which regularly parks one of its cars on the grass highway outside their boundary, and which continues to be a matter of concern as the land forms part of the Highway.

**Beryl’s bench**

Ongoing.

**EWR**

This development is approaching completion**.**

**New Vehicle Activated Signs**

Two new VAS units will be erected on 19th December 2022, one in Launton Road and one in Mill Road., at locations agreed with OCC.

**55. Finance**

The Parish Council’s current financial position is shown at Appendix A. The Clerk reported she had transferred £10,000 into an interest bearing savings account.

The Council approved the following payments:-

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| *Payee* | *Reason* | *Amount* |
| Mrs A Davies | Salary and expenses | 180.62 |
| HMRC | Cl tax | 42.20 |
| The Red Lion | Room hire | 20.00 |
| M Gore | Grass cutting x 2 | 490.00 |
| S Nelson | Halloween expenses | 216.00 |

1. **Other Parish Issues**

**Solar Farm update**

A draft questionnaire has been prepared and sent to the Parish Council for comment. This will be circulated to residents by Ronan Goss before to Christmas. A planning application is expected shortly, and it was agreed that the chairman and Cllr Edwards would have without prejudice discussions with the developer to raise issues of concern to residents in the parish and discuss the proposed community fund.

**Village Improvement Fund**

A resident had asked what had become of the Village Improvement Fund that was created out of the Street festivals in 2016 and 2018. When the last analysis was made available in 2019 there was some £1600 remaining. The Clerk reminded the meeting that subsequently it had been agreed to increase this fund from Parish Council reserves to £5000, so monies are available for community initiatives.

It was also noted that, at Annual Parish meetings since then, attendees were asked for suggestions that could been funded.

Some of the projects that have been actioned are:-

Part funding of a VAS on the Stoke Lyne Road (£870)

Christmas lights on the tree in the Pound (£350)

Refurbishment to part of the path along the pond (£120)

Pocket park various additional work at the Pound (£500)

Stoke Lyne path gate, part contribution (£100)

Other sums have been spent more recently on events such as the Platinum Jubilee street party, the purchase of a Jubilee tree for the Green and the Halloween trail and party in the Red Lion (all of which have been documented).

A commitment has been made to install a kissing gate on the path behind the Goss’s farm to replace a stile that is difficult to negotiate. Estimated cost £350.

Residents will again be asked to send any further suggestions to the Clerk

**Road sweep**

This was due to take place on 15th December, but has been delayed by the icy weather**.**

**OCC 20mph speed limit in Villages**

The Parish Council applied to be part of the first tranche of this new OCC policy. OCC have now issued a draft consultation, which the Parish Council has supported.

**Funding for Rural areas**

The Church is in the process of applying to this government backed fund for support with its re-roofing project.

**Children’s Christmas Activities**

A Christmas activity trail with Advent themed windows is currently being organised and a craft event will place in the Church.

**Digital Access survey**

This is a survey by Victoria Prentis, MP for the Banbury area. Residents have been advised of the survey via the village newsletter, which has a link to the survey site.

**Children’s safety posters**

It was agreed that these should now be taken down, and any in good condition will be placed in the bus shelter on Stoke Lyne Road for originators to pick up.

1. **Planning Matters**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | Out Building Adj to Kennels Bicester Road Stratton, Audley OX27 9BT -  Conversion to 3 residential units | |

*“The parish agreed to delegated the drafting of a response to Cllrs Honsinger and Edwards. The following response has been submitted to CDC:-*

*“Stratton Audley Parish Council is sympathetic to skilful developments in the community, and particularly ones which help to address the mix of village property and deliver more affordable housing. The development of these buildings is sympathetic to the buildings themselves, and the materials proposed are very much in keeping with the existing properties.*

*The Parish Council's concerns, which are echoed by a residents' objection, centre mainly around access & parking. There are 7 spaces for the 3 properties, one accessed from the main courtyard, the other 6 via a new access road adjacent to the existing Stables House. From knowledge of the site, Stables House often parks 4 vehicles on the new proposed access road, adjacent to the Public Footpath, and if they were displaced, then their parking in the main courtyard would cause issues for existing residents. It is also the case that only one space is allocated to Plot 3, which has no access to the rear car parking, other than to walk around the courtyard & down the access road.*

*We believe discussions have already taken pIace between the developer and existing local**residents and it is suggested that these issues could be mitigated by creating another c3 parking spaces by extending the new parking area at the rear on the right hand-side as you enter that area currently owned by the developer. It is also understood that there may be a possibility to create at least 2 parking spaces adjacent to the new access road, an option being actively discussed. This requirement is exacerbated by the existence of a Covenant on the existing properties prohibiting the parking of commercial vehicles in the courtyard. This extra provision would also solve this issue.*

*It appears that there is no provision for direct access from Plot 3 to the rear car park. Whilst difficult, we would urge the developers to seek to resolve this issue, with the objective of encouraging use of the rear car park, rather than the courtyard.*

*The Parish Council also suggests that the PROW be fenced such that it cannot be blocked by parked cars adjacent to the new access road.*

*Finally, the access road to these properties is in poor repair, and the Parish Council suggests as a condition of grant, that there is a requirement that it be restored to an acceptable condition following the construction work, which will undoubtedly result in further deterioration.*

*Were these issues mitigated satisfactorily, the development would have the Parish Council's support”*.

Mattingly Barn

(Cllr Honsinger declared an interest and took no part in the discussion). Councillors expressed concern that, with no planning application having been submitted, works are on-going and most recently a water supply had closed the Stoke Lyne Road for 6 days at the beginning of December. The Clerk has raised these concerns with CDC’s Planning Enforcement team, who are investigating the matter.

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

CDC/OCC/OALC updates

1. **AOB**

None.

# 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 4th January 2023 in the Red Lion at 7.00pm.

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

