

**Minutes of the meeting of the Meeting of South Stoke Parish Council
held on Monday 22 May 2017 at 8.00p.m. in South Stoke Village Hall**

Present:- Cllr Roy McMillan (RM) – Chairman
Cllr Chris Bertrand (CB) – until minute 545/17
Cllr Bryan Urbick (BU)
Cllr Andrew Scrivener (AS)
Cllr Mick Walsh (MW)
Cllr John Verrill (JV)

Officer:- Sue Gill (SG)

Members of the public:- David & Nicky Kennedy and Gareth Dean

District & County Councillor: None

544/17 **Apologies for absence:** None

545/17 **Resignation of Cllr Bertrand** The Chairman, Cllr McMillan, thanked Cllr Bertrand for his work for the parish whether it as a councillor or not, which was supported by all other councillors in attendance. Cllr Bertrand then departed.

546/17 1 **Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman**
Cllr McMillan was re-elected as Chair for 2017 – 2018, proposed by Cllr Verrill and seconded by Cllr Urbick.

Cllr Urbick was elected as Vice-Chair for 2017 – 2018, proposed by Cllr Roy McMillan and seconded by Cllr Scrivener.

Both UNANIMOUS

2 **Roles and Responsibilities** – it was agreed that the document would be discussed at the meeting on Monday 19 June.

547/17 **Declaration of interest**
Cllr McMillan declared an interest in the Glebe Field and any potential development plan but with no pecuniary interest.

548/17 **Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday 18 April 2017**
These were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

549/17 **Report from OCC and SODC**
None owing to the elections.

550/17 **South Stoke Community Shop and Village Hall Joint Facility** – Cllr McMillan reported that there had been no further update since the last meeting, except that the

Housing Steering Group had reported back to the Diocese and had advised them that the Parish Council had asked the Shop and Village Hall Group to proceed asap with a pre-application request relating to the building of this proposed dual-purpose building on the Recreation Ground. The Diocese suggested that the two pre planning application requests were done in tandem so SODC can see the link between the two projects.

551/17 **South Stoke Housing Development Plans** – Cllr McMillan reported the outcome of the consultation as per the information in the South Stoke Parish Newsletter. The 25 house option was favoured though there were continuing concerns relating to access through The Gardens and the creation of an affordable housing 'ghetto' close to the railway line. The Steering Group will advise these concerns to the Diocese and request they endeavour to address these two concerns and there would be a further meeting of Steering Group representatives with the Diocese on Friday 26 May.

552/17 **Planning Applications**
P17/S1559/FUL – Little Stoke Manor, Little Stoke, OX10 6AX Removal of dilapidated shed, same size and footprint to put in lodge for accommodation of people helping at farm or family use.

Resolution: The Parish Council Committee voted APPROVED

MAJORITY

P17/S1570/FUL – Herons, The Street, South Stoke RG8 0JS - Erection of one residential dwelling, including erection of garage, provision of associated private garden and parking, provision of landscaping and other ancillary works.

Cllr Scrivener described the planning application using the plans and documentation provided by SODC. David and Nicky Kennedy then spoke on behalf of their application saying that they had lived in the village for 12 years and as they approached retirement wished to remain in the village and had looked for a smaller property without success. They had made two pre-planning applications and there had been no substantial objections though the subject of the AONB had been raised. Mr and Mrs Kennedy assured those present that they would live in the new building and Herons would be sold. They had approached their neighbours and there had been no objections. Whilst they would have preferred the house to be further away from the Ridgeway the Zone 1 flood plain had been taken into consideration. The approach from Goring was discussed and Mr and Mrs Kennedy said that as part of their application they had been asked to plant trees along the boundary and had taken advice from the arbourist.

Resolution: The Parish Council Committee voted APPROVED

MAJORITY

P17/S0889/HH – Ramsey House, Woodcote Road - New garage and garden room
Amended application - The dormer windows had now been removed from the application.

Resolution: The Parish Council Committee voted REJECT

UNANIMOUS

553/17 **Dates for future Parish Council Meetings were agreed:** 2017 – 19 June, 17 July, 21 August, 18 September, 16 October 20 November, 18 December. 2018 – 15 January, 19 February, 19 March, 16 April.

The Annual Parish Meeting would be on Thursday 12 April.

Cllrs Verrill and Scrivener apologised that they would be away on the date of the July meeting, and Cllr Walsh apologized that he would be away on the date of the August meeting.

554/17 **Finance**

- 1 To receive and approve the Receipts and Payments Report.
The Pack for 2017-2018 was not yet available but the Clerk gave a brief summary of payments and receipts.
2. To approve cheques for payment
Resolved: to approve payments as follows:

Cheque No	Payable to	Amount	VAT content
1244	CFO (Membership)	35.00	
1246	SS Community Shop Ltd	92.00	2.09
1247	Ashburtons – Recreation ground grass cutting	162.00	27.00
1249	Oxfordshire County Council Speed survey	480.00	80.00
1250	G Ambler – village work	108.00	
1251	Goring Press (May newsletter)	360.00	
1252	HMRC April & May	117.60	
1253	S Gill Clerks Wages April & May	470.40	
1254	S Gill expenses stationery & stamps	42.93	

3. To receive and approve the Bank Reconciliation.

555/17 **South Stoke Parish Newsletter** - Cllr Urbick reported that the printing of the newsletter had gone out to tender and he had received three quotations. Goring Press remained the most competitive. Councillors discussed whether it was necessary to have a copy printed for all households and whether colour was required. It was felt that colour attracts the advertisers which in turn pays for the printing. The Newsletter was valuable to many in the village who may not have access to broadband/good broadband.

Resolved - South Stoke Parish Newsletter would continue to be printed by Goring Press. UNANIMOUS

The subject of the website was raised as there appeared to be a couple of glitches with information not showing. Cllr Urbick said he would look at the website.



556/17

Amenities Committee Report

- The kiddies swing structure had been condemned as unsafe so they had been removed and swapped for two of the four swings for older children. The replacement of a new frame equates to £2000 so there are no immediate plans to replace.
- Maurice Scarratt had kindly donation a lovers bench to the charity and it is now on the Recreation Ground.
- The White Elephant Stall at the May Fayre had raised approximately £200.
- The table tennis table is now in the village hall and available for use by hirers.
- The identified young who had caused damage to the chairs and tables on the Recreation Ground would be involved in a Restorative Justice Programme which will involve them oiling the benches on the Recreation Ground.
- Rabbits continue to be a problem.
- The moles have now been remove.

557/17

Action from Previous Meetings

The action list was reviewed and changes made - see revised listing. New comments are shown in bold print.

558/17

Correspondence

- 1 Chris Bertrand had left a note of outstanding areas which had been his responsibility.
 - SLIPWAY a boat has been left moored for some time. There is a phone number written on it so a phone call might be handy
 - COWS The Duckers are apparently getting rid of their cows and this opens up the question as to what will happen to the land that is currently grazed. If it is simply left to lie fallow this could change the Ridgeway Path from South Stoke to Little Stoke significantly. The first section is already smothered in reeds and stinging nettles. A conversation would probably be a good idea
 - DRAINAGE More work needs to be done on getting the various drainage ditches open and flowing. Christ Church do not fulfil their riparian responsibilities. *Cllr Verrill offered to take this matter forward.*
 - MOORING The landowner of the fields between South Stoke and the four arches bridge has put up 'no mooring' notices. He has also put up that overnight mooring is allowed on the short stretch of river facing the boatyard. A conversation with him might be useful. Roy has the details. Presumably with his permission several sections of young trees have been cut down. Some of the unsightly debris from this activity still remains
 - KERBS AND GULLIES - As a result of the cutbacks kerbs and gullies are not regularly cleared or weeded. We may need to take on some of this work.
 - VERGES - OCDC now only trim verges once a year. Where this presents a potential hazard we need to take action. Graham Ambler currently does this if requested. *Cllr Walsh offered to be the intermediary between the Parish Council and Graham Ambler.*



- 2 Cllr Verrill reported that Mr Mark Menhemet's circumstances had changed and he handed the Clerk the paperwork/deeds relating to The Park.
- 3 The Clerk had received an email from Joyce Hosker re the Vintage Car Boot Fair and the disturbance to them from noise starting at an early hour. The Clerk was asked to forward the email to The Shop. *This has been done.*
- 4 The Clerk said that she would be standing down for private reasons but would ensure that the accounts for the last financial year were submitted to the internal auditor and also BDO. Cllr McMillan thanked the Clerk for her work and a presentation of gifts was made.

554/17

Date and time of the next meeting – Monday 19 June 2017, at **7.30pm** in Village Hall.

Minute	Item	Action/Progress	Action By	Complete/ review date	Status
	The Website	Training to be given in updating the website	BU	July 2017	Open
	Parish Plan Refresh (PPR)	<p>Housing Development Project SSHDP Cllr McMillan</p> <p>Cllr McMillan advised that the latest meeting of the Steering Group (SG), the night before, concern from several local residents as to the size of the proposed development on the Glebe Field, and also the advice received from the Chiltern Conversation Board had caused the SG to consider different options for housing development on the field. A further meeting would be held with the Diocese to discuss possible options, and once that these had been clarified an all day Open Meeting would be arranged in the Village Hall, probably in late February, where Parishioners would be shown the background to these, the options and 'financial return' to the village, and then asked to register their preference.</p> <p>AS has resigned from the SG due to work and family commitments.</p> <p>The SG in agreement with the land-owner, had modified its proposals re a possible housing development on the Glebe Field. An open Parish consultative meeting would be held on 4 March giving the background and it would provide three options for housing development on the field, being the minimum option – 6 houses, the medium option – 16 houses, and the maximum option - 25 houses. Examples plans of each option would be displayed including “Optional extras” for each option. A green area in the middle would be shown. An idea of the financial benefit to the village infrastructure from the the adoption of each option would be indicated. There would be an exit poll.</p> <p>The meeting would be promoted via posters and the newsletter along with an invitation drop to each household, and following this there would be an email to all Parishioners on the parish email list. As a final action each household which had not submitted any response would receive a letter and a questionnaire, and members of the SG would then visit all such houses in an endeavour to collect further completed forms.</p> <p>See minute 551/17</p>	RMc	Jan 2017	Open
			RMc	June 2017	Open

		<p>Network Rail & Electrification Infrastructure Cllr Urbick</p> <p>Strategy meeting due to take place on 29 September. Cllr Urbick reported that a meeting was to be held on 19 October 2016 challenging the discrimination act as Network Rail had not widened the pavement to the station.</p> <p>A meeting with NR officials is due to be held on 12 January pre the NR consultation meetings with parishioners from various villages between Pangbourne and Cholsey.</p> <p>The line between Didcot and Reading is now electrified.</p> <p>492/17 January - details covered by Ian Haslam</p>	BU	June 2017	Open
		<p>Better Road Safety Cllr Walsh</p> <p>Cllr Walsh reported that speed monitoring equipment could possibly be loaned FOC and a survey done in house.</p> <p>See minute 434/16 re speed limits</p> <p>Look at costs of various traffic calming and speed restriction Notices.</p> <p>Cllr Walsh reported that a seven day survey 24 hours a day at four points would cost £400 plus VAT. It was suggested the locations would be alongside each bus stop on the B4009, Ferry Lane and The Street. It was agreed to proceed.</p> <p>MW to follow up with Keith Stenning, and it was suggested he copied in Kevin Bulmer.</p> <p>Nigel Clark had confirmed the date for the survey would be the first week in February covering four places.</p> <p>The survey would now take place for a week starting on 22 February. A report would be available for the next meeting</p> <p>The report had been requested but still had not arrived.</p> <p>A constructive meeting with Keith Stenning and Mark Francis from OCC had taken place and the results of the survey would support changing the speed limits. There was no support for 20mph in the village except for The Street because of the Primary School and the frequent walkers using the Ridgeway National Trail which traverses this road.</p> <p>Various ideas had been discussed and would now be subject to consultation, the preparation of costs and quotations plus any financial support from OCC. It was asked that a report on these matters should be available ahead of the June PC meeting.</p> <p>The Police could be involved and Trust Oxfordshire may help with a grant towards the costs.</p>	MW	June 2017	Open

	Parish Tree Management	The number of location of trees on public land to be identified.	All	Feb 2016	Open
		RMc agreed to continue his work mapping all trees within public areas of the greater part of the Village.	RMc	Aug 2017	Open