

**Minutes of the meeting of the Meeting of South Stoke Parish Council
held on Tuesday 16 August 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in South Stoke Village Hall**

Present:- Cllr. Roy McMillan (RM) - Chairman
Cllr. Chris Bertrand (CB)
Cllr Bryan Urbick (BU)
Cllr Andrew Scrivener (AS)

Officer:- Sue Gill (SG).

Members of the public:- Mrs Gatto and Mrs Kennedy

District & County Councillor: none

426/16 Mrs Gatto expressed concern over the number of **cigarette butts** in the vicinity of the pub fence near the bus stop. It was agreed that Cllr McMillan would speak to the landlord, though it was recognised that it was not necessarily customers of the pub, to seek help and that mention would be made in the Parish Newsletter.

Mrs Gatto also had concerns over what had been agreed by the Planning Officer over the **Playground**. The Chairman assured her that the Parish Council were keeping a close eye on matters.

Mrs Kennedy asked to read out her statement on the **Village Hall and the broader picture**. In essence it was important that the next generation and those beyond were involved in village life to drive forward ideas and ensure the village remained the lively and enthusiastic place it is today. That whilst she recognised that many had busy lives with work and children, that not all were financially equal, everyone had a part in the success and future of the village, especially at a time when the whole country was facing change after BREXIT, the problems with the NHS and the national economy. The Councillors felt that it was a heartfelt statement and would be printed in full in the September newsletter.

427/16 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr. John Verrill (JV)
Cllr. Mick Walsh (MW)

428/16 **Declaration of interest**
Cllr McMillan declared an interest in the Glebe Field and any potential development plan
Cllr Bertrand declared an interest in the Amenities Charity

429/16 **Minutes of the meeting of 18 July 2016**
These were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

430/16 **Reports from OCC and SODC**
 The Clerk had previously circulated Cllr Bulmer’s monthly report to all Councillors and a copy can be found on the Parish Council’s notice board.

431/16 **Planning Applications**

- 1 None
- 2 The School Playground – see minute 426/16
 Councillor Urbick confirmed that the cage is to be painted, the coloured boards to be changed to green and some boards removed, boards by the school to be turned so the school building becomes more visible.

432/16 **Roles and Responsibilities and Governing Papers** The Roles and Responsibilities with the changes had been circulated all Councillors and a copy was signed by the Chairman for the file. All governing papers relating to South Stoke Parish Council were signed and would be available in paper format for any villager to see.

433/16 **Finance**

- 1 To receive and approve the Receipts and Payments Report.
 Copies of the reporting pack were circulated and reviewed.

 Clerk had previously circulated a P & L of the Queen's Birthday Celebrations. The grant from SODC had covered most costs with a small amount coming from budgeted funds.

2. To approve cheques for payment
Resolved: to approve payments as follows:

Cheque No	Payable to	Amount
1188	G Ward (Reissued cheque mislaid)	£12.00
1189	Goring Press (August Newsletter & June newsletter reissued as cheque not received)	£331.50
1191	HMRC (August)	£39.20
1190	S Gill (August)	£156.82
1192	S Gill reimbursement Thames Water bill for The Park	£25.78

3. To receive and approve the Bank Reconciliation.
4. The Village Hall costs - An email had been received from OALC containing an email from their solicitor who confirmed that the utility bills for the Village Hall could not be paid by the Parish Council. There was some concern about paying for the mowing of the Recreation Ground and the Clerk would gain clarification from the auditor. It was agreed that the Amenities

Committee would take back the arrangements for the utility bills and subject to the internal auditor, may retake on the mowing too. Meanwhile the Amenities Committee would put in for the half yearly grant and would refund any payments made by the Parish Council since the start of the financial year in April. The Clerk would liaise with Mr Mark Taylor.

434/16 **Speeding in South Stoke Village** - Councillor McMillan had previously circulated details about possible ways forward to reduce the speeding in South Stoke. In the first instance it was agreed that a survey would be done and agreement was given to fund the project for £300 - £400. Councillor McMillan would continue to seek external funding.

435/16 **Amenities Committee Report**

- The entrance to the Recreation Ground would be closed on Wednesday 7 September for one day only. Notice would be given in the newsletter, and to all nearby residents, and an approach would be made to Councillor Walsh to ask him to keep an eye on the work.
- An inspection of the Recreation Ground equipment had been made. All swings may need replacing in the next couple of years.
- The teak tables would be oiled in the near future.
- The poles of the equipment would be treated under the manufacturers recommendations.
- Rabbit holes continue to be a problem.
- Parking in and around the Recreation Ground is taking place, causing problems for some residents. A key for the gate is held in the shop. Councillor Bertrand would speak to Councillor Walsh about the gate and any insurance issues.
- Heavy strimming would be done before the autumn.

436/16 **The Village Telephone Box** Councillor Bertrand put forward the idea of 'Adopt a kiosk' which a parish can do for £1. Ideas for its use was to house a defibrillator and/or book exchange. An article would be put in the September newsletter asking for the views from the villagers.

437/16 **Cash for Communities** Councillor McMillan had continued to pursue grants for the various works that the Parish Council would like to do. It was agreed that by putting a package together a grant for a minimum of £10,000 could help support the costs towards a bus service, putting in speed limits in the village, marketing funds for the shop, publishing costs for the next questionnaire required for the Neighbourhood Development Order for the village. Councillor McMillan would report back at the next meeting.

438/16 **Action from Previous Meetings**

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

439/16 **Correspondence**

- 1 Email from Peter Clark with the result of the commissioned Grant Thornton Study had been received on 16 August. The report would be discussed at the next meeting.



- 2 Email correspondence re the public waste bins in South Stoke. These had been overlooked during the collection period but had now all been emptied.

440/16

Date and time of the next meeting:

Tuesday 20 September 2016, at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Minute item	Item	Action/Progress	Action by	Completed or review date	Status
13-10 8.3	Road maintenance issues	<p>The grips on the Woodcote Rd, the ditch on Ferry Rd, and replace the small piece of missing fence between Low Wood. & The Old Vicarage.</p> <p>The ditch at Cross Keys Road needs to have all the undergrowth and overhanging vegetation cleared, but it was agreed that this should wait until after the annual OCC verge clearance - scheduled for early July - had taken place. When this was done, Cllr Bertrand to ask Graham Ambler to undertake any further clearance necessary.</p> <p>The OCC Highways representative had not turned up for the meeting on 20 June and therefore it will be rearranged.</p> <p>The meeting with OCC Highways representative – Gordon Hunt - had finally taken place and it had been agreed, once again, that OCC would undertake the above three long outstanding items. RMc to confirm to OCC in writing - once again!</p> <p>Councillor McMillan circulated a draft agreement from OCC Highways re the parish taking on various highways functions. To be discussed on 18 August.</p> <p>Cllrs Bertrand & Urbick to approach alternative contractors, and Cllr Walsh to be asked to investigate the possibility of the PC's insurance policy carrying the extra £5M cover for any contractor whose own policy was only £5M.</p> <p>Meanwhile pending a resolution of this, RMc advised that the OCC annual verge cutting for South Stoke is now apparently scheduled for the month of Sept.</p>	<p>CB & RMc</p> <p>CB</p> <p>RMc</p> <p>RMc</p> <p>CB, BU & MW</p>	<p>June 2016</p> <p>Aug 2016</p> <p>Jul 2016</p> <p>Aug 2016</p> <p>Sept 2016</p>	<p>Open</p> <p>Open</p> <p>Open</p> <p>Open</p> <p>Open</p>
8.5	Village Website	Training to be given in updating website	BU	Sept 2016	Open
221/15	134 Bus Wallingford to Goring via The Stokes	<p>RMc reported that from 21st July the local bus service would lose its OCC subsidy, but that Messrs Go Ride CIC would then operate a reduced hours trial commercial service between approx 8.15am – 3.00pm, hourly in each direction. This would be on a trial basis. Fares would have to be increased to £4 - £5. Bus passes would continue to be accepted. Obviously if passenger numbers declined there would be a real possibility of Go Ride discontinuing the route.</p> <p>Messrs Go Ride had recently indicated that they were now considering ceasing operations on this and other routes at end November.</p> <p>Investigations would continue to take place to see if there is a possibility of running an in house service in conjunction with other parishes.</p> <p>RMc said that he would be meeting on 5th Sept with OCC to discuss the Comet project - the use of OCC</p>			



		<p>mini-buses that are not in use between 10 am and 3pm each Monday to Friday – apparently 2 of these vehicles are based at OCC’s Wallingford depot.</p> <p>RMc also advised that Barton Village has been successful in financing and setting-up a timetabled community mini-bus service using volunteer drivers. RMc hoped to find out more about how this had been achieved.</p>	RMc	Sept 2016	Open
182/15	Parish Plan Refresh (PPR)	<p><i>High Priority:</i></p> <p>Housing Development Project (HDP) Cllr McMillan</p> <p>The Diocese and their planning consultants would now hold further discussions with the Group, and had suggested that they might be able to provide both financial and technical support to help the Parish put together a Neighbourhood Development Order or similar.</p> <p>The next Group meeting with the Diocese & their planning consultants is scheduled for 4th May.</p> <p>RMc had met with Gail Wooton to seek joint meeting with SODC planning on 25 May 2016. Several officers from SODC Planning would be attending to discuss the possibility of the Group and the Diocese jointly producing a Neighbourhood Development Order for the Glebe Field. Pre-planning for an outline plan would be paid for by the Diocese.</p>			
215/15		<p>RMc reported that the Diocese had agreed to pay for their Planning consultants' time in terms of working towards the Drawing-up of an outline layout design and the completion of a draft NDO.</p> <p>RMc also confirmed that the Diocese had stated that they/the Diocese were not seeking any pecuniary windfall, as a result of any future housing development in this field.</p> <p>Mtg with AS, RMc and Ian Haslam to be set up.</p> <p>A group Mtg would take place on 1st September. A plan for a second Parish-wide questionnaire with greater details to lead into a Neighbourhood Development Order or a Neighbourhood Plan – now that Christ Church had come on the scene, seeking the PC’s re-action to the development of potentially up to 3 sites in and around the village.</p>	RMc	June 2016	Open
		<p>Permanent Village Shop Premises Cllr Urbick</p> <p>See minute 350/16</p> <p>The group are making grant enquiries, no negative Comments have been received about the proposed plans. The plan was being held for six weeks until a decision has been taken about the future of the Village Hall. RMc & AS had meet with Geoff Ward. The shop group were not keen on a joint venture. The main options</p>	BU	July 16	Open



		were to keep the Village Hall going or combine with the Shop Project (SP) Group to plan a joint new shop and a new Hall on the Rec. AS to arrange a joint meeting between Representatives of the VH Development Group and the SP Group.	AS	August 2016	Open
		New or remodelled Village Hall Project (VHP) Cllr Scri			
		A structural survey report on the Hall is awaited RMc will chase the report. Report now received	RMc	August 2016	Closed
		SODC offering money for Village Halls. See item above.			
		Meeting due to take place week commencing 22 August 2016.	RMc & AS	Sept 2016	Open
		Network Rail & Electrification infrastructure Cllr Urbick			
		Network Rail public consultation on possible alternative designs and a subsequent possible retrofit now due in the sur	BU	August 2016	Open
		The Design Review Panel had received 70/80 designs which Had been reduced to 3 -4 for consultation in September. RAG still committed to pursuing legal claim.			
		The railway line should now be treated as electrified at all times and that from 27 June testing would be taking place. A further meeting with RAG is planned for 14 July. Meeting held on 11 July and designs looking possible. Legal fires still burning and there may not be an Answer until December 2016/February 2017	BU	Sept 2016	Open
		Better Road Safety Cllr Walsh			
		Cllr Walsh reported that speed monitoring equipment could possibly be loaned FOC and a survey done in-house.			
		See minute 434/16 re speed limits	MW	Sept 2016	Open
		<i>Lower Priority:</i> as some villagers had expressed an Interest			
		Safe Cycle Route to Little Stoke Cllr McMillan Meeting with one of the landowners scheduled for the Summer	RMc & BU	Aug 2016	Open
211/15	SS School Playground	See minutes of 8 December 2015 See minute 365/16 See comment at start of minutes May 2016 See minute 403/16 6.1 AS had reported before leaving on holiday that he had			



		Spoken with R Cramp and the application will go before The planning committee which may not be for another Two months. See minutes 426/16 and 431/16	BU	Aug 2016	Closed
251/15	Parish verges	A meeting had taken place on 23 November with Cllrs McMillan & Bertrand and an OCC officer. Further information will be forwarded - when received - from OCC Highways for consideration by the Parish Council. Keith Stenning of OCC Highways had advised that the PC would be offered a contract and supporting grant of approx' £800 + PA if it agreed to cut the verges within the village's 30 MPH zone A quotation would be sought from Graham Ambler, and OCC's contract would be scrutinised for all requirements and related insurance conditions. Final decision to be made at the August PC mtg. MW to be asked to check as to whether the £10M indemnity required by OCC is viable	CB & RMc All MW	July 2016 Aug 2016 Sept 2016	Open Open Open
329/15	Queen's Birthday Celebrations 12 June 2016	Clerk to do a P&L for August meeting.	SG	Aug 2016	Closed
333/15	Parish Tree Management	The number and location of trees on public land to be identified. RMc to map trees – on going	CB RMc	Feb 2016 Aug 2016	Open Open
377/16	Rec Lane Traffic Calming Measures	Dan Hazel could repair road to include sleeping policeman: 2 x full width and 2 x half widths and added curbstones. Dan Hazell and two others were considered and it was agreed to accept Dan Hazell's quotation which was most favourable and proceed with the work. RMc to look into the possibility of grant assistance for this work. Work would take place on 7 September and information to be relayed to local residents and via the newsletter.	CB RMc CB	Aug 2016 Aug 2016 Sept 2016	Closed Open Open
407/16	The Park	Plans and updates to be discussed fuller in September 2016 RMc had contacted OCC Highways and they had agreed to that it would be possible to lay in an access driveway from the Ferry Rd end of the Park. It was agreed to accept the charge of £45 for a formal Statement from SODC Planning, in writing, confirming that the installation of 2 hard tennis courts, would not need formal planning permission and would be sanctioned under "Permitted Development" rights. RMc to request written confirmation from SODC. A request had been made to SODC for written confirmation of "permitted development" and the £45 cost was accepted. JV to ensure details about tennis courts etc are Circulated prior to the meeting in September.	All RMc JV	Sept 2016 Aug 2016 Sept 2016	Open Open Open



406/16	Village Footpaths	It was agreed that CB would review the official status of footpaths in and around the village, and report back to the PC CB had identified the Bier Path, the footpath to the riverbank and the path across the Glebe Field as not being shown as Public Footpaths by OCC, and he would take this matter up with the County Council.	CB CB	Aug 2016 Sept 2016	Closed Open
408/16	Devolving Powers	Further discussions to take place once all Councillors have attended the workshop.	All	Aug 2016	Closed
437/16	Cash for Communities/ Grants	RMc to investigate grants to cover various items as per the minute and report back at the September meeting.	RMc	Sept 2016	Open
436/16	Telephone Kiosk	CB to investigate further use and article in the newsletter inviting villagers to comment.	CB	Oct 2016	Open