



**Minutes of a Virtual Meeting of the South Stoke Parish Council  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020 at 7:30pm**

**Public Session**

None

**Members Present:**

Chairman Cllr Bryan Urbick (BU)  
Members Cllr Philip White (PWh)  
Cllr Diana Hathaway (DH)  
Cllr Victor Meyer (VM)  
Cllr Philip Wortley (PWo)  
Cllr Andrew Scrivener (AS)

**Officers Present:**

Clerk Laura White (LW)

**Public and Press:** Cllr M Filipova-Rivers (MFR) + 1 MoP

**Meeting started 19:37**

**PC.20.06.1. To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given. (LGA 1972 s85(1))**

None

**PC.20.06.2. Declarations of Interests (LA 2011 s31)**

None

**PC.20.06.3. Chairman's Announcements**

None

**PC.20.06.4. To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of meetings. (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))**

**PC.20.06.4.1. 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

**Resolved:** Approved, unanimous.

**PC.20.06.4.2. 04<sup>th</sup> May 2020, the reconvened meeting of the 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

**Resolved:** Approved, unanimous.

**PC.20.06.4.3. 04<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

**Resolved:** Approved, unanimous.

**PC.20.06.4.4. To review progress on actions from previous Parish Council meetings and agree and revision of actions on the action list.**

See Actions List

**PC.20.06.4.5. Matters arising, not elsewhere on the agenda.**

None

**PC.20.06.5. Planning**

To Note Decided Applications

**PC.20.06.5.1. Planning Application P19/S4364/FUL – The Old Vicarage, The Street, GRANTED**

Noted

**PC.20.06.5.2. Delegate SSPC response to dog day care licence application to the Clerk in consultation with councillors.**

SODC has confirmed there will only be 6 dogs allowed on the licence. If noise is heard which is not acceptable, a sound monitor will be installed, and then the licence can be reviewed. The issue of the dogs potentially being dropped and picked up from the pub was raised, but it was highlighted at the planning committee could only discuss items in relation to the red box area of the planning map. Concerns were raised about a large amount of traffic still coming to the village, but now being dropped off and picked up at the Perch and Pike instead.

It was raised that a number of the points raised by the council and the residents were not discussed sufficiently at the committee, but acknowledged that some of them related to items outside the scope of the planning committee.

**PC.20.06.6. To receive reports from the representatives of Oxfordshire County Council and South Oxfordshire District Council****PC.20.06.6.1. County Report from Cllr K Bulmer**

No further comments or questions on the report.

**PC.20.06.6.2. District Report from Cllr M Filipova-Rivers**

Comments in addition to the report:

**Q:** The Oxfordshire – Cambridge expressway, is this still being considered?

**Response:** This was side-lined before the election, and unlikely to come back in its original form, although may come back in a modified form. The expressway is considered an important item to help with economy recovery post-Brexit and post-COVID19.

SODC currently opposed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading bridge, concerns being there is no funding to improve the roads on the Oxfordshire side. Everyone is encouraged to respond to the consultation individually.

**Q:** Planning Letter: concerns were raised it was a negative step, and how will it be reviewed in six months? The changes have come in as an emergency step, but it seems as though significant change are being made to planning policy under the guise of COVID-19.

**Response:** even before COVID-19 there were consultations being done to adjust the process (to come in line with Vale of White Horse) as so many applications were being called in to planning, resulting in not meeting the statutory timescales for responding to planning applications, and risk of costly appeals. Going forward Ward Councillors and Parish Councils will be having earlier conversations, and if there is at least 1 **material planning concern** then the applications will still be called in as before.

**Motion:** To request a new planning process consultation with the parishes prior to there being any permanent change to the planning process. As part of any update to the planning process to ask



the at the officers reports are provided prior to engaging with the Parish so that the parish understands where the planning officer is coming from to make an informed decision. **[Action MFR]**

**Resolved:** Approved, Unanimous as per motion.

**PC.20.06.7. To receive items of correspondence and agree actions arising - None**

**PC.20.06.8. Rights of Way Project**

**PC.20.06.8.1. To receive update on activities.**

Verbal report: Clerk has all the 57 affidavits for Route 4, with a draft of the other forms which have to go with the application. Clerk to review all forms and submit the application.

It was highlighted that on social media people are complaining that SSPC are “creating *new* rights of way”, SSPC are actually formalising what is, in common law, already happening. SSPC are only submitting applications with evidence, and there is no requirement to submit negatives affidavits, respondents have opportunity to do that later in the application process

**PC.20.06.8.2. To review application for route 4.**

Clerk to copy affidavits and confirm all parts of the application have been completed correctly and to submit.

**PC.20.06.8.3. To consider application for an additional Route, “Route 6”**

**Proposal:** To add route 6 to the list of RoWs being applied for.

**Resolved:** Approved by majority.

**PC.20.06.8.4. To consider declaring the area at the end of Route 1, known as the “Old Swimming Pool” as Community Common Land.**

AS and PWO to take action to investigate this item further. Subject to discussions with ChCh the area at the end of Route 1 will be declared to be Community Common land – to note this is a separate item to the RoW activities.

**PC.20.06.9. The Park**

**PC.20.06.9.1. To consider renting an additional portion of The Park to residents of South Stoke on a rolling 1 month contract.**

Approved in principle subject to confirmation from the solicitor the land would not fall under a right to buy clause or similar, however the tenant to pay the legal costs. Must also confirm how to protect the rights to access around the perimeter of the village hall, and change the perimeter of the rented plot to be rectangular, to ensure the access to the rear of the hall is not overly narrowed.

Action VM & LW to discuss with solicitor re: expected costs

Action PWO: to discuss with potential tenant regarding the approach.

**Resolved:** Approved, unanimous.

**PC.20.06.10. Amenities Charity, to receive an update on activities.**

No current news, tentative discussions regarding how to re-open the building.



**PC.20.06.11. South Stoke Newsletter (LGA 1972 s142)**

**PC.20.06.11.1. To review the situation with Newsletter and consider alternative options including any financing.**

There have been no volunteers to take over, and no edition since March due to lack of content. Goring Gap News (GGN) being delivered to South Stoke due to delivery by Royal Mail during COVID19. GGN board has approved bringing in SS permanently. BU is unable to continue dedicating the time to the role of Editor.

Thanks were offered to BU for his efforts to date keeping the newsletter going.

It was confirmed that a member of South Stoke would need to be on the Editorial Team and the GGN Charity. South Stoke would need to arrange its own delivery / distribution.

Concerns were raised about losing the small village part of South Stoke having its own newsletter.

**Resolved:** Extra Ordinary meeting Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020 to decide on the future of the Newsletter.

**PC.20.06.11.2. To consider obligations to current advertisers and agree actions.**

Differed to 24<sup>th</sup> June Meeting.

**PC.20.06.12. Slipway**

**PC.20.06.12.1. Consider the condition of the slipway and agree actions arising.**

PWh gave narrative on the condition and construction type of the current slipway. Consideration to be given as to whether to use the current wooden posts, or replace with concrete posts.

Will require a licence from the Environment agency to do the work which could cost circa £1500.

**Resolved:** To not pursue the work at this time, unanimous

**PC.20.06.13. Finance**

**PC.20.06.13.1. To approve finalised payment schedule for May 2020, and note receipts.**

**Resolved:** Payments Approved, Receipts Noted, unanimous.

**PC.20.06.13.2. To approve payment schedule for June 2020**

**Resolved:** Payments Approved, unanimous.

**PC.20.06.13.3. To note the reconciled bank account and reserves balances as at 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020**

**Resolved:** Note, unanimous

**PC.20.06.13.4. To review status of CIL demands.**

None

**PC.20.06.14. Matters for future discussion.**

None

**PC.20.06.15. Confidential Business - To consider and, if thought fit, approve the following motion: In view of the confidential nature of the business about to transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be temporarily excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw.**

**Resolved:** Approved, unanimous.

**PC.20.06.16. To consider RoW matters and engagement of solicitor.**

To get cost quote and approval by e-mail (4-off councillors to confirm) to proceed.

**PC.20.06.17. To confirm the time and date of the next meeting: Virtual Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020.**

Meeting to be held Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

**Meeting Closed: 21:58**