

STADHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 5th January, 2016

Clerk: Paul Isaacs, 11 Thame Road, Great Milton, Oxon., OX44 7HY

Attendees	Cllr. Alaric Smith (Chair) (AS), Cllr. Sarah Madry (SM), Cllr. Colin Keyser (CK), Paul Isaacs (Clerk), Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale (LLG) (OCC) and 24 members of the public. After item 118/15 - Cllr. Tony Brandon, Cllr. Mike Stevenson-Smith.
Apologies	Cllr. Ann Stead (AES), Cllr. Stephen Harrod (SH) (SODC), outgoing Cllr. May.

Ref	Item	Notes	Action
001/16	Welcome	The Chair, Alaric Smith, welcomed those in attendance.	For info.
002/16	Parish Council Vacancies	<p>The Chair announced that Cllr. Michael May had tendered his resignation with immediate effect and that TWO councillor posts were vacant. For this reason both Mike Stevenson-Smith and Tony Brandon, who had put themselves forward for election, were duly elected unopposed onto the PC.</p> <p>Mike Stevenson-Smith - proposed Cllr. SM, seconded by Cllr. CK. Anthony Brandon - proposed Cllr. AS, seconded by Cllr. SM. Both new councillors were welcomed by the Chair.</p> <p>The Clerk to notify SODC Democratic Services and to arrange a 'welcome' meeting to be held at the end of the month (when AES returns from France) to bring the new councillors up to speed.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Mick May for his unstinting service to the Parish Council and to the Stadhampton community over many years, a number of them as Chair. Mick conscientiously carried out his responsibilities with sound judgement and good humour and even worked diligently through a period of ill health. The Clerk to relay the heartfelt thanks of the PC to Mick and his family.</p>	<p>For info.</p> <p>Approved Approved</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>AS</p> <p>Clerk</p>
003/16	Declarations of Interest	The Clerk reminded all present that Councillors have a duty to declare all personal interests prior to the discussion of a subject at PC meetings so as not to contravene good governance. Councillors declaring an interest are not able to contribute to the discussion of that subject and may be requested to vacate the room for that section at the discretion of the Chair.	Clerk / For info.
004/16	Minutes of last meeting	The minutes of the Ordinary meeting held on 3/11/15 were considered. A minor amendment to section 103/15 was made - 'Newington Nurseries' was amended to 'Newington Nurseries Ltd'. The amended minutes for 3/11/15 were then confirmed, approved and signed by the Chair.	<p>For info.</p> <p>Approved</p>
005/16	Matters Arising	<u>Newington Garden Centre</u> - the Chair reported that SPC has received a letter from solicitors acting for Steven and Ann Hendry, relating to their allegation of defamation, and making an offer under Part 36 of the Civil Procedures Rules 1998 of settlement. The offer was on the basis that SPC pays a sum of £10,000 to Mr. and Mrs. Hendry plus their costs, which in our estimation will now amount to a sum higher than £10,000. Having discussed the matter, SPC has instructed its solicitors to reject this offer on the basis that the claim is, in the Council's view, without merit, and that such a sum would effectively wipe out the Council's reserves. In the Council's view, there is therefore nothing to be gained in agreeing to such a settlement.	AS For info.

010/16	Village Green & Playground	<p><u>Play area</u> - SM reported that the area has been raked and is being regularly inspected.</p> <p><u>Travellers</u> - SM will raise the potential issue of travellers arriving on the Green in the summer at the next Neighbourhood Action Group meeting being held in February.</p> <p>Following this, the Clerk will organise a meeting to be attended by Peter Gammond (OCC Travellers Liaison officer), Cllr. LLG, the local police and representatives from SPC.</p>	<p>SM For info.</p> <p>SM For info.</p> <p>Clerk</p>
011/16	Footpaths and Transport	<p>It was reported that the recent winds have caused debris from the Willow by the bus stop to be scattered over the pavement leaving it slippery and dangerous. SM to arrange for it to be swept.</p> <p>CK to attend the next 5 Parishes Bus meeting. The date has yet to be confirmed as Cllr. Turner is currently in New Zealand.</p>	<p>For info.</p> <p>SM</p> <p>CK</p>
012/16	Village Hall at St. John's	No report was forwarded.	For info.
013/16	Consultations	<p><u>Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme</u> - five public consultation events are to be held as an opportunity to view and comment on the various routing options that have been developed.</p> <p><u>Minerals and Waste Strategy</u> - awaiting decisions that will be made at the public examination later in January to consider the latest OCC Minerals and Waste pre-submission plan.</p> <p><u>Household Waste Recycling Centres</u> - it was noted that OCC have deferred a decision following overwhelming opposition to their proposals to reduce the number of recycling centres from 7 to 3 and to reduce opening hours.</p>	<p>For info.</p> <p>For info.</p> <p>For info.</p>
014/16	Financial Update	<p>No cheques were authorised for payment as two signatories were not present. At 5/1/16 the SPC current account stood at £26,778.37.</p> <p>A recommendation regarding the 2016/17 precept will be made at a councillors meeting to be held later in January.</p>	<p>For info.</p> <p>For info.</p>
015/16	Correspondence	<p><u>Thames Valley Police</u> - during November & December 2015 TVP received 19 calls from the Stadhampton area - 4 x suspicious activity, 5 x traffic, 1 x property, 3 x welfare check, 1 x dumped dead horse, 5 x misc. There were 12 reported crimes - 4 x Bilkings (fuel theft), 1 x theft from motor vehicle, 7 x miscellaneous.</p> <p>The next HAVE YOUR SAY meeting is to be held on Tuesday 16th February, 2016, 2.30pm - 3.30pm on the Green at St. John's.</p> <p><u>High Sheriff Awards</u> - notification that applications are invited by 15/1/16 for nominations to recognise people in Oxfordshire who have made outstanding contributions to the communities in which they live and work.</p>	<p>For info.</p> <p>For info.</p>
016/16	Open Forum	Roadside Pond - quotes to rectify the roadside pond now heavily infested with parrot feather weed will be considered once received as will a decision regarding the next step to be made.	For info.
017/16	Any Other Business	Cllr. AS announced that Mick May had received a much deserved OBE in the New Year's Honours list.	For info.
018/16	Next Meetings	<p>Tuesdays March 1st, May 3rd (Annual Parish Meeting & AGM), July 5th, September 6th and November 1st, 2016</p> <p>All meetings, 8pm at the St. John's Church Village Hall</p>	For info.