

# STADHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and AGM held on Tuesday 12th May, 2015

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

<b>Attendees</b>	Cllr. Michael May (Chair) (MM), Cllr. Elizabeth Eales (LE), Cllr. Alaric Smith (AS), Paul Isaacs (Clerk) (PI), Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale (OCC) (LLG), and 16 members of the public.
<b>Apologies</b>	Cllr. Melissa Parkes, Cllr. Pete Smith, Cllr. Lesley Shaw.

Ref	Item	Notes	Action
040/15	<b>Welcome and the co-option of New Councillors</b>	<p>The Chair, Michael May, welcomed the attended audience and introduced the AGM.</p> <p>MM noted that the Stadhampton &amp; Chiselhampton parish elections scheduled for Thursday 7th May, 2015 did not have to formally be held as the nominations forwarded did not exceed the available councillor posts.</p> <p>Elizabeth Eales, Pete Smith and Lesley Shaw decided not to stand for re-election and Cllrs. Michael May, Alaric Smith and Melissa Parkes were re-elected unopposed.</p> <p>MM thanked Liz, Pete and Lesley for their hard work on behalf of the community and of the Parish Council.</p> <p>MM stated that the importance of filling the three vacant positions as soon as possible as the SPC constitution dictates that a quorum of three councillors are required to be present for decisions at a PC meeting to be valid.</p> <p>Cllr. Parkes was unable to be present but as councillors officially stand down at the <u>end</u> of the AGM, Liz Eales was present to co-opt new councillors to the vacant positions.</p> <p>It was reported that the Clerk had received an expression of interest from one resident who was unable to attend the AGM. It was explained that co-options cannot be made if the nominee is not present at the meeting.</p> <p>MM asked for volunteers to put themselves forward for co-option and three expressions of interest were heard enabling the three councillor vacancies to be filled as follows:-</p> <p>Ann Stead - Mapledown, Thame Road, Stadhampton, OX44 7TX Proposed by LE, seconded by AS. Unanimously approved.</p> <p>Sarah Madry - Brompton House, School Lane, OX44 7TR. Proposed by AS, seconded by MM. Unanimously approved.</p> <p>Colin Keyser - 12 The Close, Stadhampton, OX44 7TS. Proposed by LE, seconded by MM. Unanimously approved.</p> <p>The Clerk to send the required forms (Acceptance of Office, Register of Interests) and induction information to the new councillors. It was noted that ALL councillors have to submit a new Reigister of Interests form to SODC by June 8th.</p>	<p><b>MM</b></p> <p><b>For info.</b></p> <p><b>For info.</b></p> <p><b>MM</b></p> <p><b>For info.</b></p> <p><b>For Info.</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>MM</b> <b>For info.</b></p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>Decision</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>
041/15	<b>Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and AGM, 6/5/14</b>	It was noted that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, AGM and Ordinary meeting held on 6/5/14 were confirmed, approved and signed by the Chair at the meeting held on 1/7/14. Matters arising were dealt with at the 1/7/14 meeting.	<b>For info.</b>

042/15	<b>Report by the Chair</b>	<p>MM commented that he would be standing down as Chair but that he was extremely proud of chairing many well attended meetings throughout 2014/15 motivated in the main by the village uniting in an impassioned way about issues such as the clay shoots at the Crazy Bear and the proposed 65 unit housing development along Newington Road. MM also made particular note of:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the growing impact of County Council financial cuts that continue to erode local bus services, road repairs etc;</li> <li>• the continued threat of gravel extraction in the area;</li> <li>• another highly successful fireworks event;</li> <li>• the completion of the Village Hall car park project;</li> <li>• the continued success of the Village Hall at St. John's;</li> <li>• improvements made to many aspects of village life including the play area;</li> <li>• another highly successful fireworks event; and</li> <li>• the completion of the Parish Plan by the Community Plan Steering Group which had a questionnaire return rate of over 80% and is a real reflection of a village that has a sense of unity and cares about itself.</li> </ul> <p>MM thanked all of the Councillors for their ongoing support and, in particular, Liz Eales for her enthusiastic work as Vice-Chair. MM also thanked the Clerk for keeping everything in order.</p>	<p><b>MM</b> <b>For info.</b></p> <p><b>Thanks</b></p>								
043/15	<b>2014/15 Financial Report</b>	<p>The Clerk, as Responsible Financial Officer for SPC, presented a summary of the accounts for 2014/15 as follows:-</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 40%;">Balance @ 1/4/14</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£43,278.69</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£19,512.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Expenditure</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£34,647.76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance @ 1/4/15</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£28,143.69</td> </tr> </table> <p>It was reported that SPC has not increased the parish precept for the past five years due to good financial management and strong governance. During 2014/15 SPC received income excluding VAT reclaims totalling £16,512.76. SPC once again kept within this budget with revenue expenditure of £15,943.40. This expenditure included investment of over £1,400 in maintaining and improving the play area. The main item of capital expenditure in 2014/15 was £18,704.36 to fund the Village Hall car-parking project. This means that SPC has approved over £32,000 worth of capital expenditure to support the local community over a two year period.</p> <p>The 2014/15 summary accounts were approved and adopted. Proposed by LE and seconded by AS.</p> <p>It was noted that no changes to the Parish Council's financial governance and standing orders are required by legislation and that the accounts will go to internal audit prior to submission to BDO LLP, the external auditors.</p> <p>The budget setting meeting for 2016/17 will be held in December 2015 so that an early decision can be made regarding the precept.</p>	Balance @ 1/4/14	£43,278.69	Income	£19,512.76	Expenditure	£34,647.76	Balance @ 1/4/15	£28,143.69	<p><b>For info.</b></p> <p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>For info.</b></p> <p><b>For info.</b></p>
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044/15	<b>PAGE report (Parishes Against Gravel Extraction)</b>	<p>Margot Metcalfe, Chair of PAGE, made note of the threat of gravel extraction that still exists now that the County Council have backed on the decision that they reached in November 2013. OCC are now recommending a staggering 42% increase in sand and gravel extraction levels for Oxfordshire up to 2031 and have identified 2270 hectares in South Oxfordshire (including Stadhampton) as 'areas of search'. PAGE continues to lobby strongly, is totally committed to carry on the fight and is grateful to SPC for our continued support towards campaign expenditure.</p>	<b>For Info.</b>								

045/15	<b>Report from Oxfordshire County Council (OCC)</b>	<p>Cllr. Lorraine Lindsay Gale (LLG) reported on a very busy and financially challenging 2014/15 and highlighted the following areas:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2015/16 Annual Budget;</li> <li>• The Strategic Economic Plan &amp; Growth Deal;</li> <li>• The new tri-county council alliance to bolster growth;</li> <li>• Connecting Oxfordshire - Local Transport Plan 4;</li> <li>• The new flood risk management strategy;</li> <li>• The many road projects in the area including improvements to Kennington and Hinksey Hill roundabouts and to the A34 Milton Interchange;</li> <li>• £12.9m to improve street lighting and road drainage;</li> <li>• Oxford Aspires, the innovative Wireless Electric Bus project;</li> <li>• The Minerals and Waste Core Strategy that will now go before an Inspector at an examination in public;</li> <li>• The ongoing threat to the Green Belt at Grenoble Road where the City want to build 4,000 houses;</li> <li>• The Oxfordshire Strategy for Culture, Heritage and Tourism ;</li> <li>• Changes to the library and mobile library services;</li> <li>• The expansion of social care services in Oxfordshire;</li> <li>• The Thriving Families initiative; and</li> <li>• The Serious Case Review into Child Sexual Exploitation.</li> </ul> <p>MM questioned LLG regarding the County Council's ineffectual response to the arrival of travellers on the Green. MM commented that he was disappointed that the OCC Travellers Liaison officer seemed to be either powerless or unwilling to move them on and that the rights of the travellers seemed to be more important than the rights of Stadhampton residents.</p>	<p><b>LLG</b> <b>For info.</b></p> <p><b>MM</b></p>
046/15	<b>South Oxford District Council (SODC)</b>	<p>It was reported that our new SODC councillor (elected on 7/5/15) is Cllr. Stephen Harrod. The Clerk to contact Stephen congratulating him for his election win and notifying him of the remaining SPC 2015 meetings so that he can attend.</p>	<p><b>For info.</b> <b>Clerk</b></p>
047/15	<b>Village Hall at St. Johns</b>	<p>Ann Stead presented a written report and was pleased with the first 18 months of successful operation. The working relationship with the church continues to be good, fundraising activities and "good nights out" have been well supported and grant applications continue to be submitted as the committee works towards raising funds for the masonry, the windows, guttering and drainage. As well as lots of bookings for parties, meetings and concerts the hall is being well used for Pilates three times per week, a weekly Parent and Toddler Group, a Lunch Group, the Women's Institute, a Book Club and a Youth Club. New groups starting shortly will include a Gardening Club and a Film Club.</p> <p>On behalf of the Parish Council, MM congratulated the Village Hall committee for their excellent work and achievements to date.</p>	<p><b>AS</b> <b>For info.</b></p> <p><b>MM</b></p>
048/15	<b>Fireworks Committee Report</b>	<p>Sue White was unable to attend the meeting but forwarded a written report from the Fireworks Committee highlighting a very successful 2014 event. The site was completely roped off until the day itself to prevent fly-tipping and two large banners donated by the Parish Council reinforced this decision. The bonfire was still very good though with local businesses bringing wood on the day itself.</p> <p>Total income including the bucket collection, sale of refreshments and toys was in excess of £2,000, a fantastic result. Thanks were expressed to Cllr. Pete Smith for being the SPC representative on the committee.</p>	<p><b>SW</b> <b>For info.</b></p> <p><b>PS</b></p>

049/15	<b>Community Plan Report</b>	<p>Cllr. Liz Eales, the SPC representative on the Community Plan Steering Group, reported that the long and difficult process of producing a Community Plan had been completed. The data gathered from the questionnaires is being processed with help from SODC. The return rate for the questionnaires was over 80% which is a fantastic response rate and testament to the hard work of many volunteers and local residents.</p> <p>On behalf of the Parish Council, MM again congratulated the Community Plan Steering Group for their excellent work to date.</p>	<p><b>LE</b></p> <p><b>MM</b></p>
050/15	<b>Open Forum</b>	<p>A question was raised about the noise in the meeting hall caused by the fridge and freezer. Sarah Madry will speak to the school.</p>	<b>For info.</b>
051/15	<b>Election of Officers</b>	<p>The Clerk took over for the election of the Chair.</p> <p>Alaric Smith agreed to stand as Chair. Proposed by MM, seconded by LE. Unanimous.</p> <p>AS expressed his great thanks to MM for his sterling work as Chair and thanked him for agreeing to stay on as a Parish Councillor. MM has guided the Parish Council through a number of difficult issues over recent years and his contribution has been immense.</p> <p>It was agreed to appoint a Vice-Chair at the July meeting.</p> <p>Confirmation that the Annual Parish Meeting and AGM for 2016 will be held on Tuesday May 3rd, 2016.</p> <p>Chair then closed the 2015 Annual Parish Meeting and AGM and the meeting moved on to normal committee meeting business.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>AS Elected</b></p> <p><b>AS</b></p> <p><b>Decision For Info.</b></p>