

# Old Stratford Parish Council

## MINUTES

### OLD STRATFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

**TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 held at the Memorial Hall Commencing 7.30pm**

#### Present:

Cllrs Mr Ray Smith (in the chair), Mr S Tolley, Mr M Fitch, Mr I Watson, Mrs T Arthur, Mrs N Gibbs, Mrs L Murgatroyd, Mr A Holloway and Cllr Ken Pritchard (WNC Councillor), Cllr R Tolley (from min 1a)

Members of the Public – Stuart Tolley (from min1)

| Item        | Subject   | Action with           | Status  |
|-------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| <b>1</b>    | <b>Apologies for Absence</b><br><br>Cllrs Mr T Pateman (away), Cllr Mr M Kelk (family commitment), Cllr C Carey (family commitment), Cllr Stuart Tolley (By way of resignation)   |                       |   |
| <b>1a</b>   | <b>Co-option of Councillor</b><br><br>Discussed in August meeting that Passenham Resident should be co-opted if possible. Mrs Rosemary Tolley attended and had shown interest in joining the Parish Council and was welcomed  | RT                    | Declaration of Acceptance and Register of Interests to be completed |
| <b>2</b>    | <b>Members Declaration of Interest (for items on the agenda)</b><br><br>None  |                       |   |
| <b>3</b>    | <b>Minutes for approval of the ordinary meeting dated Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2023</b><br><br>Minutes of the meeting dated 8 <sup>th</sup> August 2023 were signed as a true record   | Chair                 | <b>*Signed</b>  |
| <b>4</b>    | <b>Documents To Adopt</b><br><br>None this month  |                       |   |
| <b>5</b>    | <b>Clerks Report</b>  |                       |   |
| <b>5(a)</b> | <b>Playground Inspection reports</b><br>The inspection reports rank the risk of a number of issues identified. Proposal to ensure items risk rated 8 or higher are addressed in the short term. Costs of repair with Wicksteed appear very high – Clerk to investigate more cost effective options. Other items will be looked into for 2024/25 budget. | Clerk to action<br>AH | <b>*Resolved</b><br><br>To find out who DPC use                     |
| <b>5(b)</b> | <b>NCALC Director Vacancy</b><br>Northants CALC has a vacancy for a director – if interested Councillors should apply by 18/09/23   | Clerk                 | Clerk to circulate  |
| <b>5(c)</b> | <b>West Northants Joint Health and Wellbeing</b><br>The proposed West Northamptonshire Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy was circulated. View that it is agreeable, but very generic with no responsibility, budget or timescales stated.   | Clerk                 | Response supporting and look forward to details                     |
| <b>5(d)</b> | <b>OSIB</b><br>Request to buy 20 bags compost from Odells– cost £180ish   |                       | <b>*Resolved</b>  |

Signed as a true record by

|             |   |              |   |
|-------------|---|--------------|---|
| <b>6</b>    | <b>Public Speaking Time</b><br>No member of the public wishing to speak   |              |   |
| <b>7</b>    | <b>WNC Councillors Report</b><br><br>Councillor update newsletter being circulated.<br><br>Local Authority Partnerships (LAPs) – we are in LAP Rural East. Draft strategy to be circulated We now have a co-ordinator for the area.<br><br>Furtho Pit: No update yet received from EA on latest flood attenuation proposals. WNC highways contact being asked how they calculate traffic flow etc.<br><br>Deanshanger housing development proposals: Recommended for refusal. Waiting to see if applicants withdraw or determination / appeal<br><br>Complaint from resident in Passenham re speeding – has been referred to highways to look at traffic calming<br><br>Police, Fire and Crime committee review – questioned regarding the allegations. Stephen Mold will continue to serve. Recommendations to improve made. In the chair until elections.<br><br>Blackhorse field money for the Stony Stratford Health centre – still unclaimed by the NHS trust. WNC cannot hand over before NHS claim.<br><br>Spatial strategy housing development speculation has started by developers - Chantry Gardens, west side of Old Stratford Roundabout (Gallaghers Developments) and on the East side there is a proposal called Furtho Cross. | KP           | Arranging meeting with co-ordinator             |
| <b>8</b>    | <b>Correspondence received since last meeting</b>   |              |   |
| <b>8(a)</b> | <b>Request from Cosgrove Parish Council to consider financial support of Furtho Development Opposition Group (FDOG)</b><br>Clerk advised that OSPC have powers to financially support, but it must be transparent what the money would be spent on and records demonstrating how it has been spent must be submitted to OSPC.<br><br>TP received a direct email approach from FDOG during June 2023. His response sent on 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2023 advised that a grant application would be required. To date, no such application has been made.<br><br>Councillor discussion concluded that any grant application would be considered upon it's merits.  |              |   |
| <b>8(b)</b> | <b>MK City Council</b><br>Advising they will be consulting on a New City Plan soon  |              |   |
| <b>8(c)</b> | <b>Stony Stratford Town Football Club</b><br>Request to replace goalposts on the Derek Everett playing fields and suggesting that Grant Funding may be available for pitch upgrades   | MF and Clerk | Investigating grant funding                     |
| <b>9</b>    | <b>Planning</b>   |              |   |
| <b>9(a)</b> | <b>Applications received</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WNS/2022/1741/EIA at Furtho Pits Old Cosgrove Road<br/>Draft response to latest consultation circulated. Any comments to be received by Clerk by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Sept. Clerk to circulate previous responses for reference</li> <li>2023/6094/PND – BT Openreach Pole on Mounthill Ave<br/>Permitted Development, so no observations</li> </ul>  | All Clerk    | To review<br><br>To collate and submit response |

|              |  |       |  |
|--------------|--|-------|--|
| <b>9(b)</b>  | <b>Decision Notices</b><br>None  |       |  |
| <b>9(c)</b>  | <b>Enforcement / Appeals</b><br>None   |       |  |
| <b>9(d)</b>  | <b>Press Notices</b><br>None   |       |  |
| <b>10</b>    | <b>Finance</b>   |       |  |
| <b>10(a)</b> | <b>To Approve Current State of Finance</b><br><br>Current State of Finance at 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2023<br>Current a/c                      £ 7303.49<br>Business Inst a/c:       £ 42498.28<br>Earmarked Reserves:   £ 40188.95<br><b>Available Capital:       £ 40112.82</b><br><br>Proposed by Cllr R Smith and Seconded by Cllr A Holloway  |       | <b>*Resolved</b>   |
| <b>10(b)</b> | <b>To Approve Accounts for Payment</b><br>(See Table Below – payments totalling £4173.93)<br><br>Proposed by Cllr R Smith and Seconded by Cllr A Holloway  |       | <b>*Resolved</b>   |
| <b>10(c)</b> | <b>To receive External audit report and recommendations</b><br><br>Copy of external audit report circulated prior to meeting. Some procedural anomalies identified, but no issues with financial control. Actions and recommendations noted and report to be formally received by the Council<br><br>Proposed by Cllr L Murgatroyd and Seconded by Cllr N Gibbs  | RFO   | <b>*Resolved</b><br><br>Audit document, reports and a notification of conclusion of audit must be published before 30 <sup>th</sup> September. |
| <b>11</b>    | <b>Streetlighting</b>  |       |  |
|              | Streetlamps needing attention – 10 & 21 Oxfield Park, Hawkwell (adj 8)   |       |  |
|              | Question re Wharf Lane lamppost – overgrown. Who owns?   | Clerk | Investigating  |
|              | Lighting along Old A5 very dim   | Clerk | Investigating  |
| <b>12</b>    | <b>Highways</b>  |       |  |
|              | Response received re width restriction request at Passenham<br><i>It is possible to impose a width restriction to prevent entry to roads physically incapable of accommodating larger vehicles or to protect the environment by preventing unnecessary intrusion by large vehicles. The width restriction would be signed as 6 inches less than an existing physical restriction or a physical restriction would need to be constructed if the limit is being introduced to protect the environment only. As with everything however, a full assessment would be needed to ensure it is the most appropriate measure being taken. I can add this to my list for a bid for funding in the new financial year.</i> |       |  |
|              | Issues raised including, litter along A5, State of footpaths in OS (esp Cosgrove Rd), better entry to OS sign?   | Clerk | Contact Highways   |

Signed as a true record by

|           |   |       |               |
|-----------|---|-------|---------------|
| <b>13</b> | <b>Councillor Questions and Items for Next Agenda,</b><br><br>RT – watering of Tree in Passenham - Bag not being progressed.<br><br>TA – OSIB updates<br><br>MF - Stormwater drain into Ouse and sewage discharge (confirm enforcement – 6 months to comply)<br><br>AH – House on Mounthill Ave overgrown shrubs.<br><br>CC –The Buckingham Arm Canal was joined to the Grand Union Canal for the first time since 1937. The stretch between Cosgrove Bridge 1 and Bridge 2 is now linked and fully watered. Further dredging work and tow path renewal has to be completed and at the moment only construction barges have access.<br>Lecterns - no input from Passenham<br><br>RS – meeting in Cosgrove with chair of Strategic Planning Committee. | Clerk | Investigating |
|-----------|---|-------|---------------|

### Accounts for Payment

| CHQ No | Payee                        | Detail  | Value  |
|--------|------------------------------|---|--------|
| 3884   | N Laurence                   | Clerks July Salary £846.02 + expenses<br>£72.42 | 918.44 |
| DD     | Nest                         | Clerks Pension                                  | 77.8   |
| 3885   | HMRC                         | PAYE  | 228.64 |
| 3886   | E.ON Next                    | Memorial Hall Electricity                       | 27.99  |
| 3887   | E.ON Next                    | Memorial Hall Gas                               | 27.6   |
| 3888   | NJ Blackwell Garden Services | Mowing and OS maintenance                       | 1355.7 |
| 3889   | DNH Contracts                | Dog and litter bin emptying                     | 216    |
| 3890   | CHEQUE SPOILED               | CHEQUE SPOILED                                  | 0      |
| 3891   | Canon UK                     | Copy costs and printer hire                     | 93.98  |
| 3892   | L Peach                      | Memorial Hall Cleaning (plus £60 weeding MH)    | 220    |
| 3893   | Wicksteed Leisure Ltd        | Playground Inspections                          | 356.4  |
| 3894   | Chubb Fire & Security Ltd    | Fire safety inspection & extinguisher mtce      | 71.08  |
| 3895   | PKF Littlejohn LLP           | External Audit                                  | 378    |
| 3896   | Boston Bulb Company Ltd      | Bulbs for OSIB                                  | 202.3  |
|        |                              |   |        |

Date of Next Meeting  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 commencing 7:30pm

Meeting ended at 21:41

Nicky Laurence  
Clerk  
07767 854983 [Clerk@oldstratford.org.uk](mailto:Clerk@oldstratford.org.uk)

Dated: 23 September 2023

Old Stratford website [www.oldstratford.org.uk](http://www.oldstratford.org.uk)

Signed as a true record by