Old Stratford Parish Council

MINUTES - OLD STRATFORD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 12th March 2024 held at the Memorial Hall Commencing 7.30pm

Present:

Cllrs Mr T Pateman (Chairman), Cllrs Mr M Fitch, Mrs N Gibbs, Mr R Smith, Mrs L Murgatroyd, Mr I Watson, Mrs T Arthur. Cllr Ken Pritchard (WNC Councillor). Members of the Public – One

Item	Subject	Action with	Status
1	Apologies for Absence Mrs R Tolley (away), Mr M Kelk (family commitment)		
2	Members Declaration of Interest (for items on the agenda) NG – 5G		
3	Casual vacancies Two casual vacancies - anyone that is interested to send a brief introduction / CV to Clerk		
4	Minutes for approval of the ordinary meeting dated Tuesday 13 th February 2024 Minutes of the meeting dated 13 th February 2024 were signed as a true record	Chair	*Signed
5 5(a)	Clerks Report Local Plan Consultation The Planning Policy team are collecting evidence to inform the new Local Plan. Settlement info circulated to Councillors. Responses required by 2 nd April – Councillors to feedback to Clerk.	Clerk	apply for extension Circulate pdfs
5(b)	D-Day event Beacon – can modify existing topper for just over £100. (£350 for official D-Day version). Councillors to consider if they wish to take part	Clerk	again. Circulate options
5(c)	Litter pick Sun 24/03 09:30-11:30 at the Memorial Hall		
5(d)	Newsletter Printed as agreed in Feb meeting – volunteers to delver		
5(e)	Mowing contract costs Nigel Blackwell has increased costs by less than anticipated and budgeted (average of 4.13%). Comparison of costs attached for reference. Councillors to consider if this still represents best value. Proposer – Tania Arthur, Seconded by Nickie Gibbs, Unanimously agreed this represents best value		Resolved
5(f)	OSIB Request to buy grass seed (about 25lbs) and rose food (3kg at £17.85 Miracle Grow) from Odells. Resolved.		Resolved
	Request that it be minuted that £350 will be recredited to OSIB in April Costs were agreed by the finance committee and approved at the January Meeting within the 24/25 budget and will be allocated to OSIB in the new financial year		
	Councillors noted how nice the display of spring flowers by shop looks-thanks to all OSIB volunteers.		

5(g) F	ramptons footpath request – continuing to seek legal advice	Clerk	Ongoing
	St Guthlacs Wall Reports of damage submitted by Linda Ritson.	Clerk	To seek quotes
6 S	Stony Stratford Football Club pitch hire update Soalposts – 25% costs met by OSPC. Budgeted for – resolved to eplace		Resolved
e	Pitch maintenance – 6 year program with tapered support. OSPC expected to make up shortfall, but no indication of costs. Need to espond back to ask for cost estimate.	Cllr Fitch	Write to request indication of cost
7 P F	Meeting Closed Public Speaking Time Furtho Developmnent Opposition Group have seen the new draft Local Plan. Concerned about how "pro" Furtho warehousing it is and inquired on OSPC response.		
C s	Chair advised it has not come to public consultation yet but OSPC are tarting to form opinions and arguments. Timescale believed to be:		
1 S	2 th March – Cabinet meeting 4 th March– strategic planning committee Sept – full Council. Then public consultation		
Ca	Cllr Pritchard noted that the spatial planning exercise has now changed and removed housing around OS. Focusing on housing in Northampton.		
8 v	Meeting reopened VNC Councillors Report lew Head of Planning – James Roger (Maternity Cover for Stephanie Gibrat)		
N	lo appeal submitted for The Meadows housing proposal yet.		
P	Passenham Lane one way – staff have left so no progress		
H	lousing at Deanshanger – Davidson withdrawn but Catesby continuing		
g	End of fiscal year – WNC will likely overspend by £3.5mln. Green bins oing up and rent increase of 7%		
9 C	Correspondence received since last meeting Some Councillors unable to open documents circulated. Clerk to review		
P	Passenham Quarry Pre application consultation on proposed expansion. Councillors to onsider whether further details or discussions are required in this preonsultation phase. No specific observations raised	Clerk	Write to invite applicant to next meeting
K w d	Kier tree planting project Eier asking local Parishes to nominate areas where small 'pocket voodlands' of up to 10 trees can be planted. The trees would be lonated by Kier for the parishes to plant and maintain OSIB – Any suggestions. TA	Cllr Arthur	Liaise with OSIB
9(c) A a s	Deanshanger PC - footpath streetlighting Approach from Deanshanger PC who advise in 2019 OSPC Approached DPC regarding lighting on path between villages. Are we till interested? No budget in 2024/25 but may be worth working ogether to get costs and explore grants for future budgeting.	Clerk	Contact DPC to discuss further
	Resident request to write to owner of 23B Deanshanger Road regarding veeds and brambles encroaching pavement	Clerk	Write to owner

10	Planning		
10(a)	 Applications received 2023/8074/PA Prior approval for bailey bridge, Land at Ham 		
	Meadow, Passenham. <i>No observations</i>		
	Decision Notices		
	2023/5719/FULL -Change of use at ACE Plant. Approved 2023/6161/FULL – Extension at Swan Pub – Approved		
	Enforcement / Appeals - None Press Notices - None		
11	Finance		
11(a)	To Approve Current State of Finance Current State of Finance at 1st March 2024 Bank Accounts £ 50,979.52 Earmarked Reserves: £ 36037.24 Unpresented cheques £ 150.00 Available Capital: £14,792.28		*Resolved
	(Pending VAT reclaim of £717.47)		
	Proposed by Cllr Fitch and Seconded by Cllr Murgatroyd. Unanimously		
	agreed.		*Resolved
11(b)	To Approve Accounts for Payment (Table Below –totalling £4361.79)		
	Proposed by Cllr Arthur and Seconded by Cllr Watson. Unanimously agreed.		
	To note: Due to recent banking issues, OSPC may look to move bank to Unitary Trust.	Clerk	To research
	Streetlighting Having established the need for streetlamps to be electrically tested every 6 years, requests for costs for these tests and repairs of the lights were emailed to multiple potential suppliers. In current format it is unclear when call out charges may be applied – suggest obtaining specific "shortlisting" quote for outstanding light repairs from 2 new suppliers to compare with existing. Councillors to resolve - to place order for repairs with most cost effective solution (agreed between Clerk and Chair).	Clerk	*Resolved To action
	Suggest getting separate shortlisting quote for electrical testing. To return to Council for approval		
13	Highways		
	Yellow Line Application Following residents request in January for support re:parking on Deanshanger Rd obstructing vision when exiting Willow Grove, highways have advised that the Parish Council have the ability to make an application apply for double yellow lines at this location.	Clerk	
	Councillors discussed and resolved to support a yellow lines application with distance of 10m from junction and extending around the corner.		
	Other issues Dickens drive sign still not repaired – escalated. WNC was simply going to remove. I advised direction of travel	Clerk	Escalate

13 Councillor Updates and Items for Next Agenda

Cllr Smith – Community Hall meeting 27/03 at 7pm – looking for trustees.

Two incidents of drug dealing in the community hall car park. Police aware, but need more information on vehicle reg etc

Cllr Arthur – encouraging local businesses to sponsor OSIB.

Cllr Fitch -Passenham United Charities bereavement grant of £50 to families. Not well publicised. Agreed to promote on social media and newsletter etc

Cllr Gibbs – Residents of OPD thanks for works to path and hedges by the car park. Much improved and feels safer.

Accounts for Payment

CHQ			
No	Payee	Detail	Value
		Clerks March Salary £888.02 + expenses	
3959	N Laurence	£128.57	1016.59
DD	Nest	Clerks Pension	82.35
3960	HMRC	PAYE	241.22
3961	E.ON Next	Memorial Hall elec	169.4
3962	E.ON Next	Memorial Hall Gas	177.27
3963	NJ Blackwell Garden Services	Mowing and OS maintenance	763.2
3964	DNH Contracts	Dog and litter bin emptying (includes payment from cancelled chq 3954)	432
3965	L Peach	Memorial Hall Cleaning	160
3966	JPL Electrical	Memorial Hall electrical repairs for 5 Year safety test	420
3967	Minuteman Press	Newsletters	315
3968	Viking	Ink cartridges, stamps and staples	89.89
3969	Kompan	Wetpour repairs - Chapmans Drive Play area	954.55

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 9th April 2024 commencing 7:30pm