

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 22nd May 2023

Present:

Matthew Judson	(MJ)	Chair
Rachel Arnold	(RA)	Vice Chair
Gill Sellars	(GS)	Councillor
Joe Deane	(JD)	Councillor
Keith Hickson	(KH)	Councillor
Trudi Gasser	(TG)	Parish Clerk

In Attendance:

No Members of the public
Lysette Nicholls (LN) District Councillor

MIN REF	ITEM
23/047	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
	Dan Levy (DL) County Councillor Charlie Maynard (CM) District Councillor
23/048	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
	Gil Sellars is a trustee member of the Village Hall Committee with regards to item 23/038 below the Village Hall Car Park.
23/049	APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 3rd April 2023
	Thanks were expressed to GS for taking the minutes in absence of the Clerk. Minutes had been circulated for comment and were approved for publication.
23/050	MATTERS ARISING
	The Application for the grant for a defibrillator at the Old Guardroom has been submitted.
23/051	QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
	No Member of the Public present.
23/052	REPORT FROM DC/CC COUNCILLORS
	County Council: DL provided a report - see annex. District Council: LN provided a report – see annex.
23/053	PC VACANCY
	Following the resignation of Tony Pentland, there is a vacancy on the PC – the official notice had been posted on the PC Noticeboard, the PC website and it would be mentioned in Village Voice.
23/054	VILLAGE VOICE
	It was confirmed that Helly had taken over the role of Editor – with JD supporting where possible. More deliverers are required, an appeal to be published in the Village Voice.
23/055	PLANNING
	No new applications have been received. A road closure notice for South Leigh in August 2023 had been received Action: TG to publish on PC website.
23/056	VILLAGE HALL
	Nothing to report.
23/057	GUARDROOM
	Guardroom Solar Heating Project is ongoing. The external door needs replacing. MJ to obtain quotes. RA offered to gift a replica clock to the Guardroom – the PC gratefully accepted the offer.

MIN REF	ITEM
23/058	COUNCILLOR RESPONSIBILITIES The Councillor Responsibilities list was updated. MJ A garden waste bin and a refuse bin are required at the cemetery Action: TG to contact WODC and arrange. A dog waste bin is required near the Guardroom Action: MJ to arrange
23/059	ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FEEDBACK The comments raised at the meeting had been circulated. GS suggested the next meeting be held on the same day as a Village Market to encourage attendance. Better advertising to be put in place.
23/060	FINANCE A Finance update was circulated. Action: TG to provide an update every two months.
23/061	CORRESPONDENCE Brize Norton Reception – MJ had received an invitation for a reception on 20 th June – MJ unable to attend and opened the invitation to other members. Green Sludge in Stream/Ditch a report of ‘green sludge’ in the stream/ditch by Burr Close had been received. MJ to respond, advising to contact Environment Agency. Suspicious Vehicles TVP had contacted to PC to see if any reports had been received. Action: TG to notify TVP of any reports. Stocks Concern had been raised regarding the stocks, as the thatched shelter was ‘leaning’ Action: JD to investigate
23/062	ANY OTHER BUSINESS It was asked whether any progress had been made regarding the path to the Cricket Club Action: JD to chase.
23/063	NEXT MEETING: Monday 3 rd July.

Signed

Date

COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Council Update – Dan Levy

County Councillor Report, May 2023 *Stanton Harcourt Parish Council*

A brief report this month. As you will know, there have been elections in many parts of the county for district and town councils, and that necessitated some reduction in activity at the County Council in areas that could be described as political.

Stanton Harcourt did not have elections, because you have two district councillors, each on a 4 year term, and therefore have a “no election” year once every 4 years.

The WODC elections saw the Lib Dems become the largest party on the council, and the administration will continue to comprise an alliance of Lib Dems, Labour and Green. I was re-elected as one of the district councillors for Eynsham.

Clearly activity that is not party political carried on.

Roads and transport.
Potholes

We had a brief window of improved weather, and the County Council’s contractors have been making good progress on filling some of the worst potholes. There is not enough money or manpower to be able to make our roads perfect, but there is an awareness of the importance of this area. I am aware of how bad the holes are in your area, and especially through Sutton, not least because of the unfortunate use of the roads by HGVs.

Botley Road

The closure of the road under the railway has commenced, so that National Rail can rebuild the station. This current closure will end in October this year. The road will then reopen until a second closure between March 24 and October 24. The railway continues to operate, although the line from Oxford to Didcot will be shut until the summer, as the viaduct over the Thames at Nuneham Courtney was found to be cracking. A salutary reminder of the importance of maintaining infrastructure.

So far, the closure of Botley Road has not caused excessive traffic elsewhere. People are choosing not to drive into the city. Stagecoach are running the S9 and an Eynsham-Osney special E1 service to Osney, from where people can walk into the city. The E1 has been rapid because of the lack of traffic on Botley Road. The S1 is running along the A40 and down Woodstock Road, to the station.

The H2 Witney to JR route remains unaltered.

There is pedestrian and bike access under the railway on Botley Road.

A40 Shores Green

The “Access to Witney” Shores Green junction decision was deferred from the April planning committee, as the plans had failed fully to consider the effects of the new junction on South Leigh and other places to the south of the A40, which clearly includes Stanton Harcourt I would expect it to reappear at the summer meeting.

As ever I am always pleased to hear from residents with issues and concerns.

ACTIONS CARRIED FORWARD FROM EARLIER MEETINGS:

	ACTIONS CARRIED FORWARD	
Pre-June	GS – B4449 Reducing the noise and vibration BT OpenReach replaced the wrong manhole cover. The one by 10 Beaumont Green has been recorded as Urgent by both OCC Highways and BT OpenReach	Cfw
CFW from June mtg	21/064 TG to create and circulate a list of current policies (a PC Policy Register) ready for review.	Cfw
CFW from July mtg	21/092 All/PC to continue logging TW complaints with DL/OCC None received – Notice to be put on Village Voice (Hardcopy & Facebook) asking all issues to be sent to Parish Clerk with the Title 'Water Issues' PC will then progress with Thames Water. Action MJ TG to report on issue type statistics at future meetings (standard agenda point)	Cfw
	21/097 S106 MJ to obtain quotes for additional Play Equipment	Cfw
CFW from Nov mtg	JD to look at sensors for electric lights once transferred to the PC	Cfw
	21/122 Public Session Archive in the Guard Room? GS to see if we can install sufficient storage	Cfw
	22/009 Village Hall GS to circulate the original Car Park refurbish plan to the VHC for review for completeness GS to return to Parish Council with quotations for Car Park refurb	Cfw
	22/010 RECREATION AREAS GS to identify whether the VHC would like the equipment moved from the Bury Mead play park to the Leys to provide additional options for the Village Hall long term strategy	Cfw
CFW from June Meeting	22/0269 Welcome Pack JD currently drafting a document	
CFW from April Meeting	23/040 Guardroom MJ to obtain a quote for a replacement door. MJ to ensure the guttering at the front of the building fixed. JD to fix the picture and re hang. JD to produce a draft S106 submission for Guardroom Solar Heater for the next meeting. GS to continue to try to resolve the lighting issue, to enable the lights to be dimmable.	
	23/041 Councillor Responsibilities KH to arrange a training session with Dragon IT on Google workspace to enable all members of the PC to view bookings, etc KH to arrange for Dragon It to install the defined file store	