

# STANTON HARCOURT PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016 in the Village Hall

<b>Present:</b>	Charles Mathew	(CM)	Chairman
	Glyn Jones	(GJ)	Vice Chairman
	Graham Dixon-Brown	(GDB)	Councillor
	Jose Eaton	(JE)	Councillor (Part)
	Trudi Gasser	(TG)	Parish Clerk
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Hilary Fenton	(HF)	WODC District Councillor
	4 Members of the public		
<b>Apologies:</b>	Clare Rich	(CR)	SHAPE
	Steve Good	(SG)	WODC District Councillor

### **16/001 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

CM owns property near the Leys, the Green and the School.

GJ owns property near the Airfield

### **16/002 MINUTES OF 7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2015**

The Minutes were approved for publication.

### **Matters Arising:**

Village Green Fence: CM confirmed that 5 new posts should be with us this week.

Christmas Tree: CM expressed the PC's thanks to the Judsons for kindly arranging the Village Christmas Tree.

### **16/003 NEW COUNCILLOR**

CM reported that Graham Dixon-Brown had expressed a wish to join the PC – CM proposed that his application be accepted. JE seconded. GDB joined the PC.

### **16/004 DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

#### **DISTRICT:**

HF reported that she had noticed that other parishes are acting on the OCC budget cuts in a positive way; there has been much cooperation in solving issues such as arranging community transport for the elderly.

WODC are currently reviewing Leisure Facilities and Ambulance response times.

#### **COUNTY:**

Hansons: No longer have permission to use the B4449 through Sutton as access, until the

temporary agreement is signed. CM thanks GDB for providing CCTV evidence of their breach of agreement.

OCC Budgets: CM commented that as a result of the OCC Budget, funding had heavily diminished, although the result is totally unacceptable, it is beyond OCC's control. 55% of the current funding is spent on Children and Elderly in Care.

Election: CM confirmed that the Parish Council election would take place on 5<sup>th</sup> May for 6 Councillors. CM encouraged as many people as possibly to stand for the PC.

Core Strategy:

The Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan has been submitted to the Secretary Of State for Independent Examination. – the Inspector's Report is expected in Summer 2016

WODC Local Plan:

The Inspector has agreed to suspend the Local Plan examination until December 2016.

The suspension is necessary to allow the Council the opportunity to undertake some further work on housing numbers and sites and to address the issue of 'unmet' housing need arising from Oxford City. A report determining how this housing should be distributed across Oxfordshire is likely to be published in late summer 2016.

#### **16/005 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

1. It was resolved to close the meeting to take questions (see appendix).
2. It was resolved to reconvene the meeting.

#### **16/006 PLANNING**

Applications had been received for comment:

Location: Ferndale, Sutton Lane, Sutton

Details: Removal of existing rear single storey extension, replace flat roof with a matching pitched roof, erection of a two storey extension and a single storey front extension.

The PC is to review and submit comments.

TG trialled a new system of emailing any applications to Councillors to speed up the reviewing process – this seemed to work rather well. It was suggested that applications should also be posted on the PC website for all to view – TG to action.

No decision notices had been received.

Sheehans Appeal: CM confirmed that the appeal took place over 2 days. Many local speakers were against the appeal, as were OCC on the grounds that it would affect the open countryside, as the site is on a Greenfield Site. CM expressed a view that although Sheehans is a good business, it is unfortunately in the wrong place. We await the decision, which should be

in approx. 2-3 months.

Village Shop: CM reported that there is concern over the 'temporary' shop which has been in operation now for 9 months in the Village Hall. There is no possibility of a shop being located at the Harcourt Arms, as the proposal is for a Delicatessen. CM asked all Councillors to think of any ideas and report back at the next meeting.

Gladman's Planning: CM confirmed that the PC would make their comments on the planning applications, once received. Looking at the outline application, the main concerns seem to be:

- Conservation Zone
- Infrastructure of the village
- School Capacity
- Water Supply
- Sewage capacity
- Historic site
- Methane from neighbouring landfill
- Access through the village.

The proposed addition would increase the village by 15%. CM encouraged all to visit the consultation event taking place on 2nd Feb.

Other possibly sites in the village were discussed. TG to write to planning to enquire as to the current status of the Blackditch outline planning consent.

#### **16/007 VILLAGE GREEN HEDGE**

CM confirmed that 2 quotes had been received, Nicholsons and Matthew Ellett Ltd – a further quote is expected from the James's – once received, the PC would need to make a decision to enable planting to be carried out very soon, otherwise it would have to be done in the Autumn.

#### **16/008 VILLAGE LITTERPICK**

Dates were discussed for the Litter Pick – the preference was 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> March. GJ is to check availability of equipment with WODC and confirm. TG to publicise when date confirmed.

#### **16/009 VILLAGE HANDY PERSON**

CM confirmed that he had discussed further with an interested party to carry out maintenance tasks in the village - to work with Mick Hill.

#### **16/010 PLAYGROUNDS**

Update from Clare Rich of Shape:

As promised, please find following a brief report on progress with the Leys project, and a SHAPE financial update. I regret that I will be unable to attend tonight's Parish Council meeting due to family commitments.

Work on the Leys is has taken much longer than hoped but is now nearing completion – Trevor Stewart anticipates finishing on site within a fortnight (though this is very weather dependent – the timbers need to dry in order to be finished off). The equipment is all looking very good and the equipment has been built to a high quality.

The current balance held in the SHAPE bank account is £1,389 with an additional £110 held by me in cash.

Anticipated payments remaining:-

1. Trevor Stewart: £10,200 (£8,500 + VAT) – invoice received 20/01/16 and forwarded to TG for payment
2. Trevor Stewart final invoice: £17,000 + VAT (estimated amount) – expected to be received this month
3. Play Inspection Company – post installation inspection & report: £275 + VAT
4. Anthony Stiff consultancy: £450 + VAT (estimated amount)
5. Yew Tree Services – tree planting on Leys: £804 + VAT

Anticipated additional funds:-

1. WODC Community Facility Grant £18,300: an interim payment of £3,468 has been requested (i.e.17% of invoiced amounts as permitted by WODC).
2. Waitrose Community Matters payment: SHAPE were a nominated charity in December and will received approx. £350 soon (Waitrose tell me that the payments process is slow and have not yet indicated when we might expect the cheque).

TG to update CR on current Shape funds held by PC.

TG to ask CR to request that the contractors re-seed the Leys in area which require.

### **16/011 VILLAGE VOICE**

CM congratulated Joe on yet another excellent issue of Village Voice.

The PC will be approaching local businesses to promote advertising in the Village Voice. GJ to draft a letter to be sent with an issue – all are to suggest companies to write to.

### **16/012 FINANCIAL MATTERS**

2016/17 budget was approved.

Cheques were circulated for signature.

### **16/013 OTHER BUSINESS**

**Fruit Trees:** CM proposed to purchase some fruit trees from the Burden Memorial fund for planting on the Leys footpath – CM to check suitability of planting site and obtain quote.

**Noticeboard Repair:** TG provided a quote for repair of the PC Noticeboard which was recently damaged in the stormy weather. The PC approved the cost. It was also suggested that the notice board at the top of Steady's Lane was in need of a major refurb – GJ to approach someone with a view to carrying out the work required.

**Annual Meeting:** The date for the Annual Meeting needs to be set – TG to check the required period in which it needs to be held and confirm to all. Speakers to be discussed at the next meeting.

**Defibrillator training:** CM confirmed that he had contacted Dick Tracey with a view to holding Defibrillator use refresher training. More to follow.

**16/014 NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Signed .....

Date .....

## **APPENDIX TO MINUTES: PUBLIC SESSION NOTES**

### ***Precept Reduction***

It was noted that the SH PC Precept request had been decreased for the next year. It was estimated that Council Tax would increase overall by about 5 per cent (OCC/WODC/Police)

### ***Haul Road – Lorries issue***

It was reported that lorries accessing the industrial estate had been overnighing on the Haul Road on numerous occasions. Sometimes for the entire weekend, with drivers running their engines at unsociable hours and using hedges as toilets.

*CM commented that this was totally unacceptable. The PC to write to various bodies to complain strongly. CM asked if evidence of such lorries could be provided to the PC.*