

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL  
Monday 11th December 2023  
THE ALICE MARSHALL HALL, MIDDLE BARTON

**Councillors Present:** Roger Tyers (Chair), Kate Carter-Windle (Vice), John Parry, Andy Barry, Steve Rogers, Graham Cox

**Clerk:** Annette Fowler

**Public:** 1

**PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Prior to the council meeting commencing there will be an opportunity of up to 15 minutes for members of the public to make comments and to ask questions of the Parish Council.

1491 **To receive apologies for absence.**

Cllr McRobie, Cllr Jackson, Alison Umney and Andy Hinton

1492 **Declarations of Interest**

To receive declarations of interest in accordance with the council's Code of Conduct (and section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992).

None

1493 **Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes from the meeting held on **20th November 2023** were approved and signed as an accurate record by Cllr Roger Tyers.

Matters arising:

None

1494 **To receive updates on the action points from previous minutes –**

**a) Update on traffic calming**

Currently waiting for data analysis. Cllr Barry mentioned that he is disappointed that people are slowing down when they see the signs but then speed up. However, the mean speed is down to about 24-25 miles an hour.

**b) Request for traffic Mirror at the top of Mill Lane**

Cllr Cox approached the residents opposite Mill Lane to ask if they would consider having a mirror on a post in their garden, unfortunately both declined. The Clerk will price up a small round traffic mirror for the next meeting.

Signed .....

Date.....

1495 Reports from County and District Councillors (Appendix A)  
Full reports can be found on the PC website [www.steeplebartonparishcouncil.org](http://www.steeplebartonparishcouncil.org)

**SUPER USER**

I have sorted out my password, so can now get to grips with reporting potholes and loose kerbs on Fix My Street and issue the work schedules. I have not started straight away due to weather conditions and a very sore right knee!

**WODC COMMUNITY ORCHARD GRANTS**

At last week's WODC meeting it was announced that the council has been given £50,000 for community groups to bid for money to create a community orchard. Do you think that this is something we could encourage in the village. The deadline is January 12th.

**MY THANKS AND APPRECIATION**

I want to put on record my appreciation for the members of the community who organised the two Christmas Tree lighting events at the Sports and Social Club and on Holliers field. There were lots of aspects to sort out, which much have taken a good deal of planning. There are not many outdoor events where the folk can gather and enjoy each other's company, which I feel gives our village that special community feel.

I have approached Alpine re the possibility of buying us a third speed sign. Steve Martin has asked his boss who is going to contact me, but, as yet, I have had no reply. I will let you know if I hear any more.

1496 **Donation request from Oxfordshire Mind**

Clerk to ask for the area of the 91 people who have used the service and possible numbers in Middle Barton.

1497 **Reports**

**(a) School Governors report - (Alison Umney, School Liaison Governor)**

No report other than - All Christmas plans are going ahead as planned. There will be carols for the community at school on Thursday evening 6-7pm. The children enjoyed the panto and were very grateful for the tickets from the Destiny foundation.

**(b) Highways (Cllr Barry)**

Strong request received regarding potholes in Mill Lane that need to be fixed, others mentioned a few other areas in the village. Cllr Barry will make contact with Chris Grain.

**(c) Drainage and Flood Protection (Cllr Tyers)**

The new owners of Mill Lane have been in touch. Cllr Tyers has emailed with a suggested date to meet.

**(d) Sports and Social Club/Playing Fields (Andy Hinton, Playing Fields, Steve Rogers, Social Club, Andy Barry, Bowls club)**

Playing Fields - No report.

Social Club – The AGM is being held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

1498 **Finance**

**(a) Precept –Report from the Finance Sub Committee of its meeting and to**

Signed .....

Date.....

STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL

consider and agree the Budget and setting of the Precept level for 2024/25.

Cllr Parry gave a report from the finance meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November. The draft budget had been distributed to all Councillors before the monthly meeting showing an expected expenditure for 2024/25 of £26,820.00. The finance committee recommended that the Precept is held at the same level as the past three years. We will do this by using some of the reserves. Donations have increased over the past few years; we could reduce this if necessary to maintain the precept.

**RESOLVED,**

**THAT, the Precept will remain at the same rate, £21,560.**

**(b) Accounts for Payment**

- i) To consider and approve accounts for payment (*Appendix B to agenda*)
- ii) Accounts not on Appendix B submitted by 8pm on **11<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

Payment Method	Purpose	Payee	Amount
BACS	Clerk Salary (Nov)	Annette Fowler	CONF
BACS	New lights for the village Christmas tree	Kate Carter-Windle	£ 65.98
BACS	Payroll prep Jul-Sept	TP Jones & Co LLP	£ 59.40
BACS	Removing Tree in Dorn Close and trimming hedges in Frances Road	Tree-Total	£840.00
BACS	Christmas tree posters	University of Oxford	£190.22

**1499 To receive items for next agenda.**

Bollards in the alleyway through to the Playing Fields – the PC have had a request to make them more visible at night. Cllr Cox suggested some reflective strips. Cllr Rogers confirmed that he is happy to put the strips in place.

**1500 For Information only**

None

**1501 Date and location of next meeting**

To confirm the date of the next meeting, this is scheduled for **Monday 15th January 2024** at the Alice Marshall Hall, Middle Barton at **8.00pm**.

Signed .....

Date.....