

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL
Monday 15th January 2024
THE ALICE MARSHALL HALL, MIDDLE BARTON

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

Clerk: Annette Fowler

Public: 5

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.

A member of the public talked about the Manor Farm Barns development. The close residents are worried about the impact of the development on the flooding in the immediate area as it appears the developer is raising up the levels of the land adjacent to the river. Cllr Tyers had already visited the site to talk to the developer. Cllr Barry was also on site talking to the site manager at the time. Cllr Tyers talked through the site plan and explained that once the developer has finished the landscaping work, if the finished level is higher, it would be reported to WODC Planners and the developer made to reinstate the levels as it was originally.

Cllr Tyers reported that he has a Teams call with the OCC flood team on the 16th to discuss alterations to the Mill Lane pedestrian footbridge.

1502 **To receive apologies for absence.**
Cllr Barry and Alison Umney

1503 **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

1504 **Minutes of the last meeting**
The minutes from the meeting held on **11th December 2023** were approved and signed as an accurate record by Cllr Roger Tyers.

Matters arising:
None

1505 **To receive updates on the action points from previous minutes –**
a) Update on traffic calming

Signed

Date.....

See Cllr Barry’s report below, (b) Highways.

1506 Reports from County and District Councillors (Appendix A)

Full reports can be found on the PC website www.steeplebartonparishcouncil.org

Cllr Jackson -

I have been somewhat out of action during December due to a trapped sciatic nerve meaning the use of crutches up till Christmas. I had to cancel meetings in December, including the last parish council meeting, and a fellow councillor was able to substitute for me at the December Uplands planning committee meeting.

Fortunately, the timing of my problems coincided with fewer council commitments over the festive week, and since the new year I have been able to get back into the swing of things as my legs and back are more mobile. I am hoping to recommence a "tour" of the village before the next meeting to mark and report potholes and loose kerbs in my role as a "Super User". I am also trying to order a new big bag of sand to be delivered to the end of the Sports and Social Club car park for residents to use to fill sandbags. I kept a stock of bags in my garage to keep dry, as those in the old back have completely rotted. The impetus to renew the sand was prompted by a resident in Westcot Barton whose garage was threatened by a blocked drain opposite the Sandford St Martin Road.

Update to the above - 30 potholes more than 40mm deep were marked, registered and logged for permanent repairs.

Cllr Graham -

The Education committee are currently reviewing the services offered to young people as the rural areas appear to be left out of any youth service provision and I am calling for a review of that. It is a discretionary service which should be an essential service. Transport is one area to be reviewed to enable young people to travel to different activities.

The County Council have acquired 103 electric buses, this will greatly improve the air quality.

Recycling – Oxfordshire is the number 1 in the Country for recycling and we are only recycling 50%. We can all now dispose of limited amounts of DIY waste for free at the county’s household waste recycling centres, you just need to book in advance.

1507 **Donation request from Oxfordshire Mind**

RESOLVED,

THAT, a donation of £250.00 was approved by all Councillors.

1508 **Renewal Society of Local Council (SLCC) membership**

RESOLVED

THAT, membership would be renewed for the year at a cost of £112.00. This was approved by all Councillors.

Signed

Date.....

1509 **Village Matters**

a) An email has been received from a resident in Dorn Close regarding the silver birch outside number 9. It was agreed that as the tree survey is due in June this year it would be brought forward. The Clerk will arrange for two quotes to be obtained.

b) Traffic Mirror at the top of Mill Lane
Clerk will source more quotes for the next meeting.

1510 **Reports**

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

No report

(b) Highways (Cllr Barry)

The two traffic SIDS have been in place since October and have been relocated 4 times. The Data shows that the peak times into the village from the east are between 08:00-10:30 with a lesser rise Between 17:00-19:00, and from the west there is a peak flow from 15:00-18:30 with no rise in the morning. On Average there are approximately 3,000 vehicles travelling through and around the village daily with 70-80% travelling below 25mph, although this does increase between 22:00 and 06:30 when the speed has peaked to 50mph. I feel that the SIDs are working well and the average speed through the village has decreased. We will continue to monitor and relocate them on a regular basis. If anyone is interested, I am more than happy to explain and show the information and what we do.

Potholes – see Cllr Jackson’s report above. I propose that we help Cllr Jackson in this way at least once a month as it is quicker with 2 people rather than 1.

(c) Drainage and Flood Protection (Cllr Tyers)

I recently attended a meeting with the new owners of Mill House who had a hydraulic report prepared in February 2022 suggesting that the main cause of the flooding is the Mill Lane Footbridge. I have had conversations with the OCC Flood Risk Officer and arranged a Teams meeting to discuss the report and a plan to move forward.

(d) Sports and Social Club/Playing Fields (Andy Hinton), Bowls Club Andy Barry

The club had a great Christmas period and is fairly quiet at the moment. Currently negotiating with two football clubs for longer term use of the facilities.

Cllr Parry confirmed that the Playing Fields can apply to the PC for funds if required.

1511 **Planning applications (Cllr McRobie)**

23/03287/FUL - Sycamore Farm Duns Tew Road - Erection of dwelling to be used as a Groom’s Cottage

No objections

1512 **Finance**

(a) 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 **15th January 2024**

Signed

Date.....

STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Payment Method	Purpose	Payee	Amount
BACS	Clerk Salary (Dec)	Annette Fowler	CONF
BACS	PAYE Q3	HMRC	£210.20
BACS	Annual website maintenance	Coded Creations	£300.00
BACS	Payroll preparation Oct-Dec	TP Jones & Co LLP	£ 59.40
BACS	Membership renewal SLCC (Society of Local Councils)	SLCC	£112.00
BACS	Donation	Oxfordshire Mind	£250.00

1513 To receive items for next agenda.

Email any points to Clerk by Friday 9th February.

1514 For Information only

There is a West Oxfordshire Town and Parish Forum being held at the Woodgreen offices on Tuesday 06 February, 6.00pm. Clerk to confirm Cllrs Tyers, Carter-Windle and McRobie to attend.

1515 Date and location of next meeting

To confirm the date of the next meeting, this is scheduled for **Monday 19th February 2024** at the Alice Marshall Hall, Middle Barton at **8.00pm**.

Signed

Date.....