

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL  
Monday 17th May 2024  
THE ALICE MARSHALL HALL, MIDDLE BARTON

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

**Clerk:** Annette Fowler

**Public:** 2

**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 asked Cllr Jackson about cash payments being requested at the local tip, it had been posted on the local Facebook page that the tip are asking for cash payments rather than card, with no receipts being given. Cllr Jackson was not aware of this but will make enquiries.

**1555 To receive apologies for absence.**

The Council received and approved Cllr Cox and Graham's apologies.

**1556 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

**1557 Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes from the meeting held on **15th April 2024** were approved and signed as an accurate record by Cllr Roger Tyers.

Matters arising:

None

**1558 To receive updates on the action points from previous minutes –**

There were no updates.

Signed .....

Date.....

1559 **Reports from County and District Councillors (Appendix A)**

Full reports can be found on the PC website [www.steeplebartonparishcouncil.org](http://www.steeplebartonparishcouncil.org)

**Cllr Jackson –**

After the local election on May 2nd, the three party Alliance of Liberal Democrat, Labour and the Green party is continuing as the ruling group. The make-up of the council is now Lib. Dem. 21 (+4), Labour 11 (no change) Greens 4 (+1), Conservatives 13 (-4), and Independent 0 (-1) have asked if I can continue on the committees that I have been on for the last year. Before the Annual WODC meeting on May 22nd these positions will be confirmed or adjusted. I have asked to be on Planning, Licensing (Vice Chair), Miscellaneous Licensing (Chair), Audit and Governance, and Standards. I will be able to update the SBPC at the meeting on Monday May 20th. I have been asked by the committee coordinating the Community bid for The Fox, to see if WODC could give any help or advice to try to break the "deadlock" with the owners Stonegate, who have not responded since February to a more realistic offer that the consortium of the two local major donors and the community group have submitted. I will update the SBPC on the 20th if there has been any progress on a meeting with WODC.

During the meeting a member of the Fox committee gave an update. Cllr Jackson asked if the District Council could assist in any way, he mentioned that Phil Shaw, WODC would be happy to meet with the committee. The sale price of the Fox is £495,000; Stonegate would consider an offer in the region of £410,000. The committee offer of £360,000 was declined. The Community ownership fund application was also declined. There was also interest from another party who were bidding with an offer around £375,000, but there has been no response from Stonegate since February.

1560 **Internal Audit**

- i. To receive the report from the Internal Auditor

**The Council RESOLVED to accept and receive the report.**

- ii. To consider the appointment of the Internal Auditor for 24/25

**The Council RESOLVED to agree to appoint Kirsty Buttle for a further year.**

1561 **External Audit** - to consider the 2023/24 AGAR for submission to the auditor

- i. Section 1: Annual Governance Statement - to consider the questions and respond accordingly. The Clerk had circulated the questions prior to the meeting.

**The Council RESOLVED to agree to all the Governance questions. The Chair and Clerk signed the form.**

Signed .....

Date.....

ii. Section 2: Accounting Statements - to consider and agree the accounting statement figures. The Clerk had circulated the figures prior to the meeting.

**The Council RESOLVED to agree to the Accounting Statements. The Chair and Clerk signed the form.**

iii. Electors’ Rights – to note the dates for the Notice of Public Rights

**The Council RESOLVED to approve the dates for the Electors’ Rights as 3rd June to 12th July. The notice would be posted on the Parish noticeboard in accordance with regulations.**

1562 **Village Matters**

a) Removal of tree trunk, Dorn Close – quote received from KP Tree Care - £150 + VAT

**RESOVLED,**

**THAT, the quote was approved.**

1563 **Reports**

**(a) Highways (Cllr Barry)**

The large potholes on the road close to Barton House have been reported and will hopefully be fixed soon. The SIDS data has been downloaded; it appears that speed is increasing.

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

No new flooding to report. Cllr Rogers suggested measuring sticks to measure depth of water that could be used in certain areas of the village.

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

Playground – more funds are required for the work necessary to bring the play area up to standard. Also, the seat from the zipwire was recently cut off. Quotes for a new playground between £46,000 & £68,000 to take the old away and start again are being considered. The new area will be metal rather than wood, but funds need to be raised to cover the cost. During the fund raising period the existing equipment will repaired or removed. Numbers have dropped from the Cherwell lottery. The off road track at the top of the field has been levelled, this area will be used for the outside gym.

1564 **Planning Applications**

**24/00485/HHD** - Alterations to remodel and refurbish Mill and Mill Cottage to include creation of covered parking and porch with first floor accommodation above, erection of side extension to create first floor garden room with decking and second floor solarium, and construction of a detached outbuilding (to replace existing structure) to provide three bay garage with office/workshop over. Associated works

**The Clerk emailed the application to Councillors before the meeting as any comments need to be posted by 8th May – PC comments were uploaded onto the planning portal.**

Signed .....

Date.....

**STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**24/00920/FUL** - Erection of 3 double car ports – Manor Barn Farms-Emailed to Councillors as comments by 9th May

**No objection**

1565 **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 **20<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

<b>Payment Method</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>BACS</b>	Clerk Salary (Apr)	Annette Fowler	CONF
<b>BACS</b>	Internal Audit 23-24	Kirsty Buttle	£200.00
<b>BACS</b>	Insurance renewal (3rd year of 3 year agreement)	Zurich	£420.67
<b>D/D</b>	Electricity standing charges for Xmas tree supply 1/1/24-29/2/24 (due 9/5/24)	SSE	£ 43.41
<b>BACS</b>	Laptop and setting up laptop for SIDs	Computerpro	£183.98
<b>BACS</b>	Hire of AMH Jan-Mar	AMH	£ 60.00
<b>S/O</b>	Email hosting	1&1 Ionos	£ 6.00
<b>BACS</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> grass cut	N R Prickett	£471.60

1566 **To receive items for next agenda.**

Floods  
ANPR

1567 **For Information only**

None

1568 **Date and location of next meeting**

To confirm the date of the next meeting, this is scheduled for **Monday 17th June 2024** at the Alice Marshall Hall, Middle Barton at **8.00pm**.

Signed .....

Date.....