

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL
Monday 17th February 2025
THE ALICE MARSHALL HALL, MIDDLE BARTON

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

Also in Attendance: Councillor Dave Jackson and Councillor Andy Graham

Clerk: Annette Fowler

Members of the 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.

No comments raised.

1654 **To receive apologies for absence**
No apologies had been received.

1655 **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).
Nothing was declared.

1656 **Minutes of the last meeting**
The minutes from the meeting held on 20th January 2025 were approved and signed as an accurate record by Cllr Roger Tyers.

1657 **To receive updates on the action points from previous minutes –**
a) Repairs to the Dock – the repairs have been completed. Cllrs Tyers and Barry will inspect the work carried out.
b) White lines - B4030 - no update - Clerk to chase up.
c) Purchase of ASWC – Cllr Tyers has received a quotation from Westcotec. We are now waiting for OCC to create a business case to get signed off by the developers of Heyford Park so that the funds can be released.

1658 **Village Matters - updates**
a) Damage to cars parked on North Street
Cars being damaged due to cars not giving way. PC to organise a meeting with James Wright, Traffic and Road Safety, OCC.

Signed

Date.....

1659 **Reports from County and District Councillors (Appendix A)**

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

Councillor Dave Jackson –

FLOODING MEETING

I co-ordinated a meeting on February 6th at Sandford St Martin Parish Hall for Chairs and other representatives of local parishes. Steeple Barton, Westcot Barton, Sandford S.M. and Little Tew were in attendance, along with four officials from OCC and one from WODC. One of the officials was Amanda Dodsworth, who I had not met before, but whose role is similar to Chris Grain as she is an engagement officer, but not responsible for highways matters. My thanks to our county councillor Andy Graham for coordinating with the officers and chairing the meeting. Generally, I felt it was a positive meeting, and we can share a summary of the outcomes at the SBPC meeting.

LOOSE MANHOLE COVER

I have finally managed to get some progress on sorting the loose manhole cover in the pavement outside 13 Marshall Crescent. The highways officer has found out that it is most likely an older BT manhole and has issued a "Section 81 notice" to get them to get it sorted ASAP. I will report at the SBPC meeting if it has been sorted.

POTHOLES

Predictably after the frosty and wet weather, I need to do more white marking and schedule the action for potholes. Unfortunately, I had a busy schedule with family and council commitments at the beginning of February when we had a few dry days, but I will try to mark them as soon as the weather is kind. I have spotted a few quite deep ones, as well as those reported earlier, and the usual bad areas like Kiddington Road, Fox Lane and Church Lane.

Councillor Andy Graham –

Following the recent flood meeting, we can put a plan together to move forward with flood issues, this is due to the number of houses flooded in the village.

OCC has set its budget for 2025/2026 with an increase of 5%. There will be more money for flooding and flood mitigation, fixing potholes, resurfacing, children’s services, adult social care, rural travel and gully clearing.

Following the local Government reorganisation, Oxfordshire and Berkshire are likely to be Merged, into one Unitary Authority which will likely happen in 2027/28.

Cllr McRobie asked for an update as there had been no acknowledgement or response to her email regarding the School Bus services. Cllr Graham will chase up and report back. The PC will write to Andrew Gant and Judy Roberts, OCC to complain about lack of response.

Signed

Date.....

1660 Reports

(a) Highways (Cllr Barry)

Footpath issues logged on fix my street. Current average speed is 24.2 so far this month. The Police will prosecute anyone driving 25 miles and above in a 20mph. The footpath in Jacobs Yard has been damaged by the builders currently working in the area. Clerk to write to the builders regarding the damage and ask for it to be repaired. School sign to be moved further East from the Church side. Also, a 'Children playing' sign for Worton Road by the Club.

(b) Drainage and Flood Protection (Cllr Tyers)

Further to Cllr Jackson's report above and the recent flood meeting, the PC will need to produce a list of residents whose properties were flooded, and after receiving clearance from them pass on the details to Kevin Jack (WODC). We also need to prepare a list of all owners/tenants of properties along the river Dorn and pass the information to Cllr Dave Jackson and Amanda Dodsworth

The school drainage works have been postponed until the Easter holidays.

At the last meeting we discussed the problems with Mill Lane Ford and whether it should be closed until improvement work is carried out. We believe the issue is the swirling water from the culvert pipe. Cllr McRobie advised that the pipe was only put in 2001/2002.

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

No report.

1661 Planning

25/00020/HHD - 33 North Street - Erection of a single storey extension – emailed to Councillors as comments by 17/2/25.

The PC will post a supporting comment on the portal but with some reservations.

25/00109/HHD and **25/00110/LBC** - Home Farmhouse Steeple Barton, loft conversion, new driveway and parking area – emailed to Councillors as comments by 21/2/25.

Approve the application.

25/00226/HHD - 74 Holliers Crescent - Erection of two storey and first floor rear extensions

Neutral comment – concerns over future parking issues.

1662 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 **20th January 2025**

Signed

Date.....

STEEPLE BARTON PARISH COUNCIL

Payment Method	Purpose	Payee	Amount
BACS	Clerk Salary (Jan)	Annette Fowler	CONF
BACS	Printing Xmas tree celebration posters	University of Oxford	£124.67
D/D	Electricity North St	SSE	£ 22.18
S/O	Donation to Our Bus	Our Bus	£100.00

1663 To receive items for next agenda.

School Buses
VE day
Floods

1664 For Information only

Resignation of Cllr Jay Sinclair-Pearson
Complaint from resident regarding the safety of the play area while the replacement work is carried out.

1665 Date and location of next meeting

To confirm the date of the next meeting, this is scheduled for **Monday 17th March 2025** at the Alice Marshall Hall, Middle Barton at **8.00pm**.

Signed

Date.....