

PISHILL WITH STONOR PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of Meeting held in The Almshill Room at The Quince Tree, Stonor, on
Tuesday 4th February 2014 at 7.00 p.m**

<u>Present</u>	Mr. T. Dunn	Chairman
	Mr. S. Stracey	Vice-Chairman
	Mr.P.G. Godfrey	
	Mr. R. Hunt	
	Mrs. P. Pearce	Parish Clerk

1. Apologies and reasons for absence Mrs. D. Newell (unwell), Cllrs. C. Newton (abroad), Angie Paterson (prior commitment).
2. Declarations of interests (existence and nature) and Dispensations with regard to Agenda
None.
3. Public participation session with respect to items on the Agenda No public present.
4. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 28th November 2013 These were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.
5. Matters Arising
 - a) Noise pollution, Pishill (13(b)) No further complaints received.
 - b) Village Hall during winter months (13(c)) Careful consideration was given to altering meetings so that those in the winter could be held at The Quince Tree where the heating system does not interfere with proceedings. The Clerk was asked to enquire whether the Quince Tree would be available during winter months, and the Parish Council would then meet at The Village Hall, Russells Water during the summer, when heating is not required. If there appears to be a financial difficulty for the Village Hall as a result of this change, the Parish Council will consider making a donation to cover the shortfall. If, for any reason, there appears to be a conflict of interest with items on the Agenda for either of the venues, the Parish Council reserves the right to hold meetings at the alternative location.
Clerk to inform The Village Hall. PP
6. Planning Applications

P13/S1186/FUL	The Quince Tree, Stonor	SODC approval.
P13/S1858/FUL	Marigay, Russells Water	SODC decision awaited
P13/S3036/FUL	Stonor Park, visitor centre	SODC approval.
P13/S3037/38/LB	Stonor Park, Wool Loft conv	SODC approval
P13/S3357/FUL	Beech Barn, Russells Water	SODC approval.
P13/S3226/FUL	Bank Farm, Pishill)	SODC decision awaited
P13/S3227/LB	Bank Farm, Pishill)	
P13/S3951/HH	Barn Cottage, M'grove	PC no strong views; SODC decision awaited
P14/S0200/LB	The Dower House, Stonor	PC to consider after consulting neighbours RH

Watlington Neighbourhood Plan Watlington Parish Council has formed a group consisting of three parishioners and three residents to carry out the necessary preliminary work.

6. Planning Applications (cont)

SODC Planning Camp Oxford 3-5th April 2014: Consideration was given to attending this three-day event, but as there is no immediate proposal to produce a neighbourhood plan it was decided that attendance is unnecessary.

7. Finance

The Clerk reported that the Balance at Barclays Bank stands at £2465.62.

Cheque drawn since last meeting:

Ch.no: 100429 The Village Hall, Russells Water (mtg hire 28/11/13, 2 hrs @ £6ph) £ 12.00

Cheques drawn at meeting:

Ch.no: 100430 P.A.Pearce (Clerk's wages, 8wks @ £60pw + £20 tel exps) £500.00

100431 Petty Cash £ 50.00

- a) The Clerk had received confirmation of the 2014/15 Precept from SODC.
- b) In order for the application to be finalised for the grant from the Don Millar Fund by mid-March 2014, The Chiltern Society will require a photograph of the Pishill notice board when it is in situ. Mr.Godfrey is continuing to investigate plaque choices. PGG
- c) Stonor bus shelter. The Clerk had contacted OCC Highways (Transport) enquiring whether the bus company could collect students from the shelter rather than outside the Quince Tree in Stonor. The reply given was that the preference for parents is that children should be collected from the Quince Tree rather than walking to/from the bus shelter, due to the lack of pathways through the village. Following discussion, it was decided that notification should be given on the website to the effect that it is proposed to remove the Stonor bus shelter since maintenance costs are proving prohibitive. PP
To be discussed again at June/July meeting. b/f
- d) No charity applications received at this meeting.
- e) Consideration is to be given to asking Mr. Philip Shaw to clear the Stonor ditch again during the spring. b/f

8. Roads

- a) Parish potholes There are a number of potholes appearing due to the very heavy rainfall. Park Lane is particularly badly affected. The Clerk is to contact OCC accordingly. PP
It was suggested that the Clerk should enquire whether the Parish Council could become responsible for general maintenance of roads within the Parish, assuming the Precept could be raised to cover the resulting costs. PP
- b) Speedwatch The Clerk had again contacted the Police, with no response. A Speedwatch survey had been undertaken in Middle Assendon recently. It seems likely that Pishill with Stonor will not, therefore, receive its own survey and it was agreed to remove this item from future agendas.
- c) Maidensgrove A resident, Prof.T. Kempner, had had some success with obtaining repairs and had informed the Clerk.
- d) Assendon Spring Mr.Hunt reported that Mr.Stephen Verge from Middle Assendon had produced details indicating that there is a possibility that the Spring will rise in March/April 2014. This will be monitored. RH
Mr.Hunt has attended meetings recently and received relevant information regarding the continuing discussions between Bix & Assendon Parish Council and OCC Highways. It appears that OCC would have legal rights to insist that landowners should clear the ditches alongside their property, but Bix & Assendon PC are negotiating the responsibilities of the County Council regarding highway surface water.
- e) Flooding outside 'Little Balham's' Stonor Blocked ditches in Balham's Lane had caused excess water to collect outside the property. OCC had emptied the gully twice, but the Clerk was asked to contact them again to request

8. Roads (cont) remedial work to the Balham's Lane ditches and the swale ditch in Stonor Park. PP
- f) Flooding at Russells Water Septic Tank Mr. Godfrey reported that the lay-by near to the newly installed septic tank serving houses opposite the Russells Water car park is extremely muddy with an unpleasant odour. The Clerk is to contact SODC/Monson. Swyncombe PC have had no complaints. PP
- g) Flooding generally A resident had complained to the Parish Council that he had seen grass verges being cut in the Parish whilst the roads were being flooded. The Clerk had written to County Councillors Rodney Rose and David Nimmo-Smith, asking why this was the case, but neither had replied. Clerk to press for a reply. PP
- h) Winter Salt supplies Due to the mild, very wet weather, these have not yet been used.
9. Commons Report
- a) Damage to Russells Water Green The Clerk had contacted Chesterton Commercial Estate Agents reminding them of their client's undertaking in October 2013 to reinstate the damaged verge to a more satisfactory level. No reply received by this meeting. Clerk will contact again. PP
- b) Driving on commons The Clerk had received an email from a parishioner wishing to remain anonymous, alerting the Parish Council to a vehicle crossing the Common. Since there had been no criminal activity the police had not been informed.
- c) Driving through fields Renewed activity, resulting in one gate broken and damage to hedges. It had been reported that some miscreants had been apprehended, but this may not have been accurate. A rave had taken place at Hollandridge and the police called, resulting - it is understood - in three arrests.
10. Footpaths Report Nothing to report.
11. Refuse & Waste Management
 Mr. Hunt will co-ordinate the annual Litter Blitz to be held over the weekend of 15-16th March and will organise the Stonor collection. RH
 Mr. Stracey will organise from Hollandridge Lane to Park Lane, Stonor. SS
 Mr. Dunn will organise Hollandridge Lane. TD
 Mr. Godfrey will organise Pishill. PGG
 The Clerk will contact Mr. R. Warner of Russells Water to ask for his assistance in organising PP
 Maidensgrove and Russells Water, in the event that Mrs. Newell is unable to assist.
 The Clerk will obtain litter bags and arrange collection of resulting refuse. PP
12. Parish Communications
- a) Confirmed position of Pishill notice board. This has yet to be decided. PGG/SS/TD
- b) Broadband questionnaire The questionnaire had been placed on the website and in both Parish magazines. The Councillors were all extremely disappointed at the results, since there had been only 5 responses in total. It was, therefore, felt that there would be no further action on this item.
13. Community Governance Review
 Two communications had been received from SODC suggesting changes to the Parish boundaries:
 a) to include the whole of Russells Water within Pishill with Stonor Parish;
 b) to include the whole of Christmas Common within Watlington Parish.
 These two proposals met with approval of the Parish Councillors and the Clerk will inform SODC Strategic Management Board accordingly. PP

14. Any other business
- a) Assets of Community Value These are amenities enjoyed by the local community which could, in the future, be sold and therefore no longer enjoyed by the community. Discussion followed and it was agreed that, at present, it is unnecessary to designate specific assets.
 - b) County Cllr. C.Newton Cllr. Newton has resigned on the relocation of her husband's business to Italy; she will be greatly missed. Until a by-election can take place, her role will be covered by Thame County Councillor Nick Carter, who can be contacted on nick.carter@oxfordshire.gov.uk.
 - c) Oak Tree, B480 Mr.Hunt reported that an oak tree on the left hand side of the B480(towards Henley) after the Cox Lease track, is likely to become a dangerous obstacle shortly. When large vehicles are passing, the carriageway appears very narrow, and the Clerk was asked to write to Mr. P. Trower (Agent to Evelyn Trust) to request that consideration be given to its removal, with a replacement tree to be planted slightly further away from the roadside. PP
 - d) Stonor road sign The sign at the (Henley) entrance to Stonor is missing. The Clerk will report to OCC Highways and request a replacement. PP
15. Date, Place and Time of Next Meeting To be confirmed: Tuesday, 25th March 2014, in the Almshill Room, at The Quince Tree, Stonor at 7.00 p.m.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

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Chairman.