

**PISHILL WITH STONOR PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting  
held at The Quince Tree, Stonor  
on Wednesday Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 at 7.00 p.m**

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

Also present: Mr.S..Haq (Br oadband Champion); Mr.M.Moore, Mr.N. Percy-Davis.

1. Apologies and reasons for absence None.
2. Declarations of interests (existence and nature) with regard to Agenda None.
3. Public participation session with respect to items on the Agenda 5b
4. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016 These were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.
5. Matters Arising
  - a) *Mobile phone mast* Mr.Dunn had no further news, but understood that Lord Camoys intended to write again to Mr.Ed Vaizey, MP (Minister for Culture, Media & Sport).
  - b) *Jubilee Tree guard* Mr.Stracey and Mr.Pearce will put the guard in place. SS  
Q: Where is the tree?  
A: On Maidensgrove Common by the sharp right-hand bend.
  - c) *Hundred Hills Vine yard - lighting* Mr.Godfrey reported that this difficulty had been resolved.
  - d) *HM The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday (11-12 June 2016)* This was very briefly discussed, as a decision on the venue has to be made.  
The clerk gave details of a £186 SODC grant available, and of a commemorative coin offer.  
Swyncombe Parish Council had informed the Clerk that they may hold an event based around The Five Horseshoes, Maidensgrove.  
Further informal discussions required. SS /ALL
6. Planning Applications

<i>P14/S4113/FUL</i>	<i>The Old Church, Chr Common</i>	Appeal; no decision.
<i>P15/S3825/HH</i>	<i>The Old Chapel, Russells Water</i>	SODC approval 25/1/16.
<i>P16/S0011/FUL</i>	<i>Children's play park, Stonor Park</i>	PC approval; SODC decision awaited
7. Finance

The Clerk reported that the balance at Barclays Bank stands at £3320.26.

*SODC Precept* This has been agreed by SODC.

*Audit notification* Received; noted.

*Cheques drawn at meeting:*

Ch.no: 100473	P.A. Pearce (Clerk's wages,balance@year end £620+3mnths tel.exps £30)	£650.00
100474	OCC Park Lane Salt bin invoice 3920061305 (£250+£50 VAT)	£300.00

7. Finance (cont)

*Cheques drawn at meeting - continued:*

100475 Petty Cash	£ 50.00
100476 OALC ann.sub. 2016/17 (£110.89+VAT£22.18)	£133.07

8. Parish Communications

a) *Local Broadband* Mr. Stephen Haq had attended a Connect8 meeting the previous week, at which it was reported that there was still no time-line on the BT option. The Village Networks wireless option is scheduled to be fed from Benson to the Thames Valley Police tower at the top of Howe Hill. Permission is currently being sought from the Police and four people will be going to a meeting with them in the next week or two, when Connect8 anticipate agreement to use their mast.

The fibre connection in Stonor Park is currently not an option for Stonor residents, as it still requires a mast to beam the signal (but it may form part of a future solution).

Mr.Haq reported that a third option could be via a High Wycombe company, Bugatti Consultants, who had seen publicity from the recent Select Committee visit to Russells Water and have contacted Connect8 subsequently. Gigaclear, who provide fibre to households, are also interested but Mr.Haq considers that Village Networks may prove to be the most viable option.

Progress on this is slow, but further meetings are scheduled.

Mr.Collett expressed frustration over the lack of progress, which appears to indicate that it could take many months before agreement is reached - delaying, still further, the commencement of work.

b) *Communications link for interested parishioners*

Mr.Godfrey had investigated the Bix & Assendon 'Grapevine' which seems to be their primary means of communication since their parish council appears to have a modest website, giving purely a description of the villages and parish council details, ([www.bixandassenden.org.uk](http://www.bixandassenden.org.uk)), unlike the Pishill with Stonor Parish Council website which is more comprehensive.

Mr.Godfrey had contacted OALC enquiring whether notice boards are legally required, as he considers that this method is not reaching parishioners effectively and that direct communication, i.e. email, alerting interested residents to items newly placed on to the parish council website would be worth consideration.

(OALC advises that all parishioners need to be given the opportunity of being made aware of meetings/agendas etc., and this requires the use of a notice board, or similar, for those who do not have access to a computer).

The Clerk will investigate options for communicating direct with parishioners and it was proposed that collection of email addresses could take place at the time of the Parish celebration in aid of HM The Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday. PP

In the interim, it was agreed that a laminated notice, kindly provided by Mr.Godfrey, would be affixed to each of the boards giving details of the website and the Clerk's name, address, telephone number and the parish council email address. PP/ PGG

9. Roads

a) Parish potholes The general situation remains unchanged. The Clerk had reported large potholes in the B480 between Stonor and Middle Assendon which had been acknowledged by OCC, b/f but no timetable given. Maidensgrove Common has also received some attention, but work needs to be carried out.

b) Balham's Lane ditches Mr. Stracey reported that these have now been cleared.

c) Ditch in Stonor Park The Clerk has been informed by OCC that this work will be carried out when the weather is finer. b/f

10. Commons Report

a) Driving on Maidensgrove Common/  
Russells Water Common

Nothing to report.

b) Driving through fields

Mr.Hunt reported that there had been one incident and the police informed. .../3

11. Footpaths Report Mr. Godfrey reported that the bridlepath post for PS17/PS22 has rotted and will be replaced by the Chiltern Society with another wooden post.
12. Refuse & Waste Management  
The Litter Blitz 2016 (“Clean for the Queen”) had taken place over the weekend of 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> March and had been a great success. Better communication is required for forthcoming years as RH/ some parishioners had been disappointed not to have been included in the litter picking teams. PGG  
The Chairman thanked all those involved for their hard work.
13. Any other business
- |    |  |  |    |
|----|--|--|----|
| a) | Annual OCC Community<br>Emergency Plan | All parish councillors and the Clerk will be included in the emergency contact list.   | PP |
| b) | Free Compost Giveaway                  | This will take place on Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> April from 9-11 am., at Rye Farm car park, Culham Road, Abingdon, OX14 3NN and on Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> April from 9-11 a.m. at the Old SODC Car Park, Benson Lane, Crowmarsh Gifford, OX10 8ED. Take a box, bag or container, also collect free recycling equipment, kitchen caddies and liners and 50% off compost bins (£10 pay in cash only). To be added to website. | PP |
| c) | Bias in Decision Making                | This advice had been received from the SODC Monitoring Officer and circulated to all Parish Councillors.   |    |
14. Date, place and time of next meeting  
This will be the Annual Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting:  
To be confirmed, Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May, at The Village Hall Russells Water, 7.00 p.m. PP  
The Clerk will invite the County and District Councillors.
15. Close of meeting  
There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked those present for attending and declared the meeting closed.

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Chairman