

PISHILL WITH STONOR PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held in The Village Hall, Russells Water on
30th November 2017**

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

Also present: OCC County Councillor, Mr. S. Harrod, Dr. J McWhirter (Nettlebed & District Good Neighbour Scheme), 3 parishioners: Mr.T. Bolt, Mr. Phil ?, Mr. R. Warner

68/17 Apologies and reasons for absence None

69/17 Declarations of interests (existence and nature) with regard to Agenda None

70/17 Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 21st September 2017
These were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

71/17 Matters Arising

- a) Mobile Phone Mast Mr. Hunt reported that this is still not connected to an electricity supply; he will report again at the next meeting.

RH

72/17 Oxfordshire County Councillor, Mr. S.Harrod

Mr.Harrod reported on the Oxfordshire Growth Board, which will see an additional £215 million investment over the next five years for new homes and for boosting economic productivity across the county. This equates to £30m for five years for infrastructure, £60m for affordable homes and £5m for a Joint Statutory Spatial Plan for Didcot Garden Town and West Oxfordshire and North of Oxford Garden Villages. The Housing Infrastructure Fund will support development. The Oxford-Cambridge transportation arc needs long-term investment funding to harness the region's economic potential. Oxfordshire's Adult Social Care outstrips the national averages with older people and adults with disabilities receiving a better level of service than elsewhere in England, but there is an increasing demand for care services. "Make a difference every day" is a four-month campaign targeted at residents who are female aged 50-70, parents aged 25-50 and younger adults aged 20-30 seeking flexibility in work, which care work can often provide. OCC Trading Standards is asking people to "Take a Stand Against Scams", offering free call blockers to any person living with dementia. Applications for free call blockers can be made via: www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/callblocker. Smoke Alarm Testing – the Local Government Association warns that almost 40% of battery-powered smoke alarms failed to activate in residential fires in England in the past year. Many people never test their smoke alarms, and 1 in 10 homes do not possess smoke alarms. Mr. Harrod stated that there are no further cuts to expenditure envisaged in 2017/18, and things are improving. There will be an increase in Council Tax during 2018/19. Mr.Harrod reported that the new Westgate Centre in Oxford is now open. Mr.Harrod invited questions from the parish councillors and parishioners. These centred on the provision of infrastructure to support the new homes envisaged, which is in the planning stage. Mr.Harrod is aware of the need to maintain roads, and feels that it is likely that OCC will be able to manage improvements in the future. In response to Mr.Hunt's report that the silt excavated from the B480 culvert had been put into the drainage ditch following its excavation, Mr. Harrod agreed to look into the matter and asked the Clerk to send an email with the location and other details. The Chairman thanked Mr. Harrod for attending, and also for his assistance with regard to the work carried out at Balham's Lane recently. Mr.Harrod thanked the parish councillors and left the meeting.

PP

73/17 Dr. J. McWhirter, Nettlebed Good Neighbour Scheme

Dr. McWhirter outlined the continued success of the Comet and Handybus services, which travel through the parish visiting Waitrose and Tesco's. User numbers are fairly consistent with an average of 9 persons. The buses have 14 seats, which means that at this level, wheelchairs, 'walkers' and shopping can be easily accommodated. Each passenger is telephoned each week to check their availability and then details are emailed to the appropriate drivers. The Handybus runs on the second and fourth Tuesdays, with the

73/17 Dr. J. McWhirter, Nettlebed Good Neighbour Scheme (cont)

Comet bus running on the remaining Thursdays in the month, on the weeks when the Handybus is not running. The atmosphere is very convivial and the drivers and passengers very much enjoy the service. The Parish Councillors unanimously agreed to continue funding the service. One cheque to be drawn for the remaining quarter, and payment in advance for the whole of 2018 was also agreed. Dr. McWhirter thanked the Parish Council and was thanked in return by the Chairman for his commitment to assisting the elderly in the parish.

74/17 Planning Applications

<p>P17/S2384/FUL Paddock View, Russells Water P17/S3871/FUL Longwood, Maidensgrove</p>	<p>PC no strong views; SODC approved. The Chairman invited Mr. Bolt and the applicant to address the Parish Council. Mr. Bolt expressed his views regarding the doors to the proposed garage and his opinion that a window was to be introduced to the agreed scheme. The applicant explained that the original architect had been replaced and the new architect had re-designed the garage, but that there was ‘absolutely no intention’ to include a window; he explained that the garage doors were designed to be boarded ‘up-and over’ doors, to resemble barn doors, and that they were not side opening doors. Mr. Bolt accepted the applicant’s explanation.</p>
<p>P17/S3823/HH Cromwell Cottage, Stonor P17/S3613/FUL Land adj. The Orchard, Rsl. Wtr.</p>	<p>PC no strong views; SODC decision awaited. PC no strong views; SODC decision awaited. PC refusal; SODC decision awaited. The parish council had requested an extension of time for this consultation, as the applicant’s agent had asked to address the councillors. Neither the applicant, nor agent, attended this meeting.</p>
<p>P17/S3699/HH Chestnut Cottage, Mdnsgrve P17/S4052/HH The Old Almshouse, 27 Stonor</p>	<p>PC no strong views; SODC decision awaited. PC approval; SODC decision awaited.</p>

75/17 Finance

Bank balance:

The Clerk reported that the Barclays Bank balance was £4783.48. During this period, SODC had forwarded £824.85 in respect of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) The Queen’s Birthday Account remains at £6.76. The Parish Councillors discussed the continuing support of the Nettlebed & District Good Neighbour Bus Scheme, and agreed unanimously to issue a cheque for the whole of 2018 @ £67 per quarter = £268.00. The Parish Councillors agreed unanimously to support the work of the Oxfordshire South & Vale Citizens Advice Bureau by donating £50.00.

Cheques issued at meeting:

<p>Ch.no: 100519 Clerk’s wages (10 wks @ £84pw+expenses (printer ink x2 @ £32.34+£30 telephone=£94.68) £934.68 100520 HMRC Employer’s NIC (period 4: £10.21, period 6: £22.08, period 8: £22.08) £ 54.37 100521 Nettlebed & District Good Neighbour Scheme – Bus donation, final quarter £ 67.00 100522 Village Hall Russells Water (mtg hire 1 ½ hrs @ £12ph) £ 18.00 100523 Cancelled 100524 Nettlebed & District Good Neighbour (Bus donation, for whole of 2018 @ £67 pq) £268.00</p>	
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Budget 2018/19 (circulated to Parish Councillors)

The budget for the forthcoming year was discussed and agreed.

SODC Precept 2018/19

As a result of the agreed budget, the Parish Councillors agreed unanimously to request a Precept payment from SODC at the same rate as the previous year, i.e. £4800.00. Clerk to contact SODC.

PP

Annual Return and New external auditors

The completed annual return and the external auditor’s certificate was approved and accepted by the Parish Councillors. Note was taken of the issues arising. The Clerk had published the notice of conclusion of audit for the required time and is available for public access on prior notification to the Clerk. It was also noted that the external auditor is to be changed from 31st March 2018. The Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments will advise the parish council of the new auditor.

75/17 Finance (cont)

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

The receipt of £824.85 from SODC in respect of CIL was discussed and agreed unanimously to spend on essential ditch clearing and road sign cleaning in the parish. The Clerk was asked firstly to contact OCC Highways regarding the ditches, but if no assistance is forthcoming, the parish council will contact Mr.P.Shaw to undertake this work.

PP

Funding requests

Oxfordshire South & Vale Citizens' Advice had requested a donation. Following discussion, it was agreed to donate £50.00. (See Finance 75/17)

Clerk to request information on how many parishioners had received help during the past 12 months.

PP

76/17 Parish Communications

Mr. Haq reported that the Stonor cabinets have been connected by Open Reach following the clearing of the ducting from the Turville Heath exchange. It has been stated that Stonor is likely to be connected during December 2017.

Pishill will take longer to connect, and is likely to have fibre to each house.

Russells Water is waiting upon a 'live-to-live' connection from the Nettlebed exchange and time-scale is available for this work to be completed. Mr. Collett reported that it is likely that cabinet 10 in Russells Water will be connected on 27th December 2017.

77/17 Roads

- a) Parish Potholes Maidensgrove & Russells Water is becoming bad again and the Clerk was asked to contact OCC Highways, particularly mentioning the large hole near the junction of the Russells Water road with the B481, which is difficult to avoid. PP
On Maidensgrove there is a deep pothole near to the Five Horseshoes Public House.
- b) B480 Road surface needs attention, particularly on the bend where the Assendon Spring rose, where the water damage continues to be evident. Clerk to notify OCC Highways PP
- c) Mirrors on B480 opp. Church Lane, Pishill – Noted, no further action. PP

78/17 Commons Report

- a) Driving on Maidensgrove/ Russells Water Common Tyre tracks are seen regularly, where driving is currently taking place at night.
- b) Driving at Hollandridge This has become bad over the past month.
- c) Driving through fields Worse recently. Four people were recently arrested at Benson.
- d) Right of Way – gates at Horseshoe Cottage, Russells Water Mr. Dunn and Mr. Stracey had met the Hon. William Stonor at the site, who indicated that he would contact the owners of Horseshoe Cottage to request removal of the gates, which he confirmed are on common land. b/f

79/17 Footpaths Report

Mr.Hunt had nothing to report.

80/17 Refuse & Waste Management

Mr. Hunt had nothing to report.

The Clerk had received notification from a parishioner that fly-tipping had taken place at Park Corner – noted.

81/17 Any other business

- a) General Data Protection Regulations: The Clerk had sent the Parish Councillors details of the changes due to take place in May 2018. Mrs.Pearce had contacted OALC enquiring whether the Clerk could act as Data Protection Officer, but this is unconfirmed at present. Mr.Haq kindly offered to assist with the new requirements, if possible. b/f
- b) Report of fly tipping at Park Corner – See Refuse & Waste Management above (80/17)
- c) Thefts at Pishill The Clerk reported that two separate incidents had taken place at Pishill – the theft of a handbag, and a second theft of a Kubota and other machinery from The One Hundred Hills Vineyard. It is not known whether the stolen items have been recovered.

82/17 Date, Place and Time of Next Meeting To be confirmed: Thursday, 1st February 2018, The Village Hall, Russells Water at 7.00 p.m.

83/17 There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked all those for attending and declared the meeting closed.

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Chairman

263