

PISHILL WITH STONOR PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held at
The Village Hall, Russells Water on
Tuesday 13th September 2016**

Present Mr.T. Dunn Chairman
 Mr.S.Stracey Vice-Chairman
 Mr.R.Colett
 Mr. R. Hunt

Also present: Mr. Keith Stenning (Oxfordshire County Council Highways Area Steward),
2 parishioners: Mrs. R. Walton, Mr. R. Clements.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming Mr. Keith Stenning (*see item 7*) and the parishioners.

1. Apologies and reasons for absence None.
2. Declarations of interests (existence and nature) with regard to Agenda Mr. R. Collett,
neighbour to planning application at 'Marigay', Russells Water.
3. Public participation session with respect to items on the Agenda. In view of the small number
of parishioners attending, the Chairman invited them to participate as they wished.
4. Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 5th July 2016 These were agreed as a true record
and duly signed by the Chairman.
5. Resignation of Mr. P.G. Godfrey
The Chairman reported that a letter of resignation had been received from Mr. Godfrey,
and this had been reluctantly accepted. Mr. Godfrey had been a valuable member of the
Parish Council since September 2001 and had acted very effectively as the parish footpaths
representative, amongst many other local concerns. He will be greatly missed.
The vacancy which now arises will be publicly notified in accordance with regulations. PP
6. Matters Arising from Parish Council Meeting of 5th July 2016
 - a) Mobile phone mast Neither Mr.Dunn nor Mr.Hunt had any further news,
but Mr.Hunt will make enquiries and report at the RH
next meeting.
7. Mr. K.Stenning (Area Steward, Oxfordshire County Council Highways Department)
Mr.Stenning gave details of the County Council's procedure for pot hole repair. Those
marked in red are urgent and should be dealt with within 2 - 24 hours. Those marked
in white or orange should be dealt with within 28 days. These time periods do not
include weekends or Bank Holidays.
Gullies are dug out on a 4 year rotation in rural areas, but annually on dual carriageways
and frequently flooded roads. Drainage issues generally should be reported to the Drainage
Team at OCC Highways (Mr.Gordon Hunt), which deals with the B480 Assendon Spring
ditch, amongst others. Mr.Stenning will speak to Mr. G. Hunt regarding the ditch capacity,
which is insufficient to take the Spring water in times of flood.
Balham's Lane grips have recently been cleared, with the exception of one vital grip which
drains water from Stonor Park and is currently completely blocked. This requires a more
major operation to re-open the entrance of the ditch.
With regard to restricted byway maintenance, such as Hollandridge Lane, the local authority
is only required to maintain these to a standard suitable for non-motorised traffic - preventative
repair is unaffordable.
Mr.Stenning reported that there is one Dragonpatcher which is shared between three local
authorities, but from 2017 there should be a machine solely for use by OCC. This machine is
very effective in certain road repairs and is being used more frequently to great effect. .../2

7. Mr.K.Stenning (Area Stwrd., OCC Highways Dept (con))

Questions from parishioners:

Can householders pay part towards pot hole repairs, or even 'adopt-a-pothole'?

This is not a viable solution as the insurance required for any person, other than the County authority, would be prohibitive. Additionally, parishioners are already being charged via Council Tax and would therefore be paying twice.

Would it be possible to appoint 'sherifs' to alert OCC Highways when a pothole has reached the necessary depth and width criteria for repair?

This is something that OCC Highways may consider.

Is there any possibility that OCC Highways will be able to completely resurface a single track lane, such as Park Lane at Russells Water, where it is badly delaminating?

The Asset Management team may employ the Dragonpatcher in areas such as this.

Mr.Stenning added that the entire road network is wearing out, but there are no funds available at the moment for more thorough repair work.

Grass cutting at junctions to roads and visibility splays is important and it is likely that the Parish Council could access a grant of approximately £370.00 from the County Council to arrange for this work to be carried out by private contractor. Mr.Stenning will send a plan showing the areas within the Parish for which the funding would be available.

The Chairman thanked Mr.Stenning for giving up his evening to visit the Parish Council, which was much appreciated.

8. Planning Applications

P16/S1140/FUL	Longwood, Maidensgrove	An amendment had been received. PC reiterated objections. SODC decision awaited.
P16/S2816/FUL	Marigay, Russells Water	The Parish Council will consider this application.
P16/S3003/HH	Orchard House, Pishill	The Clerk had requested hard copies of this application, which is in Watlington Parish.
Neighbourhood Planning Bill		Details emailed to parish councillors, noted.

9. Finance

a)	Bank balance	The Clerk reported that the bank balance stands at £3439.46, which does not include the second payment of the SODC Precept of £2400.00, received following the bank statement. (£5839.46) The balance also includes £673.50 grant for provision of scanner and laptop required under the Transparency Code.	
b)	Audit	The Clerk reported that the external audit is not yet complete. HMRC has still not made contact regarding whether it is necessary for the Parish Council to become employers, and until that information is received the audit cannot be finalised.	b/f
c)	Transparency Code	The scheduled purchase of lap top and scanner is in hand.	
d)	HM The Queen's Birthday Party acts - balance disbursal	Following discussion it was unanimously agreed that the balance of £186.76 should be divided between The Village Hall, Russells Water and Stonor Cricket Club which should each receive £90.00 (£180.00); the remaining balance of £6.76 will ensure that the bank account can remain open for future community events. (The two signatories to this account are Mr.T. Dunn and Mrs. P. Pearce).	

10. Commons Report

a)	Driving on Maidensgrove /Russells Water Common	Nothing to report.	
b)	Driving through fields	Nothing to report	
c)	Verge damage at Russells Water	The owner has building work continuing, and this is likely to be the case for some time in view of the probable tennis	.../3

10. Commons Report
- c) RW verge damage court and swimming pool construction. Parish Council agreed to bring this forward when work is completed. b/f
- d) Fly-tipping at 'the slough', Russells Water. The Parish Councillors discussed a parishioner's suggestion that the parish council asks SODC to install security cameras at 'the slough'. It was considered that this was likely to be regarded by SODC as an unrealistic solution, bearing in mind that it would be easily possible for offenders to fly-tip outside the range of any camera. The councillors are very grateful for the parishioner's willingness to report such incidents to SODC and hope that this will continue. The Clerk will put details of how to report fly-tipping on to the Parish Council website in the hope that parishioners will engage in reporting these incidents when discovered. PP
11. Parish Communications
- Mr. Haq (Broadband Champion) reported that there has been little news over the summer months. Discussions are continuing with Village Networks and in the meantime, Mr. William Perrin is attempting to form Connect8 into a legal entity in order to officially engage with Village Networks.
- Unfortunately Village Networks have not been able to establish 'back haul', which can no longer come from Benson. It is hoped that Stonor Park will agree, but this is held up by the possibility that it will be necessary to apply for planning permission to erect a mast.
- There is to be a meeting held in the next two weeks, which Mr. Haq will attend, where he will suggest that it would not be sensible to take the band width up to a mast then back into the villages.
- The Parish Councillors commented that it would not be advisable for Village Networks to delay, as BT are installing green cabinets at present. It seems very likely that the Village Network system would be preferable, although it would be affected by foliage interfering with 'line of sight'. Similarly, the further away from a green BT cabinet, the poorer the signal.
- Mr.Dunn thanked Mr. Haq on behalf of the parish.
12. Roads Please see item (7)
13. Footpaths Report
- Following Mr.Godfrey's resignation, a new footpath representative is required. This decision is to be held over until the appointment of a new Parish Councillor. b/f
14. Refuse & Waste Management
- The Parish Council discussed the possible need for additional salt supplies for the forthcoming winter. If further free supplies are offered by the County Council the Clerk is to request one bag, to be stored at White Pond Farm. PP
15. Any other business
- a) Proposed bus service from Watlington to Henley The Clerk had been contacted by Mr. P.Willis-Fleming, who is endeavouring to utilise the 'Comet' facilities from OCC. The first bus service will run on Thursday, 15th September, and will call at Howe Hill, Russells Water, Maidensgrove, Stonor and Henley. The bus will leave Russells Water at approx. 11.10, Maidensgrove 11.20, Stonor 11.30 and will return from Henley (Kings Road car park) at 1.00. The Clerk had received five enquiries to date.

15. Any other business (cont)

- b) Town/Parish Council Forum, The Agenda and further details are awaited.
Didcot Civic Centre, 6-9 pm Two representatives are invited from the Parish Council.
2nd November 2016 The Clerk will email details when available. PP

16. Date, place and time of next meeting

To be confirmed: Tuesday 15th November 2016 at 7.00 p.m. Venue to be decided.

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

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Chairman