

PISHILL WITH STONOR PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held at The Village Hall, Russells Water on
Tuesday, 3rd August 2021**

Present: Mr. T. Dunn Chairman
Mr. S. Stracey Vice-Chairman
Mr. R. Collett
Mr. S. Haq
Mr. R. Hunt
Mrs. P. Pearce Parish Clerk

Also present: Cllr. F. vanMierlo (Oxfordshire County Councillor), Mr. A.de Segundo, Mr. R. Warner

The Chairman opened the meeting by congratulating and welcoming the newly elected Oxfordshire County Councillor Mr.Freddie vanMierlo, also the parishioners and parish councillors to the first face-to-face meeting since the beginning of the Covid pandemic.

25/21 Apologies for absence Mr. and Mrs. M. Moore.

26/21 Declarations of interest and dispensations re: items on the Agenda None

27/21 Public participation re: items on the Agenda

The Chairman invited Cllr. vanMierlo to address the meeting, who outlined the composition of the new County Council.

Mr. VanMierlo intends to send a monthly update to the parishes.

There is currently a new policy to implement 20 mph throughout the county, which is of interest to most of the parishes. The consultation process is difficult and it is necessary to streamline the way in which applications for 20mph can be implemented. A Paper will be published in October outlining the recommendations, at which point it should be possible to apply to OCC. The criteria will not follow central Government policies as these are not easily applicable to all rural areas. There is currently a 20mph trial in Cuxham, with two phases. Phase 1 uses signage to encourage driving at 20mph, Phase 2 will use planters and other traffic calming measures. These two phases will take approximately 12 months to complete, following which an assessment will be made.

Mr.vanMierlo drew attention to the County Councillor's Priority Fund, which will allow him to allocate up to £15,000 to local causes over the next two years. He is keen to use this funding as soon as possible, rather than to retain it for the full 2-year period.

Mr.vanMierlo then took the following questions:

Q: Bearing in mind that local residents would be delighted if motorists kept to the existing 30 mph limit, it would be helpful to have a speed survey undertaken in the parish.

It would be also be good to have some assistance on mobile phone coverage, is there anything happening at County level?

A: Mr VM is not aware of any plans at present.

Q: Is there an upper limit for you to spend on the Councillor's Priority Fund?

A: Yes, but not all of the £15,000 is now available, some of it having been distributed already.

The Chairman thanked Mr. vanMierlo for his comments and the meeting proceeded.

28/21 Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 3rd May 2021 and matters arising Agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman. No matters arising.

29/21 Minutes of Annual Meeting held on 3rd May 2021 and matters arising Agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising:

a) Sign cleaning equipment

Mr. Haq reported that sign cleaning in the Parish had taken place with the valuable assistance of Mrs. Bryony Lewis and Mr. Guy Godfrey, both of whom had been thanked by the Parish Council, following which the Parish had passed the equipment on to Nettlebed Parish. The equipment had been borrowed from Swyncombe Parish Council who had received it from Rebecca McNaught, the Communities Volunteer Co-Ordination Officer at OCC.

Mr. Haq proposed that Pishill with Stonor should purchase its own equipment at a cost of approximately £30.00 in order that the signs could be cleaned regularly, i.e. once or twice annually. This was unanimously agreed.

SH/PP

30/21 Planning

P20/S4369/HH	Grove Farm House, Pishill	PC supports; SODC decision awaited
P20/S4850/FUL	JoJo's Vineyard, Mdsgeve	PC objects; SODC decision awaited
P21/S0047/FUL	Grove Farm, Pishill	PC objects; SODC decision awaited
P21/1090/HH	Cromwell Cottage, Stonor	PC supports; SODC approval 17/5/21
P21/S1228/HH	Doveswood, Mdsgeve	PC responded 'no strong views'; SODC approval 22/6/21
P21/S1294/LB	The Beehive, RW, rev LBC	Withdrawn prior to determination
P21/S1637/FUL	Marigay, Russells Water	PC supports; SODC approval 17/6/21
P21/S2175/AG	White Pond Farm, Stonor	PC considered it unnecessary for applicant to provide further details; SODC agreed "Application not required".
P21/S2778/HH	Square House, Russells Water	PC no strong views; SODC decision awaited
P21/S2814/HH	Deer's Leap, Maidensgrove	PC supports; SODC approval 25/7/21
P21/S2904/FUL	Beehive, Russells Water	PC supports; SODC decision awaited
P21/S3116/HH + P21/S3117/LB	7 Stonor	To be determined by PC
P21/S3146/HH	27 The Old Almshouse, Stonor	To be determined by PC

31/21 Finance

- a) Bank balance The Clerk reported that the Community Account balance stands at £14,699.99 and the Flexible Current Account stands at £6.76. Agreed that the CIL balance should be moved from the Community Account to the Flexible Current Account.
- b) Parish Council Accounts The Internal auditor's report had been forwarded to parish councillors prior to the meeting. This was agreed and accepted.
- c) VAT refund The VAT refund of £362.49 was received on 6th May 2021.
- d) Receipts The 1st Instalment of the SODC Precept £3250.00 was received on 8th April 2021

e) Payments and ratifications

The following ratifications were made at the meeting:

Ch.no: 100623	DRC Contracting (winter gritting)	£440 + £88 VAT	£ 528.00
100624	Vision ICT (website hosting)	£240 + £48 VAT	£ 288.00
100625	Came & Co (Insurance 1/6/21-31/5/22)		£ 571.26
100626	Elizabeth Cooper (Internal audit)	£200 + Hermes £6.92	£ 206.92
100627	Chiltern Society (ann sub 21/22)		£ 30.00
100628	Vision ICT (1 st payment new website)	£325.00 + £65 VAT	£ 390.00

Payments agreed and cheques drawn at meeting:

100629	HMRC PAYE Tax period 4 - NIC £69.41; Inc Tax £110.40	£ 179.81
100630	P.A. Pearce (Clerk's wgs 17 wks @ £84pw=£1428-179.81+exps 171.54)	£1419.73
100631	Village Hall, Russ Wtr (mtg hire 3/8/21, 1 ½ hrs @ £12 per hr)	£ 18.00

32/21 Revised website progress

Mr. Haq reported that the new website has not been completed in spite of he and the Clerk chasing Vision ICT on two or three occasions. He suggested that Vision ICT should be instructed to go ahead with the launch; any resulting problems could then be dealt with, if and when they arise. The Clerk will advise Vision ICT.

PP

33/21 Roads

- a) Swale ditch, Stonor Pk Mr. Stracey reported that the pond is still unlined and the Balham's Lane banks remain unseeded. During the other work carried out by Instalcom, the drainage grips were filled, but Instalcom returned and re-excavated the drainage access points.
- b) Clogged grip, Snowball Hill, Russells Water Mr. Collett reported that, after a lengthy wait, this was cleared. The work was totally unsatisfactory as the soil had been banked up against the side of the road, rather than being pushed into the redundant clay workings immediately adjacent to the roadside. The Parish Councillors inspected the grip and agreed that the banked up soil should be pushed further back, proposing that Mr. Philip Shaw should carry out the necessary work. Mr. Stracey will advise Mr. Shaw accordingly.

SS

34/21 Commons Report

- a) Electricity outages RW and M'gve Mr. Dunn reported that the electricity supply comes from Nettlebed through SSEN cabling. Mr. de Segundo reported that, when the supply is disrupted, internet reconnection can take at least 15-20 minutes. Mr de Segundo is currently dealing with this through SSEN and will report back to the Mr. Collett
- b) Driving on Commons Mr. Hunt and Mr. Haq reported that the situation is quieter at present.
- c) Driving on fields Mr. Hunt and Mr. Stracey had nothing to report, although there have been thefts of farm equipment locally.

RC

35/21 Footpaths Report

- a) General report Mr. Hunt reported that many of the footpaths are very overgrown and the amount of vegetation is particularly bad at the moment, although there have been no complaints. Local residents and the Chiltern Society have been tackling the problem

36/21 Refuse & Waste Collection

- a) Distribution of litter picking equipment Mr. Haq reported that, out of the 20 sets of litter picking equipment ordered by the Parish Council, 8 sets remain. It was agreed that the parishioners have been very successful in maintaining the collection of litter and the Parish is fairly litter free at present.
- b) Annual litter blitz To be discussed at the September Parish Council Meeting.

b/f

37/21 Resilience Plan

The Clerk reported on the Zoom meeting held with Swyncombe Parish Council at which Ms Kristina Tynan had produced a comprehensive report. Mrs. Pearce had contacted the Hon. William Stonor who has generously offered the facilities at Stonor Park and at Stonor Cricket Club. Mrs. Pearce had also drafted a letter for potential delivery to all residents in Swyncombe and Pishill with Stonor Parishes, requesting details of services residents could offer in the event of an emergency. The Clerk will re-draft the letter and circulate to the councillors for amendment, prior to distribution.

PP

38/21 Matters for discussion at the discretion of the Chairman

- a) Mr. de Segundo will email a link to a research project from the Dept of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) requesting details of current mobile phone network coverage. Clerk to email to parishioners. PP
- b) HM The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee – This will take place on 2nd-5th June 2022 and will encompass tree planting, church services and street parties. Swyncombe Church plans a special service to celebrate the Jubilee and 1000 years of the church. The Village Hall proposes a lunch on The Green at Russells Water. Beacons are to be lit after 9.00 p.m on 2nd June, and it is envisaged that Pishill with Stonor will organise the lighting of its beacon, as in previous Jubilee celebrations. The Parish Councillors will also consider an appropriate celebration. ALL

39/21 Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting To be confirmed: Tuesday 21st September or Thursday 23rd September 2021, 7.00 pm., The Village Hall, Russells Water PP

40/21 Close of Meeting There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked all those for attending and declared the meeting closed at 7.30 p.m.

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Chairman