

STADHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4th February, 2008

Present: Cllrs Steve Wilson (Chairman) Golda Nann (part), Tom Peers and Craig Tombling.
OCC Cllr John Howell and SODC Cllr Phil Cross attended for item 8.
Mike Rothery (Clerk) was in attendance.

18/08 Public Forum

No items were raised during the public forum.

19/08 Apologies for Absence

None. (Cllr Nann left after item 5 due to illness).

20/08 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Wilson declared a personal and prejudicial interest in item 6: Vehicular Access over Copson Lane to Church Farm Barns.

21/08 Minutes of Meeting on 14th January 2008

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14th January 2008 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

22/08 Matters Arising

1/08 Illegal Dwelling Richmond Hill Farm Mr Tom Hall had received a response from SODC regarding enforcement progress. The approved scheme to revert back to a reservoir was not complete although sufficient has been done to render the building uninhabitable as a dwelling. SODC will continue monitoring.

5/08 Community Hall fridge freezer The Clerk reported that OCC had responded that there was little that could be done if the parish did not accept the proposed soundproofing measures. He had referred the matter to Kevin Griffin from OCC who undertook to attempt to find a solution. The council was unhappy with the county council's response, and in view of this breach of the Joint User Agreement, instructed the Clerk to inform Mr Griffin that the unacceptable noise must be eliminated forthwith. It was agreed to copy all the correspondence to Dr John Howell. **Action: Clerk**

5/08 Crazy Bear S106 agreement SODC has undertaken to respond within 15 days of the Clerk's letter of 1 February.

5/08 Crazy Bear Licence Variation SODC had responded that although it appeared now they were wrong in refusing to accept the parish council's objections to the granting of the extended hours in the licence the time limit for any appeal against the decision had passed, and that it would likely have made no difference to the decision anyway. Councillors were extremely disappointed with the attitude of SODC officers concerned, and instructed the Clerk to write to Boris Johnson MP asking him to intervene as a prelude to referring the matter to the Secretary of State and/or the local ombudsman. The Clerk was asked to notify SODC of this decision.

Action: Clerk

5/08 Copson Lane BOAT Order 2007 The Chairman briefed the meeting on his and the vice-Chairman's attendance at the public inquiry. The Inspector's decision was awaited.

9/08 Trees on council-owned land Cllr Peers reported on the quotes from Sylva and Penn Tree Services. It was agreed to accept the quotes of Penn to reduce the ash to 12m (£350) and to reduce the size of the willows behind the bus shelter by 50% (£950) excluding VAT. **Action: Clerk to issue purchase order.**

Signed.....Chairman, Date.....

STADHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

13/08 Fireworks Mr White passed to the Clerk the cheque from Fireworks Committee for the cost of the display on 5 November.

23/08 Vehicular Access to Church Farm Barns

The Chairman, having declared a prejudicial interest in this matter, left the meeting. The vice-Chairman took the chair. It was agreed that the report of the Valuation Office Agency be submitted to the owners of Church Farm Barns on a *without prejudice* basis with an offer to meet them again when they have studied it. **Action: Clerk**

24/08 Playground Inspection Reports

Cllr Phillips had submitted these to the Chairman; no problems required immediate attention were identified.

25/08 County Councillor’s Report

OCC Cllr John Howell reported:

- Council Tax – The county council still expected to increase council tax by 3.875%. The draft budget included a £25m investment programme (excluding schools and highways).
- Traffic –The safety measures on the B4015 should included vehicle activated chevron warning signs.

26/08 District Councillor’s Report

Cllr Phil Cross reported:

- Consultation on the proposed new housing, particularly at Wallingford, had started.
- The failure of the Crazy bear to comply with the S106 planning agreement and other planning conditions has been referred to the council’s lawyers.
- The increase in the district council tax element was expected to be 3.5%, due mainly to reduce government grants.

27/08 Planning

The following applications were considered:

P08/W0052/LB Internal alterations, new partitioning and doors, new staircase, roof lights. Replacement of windows. General repair of property. The Mill House, Mill Lane, Stadhampton
Comment: No Strong Views

P08/W0073 Two storey rear extension and replacement garage.10 The Close, Stadhampton.
Comment: Approve, subject to minor re-alignment of the proposed garage if required for boundary wall extension.

P07/W03334 Amendment to approved scheme, The Old Vicarage. Comment: No Objection

28/08 Treasurer’s Report

(a) The following payments were approved

Cheque No.	Payee	Details	Total	VAT
1142	M Bates	Village Maintenance - January	84.00	
1143	M W Rothery	Salary & Expenses Dec/Jan	823.66	

(b) Balances at 31/12/07 Current a/c £1,392; deposit a/c £3,000

Signed.....Chairman, Date.....

STADHAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

(c) It was agreed to appoint BR Consulting Ltd as internal auditor for the 2007/8 accounts.

29/08 Correspondence

The Clerk circulated the correspondence file, and highlighted the following:

Mrs J Peet re allotments It was agreed to ask Julian Humm to prepare a situation report fro the next meeting. Mr White offered information on the ownership of the allotments land. **Action: Clerk**

HMG consultation paper on orders and regulations relating to the conduct of local authority members in England any comments are required by 15 February

Oxfordshire Public Transport Guide – the Chairman will see if stocks could be placed at the post office and The Crown. Cllr Peers will do likewise at The Coach & Horses, and include information on the website.

30/08 Other Urgent Business

Following the discussion at an earlier meeting it was agreed that the council purchase a replacement motor mower for £259 for Mr Bowden’s use in cutting grass around the village that was not done by the contractors. **Action: Clerk to send a purchase order to Lawncare Garden Machinery.**

31/08 Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting be held on Monday 3rd March 2008 at the Community Hall.

Signed.....Chairman, Date.....