

**Minutes of the meeting of the Steeple Aston Parish Council held on
17th January 2011 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Committee Room**

Present: Mrs. Mason (Chair), Mr Preston (Vice Chair), Mrs McKinley, Mr. Coley, Mr Ferguson, Mrs Trinder, Mr. Kewley. Members of the public: Mrs. Whybrew, Mr & Mrs Hallam, Cllr MacNamara, Mr Latchford

In attendance: Cathy Fleet (Clerk)

Apologies No apologies had been received by the Clerk

Declarations of Interest : Mr Preston declared an interest in the Village Hall. Mrs Mason declared an interest in the Village Hall and Sport & Rec.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 15th November 2010 were read and it was **RESOLVED** to accept these as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair.

Public Participation : Cllr MacNamara spoke of CDC's refuse clearance during recent bad weather, apologized for the backlog and explained that in many instances the large lorries would have caused a safety hazard. The Incinerator at Ardley has been approved. The Budget is going through in early February – there is to be no increase in Council Tax but parking charges will increase. CDC is now working in conjunction with South Northamptonshire and various departments will be amalgamated. Consultations on Housing Policy and Planning Obligations are due soon.

01.01.11 **Clerk's Report**

Various highway defects have been reported:

Paines Hill pothole ref 380826

Southside potholes ref 380835

Well at Water Lane/Fenway ref 382306 - Mark has also been asked to clear the well

02.01.11 **Highways/Footpaths** The street lights in the village remain on all night. Residents of Nizewell Head have requested an additional street light to be sited near Pocket Park. **ACTION : CLERK**

The company who supplied North Aston's speed detector are to be approached regarding the free loan of a detector for a week. It is to be sited by Bradshaw Close/Kinch's.

ACTION : CLERK

An email had been received from North Aston meeting regarding Fox crossroads and it was **RESOLVED** that SAPC would support the North Aston meeting in their efforts to change the junction to make it safer following recent collisions. A copy of SAPC's letter to be sent to Cllrs Jelf & MacNamara **ACTION : CLERK**

03.01.11 **Bus Shelter** It was **RESOLVED** that Brian Coaker be asked to supply and fit two diagonal seats as per his quote. The wooden posts near the bus shelter need to be reinstated to protect the grassed area. **ACTION : CLERK**

04.01.11 **Website** The website minutes were received. Steeple Aston's bid for the Race to Infinity had not been successful, achieving only 500 votes, however there is a plan for fibre optic cable to link schools which could also supply the village with faster broadband by 2015. The website committee will instigate a petition. Christmas cards made a profit which will be given to charity. The £150 loan has been returned to the PC. 5 people are interested in IT training which will commence shortly in individuals' homes.

05.01.11 **Meetings** No meetings had been attended

06.01.11 **Consultations** There was concern that recent emails had not been received regarding the Transport Consultation. Clerk to ensure her email address is on the circulation list. A Flood Protection Consultation event will take place on 12th February.

07.01.11 **Play Area** Clerk had received reports of dog excrement in the Play area and has put notices up around the park and will speak to the Dog Warden asking him to patrol the area. A rogue dog had been identified and Mr. Kewley to speak to the owner.

ACTION: CLERK/DK

Village Steward to be asked to check the seat on the zip wire for signs of wear. Steward to be asked to replace missing/broken bollards. PC to pay for materials, Steward's time to be included in his usual hours.

ACTION: CLERK

08.01.11 **Pocket Park** No reported problems with Pocket Park. Photographs are to be supplied to Charter for publicity purposes.

ACTION : MT/RP

09.01.11 **Toilets** Dr Racliffe's trustees have now approved the construction of the toilet adjoining the S&R building and drawings have been approved. Funding of £15K from an OCC administered fund has been offered providing work can be completed by the end of March. Mr Preston will act as SAPC Service Provider. Frances Shepperd is the CDC Contracts Officer. Payment will be made on receipt of a pro forma invoice. Mr Preston to arrange for 3 quotes. Concern was expressed regarding the mis-use of paper towels causing blockages in the drainage systems and it was agreed that a Dyson Airblade drier be costed in. A cleaner will be employed. Mrs Trinder to approach the school cleaner and Clerk to insert advert in SAL and Website.

ACTION : CLERK/RP/MT

10.01.11 **Grass cutting Contract** Clerk has received one tender so far and 6 enquiries. Tender closing date is 30th January. To be discussed at next meeting.

11.01.11 **Emergency Reponse Plan** This is due for updating and Mrs. McKinley is working on it. Two more Community first responders are required and Alan Brewer and Cathy Fleet have applied. Monies collected by the Valentine Club and various other activities to fund a second defibrillator amount to some £460 and are being held by the League of Friends which is organized for the area by Graham Wilson of Lower Heyford . Some concern was expressed over the fact that there has never been an acknowledgement or thanks for the raising of these funds from the League of Friends. Clerk to contact League of Friends. **ACTION CLERK/CM**

12.01.11 **Allotments** Mrs Mason ,Mrs. Hallam and Mr Grugeon, Surveyor, advising, had attended at meeting with Carter Jonas, agents for the Diocese, at which the draft lease was discussed, in particular the break clause allowing the landowner to re-enter the land with one year's notice. A subsequent letter from the agents indicated that the Diocese were not prepared to alter the break clause or accept that it should cover only a percentage of the site. This is considered unacceptable by both the Allotment Association and the PC as the lease will not therefore give the ongoing security of the allotment site for the village that the PC sought , nor the continuous period of tenure which the grants required. Therefore it was impossible to proceed with the agreement of the lease. A grant for the supply of water has been received by the Association but will have to be returned in the event of a lease not being agreed. Mrs. Hallam will be writing to Carter Jones and Mrs. Mason will speak to Mr MacNamara who is on the Diocese Board of Finance Committee.

ACTION : JH/MM

13.01.11 **Bulk Oil buying scheme** ORCC are in the process of setting up a bulk oil buying scheme which would result in financial benefit for members in the form of cheaper oil. Clerk to contact ORCC to express SAPC's interest in participating in the scheme.

ACTION: CLERK

14.01.11 **Village Hall Oil Tank area** Since the conversion of the village hall from oil to gas the area previously housing the oil tank is redundant. A request had been received from the Village Hall Committee that the Parish Council fund the clearance and concreting of the area. It was **RESOLVED** that the PC would finance the scheme and Clerk to obtain 3 quotes.

ACTION : CLERK

15.01.11 **Village Map** The map of the village sited in the Dickredge requires updating and refurbishment. The WI is to be asked if they are still willing to undertake this task. Quotes for a new frame and installation will be needed. **ACTION : MM**

16.01.11 **Correspondence** Correspondence received by the Clerk and Chairman was discussed

17.01.11 **Grit bins and Snow** The grit bins recently purchased from OCC are large, yellow and incorrectly sited. Clerk to discuss with Paul Wilson , Area Steward, the replacement with green bins sunk into the ground and more sensitively located. **ACTION : CLERK**

Discussion took place as to how well the village coped during recent heavy snow and it was agreed that thanks should be expressed to Tim Taylor for his efforts in clearing snow. A case of wine has been purchased for him as a thank you. Thanks also were expressed to Raj in the shop for his efforts in maintaining stock levels. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase 2 more snow shovels for use in the village. **ACTION : CLERK**

Residents of Harrisville have requested a grit bin, but because Harrisville is an unadopted road OCC will not provide grit so no bin will be purchased. Clerk to inform residents of Harrisville. A further grit bin will be purchased to be sited in Grange Park. **ACTION : CLERK**

The meeting was informed that a resident of Lower Heyford, Mr Darren Osborne-MacKay has purchased a snow plough attachment for his Land Rover and offered to provide a snow clearance service for £60 per hour.

18.01.11 **Planning -** Approval of 10/01624/F Appleton House
Applications : 10/01778/F for the Dorchester Group, Heyford Park
10/01827/F for Mr & Mrs McGrath, rear extension at Lansdowne House, Heyford Road

19.01.11 **Affordable Housing** OCC have not agreed to either traffic lights, chicanes or the construction of the footpath to the rear of the site, without the Highways agreement, the proposed affordable housing at Sixtyfoot cannot proceed. Bob Duxbury has advised that the site identified originally as No 1 preferred site could be considered and has offered to accompany Mrs. Mason to a meeting with the owner. Sovereign are still anxious to remain involved should another site be identified

20.01.11 **Finance -** It was **RESOLVED** to accept the following Accounts for payment :

Payee	Detail	Amount	Cheque No
CDC	Planning fee for toilets	£42.50	200292
Caty Fleet	Reimbursement	£50	200293
CDC	Building Regs for toilets	£99.90	200294
Cathy Fleet	Reimbursement	£132	200295
Cathy Fleet	2 months Clerk salary	£435.64	200296
Glasdons	Snow shovels	£46.67	200297
Cleford Essex	Toilet block drawings	£1266	200298
Jenny Bell	Reimbursement for printing	£16.18	200299
Jenny Bell	PAYMENT IN	£150	
Mark Probbitts	Village Steward (29 hours) £240.70		200300

The 2011/12 precept has been discussed and it was **RESOLVED** that the precept for 2011/12 should be set at £21,035.

HMRC have waived the £400 penalty previously imposed and a refund of £75.85 has been received although has not yet appeared on the Bank Statement. The Clerk IS an employee and will make returns to HMRC as required. **ACTION : CLERK**

21.01.11 **AOB** The Clerk requested that if possible her personal email address should not be used for PC business

A complaint had been received about residents leaving their wheely bins on the pavement when collections were not due. A reminder to be placed in the Life to this effect.

**Date of next meeting : 21st February in the Sport & Rec
The meeting closed at 10.15pm**

Signed Mrs M Mason Date

Jan11/03