

**Minutes of the meeting of Steeple Aston Parish Council held on
Monday 16 February 2009 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.**

Present: Mrs Mason – Chair, Mr Preston, Mr Coley, Mrs McKinley, Mrs Willatt, Mr Ferguson and 3 members of the public Mrs A Bonwick, Mrs M Trinder & Mrs J Whybrew

In attendance: Mrs Lee (Clerk).

1. **Apologies** - County Cllr R Jelf
2. **Declaration of interests** – Mr Preston – personal interest in Village Hall. Mrs McKinley personal interest & prejudicial interest in Affordable Housing.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** – Monday 19 January 2009 - it was **RESOLVED** to accept these as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair
4. **Public Participation** – Dog bins – A member of the public had offered to empty a bin if the PC bought one - **Clerk** to ask CDC if this is a possibility - location would have to be decided on and quantity of bins.
A member of the public asked re the clearance of snow from Grange Park and the possibility of sweeping, clearance etc. **Clerk** to ask Highways for information on what is it possible for the village to do and what Highways can do in the case of snow etc.

5. **Clerks report** –

Village hall sign	OCC will replace in next financial year
Notice board - Heyford Rd	Has been refurbished and will be replaced asap
Kerb stones – Nizewell Head /Pot holes Grange Park	OCC will repair kerb stones – Grange Park to HAMP
Gas leak	Contacted gas co – advise no further works are planned
Bus shelter	Works completed
Dog Warden	Requested village visit and visit to Mr Preston – Clerk to chase.
2 street lights not working	Reported
Water leak – Paines Hill	Reported – OCC have inspected and sorted.
Grit bins	Refills requested and gritter on Paines Hill - visited
Co-option	To date 3 expressions of interest received – 2 written
White Honda Heyford Rd	Reported to police
CDC Scrutiny Review	Response forwarded to CDC

6. **Highways**

- Hedge alongside Red Lion - it was suggested that visibility would be improved if the hedge was reduced. The Chair will discuss this with the Red Lion. **Action: Chair**
- Hedge – Clerk to ask Highways if they can reduce the hedge on the south corner of the Southside exit of the village to improve visibility. **Action: Clerk**
- Grit bins - it was suggested that a grit bin was located on The Beeches – grit is left on the hill but there is no bin – it was agreed that a bin was not required.

7. Planning

Applications

09/00147/F - 8 Heyford Rd Steeple Aston – Resubmission of 08/02446/F – Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension – it was **RESOLVED** to advise CDC - No Objections.

Results

The following applications, **granted** planning permission subject to conditions, were noted:

- 08/02404/LB Chancel Cottage Fir Lane – Remove existing window frames and replace with new
Withdrawn
- 08/02446/F 8 Heyford Rd – 2 storey side extension and single storey rear extension

Viridor application – Ardley – with the additional information received from CDC on this application a review of the response made at the last meeting was made – it was **RESOLVED** that a request for a call in be made with approval of the location but concern with regard to the process. It was **RESOLVED** not to support the Bucknell Parish Council call in. **Action: Chair**

8. **Website** – the minutes of the meetings of 11 February were unanimously **RESOLVED** to be adopted by the Parish Council. The revised costing for the website was discussed and it was agreed to fund the hosting charge of up to £200 for 2009/10 from the precept and the website reserve – further quotes will be obtained in the future and the committee will ensure that the PC is given costs for 2010/11 by December 2009.

9. Incidents Log –

- 20 Jan – incident of verbal abuse – The Crescent –reported to police.
- Resident of The Crescent had a container removed from her back garden 2 Feb and contents deposited in the adjacent car park area – reported to Police.

10. Play Area/Teenage facilities –

Working group meeting – wide ranging consultation from toddlers to secondary children has taken place, the responses have been compiled and a proposal put together as on the circulated plan.

Toddler play area – up to 6 years of age - 3 quotes have been requested for works – grants will be applied for by the end of March from CDC & ToE with an expected budget of £25,000. The PC contribution for the toddler area would be approx £3,000.

Teenage play area – 8-16 years old - 3 quotes for works have been requested – Playbuilder grant for £50,000 will be applied for by the end of March - the PC contribution would be approx £5,000. The reply to an enquiry to CDC Senior Planning Officer Planning, Housing and Economy indicated that a planning application would not be necessary. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that the funding would be available as detailed from the PC and that the grants should be submitted as above.

11. Reports from Meetings – none

12. **Emergency Planning** – the working group notes were circulated. The possibility of having a defibrillator in the village was discussed – Chair to discuss with Mr Brewer. **Action: Chair**
The next step is to identify all the residents that could be involved – medical etc and the means of

offering support – telephone tree, central information point, Neighbourhood Watch, Meals on Wheels etc. It was agreed that an informal collection of information would be the next step and the working group would proceed with this.

13. **Youth Council** – it was agreed that at present the youth get involved in projects that they have an interest in and that they are very responsive and help with consultations. It is important that there are links with the youth club and a two way flow of information. It was not felt that there was a need for a youth council at present but this will be revisited at the June 2009 meeting.

Action: Clerk

14. **Correspondence –**

CDC	Recreation Strategy meeting	Mr Coley to attend
SAL	Thank you for grant	
CDC	Final Proposed draft rural strategy	Mr Preston for any comments
RBL	Thank you for donation for poppy wreath	

Envelope – for distribution

OPFA	Playing Field – to Mr Preston/membership
BDO Stoy Hayward	Local Council Briefing
CDC	Report on Parish Remuneration Panel

15. **Parish Matters**

Hedge along Shepherds Hill – several quotes have been received with differing suggestions for work - it was felt that coppicing with infill whips, a post and 2 rail fence with the existing fence removed & dead wood the oak was the best way forward. It was agreed that the Clerk would get further quotes for this work.

Action: Clerk

Spring Clean 2009 – 28-29 March village clean up. Saturday 28 March meet by the stone bus shelter to pick up rubbish down The Beeches & Sunday 29 March meet at the telephone exchange to pick up rubbish on 60 ft - both 10am meet. **Action: Clerk – posters, CDC**

Neighbourhood Watch – it was agreed that an open meeting would be the best way forward and that this would not be possible at the Annual Parish meeting. Clerk to advise Mr Needle that the PC would pay for the hire of the committee room if he is prepared to organize the meeting.

16. **Village Hall** – plans are progressing and the idea of a public access toilet will be added in to the proposals being considered.

17. **Parish Plans** – the working group has been given 2 weeks to decide if the questionnaire is going ahead – if it does they will hold a pilot in 8 houses in 4 areas of the village.

18. **Finance**

Accounts for payment

S Lee – Feb	£211.76
HMRC	£ 46.80
Granary Publications – website hosting and domain name	£ 26.99
L Boote - Play area meeting	£ 27.44
GRM - Bus shelter repairs	£650.00
N Rowlands – notice board	£150.00

G Clifton – notice board	£ 60.38
R Preston – notice board	£ 14.36
S Lee –university expenses weekend school	£ 14.24
Steeple Aston Village Hall – Play area open day	£ 20.00

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that all cheques be paid as listed above. The cheques were signed by Mrs Mason, Mr Coley, & Mrs McKinley.

Bank of Ireland – Changes to Compensation Arrangements - it was agreed to spread the PC balances as widely as possible as there was concern with regard to the financial security of money in Ireland. Clerk to obtain details from Nationwide with a view to opening an account.

Action: Clerk

Review of Insurance – it was **RESOLVED** to maintain the insurance as at present – Clerk to advise Council of the cover provided by Officials Indemnity.

Action: Clerk

Risk Assessment & Internal Control & Internal Audit - the council **RESOLVED** to accept the risk assessment for 2008/9 which covered all areas of risk to the council. In addition they **RESOLVED** to accept the statement of internal control and internal audit and signed the updated certificate of internal control.

Current financial update - there were no questions with regard to the current financial update and it was **RESOLVED** to be accepted.

19. Affordable Housing – Rural Exception site – discussions are still proceeding with regard to the possibility of a further rural exception site in the parish. OCHA is working on bids for a possible site at present – to date arsenic testing has not been completed. OCC are continuing to look into footpaths etc.

20. Date of next meeting –23 March 2009 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 10.11pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Items for next agenda – litter in The Crescent – chase CDC litter blitz

Low level emergencies

Litter bin at shop