

**Minutes of the meeting of Steeple Aston Parish Council held on
Monday 23 March 2009 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.**

Present: Mrs Mason – Chair, Mr Preston, Mr Coley, Mrs McKinley, Mrs Willatt and 3 members of the public Mr S Latchford, Mrs J Whybrew & County Cllr R Jelf

In attendance: Mrs Lee (Clerk).

Apologies were accepted from Mr Ferguson.

1. **Declaration of interests** – Mr Preston – personal interest in Village Hall. Mrs McKinley personal & prejudicial interest in Affordable Housing.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting** – Monday 16 February 2009 - it was **RESOLVED** to accept these as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair
3. **Parish Councillor vacancy** – a secret ballot took place and Mrs M Trinder was co-opted to the vacant seat. The Clerk will send her an induction pack and arrange for the appropriate forms etc to be completed and the Chair will write to all parties to advise them of the results.
4. **Public Participation** – the issue of a village dog killing sheep was discussed.

5. Clerks report –

Village hall sign	OCC to replace in next financial year
Red Lion hedge	Chair in discussion with Red Lion and after a site meeting it was decided that no action would be taken – it was still felt that the hedge affected road visibility in this area.
Southside/60 ft hedge	Written to OCC re overhanging foliage – Clerk to chase again
Dog bins	Dog warden – would not recommend a member of the public was responsible for emptying due to health & safety etc.
Highways – snow etc	Requested info from Highways – received and circulated to all
Dog Warden	Requested village visit and visit to Mr Preston – on agenda
Fly tipping - tyres	CDC removed
The Crescent - rubbish	CDC removed
BT phone box vandalised	Reported to BT
Bus shelter light	Reported to OCC – on agenda
30mph sign damaged	Reported to OCC
Hill House - water problems	Reported to OCC

Parish Emergency Plan– Chair has spoken to Mr Brewer who is a qualified first aider and would be happy to hold a defibrillator in the village. It was agreed to look into courses with Oxon Ambulance Service and proposed that 2 people in the village underwent training and that 2 defibrillators be considered for holding in the village. Chair will put an item in the next SAL to see if anyone else would be interested in attending the training. Agenda item for next meeting once costings etc known.

Allotments – there will be an allotments meeting on 15 May.

6.Highways –no issues

7.Planning

Applications

- 09/00339/F –Sports Training Centre – Heyford Park – renewal of change of use permission. **No objections.**
- 09/00179/F – Aston House, Cow Lane – Proposed first floor extension to provide annexe accommodation – **No objections.**
- 09/00042/TCA – St Peters Church, Fir Lane – Fell 1 diseased silver birch & 1 sycamore – **Clerk to ascertain which trees as not clear on the plans**

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

- 08/02584/TPO – 2 Grange Park – fell 1 horse chestnut tree subject to TPO 8/70
- National 08/02468/F – 18 Grange Park – Alterations to first floor bedroom window and moving garage to adjoin main house

8.Website – the next meeting will be on 8 April.

9.Incidents Log –

- witnessed vandalism of the wooden bus shelter at the top of Nizewell Head
- Further incidents of car vandalism on Paines Hill – reported to the police
Mr Preston has resigned from NAG – **Clerk** to find out who the new village rep is.

10.Play Area/Teenage facilities –

Grants have been submitted for Playbuilder £45,000, ToE £10,000 & CDC £9,000 - decisions will be made re Playbuilder at the end of March, ToE & CDC in May. **Mr Preston** will email grant applications to council as soon as possible.
No issues to report with the Play area – all working well.

11.**Reports from Meetings** – an update from the CDC Scrutiny Committee on Affordable Housing meeting was given. Mr Coley reported back on CDC Recreation Strategy meeting.

12.Correspondence –

OCC - Premium Route upgrade – it was **RESOLVED** to respond in favour of the upgrade and request further information re RTI in the village & ask re the possibility of a cycle rack at the stone bus shelter. It was also stressed that any improvement to services such as Sunday services etc would be beneficial to the village and seen as more advantageous to the parish than RTI etc.

NHS – confirmation has been received that Deddington is considered to be rural.

OCC - are investigating the possibility of switching off street lights at night in rural areas between 12.30pm and 5.30am – it was agreed that more information was needed with regard to the timescale that would be needed for any cost saving to be made along with whether individual time switches

would be fitted to each column or if all the lights would be switched off. The Parish Plan asks parishioners re turning off street lights and the response to this is needed before the PC can comment on the proposals.

Cllr Jeff advised of the appointment of new social workers within OCC.

Envelope – for distribution

Clerks & Councils direct	
NHS	Health news
Town & Parish Standard	
CDC	Youth & Play Spotlight
CDC	Cherwell Link

Cllr Jelf left the meeting at 9pm

13.Parish Matters

Hedge along Shepherds Hill – 2 further quotes have been received - it was decided to ask Mr Probbitts for a quote for the work as he could do coppicing and fencing – work to take place in the autumn. **Action: Clerk**

Litter at the Crescent – CDC have advised that this has been cleared.

Litter bin outside Village shop- the Chair will discuss this with the village shop and work to identify a possible location. Clerk to look at suitable bins depending on location for agreement at next meeting.

Action: Chair & Clerk

Welcome leaflet – Mr Coley has updated the welcome leaflet and will deliver to new village residents.

Bus shelter – Clerk to request a low level & less obtrusive light to replace the existing on in the stone bus shelter.

Action: Clerk

Broadband - the meeting was advised that this was due to be updated in the village in the 3rd quarter of the year.

Neighbourhood Watch – a village meeting has been arranged by Mr Needle on 14 May –it was agreed that there should be links with the PC & Neighbourhood Watch but that it wasn’t a PC initiative.

Dog issues - a dog has been causing problems with sheep in the village – signs have been erected advising parishioners that any dog worrying sheep will be shot.

The dog warden suggests that the PC consider installing 2 dog bins – installed by the PC and emptied by CDC – in the mean time he will increase his presence in the village and will fine offenders. All to notify the dog warden if a dog is seen wandering. Clerk to discuss with the dog warden the possibility of visiting the school. In addition it was agreed to look into the possibility of putting up a new litter bin at the top of the Tchure – Southside end – Clerk to obtain prices for the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

14.Village Hall – the feasibility report for all suggested works had been received – Mr Preston will forward on to PC when his computer is working again! He advised that the Feasibility study monies granted by CDC have not yet been received – Mr Preston will continue to chase. **Action: Mr Preston**

15. Parish Plans – a pilot questionnaire is being circulated – when these are received back any appropriate alterations will be made before the whole village is circulated - Middle Aston is working on this in partnership with the parish.

16. Finance

Accounts for payment

S Lee – March – final pay award received from ACAS		£ 286.36
HMRC		£ 65.40
Public Works Loan Board		£1511.56
Basil R Streat – Village Hall feasibility report		£1265.00
Steeple Aston Village Hall – parish plan meeting		£ 5.00

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** that all cheques be paid as listed above.

Final pay award – Local Government Employees – it was **RESOLVED** to accept the revised pay scales for the Clerk

Nationwide building society account – it was **RESOLVED** to open a business investor account with the Nationwide with £21,000 with immediate effect.

17. Affordable Housing – Rural Exception site – No communication has been received from Greensquare since the last meeting but an interim report has been actively pursued and is expected shortly.

18. Date of next meeting – 20 April 2009 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.57pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Items for next agenda – none