

**Minutes of the meeting of the Steeple Aston Parish Council held on  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Present:** Richard MacAndrew (RM) [chair], Martin Lipson (ML), Stuart Ferguson (SF), Charlotte Clarke (CC), Peter Dammermann (PD), Angharad Lloyd Jones (AL-J)

**Members of the public :** Julia Whybrew, David Palmer, Bruce Eggeling, Chris Adamson, Jackie Phillips,

**In attendance:** Cathy Fleet (Clerk)

**01.23.01      Apologies:** No apologies had been received

**01.23.02      Declarations of Interest :** Mr. Lipson declared an interest in SAVA

**01.23.03      Minutes of the last meeting** held on 21<sup>ST</sup> November 2022 were read and it was **RESOLVED** to accept these as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair.

**01.23.04      Public Participation :** David Palmer attending to discuss 20mph limit (Agenda item 9) , Bruce Eggeling, Chris Adamson both attending to discuss Friends of Heyford Station (Agenda Item 6) , Jackie Phillips attending to observe. ,

**01.23.05      Clerk's Report and Actions from previous meeting**

NO	ACTION	To be Actioned by :	Update
Nov22.01	<b>Clerk salary - RM to inform payroll</b>	RM	Completed . Action closed
Nov22.02	<b>Dickeridge Map - CC and RM to get quotes for repairs/replacement of frame; ML to update map.</b>	CC/RM/ML	In hand -
Nov22.03	<b>Land behind war memorial - RM to accept Cotefield quote</b>	RM	

**01.23.06      Friends of Heyford Station**

Bruce and David were attending to represent Friends of Heyford Station. They had applied for a grant of £574 from the PC to support the replacement of a retaining wall at the station. They have also applied to other local PCs, the Canal & River Trust and GWR. A quote for purchasing the materials (timber and steel) has been obtained for £7653. It is hoped that collectively enough funds will be obtained to fund the project in 2023. CRT have offered to supply labour but not funding. The PC expressed sympathy for the position but felt that SAPC are not in a position to offer grant funding until ownership and responsibility for the wall is clarified.

**01.23.07      Local Plan**

CDC have started the process of preparing the Local Plan 2040 and it has emerged that it is not yet in the open and it will be decided on Wednesday whether to go out to consultation and publish the plan . Policies on classification

of villages is changing. SA will be 'larger village' and is 1 of 11 which will be expected to take 500 new homes between them (47 for Steeple Aston) – this is a 12% increase the number of dwellings in the village compared with 5% in the current plan. ML asked if the PC wants to advise CDC that it will respond to the consultation, stating whether they wish to leave it to the District Council to decide on the sites that should be used for the additional houses, or – alternatively – whether they want the parish council to choose the sites themselves: for the local community to determine the location, number, and type of housing on sites that are considered suitable. This second option is only available to parishes that have, or will have, a neighbourhood plan, through which they can determine local needs more accurately and sensitively than would be done by the District. ML asked whether the PC should hold a public consultation to judge public feeling. 16<sup>th</sup> February was agreed as a date for a meeting in the village hall and this will be published in SAL

**01.23.08 Reports from OCC/CDC**

No councillors were present. The district councillor has never attended a meeting neither has he offered any apologies on this occasion

**01.23.09 Highways, footpaths/grasscutting**

**20mph limit** - David Palmer had written to the PC expressing concern about the proposal to restrict the speed limit throughout the village to 20mph. He questioned if the 20mph limit is a good use of money in the current economic climate. He also spoke of pollution, safety etc. He felt that the 20mph scheme proposed by OCC is not a good use of tax payers money and he has also contacted the cabinet member for highways, Cllr Arash Fatemian, Victoria Prentis MP, Grant Shapps and had little response. He closed by saying that better use of funds would be to repair the roads throughout the village and asked the PC to revert to OCC and not support the 20mph limit. RM explained that the money has been ringfenced by OCC and that Steeple Aston is in the 4<sup>th</sup> tranche of installation and that most villages in Oxfordshire will also have the 20mph limit as part of their strategy.

Steeple Aston has £14,400 (£106 payment) to spend on traffic/travel and Cllr Ian Corkin has suggested contacting Dave Catling (OCC Highways) to discuss options. **RM to contact Dave Catling.**

**01.23.10 Play Area/Teenage Facilities**

Shawn Hamilton has commenced work AS playground Steward on 14<sup>th</sup> February. It was suggested that a card reader /honesty box is installed to allow visitors to donate. **ALJ to carry out further research and report back.**

Quotes for playground - requested new springs have been ordered from Ideverde. The cover for zip wire will cost £981 – can only get complete thing not sleeve only. It was decided not to order this. . Gates – are no longer self closing - new self closers are £1800. RM to see if an alternative is available. Basket swing £405.30 for ropes only - RM to order.

Walls outside committee room - RM has quote of £600 for wood – metal will be more expensive - **RM will speak to Neville Walton.**

Community Orchard gate £150 to replace posts and re-hang – **RM to follow up**

Frame for map - WI were originally involved in 1992 and want plaque retained and will contribute towards cost. **ML to ask Rectory Homes if they will supply and fit new aluminium frame and make it clear that the WI plaque is to remain.**

**01.23.11 Village Hall**

Quote for gravel path not yet received, Application to be made to Councillor Priority Fund for funding. **RM to apply for grant from Councillor Priority Fund**

**01.23.12 Sport & Rec**

Nothing to report

**01.23.13 Toilet**

Lock – if opened with electronic switch works as it should - if door handle is used the door will open but the the door then locks for 20 mins. An engineer has attended but was unable to solve the problem and said new software is required within the lock which will cost £275+ VAT + parts **RM to clarify exact cost.**

**01.23.14 Website/Facebook**

Minutes of the recent meeting were received

**01.23.15 Correspondence**

No correspondence had been received that was not dealt with elsewhere.

**01.23.16 Environment & Sustainability Committee**

Meeting to be held tomorrow

**01.23.17 Planning**

[22/03877/F](#)

Hatch End Old Poultry Farm Steeple Aston  
Road Middle Aston OX25 5QL

Erection of three industrial buildings, replacement of former scout hut building and associated works. **3 WEEK EXTENSION OF TIME REQUESTED**

[23/00069/TCA](#)

Summer Place 24 Grange Park Steeple  
Aston Oxfordshire OX25 4SR

T1 x Lime - Remove epicormic growth from 0m to first major lateral/side branch. Reduce crown by 2m H1 x Leylandii Hedge - Reduce height by 6ft. **NO OBJECTION**

[22/03715/F](#)

The Old Malt House South Side Steeple  
Aston OX25 4RT

Demolition of double garage/store and Timber double stable building, removal of stone chippings to parking court. Adjustment of levels to form new stone paved terrace, erection of single-storey stone/slate outbuilding for home office & fitness studio. Conversion of existing stone detached outbuilding to ancillary domestic accommodation. Erection of timber garden pergola to form car shelter. **ML TO DRAFT COMMENT**

[22/03574/TCA](#)

North Ridge Paines Hill Steeple Aston  
Oxfordshire OX25 4SQ

T1 x Thuja - Fell. T2 x Horse Chestnut - Crown reduction 5m T3 x Ash - Pollard by up to 5m back to previous pollard. **NO OBJECTION**

[22/03573/TCA](#)

Old Coach House South Side Steeple  
Aston Oxfordshire OX25 4RR

T1 x Maple – Fell – **NO OBJECTION**

**01.23.18 Finance**

The following accounts were approved for payment :

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Detail</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>paid</b>
Acremans	trees, Water Lane	822.00	137.00	02.12.22
Cathy Fleet	clk sal Dec	499.42		02.12.22
HMRC	PAYE	261.60		02.12.22
TP Jones	Payroll	62.40	10.40	
SAVH	hall hire 184	6.00		
Cathy Fleet	clk sal Jan	333.02		
SART	hall hire	110.00		
Pest solutions	Wasps VH	36.00	6.00	
SAVH	hall hire 136	6.00		
R MacAndrew	reimbursement			
	Brown bins VH	72.00		
James Macnamara	poppy wreath	25.00		

A meeting had been held to discuss the budget and precept request, the outcome of which was presented to this meeting and it was resolved to request the sum of £33,934.00 from CDC for 2023/24

ML had discussions with Middle Aston Parish meeting regarding the use of the playground. The Chair Laura Bliss, said there is potential for MA to raise precept to make contribution. Asking how much - ML & RM to discuss and let her know.

**Date of next meetings**

3rd Monday of the month

20<sup>th</sup> February 20<sup>th</sup> March 17<sup>th</sup> April 22<sup>nd</sup> May 19<sup>th</sup> June

17<sup>th</sup> July 18<sup>th</sup> September 16<sup>th</sup> October 20<sup>th</sup> November

Annual Parish meeting and Annual meeting of the parish Council TBC

**Other matters**

A meeting took place this week between RM and Chairs of other local parish councils and Victoria Prentis and Cllr Ian Corkin. The meeting was arranged at the request of the Chairs who meet regularly and wished to discuss the problems encountered with CDC and OCC in respect of :

- Accountability
- Policies with no evidence
- County and District Councillors not attending parish council meetings
- County and District Councillors not responding to emails
- District and County Council departments not responding to parish council requests
- Fol request not responded to satisfactorily

Victoria Prentis agreed that she would follow up on these items and write to the relevant parties.

**Signed** ..... **Date** .....

**ACTION LIST SUMMARY**

NO	ACTION	To be Actioned by :
Jan23.01	<b>Highways</b> - RM to contact Dave Catling to discuss options of spending S106 monies	RM
Jan23.02	ALJ to further research card reader for the playground/toilet	ALJ
Jan23.03	<b>Playground</b> – RM to investigate alternative to self closers for gates and to order rope for basket swing	RM
Jan23.04	Wall outside VH committee room – RM to speak to Neville Walton	RM
Jan23.05	<b>Frame for map</b> - ML to ask Rectory Homes if they will supply and fit new aluminum frame and make it clear that the WI plaque is to remain.	ML
Jan23.06	<b>Village hall</b> - RM to apply for grant for bonded gravel path from Councillor Priority Fund	RM
Jan23.07	<b>Toilet lock</b> - RM to clarify exact cost	RM