

ODSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

An Ordinary meeting of Odstock Parish Council was held on 5 February 2015 in the Radnor Hall, Bodenham.

Present: Rod Poynting (Chairman), Stephen Stapley (Vice-Chairman), Nigel Start, Richard Parsons (Clerk) and five members of the public.

Apologies: Colin Berry, Gavin Simmonite, David Williamson-Jones and Wiltshire Cllr Julian Johnson.

Absent: Sally Nelson.

1/15 Open Public Forum: 1. The recently appointed land agent for the Longford estate addressed the meeting explaining that he wanted to encourage a thriving community spirit. He expressed concern about the high level of litter along the sides of the parish's road and pledged to engage the estate's staff during March to collect and remove as much as possible.

2. The Chairman of the Radnor Hall Committee explained the vital need for OPC's annual grant towards the cost of the Hall Lease. Although the committee expect to carry forward about £8,000 at the end of the current financial year, most is already allocated to facility improvements. They are also losing several of their most regular customer due to retirement and distance from the Hall. They plan to do some marketing to attract more, local, regular, users.

2/15 Declaration of Interest: None.

3/15 Minutes of the Ordinary OPC meeting held on 11 December were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4/15 Nunton Recreation Field: Play Safety (ref min no.42/14b): It was agreed that a 20 cu m load of bark chippings was likely to be sufficient to bring the safety surface up to the standard suggested by the RoSPA safety inspection report.

5/15 Community Initiatives:

- a) **Radnor Hall Committee Grant:** Cllr Start queried whether the annual grant was necessary when substantial funds were being carried forward. A member of the Hall committee pointed out that attracting new users would likely incur a significant cost. It was unanimously resolved to award the grant of £750 for the current financial year.
- b) **Shepherds Close Car Parking:** It was agreed to keep this issue under review and carry it forward to a future meeting.
- c) **Requests for Funding:** It was unanimously agreed to decline requests from **1.** Citizen's Advice Bureau; **2.** Victim Support; and **3.** A parishioner seeking financial support for an ecological expedition to Honduras.

6/15 Transport, Roads and Footpaths:

- a) **Wiltshire Council Highways:** Maintenance had been carried out as requested by the Chairman.
- b) **Community Area Transport Group:** In Cllr Berry absence, there was no report.

7/15 Planning: The Chairman had reviewed two recent planning applications and did not consider that an OPC response was warranted. There were no new planning applications to be considered.

8/15 Reports and Correspondence: The next Area Board meeting is in Winterslow Village Hall on 28 May.

9/15 Finance:

- a) **Risk Assessment:** It was agreed that OPC's Risk Assessment Policy is adequate, however, the Chairman was concerned that play-area maintenance records needed to be more regular.

b) Receipts:

Lloyds Bank plc – Interest (year to date) £5.03p

- c) **Payments:** The following were approved:

Bawden Contracting Services Ltd – Grass Cutting	531	£403.12p
Society of Local Council Clerks – Subscription	532	£77.00p
Radnor Hall – Contribution towards Annual Lease	533	£750.00p
R Parsons – Clerk's salary and expenses, on account	534	£474.00p
Bawden Contracting Services Ltd – Grass Cutting	535	£403.12p
Wessex Water – Nunton Field Water	DD	£21.39p
Southern Electric – Nunton Field Electricity	DD	£20.87p

10/15 Any Other Business (for information only): None

11/15 The Annual OPC meeting is scheduled for 7 May, following the Annual Parish meeting.

The meeting closed at 9:25pm