

ODSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

An Ordinary meeting of Odstock Parish Council was held on 13 February 2017 in the Barker Room, Nunton.

Present: Gavin Simmonite (Chairman), Rod Poynting (Vice-Chairman), Colin Berry, Nigel Start, Sally Nelson, Richard Parsons (Clerk), Wiltshire Cllr Julian Johnson and one member of the public.

Apologies: Stephen Stapley and David Williamson-Jones.

01/17 Open Public Forum: None.

02/17 Declaration of Interest: None.

03/17 Minutes of the Ordinary OPC meeting held on 12 December were approved and signed by Cllr Rod Poynting who chaired the meeting and counter-signed by Cllr Sally Nelson as a true record.

04/17 Community Initiatives:

- a) **Radnor Hall Committee:** Cllr Poynting reported on an extra fund raising car boot sale to be held on 29 March.
- b) **Parish/Community Planning:** Cllr Nelson reported on the most recent meeting of the steering committee where a liaison officer and a colleague from the Wiltshire Council planning department were present. Members of the steering committee were advised that some of the paragraphs in their draft plan were inconsistent with the adopted core strategy plan for Wiltshire. The villages of Odstock, Nunton and Bodenham are classed as 'small villages' and thus any future development will be limited to infilling between existing properties. A future meeting of the steering committee will decide how the parish consultation will be used to fit in with the Wiltshire Core Strategy Plan effective until 2026.
- c) **Odstock Telephone Box:** Cllr Poynting observed, the redundant kiosk in Charlton had been successfully converted into a book exchange centre. Once OPC have secured ownership of the K6 kiosk in Odstock, it can be similarly converted.
- d) **Parish Website:** There is little enthusiasm within OPC to make the necessary commitment to run a community website. There are several local websites where relevant information is available and Wiltshire Council maintains historical information about all Wiltshire parishes. The new editor of **NewsandNotes.co.uk** may seek to influence Parish Councillors and this will become apparent at the Annual Parish meeting in May, shortly after the Wiltshire Elections. The Chairman and Cllr Start agreed to prepare some short reports about OPC activities for the March edition of N&N.
- e) **Litter Clearance:** **GreatBritishSpringClean.org.uk** is a good example of a two page website for a specific purpose. In previous years, the Longford Estate has organised extensive litter picking (ref.6/16(h)). OPC will publish instructions in N&N about how willing parishioners can join litter picking initiatives in the villages.

05/17 Nunton Recreation Field:

- a) **Grass Cutting:** The current contractor has quoted £2,035.78 for 18 cuts and 3 applications of weed killer on the Nunton Field play-area and the Odstock Field play-area during the 2017-18 season. Unanimously agreed.
- b) **Pavilion:** Cllr Poynting reported a grant of £598 from Southern Area Board towards the replacement windows project. The Community First Application for £960 will be determined in April.
- c) **Play Area:** Cllr Nelson agreed to help Cllr Williamson-Jones conduct a thorough inspection of the play equipment.
- d) **Facilities Usage:** A 'Memorandum of Understanding' and/or a 'License Agreement' is awaited from Cllr Start.

06/17 Transport, Roads and Footpaths:

- a) **Wiltshire Council Highways:** A list of activities which the Parish Steward can undertake has been produced and each parish is expected to identify, in an 'issues log', where those activities need to be performed. The Wiltshire Council Parish Steward will visit Odstock Parish on 1 March and 29 April. An evening meeting to discuss the success of the scheme is scheduled for 23 May in the City Hall. All Cllrs agreed to give the 'issues log' selective consideration. It was also agreed to publicise, through N&N, extensive use of the Wiltshire App for reporting Highways issues by anybody.
- b) **C.A.T.G.:** Cllr Berry agreed to continue liaising with Wiltshire Highways and CATG to obtain solutions to projects agreed by OPC in the minutes of meetings (ref.42/16(b), 53/16(b) and 57/16).
- c) **Dog Fouling:** Cllr Start reported having received a parishioner's letter asking what more can be done to encourage dog owners to clear up their dog's mess. The Wiltshire Council website recommends policies which dog owner's are expected to observe. Cllr Nelson agreed to research the costs and practicality of providing and emptying waste bins and report her findings to a future OPC meeting. Previously, OPC resolved to provide dog fouling notices making it clear that dog mess must be removed from public access areas within the parish. (ref.53/16(c)).

- d) **Community Speedwatch:** Cllr Start reported his team of trained volunteers has already reported 20 drivers who will receive letters from the police. He estimates about 200 cars per hour use the road through the villages at peak times.
- e) **Bridleway, Shelf Lane to the A338:** Cllr Poynting will manage a team of volunteers to clear debris and weed growth. This will be publicised in N&N and needs to be completed before the end of March. Volunteers will be covered by OPC's Personal Accident insurance policy and suggested dates are either 4th, 11th or 18th March.

07/17 Planning: There were no new planning applications for consideration. It was noted, in connection with planning application **16/12123/FUL** for the Construction of two residential dwellings on Land at Whitsbury Road, Odstock, objections and/or requests for further information had been lodged by Wiltshire Council Engineers for Land Drainage and Highways & Transport. There is also a comment from a neighbour. The application will likely be determined by Wiltshire Councillors. OPC has formally written in support of this application.

08/17 Reports and Correspondence:

- a) **Wiltshire Council:** The next Area Board meeting is at Trafalgar School, Downton on Thursday, 2 March.
- b) **Police Report:** Some OPC members have yet to sign-up at wiltsmessaging.co.uk for regular updates.
- c) **Wiltshire Association of Local Councils:** Transparency Code funding will continue to be available in 2017-18.
- d) **Joint Strategic Assessment meeting at City Hall on 16 February:** wiltshirejsa.org.uk refers to what is to be expected.

09/17 Finance:

- a) **Budget Review:** The balance being carried forward at year end is mostly non-discretionary funding.
- b) **Workplace Pensions:** Employers duties are described at <http://tpr.gov.uk/sd-duty>.
- c) **External Audit:** Appointments and Scale of Fees has been published for 2017-18 to 2021-22 at localaudits.co.uk.
- d) **Payments:** The following were approved:

Society of Local Council Clerks – Subscription	585	£67.00p
Bawden Contracting Services Ltd – Grass Cutting	586	£403.13p
R Parsons – Clerk's salary and expenses, on account	587	£746.00p
Wessex Water – Nunton Field Water	DD	£18.52p
Southern Electric – Nunton Field Electricity	DD	£48.24p

10/17 Any Other Business (for information only):

- a) **SSE and the AONB:** Cllr Start has formally applied to Scottish and Southern Electric to nominate Cranbourne Chase & WWD AONB for the undergrounding of HV overhead conductors.
- b) **Highway Re-profiling:** The owner of the Coach House, Nunton, has reached an agreement with Wiltshire Highways to alter the camber on the road in front of his driveway to stop water cascading towards his house door when there is heavy rainfall. Once the work is complete, storm water will run down the road towards the river. A road closure will likely be required while the work is carried out.
- c) **Jubilee Gardens:** Cllr Berry believes the footbridge may require some maintenance.
- d) **OPC Chairmanship:** The Chairman let it be known that he would be standing down at the Annual OPC meeting.

11/17 The next scheduled OPC meeting is the Annual meeting on 15 May.

The meeting closed at 9:01pm