

Odstock Parish Council

An Ordinary meeting of Odstock Parish Council was held on 10 February 2020 in the Barker Room, near Nunton Church.

Present: Sally Nelson (Chairman), Nigel Start (Vice-Chairman), Colin Berry, Rod Poynting, Stephen Stapley, Richard Parsons (Clerk), Wiltshire Cllr Richard Clewer and five members of the public.

Apologies Accepted: Thomas Newman and Barry Norris.

1/20 Open Public Forum: 1. A representative of the villages church community spoke about a community initiative designed to create a five year forward plan to encourage 'blue-sky' thinking. The Merlin Project is a management methodology which seeks to start with an objective set five years in the future. About twenty parishioners met in the Radnor Hall on 24 October and a report of that meeting was published in the December edition of News & Notes. A follow up meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 13 February, in the Barker Room.

2. Concern was raised about the culvert excavation at the Nunton corner by the Vicarage. This has left a large mound of spoil.

2/20 Declaration of Interest: None.

3/20 Minutes of the Ordinary OPC meeting held on 25 November were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4/20 Community Initiatives:

a) Carboot Sales: Cllr Poynting advised that eight events have been scheduled and it was agreed that OPC would hold the first one on 26 April with the objective of raising funds for the replacement Nunton play area. Twelve volunteers will be needed to run the event. All Cllrs agreed to support this initiative and OPC will fund the expenses of this first event.

b) Jubilee Gardens: Cllr Poynting reported that he and Cllr Berry are carrying out required maintenance.

c) Picnic Benches: Cllr Start agreed to source and install a replacement picnic table at Jubilee Gardens. Once the Nunton Playground equipment has been renewed, suitable Picnic tables will be sourced and installed within the new play area.

5/20 Nunton Recreation Field:

a) Play Equipment: Following the meeting with Cllr Berry's contact at Salisbury City Council, OPC has received advice and quotes from several Playground suppliers for the removal and replacement of the play equipment. Cllr Poynting agreed to carry out a preliminary appraisal for economically removing the defective equipment and the Chairman is actively seeking a grant from the Wiltshire Council Southern Area Board. It was agreed to convene an Extraordinary OPC meeting to finalise the proposals.

b) Football: Downton FC is expected to pay Odstock PC's October Invoice for £300 within the next week.

6/20 Transport, Roads and Footpaths:

a) Wiltshire Council Highways: The roadside footpath east from Odstock crossroads has been satisfactorily cut back and the roadside grips have been cleared. The Parish Steward has been clearing the winter debris from the parish footways.

b) Parish Footpaths: The promised maintenance of the A338 roadside footway towards Britford is still incomplete.

7/20 Planning: No new Planning Application to consider.

8/20 Reports and Correspondence:

a) NALC & WALC: Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018. Guidance is available at: www.gov.uk/guidance/accessibility-requirements-for-public-sector-websites-and-apps

b) Wiltshire Southern Area Board: The next meeting is in Alderbury Village Hall on 12 March 2020.

9/20 Finance:

a) Payments: The following were approved:

Society of Local Council Clerks – Subscription BACS £75.00p

Association of Local Council Clerks – Subscription BACS £40.00p

Information Commissioner – Annual Registration Fee DD £35.00p

D Smith – Replacement Gate Post BACS £210.00p

R Parsons – Clerk's salary and expenses, on account BACS £792.00p

Wiltshire Council – CATG Topographical Survey BACS £375.00p

Wessex Water – Nunton Field Water DD £23.29p

Southern Electric – Nunton Field Electricity DD £51.49p

10/20 The Annual Parish Meeting is required to be held between 1 March and 1 June each year. The Chairman proposed that providing refreshments will help to attract more local electors to the meeting and some of those participating in the Merlin Project can be expected to attend also. It was agreed that at least one hour would be set aside for the meeting on Monday, 18 May and that there would be a clear separation from the business of the OPC. By law, the Chairman of the Parish Council may attend the Annual Parish Meeting and if s(he) is in attendance, s(he) must preside. [LGA 1972, Sch 12, para 17(1)]

11/20 Any Other Business (for information only): None.

The meeting closed at 8:56pm

Signed without amendment by the Chairman, Cllr Sally Nelson, as a true record on 23 March 2020.

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