

ODSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL

An Ordinary meeting of Odstock Parish Council was held on 8 February 2016 in the Barker Room, Nunton.

Present: Gavin Simmonite (Chairman), Rod Poynting (Vice-Chairman), Colin Berry, Stephen Stapley, Nigel Start, Sally Nelson, David Williamson-Jones, Richard Parsons (Clerk) and two members of the public.

Apologies: Wiltshire Cllr Julian Johnson.

1/16 Open Public Forum: None.

2/16 Declaration of Interest: Cllr Poynting declared a personal interest in the agenda item about car boot sales.

3/16 Minutes of the Ordinary OPC meeting held on 7 December were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4/16 Nunton Recreation Field:

- a) **Grass Cutting:** Agreed, to accept the offer from Bawden Contracting Services Ltd to continue with a contract identical to last year's. The mild weather has led to significant growth of grass which will be cut as soon as conditions allow.
- b) **Pavilion:** Agreed, to spend up to £1000 on replacement windows and add £1000 to the budget for each of the next 2 years. Cllr Poynting will seek competitive quotes for the agreed improvements and liaise with the contractors.
- c) **Permitted Uses:** Agreed, to Car Boot sales on the following dates: 13-Mar, 10-Apr, 8-May, 22-May, 12-Jun, 26-Jun, 17-Jul, 21-Aug and two extra dates, 14-Aug for the Stars Appeal and 11-Sep for Salisbury Trust for the Homeless.

5/16 Community Initiatives:

- a) **Radnor Hall Committee:** Cllr Poynting reported that improvements to the Radnor Hall have led to its appeal as a venue for events and bookings are increasing. The year end surpluses are decreasing as funds are spent on improvements. The cost of the annual lease will rise in March by £250 for the next 3 years.
- b) **Parish/Community Planning:** Cllr Nelson reported that the distribution of the questionnaire is imminent.
- c) **General Power of Competency (GPC):** This is a central Government initiative designed to reverse the presumption that a decision will be unlawful unless expressly permitted. This is unlikely to affect OPC ability to operate effectively.

6/16 Transport, Roads and Footpaths:

- a) **Wiltshire Council Highways:** Nothing further to report regarding the proposed road resurfacing project.
- b) **A338/C12 Junction:** OPC has been advised that Wilts Council received a good response from parishioners following the consultation in December, however, further recommendations have yet to be proposed. Speed limits on A & B roads were reviewed in 2009 and the results published on WC's website. A more recent review concluded that speed limit reductions were unlikely to bring about lower speeds on roads designed to accommodate speeds of up to 60 MPH.
- c) **Community Area Transport Group:** Cllr Start reported that CATG still has funds available for new projects.
- d) **Parish Footpaths:** A major concern is the hedgerow overhanging the roadside foot-way from the Odstock crossroads towards Nunton. This is the responsibility of the neighbouring landowner and OPC will liaise to resolve this issue.
- e) **Community Speedwatch:** Cllr Start has had a good response to his appeal for volunteers and training is being arranged.
- f) **Speed Indicator Displays:** Agreed, to commit to joining with other Local Councils in the operation of these devices.
- g) **Odstock School Parking:** A proposal is being considered to use Odstock Church car-park to alleviate the need to park on the road outside of the Nursery School.
- h) **Litter Picking:** The Longford Estate will organise the collection and removal of litter, commencing on 18 March.

7/16 Planning: There were no planning applications for consideration.

8/16 Correspondence: The next Area Board meeting is in Old Sarum Community Centre at 7pm on Thursday, 24 March.

9/16 Finance:

- a) **The Transparency Code 2015:** This is a Central Government initiative to encourage local authorities, including Parish and Town Councils, to be less secretive about their activities. OPC already complies with this legislation.

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

C Berry – Jubilee Gardens supplies	563	£12.00p
Society of Local Council Clerks – Subscription	564	£77.00p
Bawden Contracting Services Ltd – Grass Cutting	565	£403.13p
R Parsons – Clerk's salary and expenses, on account	566	£488.00p
Wessex Water – Nunton Field Water	DD	£20.98p
Southern Electric – Nunton Field Electricity	DD	£20.24p

10/16 Any Other Business (for information only): None.

11/16 The Annual OPC meeting is scheduled for 9 May, following the Annual Parish meeting.

The meeting closed at 8:50pm