

**Minutes of the meeting of the Steeple Aston Parish Council held on
Monday 20th January 2025**

Present: Angharad Lloyd Jones (AL-J) [chair], Martin Lipson (ML), Peter Dammermann (PD), Charlotte Powell (CP), Greg Elphick (GE) Mat Watson (MW)

Members of the public: Helen Wright (for SAL),

In attendance: Cathy Fleet (Clerk)

01.25.01 Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Andrew McHugh

01.25.02 Declarations of Interest: Mr. Lipson declared an interest in SAVA. Peter Dammermann declared an interest in the Planning Item.

01.25.03 Minutes of the last meeting held on 18th November 2024 were read and it was **RESOLVED** to accept these as a true record of the meeting and they were signed by the Chair.

01.25.04 Public Participation :

There were no members of the public present

01.25.05 Clerk's Report and Actions from previous meeting

Sept24.06	Playground - CC will repair the basket swing. ML to arrange repairs to table tennis table. Repairs have been attempted but wood filler will not set in the current weather conditions.	CP	Outstanding . ALJ to chase Pending until next summer
Oct24.01	Clerk to find out requirements for recycling facilities for a village of this size	CF	Emails have been sent to CDC but no responses received. Clerk to forward emails to Cllr MCHugh to action,
Nov24.01	Public participation – ALJ to follow up with Cllr Fatemian re Highways non response	ALJ	Emails sent but no response
Nov24.02	Playground – ALJ to find out if wooden beams can be screwed onto plastic beams for the perimeter fence and will circulate all specs and figures from suppliers. BMX track sign to be printed and put up.	ALJ	Agenda item
Nov24.03	Blandford FI – ALJ to follow up again with Cllr Fatemian re funding		Agenda item
Nov24.04	Highways – ALJ to follow up village walk round with Highways. Clerk to enquire about costs for poppy project PD to replace South Side bus shelter bin with larger bin	ALJ CF PD	Completed Completed Outstanding
Nov24.05	Village hall Bin store post – Confirm approach once quote received Foliage - Clerk to respond to Margaret's email copying in ALJ Jetwash – Clerk to find previous contractor details	ML CF CF	ML to chase Completed Completed
Nov24.06	Committee reports – ALJ to invite Environment Committee rep to January PC meeting		Completed, postponed to February meeting
Nov24.07	Website - ALJ/CC to approach James Lewin for advice	ALJ/CP	Agenda item

**01.25.06 Reports from OCC/CDC
No representation present**

01.25.07 Finance

- The monthly accounts schedule was approved and will be authorized by ALJ and ML

Payee	Detail/Inv No	Total Amount	VAT	paid
KP Treecare	Inv 1474	240.00	40.00	25/11
HMRC	PAYE	346.24		10/12
Cathy Fleet	Clk Sal Dec	419.94		10/12
George Brown	Inv 1056	444.00	74.00	07/01
Cathy Fleet	Clk sal Jan	420.14		
SAVA	precept meeting hall hire	15.00		
SART	Hall hire	110.00		
TP Jones	1895	62.40	10.40	

- The monthly bank reconciliation was received
- The Precept demand of £38,662.00 was ratified.
- The Unit Trust bank mandate was updated to include MW and GE as signatories and the removal of Stuart Ferguson and Graham Porcas
- The CCLA Bank mandate was updated

01.25.08 Play area/Teenage facilities

At the previous meeting the proposals were considered and it was agreed to find out about recycled plastic sleepers and whether timber uprights can be screwed into plastic sleepers. It seems that timber sleepers cannot be screwed into the plastic sleepers by the supplier contacted, but possibly could be at a later date. Samples were available at the meeting and the specification had been circulated, **It was agreed to proceed with recycled plastic sleepers.**

ALJ will ensure suppliers will honour the figures originally provided and circulate the results.

01.25.09 Blandford Fly project

Following posters being put around the village, a number of emails had been received regarding the project, some in favour and some concerned about the amount of money involved and the effect on the environment. The proposal is that BUG will carry out a trial to identify a location (Upper Heyford, Somerton) to see how many larvae are on the weed in March and will treat with bacteria. Tests and scientific reports have been carried by BUG out on the bacteria with no negative results and no impact on other vertebrates. The Environment Agency is aware of the scheme and has no concerns.

The trial will cost £5K. **MW will request a written quote and contract.**

Parish Councils in the local area will be contacted to keep them informed, particularly those where the tests will be carried out. **ALJ to contact other PC chairs**

01.25.10 Highways/footpaths

Kate Gash has booked into do a village walk around the village 24th January at 20.30. Potholes, parking lines, school crossing, speeding on Townend, gully clearance on Heyford Road and the Ice signs, signage on Southside, changing 30mph on SID device are all items which will be discussed.

GE to contact Graham Porcas to find out his position as Superuser, then report to Clerk who will contact Lorraine Tougher

Lorraine.Tougher@oxfordshire.gov.uk who is the volunteer co-coordinator for OCC.

- 01.25.11 Community Land Trust**
The first meeting of members will be held at the end of the month and a report provided at the next PC meeting,
- 01.25.12 MCNP**
MCNP is expected to allocate sites for 100 new homes within the area prior to the Local Plan consultation. Some parishes are undecided about sites they want to put forward and the number of homes they can provide. Once decided, the update of MCNP then will need to go out to consultation. ML asked if SAPC wish to confirm that the allocation of about 30 new homes in the village still stands. **It was resolved that this is confirmed.**
- 01.25.13 Starlink Wifi**
MW suggested that phone connection should be available throughout the village with possible hubs at the Village Hall, the shop, the pub and has suggested using Starlink. It was suggested that MW discuss the matter with John White who is working on the installation of WiFi for the village hall/SART.
- 01.25.14 Emergency Plan**
There was an electrical outage in the village some weeks ago, which was followed up by correspondence in SAL regarding the lack of action taken by the PC and needs a response. **ALJ will respond to the letter in SAL.**
The existing Emergency plan is out of date and will be updated and it was agreed that all councillors should be updated on what to do in the event of an emergency to include planning for various scenarios.
There were power cuts in the village on 7th and 8th December.
Some houses in SA were without power for 29 hours.
SSE had no process for informing people in the village what was going on and how to deal with it.
There was a water leak on Danes Hill on the A4260 on 12th December which resulted in many properties in SA being without water for a considerable time.
ML will contact Jon Boyce regarding the Oxfordshire Resilience Scheme
- 01.25.15 Buildings**
- **Village hall** - Bin store fence – dealt with above
Quote had been received from George Brown to renew the notice board outside the village hall £2166-£2490. **CC will obtain further quotes.**
The noticeboard on the wall at the bottom of Harrisville does not open properly. The Clerk has cleaned debris from the runners and lubricated them but noted that the back board appears to have bowed and requires attention. **CC to ask George Brown if he can fix it.**
The paths around the village hall have been pressure washed – thanks to Barbara Brewer and Stuart Cummins.
 - **SART** – No updates
- 01.25.16 Correspondence**
There was no correspondence which had not been dealt with elsewhere
- 01.25.17 Committee Reports**

Environment Committee - Minutes had been circulated ahead of the meeting, A representative will attend the February meeting of the PC.
Website Committee – Minutes had been circulated ahead of the meeting.

01.25.18 Planning – PD and MW were not part of these discussions The following planning documents had been received:

<u>24/02108/F</u>	Land To Rear Of The Old Quarry House Fenway Steeple Aston	Erection of a forestry building ML to draft submission to CDC
<u>25/00004/TCA</u>	The Lodge South Side Steeple Aston OX25 4RY	T1 x Sycamore - multi stemmed and grown on its own accord. I want it felled as it is blocking light from my house. It is also knocking the very old wall down. It's also incredibly close to my house which is a worry in storms.,there are a number of other trees in area that mean the height and sight doesn't change from the road. ML to draft submission to CDC
<u>24/03332/TCA</u>	Timbers Water Lane Steeple Aston OX25 4SB	1 x Sycamore - ORANGE large limb expands over highway with signs of stress/adaptive growth at base of stem - reduce stem 50% and cut back from highway 5.5m lift 1 x Plum - BLUE heavily weighted over highway with crack at base of stem and exudate leaking from rotten section, failure would likely damage retaining wall and block highway - dismantle leaving stable monolith for habitat NO OBJECTION
<u>24/02766/F</u>	30 Fenway Steeple Aston Bicester OX25 4SS	RETROSPECTIVE - Single storey side extension and rear extension; first floor rear extension NO OBJECTION
<u>24/00857/DISC</u>	Cedar Lodge North Side Steeple Aston Oxfordshire OX25 4SE	Discharge of Conditions 3 (slate sample), 4 (brick sample), 5 (glazing), 6 (doors, windows, rooflights), 7 (proposed opening), 8 (rainwater goods), 9 (roof, eaves, verges) and 10 (pipe runs) of 23/02833/F
<u>25/00068/TCA</u>	The Rectory Fir Lane Steeple Aston OX25 4SF	Treework NO OBJECTION
25/00009/F	East Grange, Grange Park	Erection of carport NO OBJECTION
<u>Decisions</u>		
24/02309/F	Tangley Cottage, The Gap	REFUSED

01.25.19 Website
James Lewin is considering how to update the website and will report back.

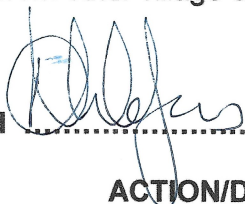
01.2.20**Date of next meetings
3rd Monday of the month**

Dates for 2025

24th Feb 17th March, 28th April, 19th May, 16th June, 21st July, 15th Sept, 20th Oct,
17th Nov**Other matters**

Open Day with reps from other village organisations to be considered at the APM

Signed



Date

24/02/25

ACTION/DECISION LIST SUMMARY

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Jan25.02	Blandford Fly project - . MW will request a written quote and contract ALJ to contact other PC chairs asking for support	MW ALJ	
Jan25.03	Highways - GE to contact Graham Porcas to find out his position as Superuser	GE	
Jan25.04	ML asked if SAPC wish to confirm that the allocation of about 30 new homes in the village still stands. It was resolved that this is confirmed.		
Jan25.05	Emergency Plan - ALJ will respond to the letter in SAL. ML will contact Jon Boyce regarding the Oxfordshire Resilience Scheme	ALJ ML	
Jan25.06	Noticeboards - CC will obtain further quotes and ask George Brown if can repair the noticeboard at the bottom of Harrisville	CC	
Jan25.07	Planning – ML will draft responses to various applications	ML	