

Maugersbury Parish Council

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Parish Council Meeting Held on Monday 7 June 2021 starting at 6.30pm At Stow Youth Centre, Fosseyway, Stow on the Wold, GL54 1DW

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Cllr R Warmington (Acting Chairman), Cllr R Boyens, Cllr M Lutman, Cllr A Root, Cllr H Totham, and Liz Sajewicz (Clerk).

In attendance: County Cllr M Mackenzie-Charrington, District Cllr D Neill and 2 members of the public.

1. **Election of Chairman:** There were no nominations for a chairman of council to hold office until the 2022 annual council meeting. Cllr Warmington was elected acting chairman to chair the meeting and sign documents approved at the meeting.
2. **Election of Vice-Chairman:** It was agreed to defer election of a vice-chairman until the next council meeting.
3. **Allocation of council roles**
 - a) It was agreed to confirm that roles within the council, i.e. Responsible Financial Officer, Internal Auditor and existing councillors' portfolios, would be unchanged from last year, and that role-holders would continue to hold office until the 2022 annual council meeting, subject to review by Council at a future meeting following co-option of new member.
 - b) It was agreed to appoint Mr Iain Selkirk as Independent Internal Auditor for 2021/22.
4. **Co-option of new member:** It was unanimously agreed to co-opt Mr Ross Boyens on to Council with immediate effect. His Acceptance of Office was signed. The chairman welcomed Cllr Boyens to the Council.
5. **Apologies:** Mr R Fisher and Mr S Meyrick.
6. **Declarations of interest:** Cllr Root declared an interest as the applicant in planning applications for Southwell House.

Reports from County and District Councillors and the Gypsy Gathering were brought forward on the agenda because of other commitments.

6A. County Councillor's report (Cllr Mackenzie-Charrington) (agenda item 14)

Cllr Mackenzie-Charrington was welcomed. His written report had been circulated before the meeting. He spoke to introduce himself and gave his report.

6B District Councillor's report (Cllr Neill) (agenda item 15)

Cllr Neill's report had been circulated before the meeting. She gave a further update with the main points being:

Cllr Neill thanked residents who had sent in their experiences with holiday lets and said the detailed evidence had been useful for the working group. The group's remit had been widened.

CDC leader Cllr Joe Harris had said he would be happy to attend an MPC meeting if invited. She spoke about street name signs and was asked what the new signs looked like. Cllr Neill will send a photo of the new signs to MPC.

6C To receive an update on the Gypsy gathering (agenda item 16)

Cllr Warmington thanked Cllr Lutman and Cllr Neill for the detailed reports they had each produced following the May event.

Cllr Lutman reported that MPC had monitored the situation before the event, and indications had been that it would not be allowed to go ahead. But suddenly it was going ahead and a

risk assessment and event management plan were in place. MPC and residents were sceptical the rules would be adhered to and unfortunately were correct.

A review meeting had been held earlier today, chaired by Cllr Neill, and involving CDC, GCC, Police, Stow Town Council, MPC and a Stow business representative. There was some recognition that things had gone wrong. The main focus was on the future. Public health officers said they needed a strong objective case to ban the event. It appeared that, when the deadline had passed, GCC traveller liaison officers had realised the organisers couldn't read or write and had then provided assistance.

Neither SMAG nor Silver Group had met this year. MPC felt their coordination role had worked well in the past. The Police were not aware of the Silver Group. Cllr Lutman said the issues had been made clear and he hoped would be improved upon.

Cllr Neill said SMAG and Silver Group were both responsibilities of CDC. She would liaise with the cabinet member responsible to make certain a Silver Group meeting took place this year. She said she would continue to put across that police and other resources were needed throughout the week including evenings. She said the traveller liaison officer's view was that youngsters misbehaved because there was nothing else for them to do. The Stow Town Council representative had said she would discuss this to see if anything could be done.

Cllr Root asked whether arrests were made, and what public order actions were taken by Police? Cllr Lutman reported that Inspector Ellson had said at the meeting that Police needed evidence and identification. Cllr Totham said it was apparent the Police were not there at the right time. Cllr Warmington said it had been the worst event he had seen. He spoke of residents' unhappiness that it was a question of not having a reason to ban it. Although it was noted it had not been as big as it used to be before the injunction was obtained (500 caravans), there were concerns it may have been rejuvenated. He wanted to know more about the charter. Cllr Neill said she would look into that with the CDC cabinet member Jenny Forde.

Cllr Totham said there was a feeling that field owners should be contributing towards the cost rather than the public purse paying for cleaning, policing, etc. Cllr Lutman said ironically one of the arguments at the meeting had been that the event was potentially a business and therefore allowed under the rules.

Cllr Warmington said he was glad both Cllr Neill and Cllr Mackenzie-Charrington were able to be here and hear local concerns.

Cllr Neill said she would ensure a SMAG meeting took place in September. She added that minutes of the review meeting were coming.

Cllr Lutman was thanked for attending the review meeting on behalf of MPC.

7. Audit

Copies of the independent internal audit reports for the year ended 31 March 2021 had been circulated to members. The reports were received and noted.

8. Financial Summary

Accounts and bank reconciliation for the year ended 31 March 2021 had been circulated to members and were approved.

9. Annual Governance and Accountability Return for year ended 31 March 2021: To confirm and approve Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement

“Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement” was confirmed and approved for signing.

10. Annual Governance and Accountability Return for year ended 31 March 2021: To confirm and approve Section 2 – Annual Accounting Statements

“Section 2 – Annual Accounting Statements” were confirmed and approved for signing.

11. Period for the exercise of public rights for accounts for year ended 31 March 2021

Noted that the period when members of the public could inspect the accounts would commence on 14 June 2021 and end on 23 July 2021. Anyone wishing to do so should contact the clerk.

12. Certificate of exemption from requirement to submit Annual Governance and Accountability Return to external auditor

Approved and confirmed that Council certifies that during financial year 2020/21 the higher of the council's gross income for the year or gross expenditure for the year did not exceed £25,000.

13. Minutes

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 15 March 2021 were confirmed as an accurate record and approved to be signed by the Chairman.

14. Parish Environment:

a) Pound Lane junction

Cllr Totham reported that she and Cllr Warmington had met on site with the local GCC Highways management team and they had seen for themselves how differently drivers used the junction, as well as speeding from Stow direction and vehicles cutting straight across oncoming traffic. The team had been receptive. They noted increased use of the farm entrances and said the junction would not be designed that way now. They suggested looking at a potential solution involving squaring up the Bledington Road entrance/exit and creating a separate entrance/exit for Pound Lane. It would mean traffic from the Bledington Road would have to turn onto the A436 and then into Pound Lane, and that traffic from Stow wouldn't be able to just drift across the road but would have to make a turn. Highways officers also said they would check the advance signage and road markings on the A436 from both directions to see if there were any improvements that could be made quickly. Members said that "SLOW" road markings had recently appeared.

Cllr Totham said a feasibility study would be requested by Highways officers and they intended to take it forward with the new county councillor following last month's elections. The Clerk said she had asked for an update from Highways but had not heard back yet.

Cllr Lutman said the speed limit was still an issue and all speed limits around Stow could be rationalised to 50 mph.

Cllr Totham was thanked for her report.

b) Highways works, lengthsman projects and any other work in the parish

Cllr Root commended CDC for the cleanup following the fair. He reported that GCC had cleared the drains so there was not much for the lengthsman to do.

Leaning signs at the top of Oxleaze Lane had been reported.

Cllr Lutman reported that Stow Hill still had rubbish and leaves, overgrown weeds and blocked drains and needed to be done more frequently.

c) Defibrillator

Cllr Warmington reported that Mrs Warmington continues to check the defibrillator regularly and all is well.

d) Telephone kiosk – nothing to report.

e) Village fund

Cllr Warmington reported the new balance was £1535 with £256 having been used to purchase new 20 is Plenty signs. He noted it had been agreed to use the fund if needed to extend the verge maintenance contractor's work.

f) Broadband

Cllr Lutman reported he had had a meeting with a Gigaclear surveyor and had seen a detailed plan of the village with every house and how it could be connected using public access infrastructure, e.g. BT/Openreach ducts, telegraph poles. The plans were still subject to approval, but if approved the work was expected to start towards the end of

this year. Cllr Lutman said it appeared there was now a reasonable possibility that everybody in the village would have the choice of Gigaclear. He thanked Mrs Ricketts for her contribution.

Cllr Lutman reported that he had responded to the government consultation on Improving Broadband for Very Hard to Reach Premises on behalf of MPC.

15. Planning:

a) To consider current planning applications:

- i) **21/01844/FUL – Rowan Gate Mangersbury** – Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) of permission 18/00190/FUL (Installation of dormer windows, increase in size of existing windows to rear, and alterations to existing balcony).
It was agreed that Council objects on the basis that the dormer windows as installed are far too large. They are totally out of proportion with the rest of the property and give it an unbalanced appearance that is not in the Cotswold vernacular. In Council's opinion had they been designed like this in the original application residents and Council would have objected at that stage. Council is also very concerned that this application could set a precedent whereby granted planning permissions are ignored in the belief that retrospective planning can be applied for and secured. This would have the potential to be very damaging to the Cotswold AONB if it were to happen at scale.
- ii) **21/01851/FUL – Daisy Bank, Mangersbury** – Installation of gravel driveway, wooden gate to be built into existing Cotswold stone wall.
It was agreed that Council feels Cotswold District Council is best placed to determine the effect of the change of land use (parked cars) on the rural setting and surrounding listed properties.
- iii) **21/01949/FUL – Gray Cottage, 2 Chapel Street, Mangersbury** – Loft conversion including dormer windows to front and rear and the removal of a chimney.
It was agreed that Council has no objection.

Cllr Totham reported on applications 21/01150/FUL and 21/01151/LBC for Southwell House, Mangersbury – Single storey side extension, saying that comments of No objection had been submitted between meetings, and that Cllr Root who was the applicant had not taken part. Cllr Root said that planning consent had been refused.

b) To note decision notices received for the following planning applications:

Applica-tion	Address	Description	MPC Comments	CDC Decision
21/00575/ TCONR	Rowan House, Mangersbury	Tree work	No comment made	Permit
21/00971/ TCONR	Monks Barn Mangersbury	Tree work	No comment made	Permit
21/00371/ FUL	Park House Mangersbury	Conversion of existing car port to form residential annexe, construction of an open sided single storey pole barn, replacement of an existing shed with a new shed	No objection	Permit

c) To receive update on the Old Forge

Cllr Totham reported that following the last meeting the parish council had made contact with the owners and the agents. The owners had been responsive. They advised that they now have a property manager, and they provided Council with a 24/7 contact number which is being made available to affected residents on request. It was reported

that the bins were still overflowing. Cllr Root said there had been mention of a private weekly collection service.

- d) To receive update from Cllr Neill on alleged use of land off Fosseyway for scrap metal business

Cllr Neill said she had chased this up. The team was under huge pressure and was currently recruiting more officers. She would continue to pursue it.

Cllr Neill was asked to expand on the planning application for cottages in Lower Swell to have artificial stone cladding. She explained Bromford was applying in both Lower Swell and Temple Guiting for a number of cottages to have external insulation applied, including non-adjacent terrace cottages. Comments could still be made on the application in Pear Tree Close, Lower Swell, but only until 9 June.

16. Finance: To approve payments as per the payment schedule.

Payments were approved as per the payment schedule: A Root reimbursement for 20 is Plenty signs £256.34; Stow Town Council cemetery maintenance contribution £480.00; I Selkirk independent audit fee £80.00; M Penfold verge cutting £185.00; Came & Co insurance premium £218.00; E Sajewicz clerk's salary £519.00 HMRC PAYE £7.40; Centre 67 hire of Youth Club hall £10.00.

It was noted that receipts for the period were: CDC precept instalment 1 £2813.00 and HMRC VAT refund £69.32.

17. Correspondence for information:

- a) Kingham-Bourton Recreational Trail proposal is seeking crowdfunding for a feasibility study at <https://www.spacehive.com/kingham-to-bourton-recreational-trail>
- b) Cotswold Friends is seeking crowdfunding for a new 'Independence Support Service' at <https://www.spacehive.com/independent-living>
- c) A resident had raised the issue of vehicles parking down Mangersbury Road.
- d) Offer received of trees and hedging as part of GCC's Ash Dieback Replanting scheme. Anyone interested is welcome to contact the clerk for details of the offer.

18. Date of next meeting: To be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 8.19pm.

Signed by Chairman: _____

Date: _____