



THE CAUSEWAY

## STEVENTON PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs. Angela Einon, Parish Clerk

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**Steventon Parish Council Meeting was held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7pm  
in the Millennium room of the Village Hall.**

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from Mr R Wilkinson and Mr M Stimpson-Tame.

### **2. PRESENT**

Dr C Wilding, Chair, Mr J Bennett, Mrs S Broadbent, Ms L Cann, Mr J Clark, Ms L Perkins, and Mr J Rice, Mrs A Einon (Parish Clerk) and Cllr S Povolotsky (VWHDC & OCC) were in attendance. The meeting was joined by five members of the public.

### **3. WELCOME TO COOPTED PARISH COUNCILLOR LAURIE-JANE CANN.**

Dr Wilding welcomed our new coopted Parish Councillor Ms Laurie-Jane Cann.

### **4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS AND OTHER DECLARATIONS**

To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, and other declarations, in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting.

Cllr J Clark expressed an interest in items relating to the Little Green

### **5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

#### **5.1. GARD**

Mr Stork updated the Council on the SESRO plan published on 31<sup>st</sup> August. The reservoir had now become the preferred plan and is 50% bigger than it was. The seven/thames transfer has been dismissed. Two platforms meet tonight, legal and political to discuss the response and consider legal advice.

In the event of bund failure Steventon and Hanney would suffer fatalities and south Abingdon and Marcham flooding.

Urge all residents to write to their MP. The provision of water in the future requires lateral thinking and consideration of alternatives used around the world.

#### **5.2. SPEEDWATCH**

Louise Brockman reported the in the first six months of speedwatch the average speed through the village was 38 mph, in the second six months it had reduced to 34 mph. Since the introduction of the 20 mph limit the average is now down to 29. At the bridge for the 20 standalone there were 64 speeders before and 51 after the average has reduced to 20%. There has been an increasing amount of abuse to those operating the recording device which has been reported to the police.

### **6. REPORT FROM ANY COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR IN ATTENDANCE**

Cllr Sally Povolotsky reported that she had spent a great deal of time concerning the reservoir consulting with the Chief Executive of OCC and meeting with Thames Water.

Cllr Clark thanked Cllr Povolotsky for the work on Stonebridge Road footpath which has been much appreciated by all.

### **7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July, (no meeting was held in August) were accepted as a true record with the following modifications.

11.7 Insert after St Michael's "House, the old vicarage, in Sarinc ownership,"

Proposed: Mr Clark Seconded: Mr Bennett

### **8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – REPORTS ON ACTIONS**

#### **8.1. VILLAGE INFRASTRUCTURE**

Outstanding item of allocation areas to councillors. Mr Clark with the Clerk would work on a map for consideration. Unfortunately, not yet completed.

## 8.2. S106 ART

The village map required a weatherproof Perspex cover. Mr Clark had measured the required size the Clerk to investigate a suitable material and supplier.

Action 2/9/23: Clerk

## 8.3. DOG POO

The Clerk had circulated several different bag dispensing units to the Parish Council. It was decided to purchase the cheapest unit from Amazon to see how it performed and if it was a useful service to improve the level of picking up. The initial one to be installed near the village hall. The unit cost £35 plus bags.

## 9. PLANNING MATTERS

### 9.1. Applications

#### 9.1.1. [P23/V1948/LDP](#) Land to the South of Hanney Road Cow Common OX13 6AP

The Proposed Development relates to a Clay Compaction Trial, on land to the south of Hanney Road. The overarching purpose of the trial excavation is to provide information on the local clay qualities under compression. This survey work will be used to help inform the design of safe embankments for the wider future SESRO project.

Steventon Parish Council object to this application, not to Thames Water doing proper testing in the field rather than fictional computer modelling, but to the lack of information on methods, traffic, noise, etc.

The proposed compactions and embankments do not appear suitable to relate to the intended 25 metre high they are supposed to give information on. There is no detail of what scientific result is to be gained nor that it will be available to the public.

It is surprising that the three proposed trial embankments are not bigger – seemingly only 3 m high and total 12,000 m, whereas the Havant Thicket reservoir trial embankment is about 8m high and about 40,000 m<sup>3</sup>, as here <https://www.geplus.co.uk/news/havant-thicket-reservoir-project-makes-progress-on-trial-embankment-13-04-2023/>.<<

Even with the constraints of the site, it is difficult to see why the embankments could not be longer and higher (obviously 25m height, as in the SESRO reality, is not possible on the site).

The Havant Thicket link above shows that their trial embankment is 140m long and 8 m high. This is for a reservoir bounded on 3 sides by an embankment about 2 km long. Havant Thicket is about 1/16 of the size of the big SESRO (it's 8.7 Billion litres).

The whole application is very sparse on information. Construction of temporary roads is mentioned but not illustrated, nor is there a traffic movement report. Stone has to arrive via very large lorries along the Hanney Road. Equipment to do the excavations and move the earth will also arrive and depart via the highways. Compaction it has to be assumed will create noise there is no indication at what level this is likely to be, how it will affect the immediate neighbours and local wildlife. Nor if its percussive or what methods will be used. Movements of earth within the site will also be noisy.

Working hours, noise assessment, and traffic movements schedules are required to enable proper comment on this application

#### 9.1.2. [P23/V1743/HH](#) The Picked Mead Hanney Road Steventon Abingdon OX13 6AP

Single storey side extension.

No objection.

### 9.2. 2-6 High Street Vale Planning Committee

The Committee rejected the application on the basis of overdevelopment and insufficient parking for the number of proposed residential units.

Cllr Bennett left the meeting at 8.15 pm.

## 10. ITEMS FROM RISK ASSESSMENT ACTION SCHEDULE

Items from the risk assessment action register

- 10.1. Arrange for annual inspection by ROSPA, record findings in the Council Minutes and rectify problems.

The report from Rospa had been received and circulated to the Parish Council. Actions to be progressed as soon as possible.

Mr Rice agreed to contact OPFA to ask for assistance on maintenance companies etc.

**Action 3/9/23: Mr Rice**

- 10.2. Annual review of documents to be sent to the Oxford Record Office.

There were a number of records that could be archived. Detail of how they needed to be presented for acceptance by the Records office was required. Currently in A4 lever arch files.

- 10.3. Insurances including Fidelity Guarantee.

The Insurance had been renewed via Arthur J Gallagher brokers.

### **WORKING GROUP, SUB-COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES ACTIVITIES Finance and General Purposes Committee JB, SB, JC, JR, CW, Clerk**

Not met.

- 11.2. Planning Committee – Parish Council members.**

Not met. Dr Wilding had attended the Planning Committee meeting to discuss 2-6 High Street which had been rejected. Vanessa Clipstone of Laister had met with several parish councillors to discuss what could be done to improve the application. The discussion concerned the number of units and available parking for each.

- 11.3. Burial Ground JC, MST, RW, Clerk**

Not met

- 11.4. Human Resources CW,SB, JR, RW**

Not met

- 11.5. Recreation and Open Spaces – Trees, Greens, Waterways, Footpaths, Playground, Sports Hall. SB, JC, JR, LP, MST, CW**

Not met. Tree packs of 50 trees were available. Cllr Perkins agreed to research further and apply for a woodland pack. Propose to involve the community and Forest School in planting.

**Action 4/9/23: Ms Perkins**

Mr Rice had spoken with Ms Ruffy concerning horse in the copse, she had agreed to pass to other horse owners and riders that horses were not allowed on the footpaths only the bridleway.

Dr Wilding and Mr Stimpson-Tame had met with residents of the little green to talk about parking. It had been decided previously that small posts would be put on the edge of the green at a level with the telegraph pole which was the stipulated distance from the buildings. Residents had suggested digging out and filling with aggregate which they would do. Some years ago an offer was made to supply materials. Further discussion was required but the bollards should go ahead.

- 11.6. Village Infrastructure & Resilience – Railway, Roads, Drains JB, JR, CW.**

Not met

- 11.7. Sarinc RW**

No report. A request to be made to Sarinc that Andrew use his leaf blower and clear the area within the Muga of debris on a regular basis. Falling leaves make it very slippery.

**Action 5/9/23: Clerk**

- 11.8. Neighbourhood Plan. JC, LP, CW, Clerk, and volunteers: Caroline Miller, Nick Thompson**

Response from Vale officer suggesting some changes and display methods. Submit as soon as completed. Updated procedures for submission had been received.

- 11.9. S106 Art working group CW, JC, SB, Clerk, Abi Brown (Vale), volunteer Lin Dewsnap**

Not met. Dr Wilding to contact Peter Greenfield to check on progress of the benches.

**Action 6/9/23: Dr Wilding**

## 11.10. Other representative reports

### 11.10.1. Milton Park Forum. CW, JR

Not met

### 11.10.2. Causeway Trust

Not met.

## FINANCE Financial report 2023-24

The financial report was discussed and approved.

Proposed: Mr Clark Seconded: Mrs Broadbent

## 12.2. Audit return for 2022-2023

The signed return from the external auditor had been received. Comments as below:

### 2. External auditor report 2022/23

Except for the matters reported below on the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with the Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

The Council has answered 'Yes' to Assertion 4 of Section 1 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return which relates to how the Notice of Public Rights was advertised within the financial year 2022-23. Therefore, it relates to the Notice announcing the public right to review the 2021-22 return which was published during 2022-23. As noted in our Auditor Report last year, this notice was not correctly advertised therefore this question should have been answered 'No'. As this was a matter raised within the Report of the External Auditor, Assertion 7 should also have been answered 'No'.

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the authority:

Section 2 of the AGAR was initially submitted without the Trust Funds disclosure in Box 1 la completed. This was later resubmitted with a 'No' answer which was in line with our expectations and so there are no further concerns in this area.

On review we note that on the Internal Auditors report, the date the internal audit was undertaken was left blank when the documents were submitted to us. This was later resubmitted with the date completed. We believe this is a human error on completion and that the requirements to complete the internal audit have been correctly completed.

The Internal Auditor has answered 'Yes' to control objective M of their report despite the council not satisfying the Audit and Accounts Regulations 2015, Regulation 15(3) with regard to the Notice of Public Rights being announced and commenced before the approval of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return. We would therefore have anticipated this response to have been 'No'.

## 12.3. Cheques for Signature

## CORRESPONDENCE

### 13.1. Received

5/7/23	E	Ms Jennifer Bell, CFO	Payment remittance from City Council		
5/7/23	E	Adam Bows	Fisheries Improvement Programme Funding	3	
5/7/23	E	Christopher Wilding	Re: Planning & various	40	
5/7/23	E	Gemma Tindsley	Community First Oxfordshire - Conference 2023	4	
5/7/23	E	Leon Smith	Re: Cremation ashes in Steventon	6	
5/7/23	E	Mark Bond	Re: 1 The Green, Steventon, Abingdon, Oxfordshire		
5/7/23	E	Martin Stimpson-Tame	Data storage = various	18	
5/7/23	E	NALC	NEWSLETTER various	37	
5/7/23	E	Oxfordshire County Council	The latest news for your communities		
5/7/23	E	Planning Business Enquiries	Re: Planning committee		
5/7/23	E	Play Source Ltd	Playground Services		
5/7/23	E	reg southandvale	Planning Consultation - P23/V1427/HH		

5/7/23	E	Sheenagh Broadbent	Re: Planning + various	13	
6/7/23	E	Area Operations South	FW: Highway maintenance open day - Saturday 15th	3	
6/7/23	E	dawn lorenz	Interring	2	
6/7/23	E	Healthwatch Oxfordshire	Read the latest news from Healthwatch Oxfordshire	4	
6/7/23	E	OALC	Chairs Q and A Session + various	12	
6/7/23	E	John Clark	Re: Planning = various	16	
6/7/23	E	reg southandvale	Planning Decision Notice - P23/V0503/LB		
6/7/23	E	Thames Valley Alert	Organised crime + various	11	
7/7/23	E	Fras, Ewa- OCC	UE weekly update , w/e Friday 7th of July 2023	6	
7/7/23	E	Graham2, Robert- OCC	TTRO (T12385) Temporary Road Closure, Middle	3	
7/7/23	E	reg southandvale	Planning Decision Notice - P22/V1425/FUL		
8/7/23	E	Antony Stone	Woodland	2	
8/7/23	E	STUART BROCKMAN	Re: Hall availability		
9/7/23	E	Steventon News	August issue -cut off date is 16 July	2	
9/7/23	E	sylvia pajak	Re: The Old Farm House 5 Kennel Lane	2	
10/7/23	E	duke	Scan_20230710.png		
11/7/23	E	Rob Smith, CEO, SLCC	Nominations for the 2023 Election of Directors	3	
11/7/23	E	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Councillor Update	2	
12/7/23	E	Brendan McCabe	Re: Cooption of parish councillor		5
12/7/23	E	Christopher Wilding	Re: Letter received		
12/7/23	E	Joe Bennett	Re: Letter received		
12/7/23	E	lucy perkins	Re: Roles = various	9	
12/7/23	E	OALC Event Bookings	Your Booking at <a href="https://www.oalc.org.uk">https://www.oalc.org.uk</a>		
12/7/23	E	Planning Vale	Re: Planning Application P23/V1427/HH		
13/7/23	E	John Rice	Re: Letter = various	13	
13/7/23	E	Sally Povolotsky	Planning Application P23/V1247/O		
13/7/23	E	Society of Local Council C	Important update = various	8	
13/7/23	E	Suspicious Email Reporting	Thank you for reporting a suspicious email	6	
13/7/23	E	The Circuit	The update to your defibrillator record is now ov	4	
14/7/23	E	Vanessa Clipstone	2-6 High Street, Steventon - Informally Project M	8	
15/7/23	E	michael jarvis	Footpath above the copse.		
16/7/23	E	Valerie Thomas	Steventon Little Green parking		
17/7/23	E	Communications	Press release: Lots of fun for everyone this summ		
17/7/23	E	Highway Records Office - E	Steventon: 366.21 S278 Abingdon Road bakery site		
17/7/23	E	Stuart & Louise Brockman	Re: Speedwatch data - May 2023		
18/7/23	E	ABC Events	Can you help local charity spread the word?		
18/7/23	E	Christopher Davis	Proposed posts along the edge of the Little Green		
18/7/23	E	Community Links Oxfordsh	What's on in your area this summer?		
20/7/23	E	Povolotsky, Sally	Re: Scan_20230710.png		
20/7/23	E	Accounts	Bill INV-2145 from Playground Facilities Ltd is d	4	
20/7/23	E	Christopher Wilding	Fwd: little green		
20/7/23	E	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Re: Undeliverable: Steventon crossing		
21/7/23	E	Power, Nathalie	59 Hanney Road, OX13 6AH, P22/V2195/FUL	2	
21/7/23	E	Ralton, June (RTH) OUH	Volunteering opportunities at Sobell and Katharin		
21/7/23	E	Highway Records Office - E&	Steventon: 366.11 S278 Barnett Road - Certificate		
21/7/23	E	reg southandvale	Planning Decision Notice - P23/V1247/O		
22/7/23	E	Jane Bevan	Little Green Steventon - parking issues	3	
25/7/23	E	Communications	Press release - How we're 'Letting It Bee' for Lo		

25/7/23	E	Communications	Press release: Â£155k of longer-term funding for v		
25/7/23	E	reg southandvale	Planning Decision Notice - P22/V2195/FUL		
27/7/23	E	Dyson, ChrisOCC	Press Release: Free electric blanket tests coming		
28/7/23	E	Rymer, AndyOCC	Weekly update 28th July 2023	3	
28/7/23	E	Vale of White Horse District	Vale News - July 2023 - Parishes	2	
30/7/23	E	Gareth Keymer	Re: rights and bench	2	
31/7/23	E	Cookson, David	Art projects funded by S106		
31/7/23	E	CPRE Oxfordshire	July Newsletter: HiF1 Didcot Road Scheme Public I	2	
31/7/23	E	Marianne Rabanal	The 2023 White Horse Show at Uffington, August		
1/8/23	E	Aquarius Mental Health Sol	Civility & Respect Project - OXFORDSHIRE	2	
1/8/23	E	Kathryn Henderson	FW: Bill INV-2145 from Playground Facilities Ltd		
2/8/23	E	Darch, TimOCC	PTRs meeting 4th July 2023: minutes/presentations		
2/8/23	E	Worsley, Sally-Anne	Change of property number from: 14-16 The Green t		
2/8/23	E	harwell.ssg (MAG)	FW: Harwell SSG Member Contact details review - O		
3/8/23	E	Communications	New grant scheme opportunity for Electric Vehicle		
4/8/23	E	Fermer, PaulOCC	2023 NHT Public & Public Representatives Satisfac		
5/8/23	E	Jye Holland	Speed Camera		
7/8/23	E	Evans, Sophie	South and Vale Visitor Economy surveys		
7/8/23	E	Lynda Moore	Championing our Local countryside - meeting invit		
8/8/23	E	S & R Childs Funeral Director	t/l Ruth Johnson	4	
9/8/23	E	Michelle	Jarvis memorial fee	2	
9/8/23	E	veronica.reynolds	Re: Milton Park Community Liaison Group - Minutes		
10/8/23	E	Darch, Tim - OCC	Community Transport grants: application form		
10/8/23	E	didcockfunerals	T/L Ian Macdonald	7	
10/8/23	E	Communications	Press release: Help shape the future of tourism i		
11/8/23	E	Jill Williamson	SESRO - Clay compaction trials	2	
12/8/23	E	tonksbrothers	Re: Burial ground info		
14/8/23	E	Laurie_Jane Cann	Fw: Parish Councillor = various	8	
14/8/23	E	OALC	Invoice - Reminder: Your payment to OALC (Oxfords		
14/8/23	E	SCCommunityIntegration	South Central Probation Unpaid Work Consultation		
14/8/23	E	steventonvillagehall book	Sorry another request	5	
17/8/23	E	Gill, Tom	Re: Steventon Neighbourhood Plan		
17/8/23	E	Consultation Hub	Landscape evidence study now open for comments		
17/8/23	E	reg southandvale	Planning Consultation - P23/V1743/HH		
18/8/23	E	White, Scott - OCC	Emergency Closure - Steventon		
18/8/23	E	Rowstock	R2R Phase 1 - Motions, Transport and Infrastructu		
18/8/23	E	Communications	Press release: Have your say on our landscapes an		
18/8/23	E	Planning Policy S&V	Re: Steventon Neighbourhood Plan		
18/8/23	E	Winter Service - E&E	Winter Preparedness		
19/8/23	E	alex	Attn: Angela Einon Re Village Green		
21/8/23	E	Chaplin, Russell - OCC	Re: Emergency Closure - Steventon		
21/8/23	E	Collodel, Angel - OCC	TTRO (T12647) Temporary Emergency Road Closure -		
22/8/23	E	Business Support South	Rural England Prosperity Fund - submit your exper		
22/8/23	E	Electric Vehicle Team	Reminder: Expression of Interest for EV Microhubs		
24/8/23	E	Darch, TimOCC	Community Transport grants: further information		
24/8/23	E	Didcot Garden Town	Didcot Garden Town Newsletter - Summer Special		
24/8/23	E	reg southandvale	Planning Consultation - P23/V1948/LDP		
24/8/23	E	Wongani Mwanza	Milton Heights - Climate Positive Housing Exhibit	2	

27/8/23	E	Gallagher	Community Renewal Quote		
28/8/23	E	OPFA	OPFA AGM 16th October 2023		
29/8/23	E	Martin Stimpson-Tame	Meeting Notes		
29/8/23	E	Robin Wilkinson	September Meeting	3	
30/8/23	E	Cheryl Gibson	Willow tree Milton Lane		
30/8/23	E	Oxon Sa	Signed External Auditor Report Audit Report and C		
31/8/23	E	Mann, PaulOCC	Re: Emergency Closure - Steventon		
31/8/23	E	Stephanie Taylor	Re: R2R Phase 1 - Motions, Transport and Infrast		
31/8/23	E	Vanessa Lawrence	Solar Installations for Village Halls- From Desig		
1/9/23	E	Collodel, Angel - OCC	TTRO (T12647) Temporary Road Closure - Steventon,		
1/9/23	E	Communications	Press release - Electric vehicle charging and hir		
1/9/23	E	Tim O'Connor	Re: trees	2	
4/9/23	E	Lee, Louise	Invitation: SGN Engage - Shaping Our Plans Togeth		
4/9/23	E	APC Planning Officer	FW: ONPA information message from VWHDC Exec		
4/9/23	E	Joe Bennett	Re: Parish Council meeting 5th September		
4/9/23	E	Office of the PCC	One week left to apply to Community Fund		
4/9/23	E	tree planting	Community Planting Project Submissions		

### 13.1.1 Communication from Turtons

Considerable discussion concerning the level of payment as no increase had been made for some years. It was agreed that an offer of £300 should be made for consideration.

### 13.2. Sent

5/7/23	E	sylvia pajak	Re: The Old Farm House 5 Kennel Lane		
5/7/23	E	Martin Stimpson-Tame	Re: Data storage		
5/7/23	E	Planning Business Enquiries	Planning committee	2	
7/7/23	E	Ms Jennifer Bell, Chief Financial Off	Re: Payment remittance from City Council		
8/7/23	E	Antony Stone	Re: Woodland	2	
11/7/23	E	Cllr Lucy Perkins	Fwd: Roles and Responsibilities Training 18	2	
12/7/23	E	planning@whitehorsedc.gov.uk	Planning Application P23/V1427/HH		
14/7/23	E	Brendan McCabe	Re: Cooption of parish councillor	4	
17/7/23	E	Leon Smith	Burial details	5	
17/7/23	E	steventonvillagehall bookings	bookings please	4	
18/7/23	E	Michael Toplis	parish council cooption	2	
18/7/23	E	Vanessa Clipstone	"Re: 2-6 High Street, Steventon - Informall	3	
20/7/23	E	cllr sally Povolotsky	Fwd: HGV parking and traffic on Stonebridge		
20/7/23	E	Donna Shepherd	Fwd: Bill INV-2145 from Playground Faciliti		
21/7/23	E	Power, Nathalie	"Re: 59 Hanney Road,P22/V2195/FUL"	2	
25/7/23	E	Cllr Sheenagh Broadbent	Interviews	2	
30/7/23	E	dawn lorenz	Re: Interring		
30/7/23	E	Gareth Keymer	rights and bench		
12/8/23	E	BD Tonks	Burial ground info		
12/8/23	E	Didcock funerals	Re: T/L Ian Macdonald	3	
12/8/23	E	John Clark	Re: Swing in play are		
12/8/23	E	Phishing gov	Fwd: Important Massage	8	
12/8/23	E	Reeves memorials	Re: Jarvis memorial fee		
12/8/23	E	S & R Childs Funeral Directors - Abing	Re: t/l Ruth Johnson		
17/8/23	E	Cllr Christopher Wilding	Coopted = various	20	
17/8/23	E	Laurie_Jane Cann	Re: Fw: Parish Councillor	5	

30/8/23	E	phishing@talktalk.co.uk, Phishing	Fwd: Maintenance Talk Mail Alert		
30/8/23	E	cllr sally Povolotsky	Fwd: Parish Council meeting 5th September		
30/8/23	E	John Rice	Re: Playground inspection		
30/8/23	E	Robin Wilkinson	Re: September Meeting		
1/9/23	E	tim oconnor	trees	2	

**MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION**

Communicating, social media, etc

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Parish Council meeting to be held 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 in the Millennium room of the Village Hall.  
The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

**APPROVAL** Signed as a true record of the Meeting:

Name: Dr C Wilding

Position: Chair of the Parish Council

Signature:

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023