



THE CAUSEWAY

STEVENTON PARISH COUNCIL

Mrs. Angela Einon, Parish Clerk

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**Steventon Parish Council Meeting was held on Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 7pm
in the Millennium room of the Village Hall.**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Ms L Perkins, Mr J Rice, Mr M Stimpson-Tame and Cllr S Povolotsky (VWHDC & OCC).

2. PRESENT

Dr C Wilding, Chair, Mr J Bennett, Mrs S Broadbent, Ms L Cann, Mr J Clark, and Mr R Wilkinson. Mrs A Einon (Parish Clerk was in attendance. The meeting was joined by eight members of the public.

3. 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. No declarations were made.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dr Wilding informed the meeting that Cllr Sally Povolotsky had resigned from the Liberal Democrat party. However she intends to continue representing the areas as an independent.

The Neighbourhood Plan consultation will launch on 7th December please lodge any comments it is accessible on the Vale of White Horse website or contact the Parish Clerk to view a printed copy.

S106 funding would see the installation of the bespoke spiral bench on the Green in April.

4.1. RELIEF OF ROWSTOCK

Carole Hooper of Rowstock Residents Association spoke about the proposed changes to Steventon Lights.

If you go to the OCC website and search for Relief to Rowstock you find the update for the A4130 Steventon Lights integrated transport scheme).

It states:

*The **aims** of the A4130 Steventon Lights integrated transport scheme are to:*

- *Facilitate improvement to public transport*
- *Provide suitable infrastructure to encourage the use of sustainable and active travel modes.*
- *Improve safety for all road users*
- **Reduce congestion and capacity issues and improve journey time reliability**
- *Facilitate planned growth in the area*

At the public Consultation back in November 2022, the public were told the stated '**purpose of the scheme**' were the above points. Anyone attending the consultation and looking at the web site would legitimately expect congestion for private vehicles to decrease. However, OCC's own Consultants told OCC nearly 2 years ago and 10 months before the Consultation that this was not the case.

OCC recently, at our request, held a meeting with RRA and the Parish Councils where we questioned them on their misleading of the public at the consultation and their response was "*the consultation advised that the scheme will **'aim'** to mitigate congestion at Steventon Lights. The consultation **did not state** that the scheme **'would'** reduce congestion.*" So the purpose to reduce congestion, was an objective and now it's just an aim.

We fail to see the distinction between these words in the context of a consultation where, don't forget the public were told the purpose was to reduce congestion.

If £10m of public money is spent on our roads aims, objectives or any other synonym they use can reasonably be expected to lead to the suggested outcomes. Well they know it won't reduce congestion as their consultants told them this nearly 2 years ago. ALL THIS TO REDUCE BUS JOURNEY TIMES BY BETWEEN 8 AND 157 SECONDS.

At the meeting with OCC and the Parish Councils, OCC claimed they could mitigate some of the increased congestion by "tweaking" the traffic lights. In other words, reducing the number of pedestrian crossings per hour. This would impact the cyclists as this is how they are expected to cross this 5 lane junction. So, we now see it's a £10m white

elephant for the benefit of **buses only**. OCC have stated they are going to proceed with this ill thought out scheme in April 2024 with planned completion in May 2025.

RRA are asking for the support of Steventon PC in demanding the chosen design should be reviewed openly and transparently with the truth put before the public with a further public consultation conducted.

Steventon Parish Council do not support the scheme and have submitted comments to OCC. This was supposedly phase 1 of a scheme but no phase 2 or further aims have been outlined.

4.2. VILLAGE GREEN POLICY

Clarification on usage was required. The new policy states: "All instances of maintenance and repairs will be carried out by the Parish Council, or by contractors that the Parish Council appoints to carry out such works." The Sports and Social Club would continue to maintain the pitches as delegated by the Parish Council. The Greens were not available for commercial use unless it was of benefit to the residents. All applications should be made to the Parish Council for their consideration.

5. REPORT FROM ANY COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCILLOR IN ATTENDANCE

Cllr Sally Povolotsky emailed some comments for the record.

1. I've called in Clay Compaction Trial to committee (Jan or Feb meeting)
2. Bridge no update am chasing
3. Wrote to the MP re reservoir no reply yet.

6. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 7th November were accepted as a true record.

Proposed: Mr Bennett Seconded: Mr Clark

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – REPORTS ON ACTIONS

7.1. S106 ART

The sheet of acrylic had been installed over the village map and a financial report returned to the Vale of White Horse District Council.

7.2. BIN VILLAGE HALL

A bin had been purchased for the new location near the village hall. A quote for its installation had been accepted and it was now in situ.

7.3. SEAT IN HIGH STREET BUS STOP

Measurements had been taken for the required seat and a quote for its installation received. Seat cost approximately £250 installation £280. It was agreed that orders should be placed for the work.

The condition of the bus shelter had raised concerns with the Clerk and Mr Clark while taking measurements for the seat. There is considerable wood rot, ivy growth and the roof leaks. The Clerk had asked Mr Brew to assess and quote for repair.

Survey by Mr Brew:

The shelter is of timber construction clad with waney edge boards on the sides and roof. In addition the roof boards sit on top of plyboard and roofing felt.

The roof boards are coming loose and have suffered a high degree of decay. There are signs of water damage on the inside indicating that the felt and plyboard are at the end of their useful life as well.

The boards on the sides are coming loose in places but are in much better condition. There is quite a bit of ivy growing over and under the boards.

Recommendations

- Strip off ivy
- Remove roof boards, felt and ply
- Renew ply with 11mm hardwood plyboard
- Cover plyboard with layer of roofing felt
- Replace roof boards with 19mm x 250mm waney edge larch boards
- Secure side boards

- Dispose of all waste

Total cost £870

The Parish Council agreed that an order should be placed with Mr Brew for the work.

Action 1/12/23: Clerk

8. PLANNING MATTERS

8.1. Applications

8.1.1 [P23/V2502/FUL](#) 15 The Causeway Steventon Abingdon OX13 6SE

Retrospective partial demolition of the existing dwelling and proposed complete demolition of the dwelling and its rebuilding including previously approved extensions.

Risk assessment required on neighbouring property before any further work. There is no mention in the application that the reason for demolition is that a considerable portion of the house fell down when previous agreed planning work was attempted. Nor that the neighbour has been evacuated and unable to obtain access to her property since. As no foundations is reputed to be the cause of collapse it would seem probable that demolition of part of the semidetached property would cause the remainder to be dangerously affected.

8.1.2 [23/V2431/FUL](#) Land at 23 High Street Steventon OX13 6RZT

Erection of detached single storey two bed dwellinghouse, with car parking, bin and cycle stores. Demolition of conservatory, single storey rear extension and outbuilding to existing house, addition of rooflights on northern roof slope elevation and blocking up of first floor window on western elevation.

No objection to the proposed new property by the Parish Council, but again concerns about the lack of foundations for listed building number 19.

9. FOOTBALL ACTIVITIES ON THE GREEN

The Parish Council had concerns about safeguarding and safety of children who were participating in half term and holiday activities on the Green. Where parents were not present and delegated responsibility to the organisers of group events. Martin Trower attended the meeting and explained that the academy was organised by Ashley Sims who is a member of the Football club and took training on Wednesday evenings. He used the Sports and Social Clubs equipment and facilities. Mr Sims would meet with the Parish Council. The Parish Council is keen to support football and cricket on the Green but not for it to take over the facility from other residents.

10. ITEMS FROM THE RISK ASSESSMENT ACTION REGISTER

10.1. Review Register of Council Owned Land annually

The list had been circulated. The Clerk explained that an application had been made to the Land Registry after the meeting in November 2022. She had chased up several times and had recently been told that the application should be processed by July 2024. The application would register the village greens and the areas behind the pumping station and Sheepwash Lane.

10.2. Bi-annual check to ensure the latest [most suitable] anti-virus software is being used.

The Parish computer is covered with McAfee live safe.

11. WORKING GROUP, SUB-COMMITTEE AND REPRESENTATIVES ACTIVITIES

12.1. Finance and General Purposes Committee JB, SB, JC, JR, CW, Clerk

Not met.

12.2. Planning Committee – Parish Council members.

Not met.

12.3. Burial Ground JC, MST, RW, Clerk

Not met.

12.4. Human Resources CW,SB, JR, RW

Not met.

Agreed at the meeting to purchase a new computer for the Clerk as the existing is nearly ten years old and slowing down.

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

Mr Rice had been in contact with Oxford Direct Services and would report to the next meeting.

Action 2/12/23: Mr Rice

A very successful Ditching had been arranged by Mr Stimpson-Tame on the 18th November. The North Star had generously provided refreshments for the volunteers.

Mr Clark and Mr Bolton had trimmed the willow tree that was overhanging the bridleway.

Quotes had been received from Arbor Tree Specialists for removal of the willow on the village green that had shed a lot of its branches in a storm. £900 plus VAT. Permission had been obtained from the Vale of White Horse DC to fell a tree in the conservation area.

Quote also for severing the ivy and prune and trim both sides of the hedge in School Close car park that has become very overgrown and encroaches on the neighbour, car park and pathway. £550 plus VAT.

It was agreed to accept these quotes and to agree to at least three days work in the copse on the remaining ash trees that are suffering from die back, would also be funded.

12.6. Village Infrastructure & Resilience – Railway, Roads, Drains JB, JR, CW.

Not met

12.7. Information dissemination

A meeting to be arranged in the New Year to draft terms of reference. Dr Wilding, Mrs Broadbent, Mr Stimpson-Tame, Clerk. Cllr Laurie-Jane Cann had done some research on methods and felt a meeting was required to progress the aims.

Action 3/12/23: L-J Cann

12.8. Sarinc

The service and illumination of the Christmas light was held outside the North Star on 3rd December. An allotment inspection had been scheduled.

12.9. Neighbourhood Plan. JC, LP, CW, Clerk, and volunteers: Caroline Miller, Nick Thompson

Plan submitted as 4.3 above. More would be known by the January meeting.

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

Met at the North Star on 30th November attended by Peter Greenfield, Mr Clark sent his apologies. Mr Greenfield brought samples of the wood and design. A further meeting would be held on February at Mr Greenfield's workshop to view progress on the spiral bench. Abi agreed to find out what was happening on the funding front.

12.10.1. Milton Park Forum CW, JR.

To meet in January

12.10.2. Causeway Trust

Not met.

13. FINANCE

13.1. Financial report 2023-24

The financial report was discussed and approved.

Proposed: Mr Bennett Seconded: Mrs Broadbent

13.2. Cheques for Signature

13. CORRESPONDENCE

14.1. Received

08/11/23	E	Christopher Wilding	Fwd: PC - planning considerations	6	
08/11/23	E	Christopher Wilding	Thames Water revised Water Resources	4	
08/11/23	E	Healthwatch Oxfordshire	Read news from Healthwatch	2	
08/11/23	E	Kirsty Darter	Steventon Parish Council - Grant Application	4	
08/11/23	E	NALC	NALC NEWSLETTER etc	17	
08/11/23	E	registration southandvale	Planning Consultation - P23/V2431/FUL		

08/11/23	E	Thames Valley Alert	South and Vale Rural Crime Survey	4	
09/11/23	E	Belcher, Gavin - OCC	*HOLD* A4130 Steventon Lights Integrated	3	
09/11/23	E	Collodel, Angel - OCC	TTRO (T12916) Temporary Road Closure	2	
09/11/23	E	sarinc	Re: Phone call re sarinc		
09/11/23	E	Andy Meader	Re: Appl P22/V1425/FUL - 2,2a,6 and 6a High	2	
09/11/23	E	Carole Hooper	Re: A4130 Steventon Lights Integrated	4	
09/11/23	E	Christopher Wilding	Re: Fwd: ADYP AGM		
09/11/23	E	Christopher Wilding	Re: draft for minutes + various	14	
09/11/23	E	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Thames Water - Community Protest		
09/11/23	E	registration southandvale	TCA Decision for P23/V2482/TCA		
09/11/23	E	Rita Atkinson	Damascus Youth Project grant request	4	
10/11/23	E	Adam Bows	update - SESRO, Thames	6	
10/11/23	E	lucy perkins	Causeway open?		
10/11/23	E	Martin Trower	Re: Parish Council update...	2	
10/11/23	E	Nick and Mary Thompson	Re: Quiz		
10/11/23	E	Planning Policy S&V	Steventon Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16	6	
10/11/23	E	Robin Wilkinson	Re: Fwd: ADYP AGM	3	
10/11/23	E	Vale of White HorseDC	Vale News - November 2023 - Parishes		
11/11/23	E	registration southandvale	Planning Decision Notice - P23/V1747/RM		
12/11/23	E	crwilding@aol.com	Parish repoert attached		
13/11/23	E	Darch, Tim - OCC	PTRs meeting: Tuesday 14th November		
13/11/23	E	sarinc	Re: Grass cutting invoice		
13/11/23	E	Arbor Tree Specialists LTD	Arbor Tree Specialists LTD - Quote (SQ-1472		*
13/11/23	E	communityconnectors	Food and Warmth Grant Scheme		
13/11/23	E	John Clark	Re: Head stone checking.	5	
13/11/23	E	Martin Stimpson-Tame	Apologies + various	6	
14/11/23	E	deborah bennett	GARD concerning Reservoir affected parish	2	
14/11/23	E	Planning Registration	Re: Missing emails		
14/11/23	E	S.M. Rees	Fw: Village Hall Car park - signs	4	
15/11/23	E	Communications	Free parking days offered in Vale		
15/11/23	E	Gemma Tindsley	COMMUNITY FIRST OXFORDSHIRE -	4	
15/11/23	E	Sheenagh Broadbent	Re: Minutes + various	8	
16/11/23	E	Communityenablement	Reminder to book now - Free briefing		
16/11/23	E	J PIKE	Re: Felled trees in copse	2	
16/11/23	E	mychat.talktalk	Your conversation transcript		
16/11/23	E	registration southandvale	Annual Electoral Register request Vale		
16/11/23	E	TalkTalk Help Community	Message Post Confirmation	4	
17/11/23	E	Cookson, David	Request to Spend under S106 P23V1817		
17/11/23	E	Rymer, Andy - OCC	Weekly update 17.11.2023		
17/11/23	E	Oxfordshire Memorials	Re: New memorial application form	2	
17/11/23	E	registration southandvale	Planning Consultation - P23/V2502/FUL		
18/11/23	E	Communications	Joint Local Plan update		
19/11/23	E	Planning Registration	Registration South and Vale		
20/11/23	E	John Rice	Site visit of Playground by ODS	3	
21/11/23	E	edcarterfd	Re: FW: New Ashes Plot		
21/11/23	E	Alex Lane	Upcoming residents' meeting		
21/11/23	E	Alexander Wells	Coppicing		
21/11/23	E	Communications	Press release: Further support for new		

21/11/23	E	harwell.ssg (MAG)	SAVE THE DATE !!!! Harwell SSG - Thursday	4	
21/11/23	E	Jamie Shaw	Steventon Copse	3	*
21/11/23	E	Rev Phil Sutton	FW: New Ashes Plot -	3	
22/11/23	E	cpreoxon	Big Give Christmas Challenge -	3	
22/11/23	E	enquiries parish-council	Re: Steventon oxon village website		
22/11/23	E	Phil Brew	Re: Bins etc		
22/11/23	E	registration southandvale	Planning Decision Notice - P23/V1427/HH		
23/11/23	E	Noy, Matthew - OCC	School Admissions Poster		
23/11/23	E	CAG Oxfordshire	How Nature Recovery Networks		
23/11/23	E	South and Vale	Food and Warmth Grant Scheme Reminder		
23/11/23	E	T and P Council Websites	Re: Steventon oxon village website		
24/11/23	E	carole hooper	Re: Last Nights Meeting - Steventon / Milton	3	
24/11/23	E	Charley Blackford	FW: DHSC defibrillator grant funding.		
24/11/23	E	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Last Nights Meeting - Steventon / Milton		
24/11/23	E	John Jarvis	Mill Street		*
24/11/23	E	Laurie_Jane Cann	Re: Mill Street	2	
27/11/23	E	Coningsby, Imogen - OCC	Have your say on a new Primary Care		
27/11/23	E	Oxfordshire County Council	The latest news for your communities		
27/11/23	E	Policy Team	Re: We want to hear your views		
28/11/23	E	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Re: Meeting 5th December		
28/11/23	E	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	SESRO - Official Letter Cllr Povolotsky		
28/11/23	E	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Re: Steventon / Milton Interchange project		
28/11/23	E	CPRE Oxfordshire	The Big Give!	2	
28/11/23	E	Derek Stork	Re: SESRO - Official Letter Cllr Povolotsky		
28/11/23	E	enquiries	Re: public GIS		
28/11/23	E	Office of the PCC	Share your views on policing budget		
28/11/23	E	South East Employers	SEE Newsletter - November 2023		
30/11/23	E	Elancity UK Technical	Re: Nouvelle demande de SAV de Angela Einon	2	
30/11/23	E	Highway Enquiries - E&E	AutoReply		
30/11/23	E	oalc	OALC November update	4	
01/12/23	E	clerk milton-pc	Re: footpath 299/7		
01/12/23	E	Joe Bennett	Re: Neighbourhood plan		
01/12/23	E	Mark Mathews	SESRO (Abingdon Reservoir) Clay Compaction		
01/12/23	E	Records Centre (TVERC	TVERC December 2023 News Item		
02/12/23	E	Steventon News	January 2024 issue -cut off date		
03/12/23	E	Phil Brew	Bus Shelter		*
04/12/23	E	Povolotsky, Sally	Political statement (or lack of politics!)		
04/12/23	E	Povolotsky, Sally	Tomorrows meeting		
04/12/23	E	CPRE Oxfordshire	The Big Give! Last Chance		
04/12/23	E	Ian Nutt	Oxfordshire Mind supporting		
04/12/23	E	Stuart Fisher	Re: Village greens policy	2	

14.1.1 Bus shelter, Arbor Trees, dealt with under 7.3 and 12.5 above.

14.1.2 Steventon Copse. A request by Jamie Shaw to help with managing the copse and particularly coppicing the hazel was discussed. It was felt that the copse and its maintenance should be kept within the village residents. Volunteers had always been keen to assist when asked.

14.1.3 Mill Street. Damage to verges and parking outside the National Trust property was discussed. It was decided to write to the National Trust.

14.2. Sent

08/11/2023	E	Nick Thompson	Quiz		
09/11/2023	E	Cllr Christopher Wilding	Re: Fwd: ADYP AGM		
09/11/2023	E	Parish Councillor	draft for minutes		
09/11/2023	E	Sarinc	Phone call re sarinc		
10/11/2023	E	Cllr Christopher Wilding	Re: Parish Report	2	
10/11/2023	E	Rita Atkinson	Re: Damascus Youth Project grant request	3	
10/11/2023	E	Robin Wilkinson	Re: Fwd: ADYP AGM		
13/11/2023	E	Sharp, Josh	Re: Planning Application P23/V2120/HH		
13/11/2023	E	Parish Councillor	email rush		
13/11/2023	E	enquiries whitehorsedc	Missing emails		
13/11/2023	E	Sarinc	Re: Grass cutting invoice		
14/11/2023	E	Parish Councillor	emails		
14/11/2023	E	S.M. Rees	Re: Fw: Village Hall Car park - proposed new signs	2	
15/11/2023	E	Parish Councillor	Minutes		
15/11/2023	E	deborah bennett	Re: GARD concerning Reservoir affected parishes		
16/11/2023	E	RegRequests southandvale	Electoral register		
17/11/2023	E	didcockfunerals	Re: t/l Ian Macdonald		
17/11/2023	E	J PIKE	Re: Felled trees in copse		
17/11/2023	E	Oxfordshire Memorials	Re: Fwd: New memorial application form	3	
17/11/2023	E	planning whitehorsedc	Planning Application P23/V2502/FUL		
17/11/2023	E	registration.hub oxfordshire	green form		
19/11/2023	E	Parish Councillor	eco park		
19/11/2023	E	Planning Registration	Re: Missing emails		
21/11/2023	E	Alexander Wells	Re: Coppicing		
21/11/2023	E	Andy Meader	Re: Appl P22/V1425/FUL - 2,2a,6 and 6a High Street, S		
21/11/2023	E	edcarterfd	Re: FW: New Ashes Plot - T/L Mr & Mrs Mullins		
21/11/2023	E	Jamie Shaw	Re: Steventon Copse		
21/11/2023	E	Planning Policy S&V	Re: Steventon Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 16 Con		
21/11/2023	E	Rev Phil Sutton	Re: FW: New Ashes Plot -	2	
22/11/2023	E	Alex Lane	Re: Upcoming residents' meeting		
22/11/2023	E	Cllr Christopher Wilding	sid + various	6	
22/11/2023	E	Phil Brew	Bins etc		
22/11/2023	E	Town and Parish Council W	Re: Steventon oxon village website	2	
23/11/2023	E	Cllr Christopher Wilding	Re: Rowstock relief Phase 1		
23/11/2023	E	Parish Councillor	History Society		
23/11/2023	E	Sheenagh Broadbent	Re: Food and Warmth Grant Scheme Reminder		
24/11/2023	E	Cookson, David	S106 art projects		
24/11/2023	E	John Jarvis	Re: Mill Street		
26/11/2023	E	Martin Stimpson-Tame	Re: eco park		
26/11/2023	E	Martin Stimpson-Tame	Re: Planning Consultation - P23/V2502/FUL		
28/11/2023	E	Parish Councillor	Meeting 5th December		
28/11/2023	E	Cllr Sally Povolotsky	Fwd: Meeting 5th December		
28/11/2023	E	comments whitehorsedc	public GIS		
30/11/2023	E	Highway Enquiries - E & E	barricade and broken railings		
01/12/2023	E	Clerk milton-pc	footpath 299/7		
01/12/2023	E	Parish Councillor	Neighbourhood plan		

01/12/2023	E	Sports and social club	Village greens policy		
03/12/2023	E	Parish Councillor	Sally Povolotsky		
03/12/2023	E	Phil Brew	Re: Bus Shelter		
04/12/2023	E	Povolotsky, Sally	Re: Tomorrows meeting		
04/12/2023	E	Cllr Christopher Wilding	Re: Fwd: Eco Park revised quotation August 2023		
04/12/2023	E	Sheenagh Broadbent	Re: Signs etc		
04/12/2023	E	Stuart & Louise Brockman	traffic monitors		
04/12/2023	E	Stuart Fisher	Re: Village greens policy		

15. MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION

Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project AGM 14th November

Had been attended by Dr Wilding and Mr Wilkinson. Though very successful over the last years now in crises over Trustees and proposing to outsource finances and running at extra cost. Dr Wilding had volunteered as a Trustee as had Roxy Elford, previously a youth worker, and a representative from Milton Parish. The bulk of the money raised was used to fund a youth worker's salary and considerably more funds would be required to pay for outsourced management. It was also felt that the identity would be lost and therefore fundraising would be more difficult.

Bollards on Little Green consult with Phil Brew as to state of play.
Samaritans' signage near to level crossings had been installed.
Grove station affecting Steventon.

Happy Christmas everyone

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Council meeting to be held 2nd January 2024 in the Millennium room of the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

APPROVAL Signed as a true record of the Meeting:

Name: Dr C Wilding

Position: Chair of the Parish Council

Signature:

Date: 2nd January 2024