

# Old Stratford Parish Council

## MINUTES OF OLD STRATFORD ANNUAL OPEN MEETING

Held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2009 at the Memorial Hall, 2 Deanshanger Road

### **Present:**

Cllrs Mr R Whittaker (in the chair), Mrs B Bucknell, Mr G Rogers, Mrs S Harris, Mr D MacDonald, Mr A Pateman, Mr P Philbrick, Mrs P Stevenson & Dr L Ward:  
Also present were Mr D Everett (Clerk), Cllr Mr A Walker (NCC), Mrs G Tween (Headteacher OS Primary), CPSO T Cooksammy (Northants Police Safe Community Team) and 8 members of the public

### **1 Apologies**

Cllrs Mrs S Tomlinson (prior engagement), Mrs L Mobaraki (SNC)(Traffic - No report)

### **2 Minutes of the 2008 AOM (displayed nb)**

Minutes of the AOM meeting had been approved at the May 2008 meeting

### **3 Any Outstanding Matters**

#### **(a) Allotments**

OSPC were continuing to negotiate with Cemex (Passenham Quarry) re 1acre of 100 Acre Field (Deanshanger Road)) - as the only obvious way forward

#### **(b) Passenham Lane**

Latest E-mail read regarding traffic and HGV signage

#### **(c) Towcester Road**

Previous Puffin Crossing site was 'pulled' for safety reasons (Cedar Close development) New site agreed near bus stop opposite Mounthill Ave

\* The PC were unhappy about the outcome of the original safety audit and lack of reply to repeated request > Cllr Walker requested to assist with response requests

### **4 Petitions or Questions from Electors**

**(a)** Two letters expressing concern about the lack of allocation of school places at OS school again this year

\* Mrs Tween introduced and gave her view on the education in OS and explained the criteria priority for Community Rural Primary School Policy. The latest Sep 09 intake was oversubscribed with the maximum class size of 28 admissions already raised to 30 by NCC. However 3 OS families had been excluded 2 with siblings already at the school. The School capacity was 221 now 224

Over capacity continued. Discussed was the selection by NCC as too many children in the linked area. Mapping (i.e. those nearest to the next available nearest school could mean Cosgrove or Yardley Gobion (as was the case of those excluded).due to the Rural school categories. Sustainability and walking to school discussed at length and on the effect that any future expansion in OS may cause. The broad issue was that OS residents wanted as a moral right to have their children taught at the village school. A previous OFSTED report said that planning should be 'infrastructure led' which did not seem to be the case as concern was that more housing (on appeal) could be allocated. The clerk advised that OSPC had previous advised NCC on the schools under-capacity after recreational land was lost to previous school expansions

After a general exchange of views residents were asked what OSPC could do to assist.

RESOLVED that a WP be set up asap to respond and the clerk to look at the LDF Draft and seek time-scale and position

## 5 Adoption of Accounts

Outlined by the clerk, especially the current level of Precept levied, Earmarked Reserves and the Memorial Hall refurbishment paid for without cost to community charge payers and his latest donation from salary which would be his last

- (a) **To receive Audited Accounts 2007/2008** } No comments
- (b) **Observation of Finance 2008/2009** } Approved
- (c) **Budget Proposals 2009/2010** } Approved

\* Proposed by RW seconded by SH that the accounts be formally adopted

## 6 Report from Northamptonshire Police (Further to newsletter article)

CPSO Cooksammy was introduced and gave updated crime figures

### Previous Crime figures > 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009

<i>Violence</i>	<i>8 &gt; 12</i>
<i>Sexual Offences</i>	<i>0 &gt; 1</i>
<i>Robbery</i>	<i>2 &gt; 0</i>
<i>Burglary Dwelling</i>	<i>5 &gt; 8</i>
<i>Burglary Other</i>	<i>9 &gt; 5 (from garages and sheds etc)</i>
<i>Theft from M/V</i>	<i>33* &gt; 7 (*small team responsible)</i>
<i>Theft of M/V</i>	<i>4 &gt; 1</i>
<i>Veh Interference</i>	<i>0 &gt; 0</i>
<i>Criminal Damage</i>	<i>18 &gt; 11</i>
<i>Drugs</i>	<i>0 &gt; 2</i>
<i>Theft / Handling</i>	<i>15* &gt; 7 (*as above)</i>
<i>Deception / Fraud</i>	<i>0 &gt; 1</i>

**Total Crimes 55 (a substantial decrease on last years 93)**

*(This shows that the rise year on year for OS (for all villages on the MK border) has fallen)*

\* After a general discussion about roles and policing the area in general she was thanked for attending and left the meeting

## 7 Report from District Councillor

Not present – it was agreed that if there was a report then it should be an addendum to the minutes

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## 8 Report from County Councillor

Report attached. Cllr Walker covers Deanshanger, Cosgrove, Old Stratford, Potterspury, Whittlebury, Wicken & Yardley Gobion

He spoke about the last 4 years of Conservatory Administration which had improved the lifestyle of Northants residents that he was elected to represent

Money had been allocated towards more CPSOs. Further reviews of NCC and a new CXO had made a marked difference at NCC and in addition had saved some £40M per year after a more business like approach had been adopted. A new Highways Contractor May Gurney (MGWSP) had been appointed 2008 and NCC had gone back to Area Operating. Council tax had been set at 3.9% the lowest Band D in England without cutting services and further efficiencies may mean another neutral budget in this County Election Year

He was Chair of the renamed Customer & Communities Scrutiny Committee (using working groups to deal with Waste Management (NCC/MK partnership), Review of Voluntary Services and the Local Transport Plan) He also chaired an NCC/MKC wide forum on Alcohol Abuse and is still an

appointed Director of EM Fire Service Control Centre. He champions Trading Standards nationally for NCC and involved in SCAM busters and setting up of Cold Calling Zones and the Scrutiny of the Empowering County Councillors Scheme (money to local groups) to ensure value for money. He has personally made £20,000 in 2 years available for local organisation including OS website. He also listed his activities locally, was Chair of Kingsbrook Business College governing body (who were in the process of appointing a new Head Teacher), his response to parishioner Qs and the satisfaction level of 98.5%.

He thanked the clerk and OS Councillors and with no Qs was thanked for attending and he left the meeting

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**9 Any Other Business**

None

With no other business the meeting close at 8.43pm