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| **ODDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 23 APRIL 2015** |

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| Present:  Cllr S Watkin - Chairman  Cllr A Every - Vice Chairman  Cllr A Betts  Cllr M Green  Cllr R Lewis  Cllr J Sawyer  CDC Cllr Penman |
| Apologies Cllr A Cox and CDC Cllr Phillips |
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**67. Minutes of the Meeting** held on 26 February 2015 copies of which had been previously circulated where agreed as a true record of the meeting and signed by the Chairman.

**68. Matters arising from the Minutes.**  Cllr Lewis reported that the yew trees at the church had been inspected and a quote would be considered shortly by the PCC. It was noted that the rubbish and spoil to the rear of the Manor House was being removed. GCC had improved the junction of the lane off Back Lane. The Clerk was asked to send thanks to the GCC officers.

69**. Declarations of Interest**. There were none.

**70. Adjournment for public to raise issues**. A resident queried progress on the footpath on the bend and the Clerk was asked to chase GCC to see when the drainage work might be carried out. Concern was expressed about recent bonfires at Severn House which had resulted in smoke drifting over the Village Hall, the playground and houses in Home Close. The Clerk was asked to write to the owner and also to raise concerns about parking on the verge and obscuring the footpath. The Clerk was asked to contact Bromford to arrange for the container on the verge by Home Close to be removed and also to ask the land owners whether it would be possible to fill in some of the potholes in the Bridle path to Bledington Grounds.

**71. Elections.** It was noted that six people had stood for seven seats on the council and that there was therefore an uncontested election in the parish. Existing Councillors continue in post until 11 May and the new council forms at the Annual Meeting at the end of that month. The Council would then be able to co-opt an additional member.

72. **Issue of Agendas.**  The Clerk reported that it was now legal for emails to be circulated by email subject to the agreement of Councillors. Those present agreed to receive agendas by email. Hard copies would continue to be placed on notice boards.

**73. Financial Issues**.

Council RESOLVED to pay the following accounts:

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| Playsafety |  | 52 |  | £88.8 |
| OVH |  | 53 |  | £10 |
| M Penfold |  | 54 |  | £310 |
| J Eustace |  | 55 |  | £109.79 |
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It was noted that the Clerk had purchased 4 sets of litter picking equipment as CDC had been unable to provide any. The Clerk was thanked for picking litter from a lengthy stretch of the main road. It was agreed that next year efforts should be made to get more villagers involved.

**74. Village Amenities and Facilities.**

A number of villages had attended defibrillator training. It was suggested that another session be held in a few months and then a definitive list of those willing to use the equipment be drawn up. The phone boxes should be available soon and some paint and signs had been received. Cllr Every undertook to investigate the possibility of providing a first aid course.

The Clerk reported that the ROSPA report on the playground had been received. All the equipment was of acceptable risk. The old slide would need to be replaced at some time.

The Chairman reported that the fete committee had asked if the Parish Council would be willing to purchase some new gazebos for use at the fete and other village events. RESOLVED that s137 be used to purchase 4 gazebos within a maximum price of £1,046.

**75. Reports from Councillors**

Cllr Penman reported that after the elections, new Councillors would have a small sum to support environmental projects.

Cllr Penman reported on the planning application for a new surgery, parking and 5 open market houses which had recently been refused by CDC Planning Committee. He explained that the District Valuer was of the view that the open market housing was not needed to finance the project and that the planning committee could not approve a proposals that included open market houses in the ANOB. He felt that information put out by the Practice had been inaccurate and misleading. He was aware that another application would be submitted shortly for a new surgery and 60 space car park.

Cllr Green left the meeting at this point.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Penman for the support he had given to the doctors surgery over the last 10 years and said she was sorry that he and Cllr Phillips had been criticised unjustly for their actions. It was suggested that Cllr Penman write to the Stow Times with a view to clarifying the position.

**76.** **Planning**. There were no planning applications.

**77**. **Date of next meeting.** 28 May. Annual meeting 6.15 pm. Village Meeting 7 pm.

**78. Retiring Councillors.** The Chairman thanked Cllr Lewis who was retiring from the Parish Council after 12 years for all his hard work. She also thanked Cllrs Penman and Phillips for the support they had offered over the years.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm

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Chairman

28 May 2015