



	<p>Chairman's casting vote resulted in the second round being between Lucy Jones and Graham Bridgman with Lucy Jones polling 10 votes and Graham Bridgman polling 3 votes.</p> <p>Lucy Jones was therefore invited to become the co-opted Parish Councillor to fill that Casual Vacancy.</p> <p>The Clerk to arrange a time to go through all the paperwork that is needed to be completed.</p>	Clerk
15/312	<p><b>To resolve to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016:</b></p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the minutes subject to Item 15/284 being amended to read St John's School and not St Mary's School and they were duly signed by the Chairman.</p>	
15/313	<p><b>To resolve to approve Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016:</b></p> <p>Before this was discussed the Clerk made a statement regarding item 15/303. It had been questioned as to whether the Clerk should have provided dispensations for all Councillors who had declared an interest and the Clerk advised that, following discussions with West Berkshire Council and the advisors at SLCC, the Clerk was quite entitled to grant dispensations as Clause 8.1 of the West Berkshire Council's model Code of Conduct, which Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council adopted, states that it is the Parish Clerk who, as the Proper Officer, is delegated to grant dispensations.</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the minutes and they were duly signed by the Chairman.</p>	
15/314	<p><b>To Receive District Councillors Reports:</b></p> <p>Both Cllrs. M. Lock and G. Bridgman had submitted written reports which were received.</p> <p>Cllr. M Lock then gave a verbal report on Home to School Transport with regard to the Willink Home to School bus service, advising that there are still issues being worked on regarding the route.</p> <p>Cllr. G. Bridgman urged that Councillors should give serious attention to the District Parish Conference to be held on Tuesday 22 March, 2016.</p> <p>Cllr. C. Lewis commented that the main priorities, in his view, were the Library cuts, and the closure of Smallmead Recycling Centre and the resulting extra charges that will be levied for West Berks users accessing Recycling and Rubbish centres at this end of Berkshire.</p> <p>In reply, Cllr. G. Bridgman commented that the process on the Libraries is looking at Newbury first and then looking out at services through outer libraries.</p> <p>He also commented that it would appear that the situation at Smallmead was part of a tit-for-tat reaction to the withdrawal from the Partnership arrangements.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Lock advised that the Padworth Recycling Centre was in the process of applying for planning permission to receive household rubbish.</p> <p>Cllr. J. Earl commented that Save Our Buses (SOB) have been doing a lot of work behind the scene with regard to looking for solutions to the</p>	

	<p>Willink home to school transport issues resulting from the West Berkshire Council's proposed budget cuts.</p> <p>Mr David Kilshaw, from SOB, who was attending as member of the public, was invited to update the Council on the work so far.</p> <p>SOB had been looking at providing 1 bus making 3 journeys but, due to the current offer from WBC to provide a chargeable service until the end of the school year generating a lot of uptake by parents, SOB have had to reduce their offer to 1 bus doing 1 run only.</p> <p>The charges by WBC will be significantly increased for the next school year, with no promises for continuation, but WBC's current offer has effectively made it difficult for SOB to hold a full service for the next school year, although discussions are still on going.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Lock proposed a vote of thanks to SOB for all their work, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl, which was passed by 12 votes for and 1 abstention.</p>													
15/315	<p><b>To receive the minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016:</b></p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to receive and agree the minutes of the Cemetery Committee meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and they were duly signed by the Chairman.</p>													
15/316	<p><b>To receive minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016:</b></p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to receive and agree the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016 and they were duly signed by the Chairman of the Planning Committee.</p>													
15/317	<p><b>To receive planning decisions and information from West Berkshire Council:</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Application</u></th> <th><u>Address</u></th> <th><u>Decision</u></th> <th><u>Date</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>15/03025/HOUSE</td> <td>54, Stephens Firs</td> <td>Approved</td> <td>05/02/16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15/020877/PACOU</td> <td>55, Windmill Road</td> <td>Withdrawn</td> <td>16/02/16</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Application</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Date</u>	15/03025/HOUSE	54, Stephens Firs	Approved	05/02/16	15/020877/PACOU	55, Windmill Road	Withdrawn	16/02/16	
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15/318	<p><b>To receive minutes of the Roads, Footpaths &amp; Commons Committee meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016:</b></p> <p>Cllr. A. Butcher gave a verbal update on Item 16/07 of the minutes, clarifying the working of the Speed Watch reporting application with West Berkshire Council.</p> <p>This application enables S.I.D. to record vehicle registration details so that West Berkshire Council can send out letters to speeding drivers.</p> <p>This to be included as an Agenda item for the next Full Council meeting.</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to defer agreement of the minutes, as not enough time had been available to study them carefully, until the next Full Council meeting.</p>	Clerk Clerk												
15/319	<p><b>To receive report on Facebook trial period and decide on whether to continue or not:</b></p> <p>Cllr. A. Richardson gave a verbal report on Facebook progress since implementation 6 months ago.</p>													

	<p>There has been a positive and successful reception and active followers now number 225, which, when compared to Burghfield's Facebook active followers of 306, is seen as encouraging. It was agreed that fresh items needed to be kept going in order to further stimulate readers.</p> <p>Cllr. A. Richardson proposed, seconded by Cllr. P. Blagden, that the Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council Facebook page should continue and this was <b>AGREED</b> by 11 votes for and 2 abstentions.</p>	
<b>15/320</b>	<p><b>Update report regarding the NDP submission:</b></p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett gave a verbal update report on the need to re-issue the next stage public consultation notice for the Mortimer NDP due to an error by WBC in the published closing date. This has now all been resolved and the consultation period start and close dates are now correct.</p>	
<b>15/321</b>	<p><b>To receive Locum Clerk's update (for information only).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 Raised POs for CD Facilities to complete urgent Fairground work, including Phase 1 of the agreed gorse management programme.</li> <li>2 Raised POs for suppliers to SMPC's Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations and Beacon Lighting Event.</li> <li>3 Met with WBC representative to discuss urgent repairs to footpaths on the Fairground.</li> <li>4 Wrote to the Mortimer Village Partnership conveying the Parish Council's response to their funding proposals regarding provision of the defibrillator for the centre of the village and for further dog bins for the Fairground.</li> <li>5 Submitted the completed Mortimer NDP Submission to WBC</li> <li>6 Emailed senders of submissions for the Mortimer NDP with thanks and an update using information supplied by NDP Steering Group.</li> <li>7 Prepared and delivered SMPC's responses to WBC's Budget Proposals Phase 2 consultation as agreed at the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016.</li> <li>8 Restored SMPC's email facility and recovered lost data following a significant synchronisation crash between SMPC's hosted web mail server and our Parish office Outlook application.</li> </ol> <p>The report was received and noted</p>	
<b>15/322</b>	<p><b>To receive an update on SMPC's submission to WBC's Budget Proposal 2016-17 Phase 2 consultation:</b></p> <p>Cllr M. Dennett gave a verbal update that the submission of the Council's responses to WBC's Budget Proposal 2016-2017 Phase 2 consultation had been submitted in accordance with the Council's instructions agreed at the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2016.</p>	
<b>15/323</b>	<p><b>To receive a report on the WBC meeting held to discuss Library options on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016:</b></p> <p>Cllr. C. Lewis gave a verbal update on the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016 in that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 No firm decision had been made on closures and WBC are keen on sounding out the interest in keeping the Libraries open.</li> </ol>	

	<p>2 It is appreciated that a covenant is in place on the use of the land at Mortimer Library.</p> <p>3 There is interest in supporting local “Community Interest Companies” to take over and run the Libraries.</p> <p>4 The initial view is that the Newbury main Library would act as a “Hub” supporting local Libraries acting as “Satellites”. Cllr. A. Philips questioned whether WBC were looking to roll out devolution for their services and Cllr. M. Dennett confirmed that this looked the case, especially when looking at the District Conference Agenda.</p> <p>5 Costing is an issue and it would appear that headcount is being reduced to save the budget, but the building issues are not really being considered.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett proposed, seconded by Cllr. C. Lewis, that a working group should be set up to consider the options and report back, which was <b>AGREED</b> by 10 votes for and 3 abstentions.</p> <p>A public notice to be placed in the Library and on Facebook and the website.</p>	Clerk
<b>15/324</b>	<p><b>PCSO Contract:</b></p> <p>Cllr D. Ives reported on a meeting held with our designated PCSO and Burghfield Parish Council – the 1<sup>st</sup> in the last 6-7 months, which was useful.</p> <p>Burghfield Parish Council is looking at the wording of the PCSO contract with regard to possible changes.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett commented that he and the Clerk had gone through the existing contract and felt that there was full scope to request and define feedback reports that Stratfield Mortimer Parish Council need to ensure that expectations are being met.</p> <p>It was noted that SMPC had already decided to continue with the PCSO contract for a further year subject to the wording of the proposed new contract.</p>	
<b>15/325</b>	<p><b>Garth Hall:</b></p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett advised that there was nothing further to report at this moment. The proposed meeting was still being arranged.</p>	
<b>15/326</b>	<p><b>Her Majesty’s 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations and Beacon Lighting:</b></p> <p>Cllr. J. Earl gave a verbal update on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016 meeting held regarding this event as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 The Beacon Lighting Event 21<sup>st</sup> April 2016: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Beacon, to be mounted on a frame of trailer, had been ordered and will be used for other events</li> <li>b. The Beacon will be lit at 7:30pm</li> <li>c. Bar and Light food being provided</li> </ol> </li> <li>2 The Celebration event 4<sup>th</sup> June 2016: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Progressing well</li> <li>b. A combined Bar/Food/Toilets contract is open for offers</li> <li>c. The Beacon will be lit by Air Vice Marshall Barry Newton</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>The verbal report was received and noted.</p>	
<b>15/327</b>	<b>The upgrade programme of Mortimer's existing street lights to low</b>	

	<p><b>energy (LED):</b></p> <p>The Clerk reported that the Strawberry Fields consultation on dimming the Streetlights or not had resulted in 16 submissions being placed and a 12 – 4 vote in favour of dimming the LED Streetlights in the Strawberry Fields estate by 40% from midnight to 5:30am.</p> <p>Cllr. A. Philips expressed her concern that this issue for Strawberry Fields had been sparked off by the NDP vote on lighting levels for the whole village, although it had ended as a Strawberry Fields decision.</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> to request West Berkshire Council technicians to dim the LED Streetlights in the Strawberry Fields Estate by 40% between the hours of midnight and 05:30.</p>	Clerk																										
15/328	<p><b>Finance – To resolve to agree accounts for payment:</b></p> <p>In accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations, the following items for payment were considered together and it was unanimously <b>AGREED</b> that the following payments should be made:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>1 SITA UK Ltd – Waste disposal Fairground February 2016 D.D. inc VAT</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£93.79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 Summer Breeze Stage Hire – Deposit payment for stage hire for Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations. Inc VAT</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£240.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 PPL – Public Performance Licence for Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations. Inc VAT</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£100.03</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4 C&amp;D Facilities – Clean back and trim trees in the Fairground Conservation Area as per PO 1601. Inc VAT</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£492.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 Oakdale Services – Printing of March Newsletter as per PO 1608</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£560.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6 Benyon Trust (Englefield Estate) – Cemetery extension rent</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£62.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7 Haydn Selwyn-Jones – Fees for Locum Clerk work February 2016</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,978.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8 Bullfinch (Gas Equipment) Ltd – Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Beacon as per PO1607. Inc VAT</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£358.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9 Dad's Shop – Sundry items for Custodian. Inc VAT</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£22.18</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Received after Agenda issued:</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>10 West Berkshire Council – Willink LC Annual Contribution</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£10,262.95</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11 The Methodist Church – Hire of Church for meetings 2015/16</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£430.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12 M.Dennett expenses – top up of Custodians phone</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13 Thames Water – Fairground water usage 26/0815 – 23/02/2016 D.D.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£5.17</td> </tr> </table>	1 SITA UK Ltd – Waste disposal Fairground February 2016 D.D. inc VAT	£93.79	2 Summer Breeze Stage Hire – Deposit payment for stage hire for Queen's 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations. Inc VAT	£240.00	3 PPL – Public Performance Licence for Queen's 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations. Inc VAT	£100.03	4 C&D Facilities – Clean back and trim trees in the Fairground Conservation Area as per PO 1601. Inc VAT	£492.00	5 Oakdale Services – Printing of March Newsletter as per PO 1608	£560.00	6 Benyon Trust (Englefield Estate) – Cemetery extension rent	£62.50	7 Haydn Selwyn-Jones – Fees for Locum Clerk work February 2016	£1,978.50	8 Bullfinch (Gas Equipment) Ltd – Queens 90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Beacon as per PO1607. Inc VAT	£358.80	9 Dad's Shop – Sundry items for Custodian. Inc VAT	£22.18	10 West Berkshire Council – Willink LC Annual Contribution	£10,262.95	11 The Methodist Church – Hire of Church for meetings 2015/16	£430.00	12 M.Dennett expenses – top up of Custodians phone	£20.00	13 Thames Water – Fairground water usage 26/0815 – 23/02/2016 D.D.	£5.17	
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15/329	<p><b>To receive Correspondence (for information only):</b></p> <p>1 Casual Vacancy to Parish Council Application Forms</p> <p>Received and noted</p>	
15/330	<p><b>To receive Minor Matters (for information only):</b></p> <p>Cllr. D. Ives advised that he had attended the recent Royal Berkshire Fire Authority meeting outlining their Corporate Plan and Integrated Risk Management Plan for 2015-2019 when it was made clear that there are no thoughts at this time of closing the Mortimer Fire Station and that if a new Fire Station was built at Theale, this would include emergency response vehicles for first response to areas where access is restricted due to narrow and low weight bearing bridges.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Challis commented on the rubbish in the Cemetery and was advised that this was in the process of being cleaned up.</p> <p>Cllr. N. Carter raised the possible use of the ex. Network Rail Notice Board outside the Library, which needs to be looked into.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Challis raised the condition of the road and pavement in Kings Street which needs to be urgently attended to. Cllr. M. Lock advised that it is not in the current rolling programme for repairs.</p>	Clerk
#1	<p>It was <b>AGREED</b> that the meeting should be extended by a further ½ hour from 9:30pm in order to conclude the remaining business.</p>	
15/331	<p><b>To receive any future Agenda items:</b></p> <p>Cllr. A. Richardson requested that the updated annual Risk to Business Management report be presented.</p> <p>Cllr. J. Earl requested that the need for SMPC Councillors to be available to assist in the management of the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration event be included on the Agenda.</p>	Clerk
15/332	<p><b>Exclusion of Press and Public</b></p> <p>The resolution to exclude members of the press and public from the meeting at Part II, item 15/333 on the Agenda, due to the confidential nature of the information being discussed was proposed by Cllr. M. Dennett, seconded by Cllr. J. Earl and unanimously <b>AGREED</b>.</p>	
<b>Part II</b>		
15/333	<p><b>To receive an update on the Clerk Vacancy:</b></p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett reported that interviews for the position of Parish Clerk had been held on 3rd March 2016.</p> <p>The appointment panel unanimously agreed to offer the post to Mr Haydn Selwyn-Jones on a two year fixed term contract.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett proposed that the appointment panel (Cllrs. Dennett, Earl, Butcher and Wingfield) be authorised to finalise the terms of the contract with the aim of implementing this from 1st April 2016. This was seconded by Cllr. J. Earl and <b>APPROVED</b> unanimously.</p> <p>Cllr. M. Dennett also reported that the panel would, after about six weeks of this contract, consider the need for some part time administrative assistance in view of the anticipated increase in workload due to factors such as the delegation of duties from West Berkshire Council and the implementation of the NDP.</p>	

The next meeting is on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016

The meeting closed at 9:50pm