

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
held on Monday 6th November 2017 in the Village Hall**

Present:

Charles Mathew	(CM)	Chairman
Matthew Judson	(MJ)	Councillor - Vice Chairman
Graham Dixon-Brown	(GDB)	Councillor
Jose Eaton	(JE)	Councillor
Joe Deane	(JD)	Councillor
Trudi Gasser	(TG)	Parish Clerk

In Attendance:

Hilary Fenton	(HF)	WODC District Councillor
Lucy Kennery		Lower Windrush Valley Project
5 Members of the public		

Presentation from Lucy Kennery, Project Manager, Lower Windrush Valley Project (LWVP)

Lucy attended the meeting to provide an update of the LWVP.

Area covered: From Witney to Newbridge

Aim: To make improvements to the landscape, nature conservation, footpaths and access.

Recent Activity:

- Expanded volunteer programme
- Arranged events such as guided walks, etc. Upcoming event is the Annual Forum Event here in Stanton Harcourt on 27th November.
- Hedge laying at the Nature Reserve
- Community Water Quality testing with the Fresh Water Habitats Trust
- Developed a 'Walks' leaflet for the Lower Windrush

In the Pipeline:

- Yellow Fish Scheme, mainly in Witney, but could be introduced locally
- Water pollution Awareness
- Improving rights of way, Lucy expressed an interest in input from all regarding improvements
- Geology and Archaeology Project

Issues: Funding is an issue, the LWVP are working with local business to develop a corporate programme

Going forward: Lucy will be keeping in touch with Parishes, keeping up to date with planning applications where rights of way can be negotiated as part of the application.

The LWVP will be building on the volunteer programme, recruiting 'Friends of the Valley'.

Questions: It was asked whether the LWVP are working on existing or new rights of way?
Lucy confirmed that creating new rights of way is quite difficult, as many landowners don't want them on their land, however, RoWs can be negotiated at Planning application stage. The LWVP can apply for funding to make improvements to existing RoWs.

MIN REF	ITEM	ACTION AGREED
17/120	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
	Colin Wells (CW) Councillor Steve Good (SG) WODC District Councillor	
17/121	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CM owns property near the Leys, the Green and the School 	
17/122	APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2nd OCTOBER 2017	
	The Minutes were approved for publication.	
17/123	REPORTS FROM DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLORS	
	DISTRICT: HF had received several complaints about the new waste collection from other parishes and asked for comments. A couple of issues were raised, such as waste collected on different days. Otherwise no major problems. HF confirmed that the contractors were still catching up and it was envisaged that these problems would soon be sorted (sorting does take place automatically at base).	
	COUNTY: CM confirmed that the Chancellor would announce in the budget on 22 nd November that an extra £300M was on its way to Oxfordshire County Council.	
17/124	PLANNING	
	Current Applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sheehan Haulage and Plant Hire Ltd, for planning permission for the Section 73 application to continue the operation of Dix Pit Recycled Aggregate Facility permitted by planning permission no. 16/04166/CM (MW.0140/16) without complying with condition 6 thereby allowing an increase in the maximum tonnage of waste material imported to site to 175,000 tonnes per annum at Sheehan Recycled Aggregates Plant, Dix Pit, Stanton Harcourt, Witney, OX29 5BB Comments from Councillors were collated – whilst all were in favour of recycling, concern was expressed regarding the increase in HGVs – CM to compile a response to OCC and circulate to all for approval. 17/02784/FUL PROPOSAL: Extensions to main dwelling, erection of detached pool house, coach house and annexe and construction of menage, Pimms farm CM visited site and submitted comments, that other councillors either had no comments or made no comment. To meet the deadline, consolidated comments were submitted. A copy of the submitted comments are in Appendix B 	

MIN REF	ITEM	ACTION AGREED
17/125	QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It was resolved to close the meeting to take questions (see appendix). 2. It was resolved to reconvene the meeting. 	
17/126	BUDGET 2018/19	
	<p>CM proposed to increase the rate of pay for the Clerk to £12.161 per hour effective 1st December 2017 – MJ seconded, all were in agreement.</p> <p>MJ proposed increasing the pay for casual labour (maintenance) to £10.099 per hour, effective 1st December 2017 – CM seconded, all were in agreement.</p> <p>The proposed salary rates are in line with the rates published in in the NALC and SLCC document E02-16 "2016-2018 National Salary Award".</p> <p>The budget was discussed, a draft to be presented at December meeting for approval.</p>	
17/127	VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK UPDATE	
	CM confirmed that resurfacing of the village hall is part of the S106 in the Butts Piece Planning Approval. The PC is still awaiting the draft agreement for comment.	
17/128	MAINTENANCE/RISK ASSESSMENTS	
	<p>CM reported that interest had been shown from a resident to carry out maintenance work for the PC – TG to circulate CV to all.</p> <p>CM proposed the applicant be recruited on a 3 month trial – MJ seconded, all agreed.</p> <p>It was agreed that MJ would contact John Woodward with a view to him doing the work on the fence and gates around the Village Hall play area asap before RoSPA check.</p> <p>TG was asked to look into employment law and insurance for maintenance workers.</p>	
17/129	REPORTS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS	
MJ	Nothing to report.	
JD	Nothing to report.	
GDB	Nothing to report.	
JE	Expressed concern regarding the state of the church yard, although it had been trimmed, the debris was still there.	
CM	<p>CM referred to the correspondence received from the 20's Plenty Campaign Group.</p> <p>MJ to draft a response for circulation. A copy of the correspondence</p>	

MIN REF	ITEM	ACTION AGREED
	received is attached as an Appendix C.	
17/130	FINANCIAL MATTERS	
	Cheques were circulated for signature.	
17/131	CORRESPONDENCE	
	Correspondence has been received regarding the Bulb Planting – TG confirmed that acknowledgement has been sent.	
17/132	OTHER BUSINESS (for information only)	
	No other business.	
	NEXT MEETING The next Ordinary Meeting – Monday 4 th December. Items to include on the agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget 	

Signed

Date

APPENDIX A TO MINUTES: PUBLIC SESSION NOTES

VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK

It was suggested that gravel be put on the car park as a temporary fix as in wet weather the car park is a state. Something must be done asap.

CM to find out the current status of the 106 and progress with the Village Hall Committee.

APPENDIX B TO MINUTES: PC PLANNING CONSULTATION

Re: APPLICATION NO: 17/02784/FUL PROPOSAL: Extensions to main dwelling, erection of detached pool house, coach house and annexe and construction of menage

The Parish Council have reviewed the above referenced planning application and have the following concerns:

1. Smiths, who own the land beyond Pimms Farm, have right of access through the land at Pimms Farm, this is not mentioned in the application - the right of way must not be compromised.
2. The application includes a 'Coach House' which is proposed to be built in close proximity to the Neighbour's 'lunge pit' this is an area in which the neighbours use to break and school young horses - this is not an ideal location for such a building.
3. The 'Coach House' is 23ft high, which will be very noticeable to the neighbouring Grade II listed building, it also contains a window which would be overlooking the neighbours.
4. The proposed alterations are 'over building' in open countryside.

APPENDIX C TO MINUTES: COPY OF CORRESPONDENCE

Speed limits in Sutton

On behalf of the national 20's Plenty campaign to reduce speed limits in the UK we would like to dissociate ourselves from the placement of improvised 20 mph signs over the legal 30 mph signs in Sutton Lane and New Road as reported in the last edition of VV. The 20's Plenty campaign works within strict rules one of which is to campaign only within the law.

The philosophy of the 20's Plenty campaign is to reduce speed limits along roads where people live, and especially (as in the case of Sutton Lane and New Road) where roads are narrow, there are blind bends and drives, no pavements, no lighting and therefore where pedestrians have to walk in the road with all its inherent dangers.

20's Plenty also works to encourage vehicle drivers during the period of the campaign to do so responsibly where the speed limit is clearly too high** and local residents support the campaign. This is why 20's Plenty posters have been legally positioned along Sutton Lane and New Road urging drivers to be aware of their surroundings, especially before blind bends in those two roads. Residents have reported that the posters have been very effective in reminding them to moderate their speed including those residents who have been known to speed regularly along the two roads; as a result, Sutton is said to feel a safer place in which to walk. A problem remains with some visiting cars, vans and lorries who are unaware of the dangers outlined above.

A survey conducted in September 2016 showed that 98% of those residents of Sutton Lane and New Road, and roads coming off them, agreed with the principle of legally reducing the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph. Members of the 20's Plenty campaign asked Stanton Harcourt Parish Council if they would support the campaign which would involve OCC surveys and take between 12 to 18 months to complete if the campaign was successful. To date we have had no reply. Whilst it is good news that nudging drivers to drive responsibly through Sutton's roads seems to be working effectively, it would be important to have our campaign enshrined in law as well, given the overwhelming support from residents. We would like to discuss with the Parish Council what support it can give us.

**Currently, two cars driving in opposite directions along Sutton Lane or New Road can do so legally passing each other at a closing speed of 60 mph.

Hit by a car at 40 mph, a pedestrian has an 85 per cent chance of being killed, 55% at 30 mph and 5 per cent at 20 mph. (Statistics from Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety.)

On average, people are 7 times more likely to survive a crash at 20mph rather than 30mph, for over 60-year olds it is 10 times safer.

20mph is already agreed by 50 local authorities covering 14m people in the UK (22% of the population).

John Brown, Gil Hilleard, Richard Thomson, Mike Parker - Sutton residents