

TIDDINGTON WITH ALBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the monthly meeting of Tiddington with Albury Parish Council at the Village Hall on **Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 7.30pm.**

Present – Mrs V Baker - Chair (VB) , Mrs T Smith - Vice Chair (TS), Mr C Hill (CH), Mrs R Stogden (RS), Mr K Field (KF), Mrs L Martin - Clerk (LM)

PUBLIC FORUM

Parishioner raised the following points:

Car parked alongside Notice Board on Albury View

- The red car is causing a danger to other cars and pedestrians alike, and has been parked there for over two weeks. It is also causing other cars to park there as it sets a precedent
- However, the car is taxed, insured and MOT'd and is not illegally parked so the Police and Council have no reason to have it moved
- Need to retry and get some form of painted lines along that section, with School bus stop, single or double yellow lines
- Contact relevant departments at Council and write to Freddie van Mierlo, copying Tim Bearder to seek support and assistance - **LM**

Flooding in the Parish - next actions

- Ditch/pipe from road by alongside houses on Thame Road to Brook needs to be extended by about 6 feet, this is a pinch point and was also instrumental in the flooding in 2010
- The drainage work planned for the following day (11/12/24) was discussed and the actions going forward largely rest on the outcome of that work and the investigation which due in the Spring

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139. Apologies – Mr R Chaplin (RC), Tim Bearder (TB)

140. Declarations of interest - None

141. Approve and sign minutes – Completed

142. Matters to Report - Tim Bearder (TB) - District and County Councillor

- No report received
- Councillor Community Grant Fund submission (29/11/24): - Repairs to Fort (£2,208 inc VAT)
- County Councillor Priority Fund submission (29/11/24):- TNR consultancy project (£5,440)

143. Election of new Parish Councillor

- Two applications have been received. Due to other commitments by the PC and the applicants, the election has been moved to the January meeting.

144. Flooding/Drains

- Update on meeting held on 17th October with SODC and OCC regarding investigation into floods on 23rd September, not expected to hear more on the investigation until Spring - **LM**
- Major work on the drains on either side of the A418 and Ickford Road are planned for w/c 09/12/24, which will involve traffic lights from 09.30 to 15.30 each day

- During this week will be aiming to complete the following works but not limited to:
 - Clear the debris on the downstream side of the railway culvert which has built up
 - Clear the vegetation on the downstream side of the carriageway culvert so that it can be inspected.
 - Clean and CCTV the carriageway culvert to check the condition.
 - Clean the drainage kerbs and gullies between Ickford Road and the St Helen's Church turn off.
 - Clean the drainage pipes, catch pits and then CCTV survey the same section to ensure they are clear and functioning time permitting we will also clean and check down Ickford Road.
 - Clean the blockages in the private culvert outside Manor Farm / Sable Cottages.
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- Flood alert line is: <https://www.gov.uk/sign-up-for-flood-warnings>

145. Neighbourhood Plan / Tiddington Nature Recovery (TNR) CH

- Next working group is in January on Tiddington Nature Recovery Project - **CH**
- Applied for funds for Thame River Conservation Trust proposal from SODC Community Councillor Grants - **LM**
- The Thame River Conservation Trust are holding their Regional meeting in Tiddington VH on 19/12/24 which CH is attending
- TOE visited Sandy Lane Farm on 15/10/24 to discuss introducing some funding for ponds on the site. TOE agreed it was possible but work would need to be conducted through the PC including grant applications. Need an agreement letter from SLF to start the process - **CH**
- Neighbourhood Plan -Plan will need a review in 2026/27 probably with the help of a small team and some funds - **CH**

146. Councillors' Update of Matters in Hand

146.1 The Fox & Goat – Community Asset Renewal:

- Remove from agenda - **LM**

146.2 Ickford Bridges:

- Ickford Bridges are on the Highways Maintenance Map for **2024/25** – no date yet, but will probably just be a structural assessment
- Ickford Parish Council received no updates (Nov) - **LM**
- Continue to report on Fix my Street, need to add new photos - **KF/TS**
- No feedback from the Highways Engagement Team after their visit on 19th August (who agreed they were in a poor condition). Follow up with team who visited us and request update from **TB - TS/CH/LM**

146.3 20mph Consultation

- 20mph signs all in place
- Freddie van Mierlo received (18/11/24) a response to his email to Matthew Barber & Andrew Gant (sent 22/10/24) but only from Matthew Barber. Not much can be done as Police are reluctant to repair speed cameras as income from fines go back to Central Government and calming measures cost circa £250,000. No response from Councillor Gant received however so chase via Freddie van Mierlo/TB - **LM**

146.4 Hexagonal Bench

- Base installed but joints are coming apart. Bench is out of its 12 month warranty (purchased in April 2023) but still need to be pursued with supplier Stowe. Need invoice - **LM/TS**

146.5 Fix My Street

- Drains around Draycot Corner are blocked, reported as part of Highway visit on 19/08, awaiting feedback - **TS/CH**
- Drains appear to be blocked higher up Albury View, report on FMS - **KF/CH**
- Bottom of Albury Lane, drain blocked, TS and RS to put on FMS -**TS/RS**

- Worn road surface in Sandy Lane, near Spring, included in Highways visit 19/08, and being followed up. Put on FMS again - **TS/CH**
- Blocked drains in Brookside Close put on FMS by LM, a 'reactive gully cleaning to address the blockage initiated' by OCC, need to check completed - **LM**
- Put information in next newsletter on how to use Fix My Street - **LM**

146.6 Spelling of Draycot – change to one T

- No update from Royal Mail - **LM**

146.7 Defibrillators

- All three defibrillators checked. Need a new battery for VH and CC but have one spare - **TS**
- Need to source training for using Defibrillators and general CPR - **LM/TS**
- Need stickers with What3words on them to be applied - **TS**
 - newlywed.split.adjusting - Cricket Club
 - tickling.decency.rumble - F&G
 - intricate.panning.limelight - VH

146.8 Albury Lane repairs

- The road remains a restricted by-way, but there is a recognition that it shouldn't be. Will need further dialogue to sort out longer term so it gets on the Highways Asset register - **TB**

146.9 Installation of Ultrafast Broadband – Gigaclear

- Gigaclear hoping to get government sign off soon - **LM**
- Emailed the Digital Infrastructure Programme team (04/12/24), waiting response - **LM**

146.10 VAS Sign at Spring Cottage

- Finally working!! Remove from agenda

146.11 Road Sign cleaning kit - on loan for 6/8 weeks

- We have been given a loan of a Road Sign cleaning kit for use by volunteers.
- Give kit to Tiddington village volunteers - **LM**

146.12 Milton Common

- The white village gates at MC are falling down and look awful. Two quotes were discussed: JACS £2,780 and OCC £4,361.82. Leave for moment as OCC looking at alternative solutions - **LM**

146.13 South Central Probation UPW Consultation 2024

- The PC had a survey from South Central Probation UPW (Unpaid Work) Community Service Team regarding utilising these resources in the Parish. The Councillors agreed to complete the survey and request more information, emphasising safety of the Parishioners is paramount - **LM**

146.14 Dangerous Trees

- The vast majority of trees in Parish are owned by OCC, but the trees around the Village Hall are owned by the PC. The tree on the corner by the entrance needs assessing asap - **TS/KF**

146.15 Move to .gov domain

- Update from webinar on 09/12/24 by **LM** and recommendation (at this time) is not to move to .gov as benefits are not significant enough to cover the additional costs in time and budgets

147. Planning

147.1 Planning Applications received:

- None

147.2 Planning Decisions to be noted:

- **P23/S2584/FUL** – Oakfield, Oxford Road. Creation of drives and impact on public footpath appear not to match submitted and approved plans. Request and photos sent to Planning Officer who have passed it to the Enforcement Team
- Parishioner, attending the meeting, clarified the issue and stated "as a Public Footpath it is subject to restrictions and conditions relating to a Field Path which is how that path is officially designated." Parishioner also requested the following statement be included: "Councillor Ken Field said that he had been and measured the footpath and that the width of the footpath is at

least a metre wide along its length across the garden.” **NB.** measurement was subsequent to report having been submitted to the Enforcement Team.

- Still waiting response from SODC Enforcement Team

147.3 Planning Decisions Pending (awaiting decision from SODC planning department):

- None

147.4 Planning Appeals in progress:

- **P23/S2384/O - Jn 8a, M40 Waterstock, Appeal ref: APP/Q3115/W/24/3343775.**

- The Inquiry started on 15/10/24 in Cholsey and was attended by CH & RS to make representations on behalf of the PC and in support of Waterstock Parish. Inquiry continues and CH attended again on 06/12/24

- The PC discussed at length last time whether to contribute financially to support the Appeal and decided against due to lack of budget, however the PC are in full support of Waterstock and all the work they are doing. CH shared the following appeal from Waterstock Parish which will be shared on Facebook - **TS**

“Waterstock has fielded an impressive defence team to fight for our Green Belt and surrounding villages against Developer Greystoke’s two unwanted planning applications. It has raised over £50k thanks to the generosity of villagers, neighbouring villages and their villagers, walkers, riders and other supporters. However, the pot is nearly empty as the Inquiry has been much more complex and taken longer than anticipated, having a very detrimental effect on funds despite many experts and others giving their time for free or at reduced rates. Please help us reach the finishing line and hopefully achieve a good result for all of us.”

147.5 Planning Consultations

- None

148. Finance

148.1 Applications for routine subscriptions and donations

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|-------------------------------|--------|
| a. Wheatley Park Prize giving | £50.00 |
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148.2 Accounts for payment this month

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| a. Administration to the Parish Council (Luci Martin) | £413.55 |
| b. Parchments - Nov/Dec newsletter | £311.41 |
| c. BGG Verge cutting - December | £438.00 |

148.3 Invoices approved and signed at the previous meeting under AOB:

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| a. None | |
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148.4 Receipts:

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| a. Interest (deposit account now open) | £0 |
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148.5 Balances at bank on 5th December :

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| a. Current Account (Lloyds Bank) | £2,201.33 |
| b. Deposit Account (Lloyds Bank) Precept April 2025 | £7,000 |
| c. Current Account (Nat West Bank) | £0 |

149. 2024/25 accounts

- VAT reclaim to be completed, **ASAP - TS**
- CIL form to be submitted by 31st December 2024 - **LM**

150. Budgets 2025/26

- Final draft to be approved at January meeting following amends made in meeting - **LM**
- Questions for SODC regarding clarification on % increase to be answered before Precept agreed in January - **LM**

151. Financial Regulations

- New Financial Regulations still to be agreed, need to be finalised before new Councillor joins - **VB/TS**

152. Standing Orders

- Meeting to investigate requirements still to be confirmed, need to be finalised before new Councillor joins - **VB**

153. Newsletter

- Investigating additional revenue and income from current advertising **ASAP** - **TS/JR**
- PC considered whether the newsletter could also go online so reducing the number of printed copies. Leave with Editor to consider as part of review on advertising income - **TS/JR**
- For inclusion next edition (submission due 15/01/25): How to use FMS

154. Additional Play Equipment in Playground

- Balls to be put in a bag on a hook under table, bats to be stored in VH - **TS/KF**
- Submission to SODC Capital Funding Grant made on 02/09/24 for: Zip wire, Adventure Trail, Spinning roundabout, Replacement of swings - **LM**
- Presentation to be made to the Selection Panel on **Thursday 12th December** - **LM**
- Submission to National Lottery Grants for balance of funds required submitted 04/10/24 - **LM**
- Decision from SODC is made at the end of February, National Lottery request takes 16 weeks from submission

155. Playground Maintenance

- Checked weekly - need latest forms asap - **RS**
- List to be followed up - **RS/TS**
- Some bark to be moved from baby swings to main swings, if possible - **RS/KF**
- Green bench to be renovated - **TS**
- New basketball net purchased and to be installed - **LM**
- Applied for Councillor Community Funds for repairs to Fort - **LM**

156. Community Emergency Plan

- Need to update existing plan urgently given recent floods - **VB**
- Received a toolkit and templates from OCC.
- Team to work on plan - **VB/TS**

157. Sewage dispersal into River by Thames Water

- Presentation from Thames Water received by CH shows plans to mitigate sewage dispersals, looks positive on paper, await actions

158. Correspondence Received:

- Rural Bulletin, Rural Services Network, Public Sector Network Newsletter, Thames Valley Alerts, Citizen Advice, Neighbourhood Watch newsletter, CommunityFirst, Wheatley Parish Council Newsletter, Haseleys Newsletter plus other general correspondence - circulated
- SODC general communications - circulated
- OCC general communication - circulated
- OALC general communications - circulated

AOB: None

Next meeting: Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 7.30pm, Tiddington Village Hall