

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 7th March 2022

Present:

Matthew Judson	(MJ)	Chair
Gill Sellars	(GS)	Vice Chair
Joe Deane	(JD)	Councillor
Keith Hickson	(KH)	Councillor
Rachel Arnold	(RA)	Councillor
Tony Pentland	(TP)	Councillor

In Attendance: 7 Members of the public

MIN REF	ITEM
22/014	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trudi Gasser (TG) Parish Clerk (apologies received, comments to the agenda submitted) • Dan Levy (DL) County Councillor (apologies received) • Lysette Nicholls (LN) District Councillor (apologies received)
22/015	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>GS member of Village Hall Committee TP planning application Linch Hill</p>
22/016	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 7th February 2022</p> <p>Minutes had been circulated for comment and were approved for publication. Matters Arising not covered on Agenda – See ‘Actions Annex’.</p>
22/017	<p>REPORT FROM DC/CC COUNCILLORS</p> <p>County: DL unable to attend but provide a CC report (see Annex). District: LN unable to attend but provide a DC report (see Annex).</p>
22/018	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>CURRENT APPLICATIONS: Reference: 22/00054/HHD 22 Flexneys Paddock Stanton Harcourt Witney Oxfordshire OX29 5RS Rear extension and loft conversion with dormer and rooflights</p> <p>The application had been re-circulated for comment. The updated drawings were now clear regarding windows in the proposed alterations, there were no objections.</p> <p>Reference: 22/00472/FUL Linch Hill, Stanton Harcourt Erection of four detached dwellings and associated works</p> <p>This application has been circulated for comment. The development would sit outside the residential area. Four councillors objected one agreed to it and one abstained.</p> <p>Water Issues Concerns about water issues that could be caused or made worse by development ACTION: KH to create a simple on-line form that can be used by all members of the community to report sewage and water issues.</p>
22/019	<p>20MPH SPEED LIMIT</p> <p>20mph sub-committee has now met and they are working through the proposal. This will be working along the lines of the Eynsham proposal and will be ready to feedback at the April meeting. The next stage is to then look at costings. The next meeting will take place at the end of March.</p>

MIN REF	ITEM
22/020	<p>SPEEDWATCH</p> <p>RA has had an article published in Village Voice but has only had one volunteer so far. A suggestion was raised that the article is published on social media.</p> <p>ACTION: RA to publish the article on social media</p>
22/021	<p>GUARDROOM UPDATE</p> <p>GS is still waiting on documents from Hayfield Homes. WODC and legal have now got involved as it has gone passed deadlines. The building is now insured under the same policy as the PC already has. There is already a hirer waiting for the room to become available.</p> <p>Snagging: only one snagging issue remains outstanding, the leaking doors. Some donations have been received from the VH to get things started when the building opened. RA has provided three quotes for the remaining equipment, two of which come in under budget.</p> <p>PROPOSAL: GS asked for permission for RA to make the purchases as per quote once the building is handed over. All in agreement. CARRIED</p> <p>ACTION: RA to make purchases once the building is handed over.</p> <p>The electricity supply for the Guardroom, needs to be reviewed and for it to have its own account. ACTION: TG to get quotes from electricity suppliers</p> <p>The fencing needs to be moved so that the path can be used by everyone. ACTION: MJ to organise the fencing move once handed over</p> <p>The Guardroom is to have a separate bank account in order to keep all monies separate from the PC account. ACTION: TG to set up a separate bank account</p> <p>The outstanding Guardroom decisions are to be tabled at a future meeting ACTION: GS to circulate decisions required prior to next meeting</p> <p>Four additional Guardroom patio door keys have been obtained. There is still no key for the front door. These keys are being held by MJ, GS, TP, TG</p>
22/022	<p>VILLAGE HALL</p> <p>Village Hall report compiled by GS is appended to the minutes</p> <p>Key points raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Hall car park – sub-group created to drive project forward, this will be reporting to PC. • Solar Energy project – Quotations requests have been submitted to potential suppliers and planning permission to be applied for • The relocation of Bury Mead play park equipment to The Leys to be tabled at the Annual Parish meeting for village consultation • The Village Hall Committee has sufficient funds this year to cover the cost of all required maintenance • A replacement notice board is required due to storm damage <p>ACTION: GS to update on car park and Solar projects at the next meeting ACTION: RA to include the play park equipment relocation question at the Annual Parish Meeting</p>
22/023	<p>GRASS CUTTING</p>

MIN REF	ITEM
	<p>JD has sent the maps to PC, but they are still not quite right as there are overlaps between Ubico and Cottsway. Key for the map: Green – areas that are cut; orange – where should be cut but isn't; pink – where we want cutting.</p> <p>Ubico are cutting more than they are invoicing for. New quotes are needed for the new contract including the pink areas. A quote has been received from a sub-contractor in the village already which means the work can be more focussed but two more are needed. Some areas will want wild-flowering, JD is making signs to mark where this is happening. ACTION: MJ and JD to work together with regards to getting more quotes</p>
22/024	<p>PARISH MEETING</p> <p>Discussion around repeating the event that was held last year, as this was successful. Dates were discussed and 21st May was decided on (subject to VH availability). The event will take place in the afternoon in a hope to make it more accessible to villagers. RA will take over the organising from GS. ACTION: RA to send out invites and start organising. ACTION: GS to check VH availability</p>
22/025	<p>VILLAGE VOICE ADVERTS</p> <p>GS has done some research and found that some villages don't allow advertising from outside the village. Clarification for this would be needed from the VV editor. It was decided through discussion that any monies should go through the Clerk. Sizing was decided on either one ¼ page advert or two credit card sized adverts per edition. All adverts must be in black and white. Costings would be £20 for a large advert, £10 for a small advert. Anything that is fundraising would be free. All interest to initially go through VV who would signpost to the PC. PC will collect monies prior to publication ACTION: JD to notify VV editor about the agreed sizes and prices ACTION: GS to create a service contract</p>
22/026	<p>NOTICEBOARDS</p> <p>Noticeboards have been decided on and will need ordering by TG as per spec. The Guardroom will not need any posts. Discussion as to where the Sutton noticeboard will go, it was agreed it is to remain where it currently is. It will need to be a smaller one than what is being ordered for the VH or the Guardroom. Once the noticeboards have arrived, MJ and JD will install. The broken noticeboard will need to be disposed of; GS has volunteered. ACTION: GS to measure Sutton Lane noticeboard. ACTION: TG to order notice boards are specified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the Village Hall Post Mounted Outdoor Lockable Noticeboard Wonderwall Products Ltd SKU WN18-WN307/10 (this one has posts) 15x A4 size (size 1050 x 1182) Aluminium Frame Dark Green Felt £513.60 (increased by circa £14 since last week) excl VAT • For The Guard Room External Lockable Noticeboard with Aluminium Frame Wonderwall Products Ltd SKU WN15-WN133/12 • 15x A4 size (size 1050 x 1182) Aluminium Frame Dark Green Felt £286.80 excl VAT For Sutton Lane External Lockable Noticeboard with Aluminium Frame Wonderwall Products Ltd 12x A4 size (slightly smaller than the other 2 due to space constraints (size 1050 x 1012) Aluminium Frame Dark Green Felt £243.60 excl VAT SKU WN15-WN133/12 <p>ACTION: GS to remove broken notice board and take to the tip ACTION: MJ and JD to install new noticeboards</p>
22/027	<p>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</p>

MIN REF	ITEM
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are issues with fly tipping taking place by Blackditch. MJ recommended that any fly tipping is reported via the WODC website. • Lorries are still coming down the Main Road to the new development, possibly confused by the new signage for sales. ACTION: MJ to contact the development site manager. • Will the development be using Calor Gas? ACTION: MJ to check this with development site manager
22/028	<p>FINANCE UPDATE</p> <p>No finance report due to TG absence</p>
22/029	<p>CORRESPONENCE</p> <p>WODC has sent information to MJ regarding the upcoming jubilee. ACTION: MJ to forward information to Festival Committee. MJ completed this action at the meeting. PC will cover the insurance for the jubilee event, but risk assessments will need to be submitted at least one month prior.</p>
22/030	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <p>Platinum Jubilee MJ raised the proposal that the PC organise a Jubilee event, this was not seconded and therefore NOT CARRIED. The PC will support the festival committee with their event in lieu. GS raised the idea of the PC supplying the children of the village with a Jubilee memento as has been done in previous years but needs to check if the school are already doing something. ACTION: GS to liaise with the school about Jubilee memorabilia. ACTION: TG to ensure suitable insurance in place</p> <p>Release of S106 funds of Local Sport and Leisure facilities GS stated that three requests have been received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cricket club have requested £10K towards all-weather nets • Request for support towards a Village Hall extension to provide more ground floor storage • Request for a skatepark on Jubilee Field <p>MJ reminded the PC that we must be able to identify that there is suitable support for each project before an application is submitted to WODC ACTION: MJ to identify more information and a sponsor for the skatepark ACTION: RA to gather support for each project as part of the Annual Parish Meeting</p> <p>No other AOB submitted by the remaining members of the PC</p>
22/031	<p>NEXT MEETING: Monday 4th April 2022</p>

Signed

Date

DISTRICT/COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT – March 2022

District Councillor Report – verbal report provided to GS

County Councillor report, March 2022.

A bit of a transport heavy report this month.

The County Council passed its budget at the February full council meeting. Among other things, we will see a restoration of youth services after years of cuts, and feasibility studies on the expansion of rail services, including the potential one between Carterton, Witney, Eynsham and Oxford, for which I have been campaigning for a long time.

The Oxfordshire Fair Deal Alliance is committed to encouraging public transport and active travel. Work has already begun on a feasibility study for the cycle and walking path between Eynsham and Hanborough Station; the cost of the path will be found from the Section 106 payments from the developers of the Garden Village. It will join the cycle track which will extend all the way from Witney to Bladon along the A4095, currently being built. Blenheim Estates are working closely with the County Council to try to find ways round the pinchpoints under the railway and at the corner in Bladon. We need to make sure that as many places as possible can have active travel facilities that are safe and direct – this is clearly more difficult and more expensive in the more rural areas, but I, and other councillors with similar divisions, will continue to remind the council of the importance of the whole county.

I am pleased to say that the First and Last Bus service between Standlake, Northmoor, Stanton Harcourt, Eynsham, Freeland and Hanborough has now been running for two months, is well used, both to take pupils to Bartholomew and for the general public, and the money for the buses came via S106 money from the County Council. You may have seen that the timetable has been amended to fit the demands on the service and now includes a service from Eynsham at a time to suit pupils who have stayed for after school activities. Unfortunately, the government has decided not to keep the payments it made during lockdown to keep buses going, and those services which have relied on both subsidy and fares are under threat.

We inherited two deeply flawed large scale road schemes from the previous administration, in which money from Homes England, relating to building a huge number of houses, has been aimed at building new or widened highways. My view is that building roads is no way to combat climate change, and discourages people from using better forms of transport than the private car, and that car use always expands to fill the roads made available. However, we may find it impossible to prevent these schemes because of the way they are funded, even though any cost or time overruns – and these things always overrun - are likely to lead to cuts in County Council spending on things we do want to do.

People here know about the HIF2 scheme, to dual some of the A40, up to the west of Eynsham, and build bus lanes along the A40 from Eynsham to Wolvercote. Although there are some benefits to the scheme, such as sorting out the mess that is the junction by Cassington, they are outweighed by the costs to the environment, the dangers to people who have to cross the road, especially in the Salt Cross/Eynsham corridor, and above all by the likelihood that the new scheme won't actually reduce congestion or increase bus use. These points were all made forcefully by my predecessor Charles Mathew too. The scheme will shortly go to planning committee at the County Council. I have put in an objection, as I know have many residents and parish councils. It is more likely than not that, primarily because of the way funding has been fixed, it will have to be approved. I will continue to try to get more improvements in the scheme, on top of the ones that have already been gained since the scheme was first devised.

HIF1 is, if anything, even more problematical. It involves building a new road from the A34 near Didcot, across the site of the old power station and then round Culham. New roads aren't the correct approach at a time when we have to treat climate change as an emergency. Many of us believe that we should unlock the 12000 proposed homes without building a major new road, especially in a site so close to a major train

junction.

On the topic of cars, and closer to home, the County Council is likely to give notice that it will take on-street car enforcement back in house. It is currently done very badly by WODC, which loses £400k of council tax payer money each year but doesn't deliver an adequate service. You will have noticed how rarely we see parking enforcers here in the villages, and that means dangerous parking at junctions and elsewhere. Some places are likely to request Residents Parking Zones. Woodstock will probably be first, because residents have a real problem with finding spaces near their houses, because of the influx of visitors. There will only be RPZs if residents request them.

For the avoidance of doubt, WODC will retain control of its own car parks, including the ones in Witney. It is entirely up to WODC whether it charges for car parking. You may have seen petitions and rumours coming from political mischief-makers, suggesting that the County Council will charge for off street car parks. They are utterly unfounded. And a new low even for the person behind them.

There is a review of school transport under way, with the intention of making it fairer to families, more efficient, and less polluting. There are a number of anomalies in the current arrangements which we intend to address.

Finally, a plea for everyone to be neighbourly. Covid hasn't gone away, and the rates in Oxfordshire remain stubbornly high. Although the government has ended all Covid related laws, advice remains to isolate if infected and to take appropriate health measure like mask-wearing.

The appalling events in Ukraine are on everyone's minds. There are many people who are themselves from Ukraine and Russia or who are second generation immigrants from there who live in our communities. They need our support and compassion and I am sure will get it.

Dan Levy
March 2022

ACTIONS CARRIED FORWARD FROM EARLIER MEETINGS:

21/117	ACTIONS CARRIED FORWARD	
Pre-June	<p>TG – re-roofing the stocks The PC has been looking to rethatch the roof over the stocks for well over a year but unfortunately the thatcher's keep letting us down. Replacing the thatch with a tiled roof was discussed. Trudi is going out for quotes again the month and looking for quotes to replace with a slate roof.</p> <p>The stocks did not originally have any cover, this is a fairly recent addition, so it was felt that installing thatch was not absolutely necessary and resulting in additional ongoing costs</p>	Cfw
Pre-June	<p>GS – B4449 Reducing the noise and vibration</p> <p>BT OpenReach replaced the wrong manhole cover. The one by 10 Beaumont Green has been recorded as Urgent by both OCC Highways and BT OpenReach</p>	Cfw
CFW from June mtg	21/064 TG to create and circulate a list of current policies (a PC Policy Register) ready for review.	Cfw
CFW from July mtg	<p>21/092 All/PC to continue logging TW complaints with DL/OCC None received – Notice to be put on Village Voice (Hardcopy & Facebook) asking all issues to be sent to Parish Clerk with the Title 'Water Issues' PC will then progress with Thames Water. Action MJ</p> <p>TG to report on issue type statistics at future meetings (standard agenda point)</p>	Cfw
	21/096 Village Communication - MJ to progress the suggestion of two Parish Meeting	Cfw
	21/097 S106 MJ to obtain quotes for additional Play Equipment	Cfw
	21/100 Finance TG to investigate possibility of changing banks for Parish Council Account	Cfw
CFW from Nov mtg	Relocation of the new footpath on the Green Legal agreement to be progressed - MJ and TG to progress	ACTIONED
	JD to look at sensors for electric lights once transferred to the PC	Cfw
	Car Park refurb once we have received the donation	ACTIONED
	TG to continue chasing donation	
	GS to resurrect plans for discussion at next meeting	
	21/122 Public Session	Cfw
	Archive in the Guard Room? GS to see if we can install sufficient storage	
CFW from Dec Mtg	<p>21/132 Guard Room</p> <p>TG to chase up hand-over date</p> <p>TG to insure building from hand-over date the insurer has activated the insurance free of charge until April 2022</p> <p>TG to order furniture once hand-over date confirmed</p>	ACTIONED ACTIONED
	21/133 Communication Boards	Cfw
	TG to confirm cost of 3 x aluminium boards with lift-up fronts plus 2 sets of mounting posts	Cfw
	TG to add Notice Board (all around the village) on next meeting Agenda	
CFW From Feb Mtg	<p>22/006 20mph project</p> <p>GS to circulate Eynsham proposal for 20mph areas</p> <p>KH (chair of 20mph Sub committee) to circulate proposed dates and arrange meeting</p>	Cfw ACTIONED
	22/007 SPEEDWATCH	ACTIONED
	RA to draft an article for the next Village Voice to appeal for volunteers.	

	<p>22/008 Guard Room Update GS to add the Capacity Guidelines to the Hirer Agreement TG to investigate a separate bank account for Guard Room Accounts. All, to spread the load all review and volunteer for any set-up items they are willing to deliver GS to finalise set-up plan for agreement at March meeting. GS to inform our solicitor of remaining snags to ensure they are suitable covered as part of the legal transfer GS to progress the transfer with Hayfield GS to write an article about the Guard Room for Village Voice</p>	Cfw
	<p>22/009 Village Hall GS to circulate the original Car Park refurbish plan to the VHC for review for completeness GS to return to Parish Council with quotations for Car Park refurb VHC to obtain three quotes for the Solar Energy Project and return to PC with proposal</p>	Cfw
	<p>22/010 RECREATION AREAS GS to identify whether the VHC would like the equipment moved from the Bury Mead play park to the Leys to provide additional options for the Village Hall long term strategy TG Annual Parish Meeting Event organiser to be nominated at next meeting GS To write an article for Village Voice explaining the S106 MJ PC had been approached by John Woodward to undertake the grass cutting had supplied numbers and will follow-up. TG to table Grass Maintenance for next meeting</p>	Cfw ACTIONED ACTIONED ACTIONED
	<p>22/011 Questions From Members of the Public MJ Inconsiderate lorry parking on main road concerns to be reported to Butts Piece Site Manager. MJ to report concerns to the Owner Cement Works about the spillage on the B4999</p>	Cfw ACTIONED
	<p>22/014 Other Business GS, KH & RA to feedback after attending WODC training</p>	Cfw