

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 6th December 2021

Present:

Matthew Judson	(MJ)	Chair
Keith Hickson	(KH)	Councillor
Rachel Arnold	(RA)	Councillor
Trudi Gasser	(TG)	Parish Clerk

In Attendance:

3 Members of the public
Lysette Nicholls (LN) District Councillor

MIN REF	ITEM
21/127	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>All members of the PC are required to carry out a Lateral flow test – all those present tested negative – 2 councillors tested positive so were unable to attend the meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gill Sellars (GS) Vice Chair • Joe Deane (JD) Councillor <p>Dan Levy (DL) County Councillor (apologies received) Steve Good (SG) District Councillor (no apologies received)</p>
21/128	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</p> <p>No declarations made.</p>
21/129	<p>CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR</p> <p>An application was received from Tony Pentland and circulated to all councillors. ACTION: TG to write to Tony to confirm the PC's decision.</p>
21/130	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 1st NOVEMBER</p> <p>Minutes have been circulated and comments addressed. Matters Arising not covered on Agenda – See 'Actions Annex'.</p>
21/131	<p>REPORT FROM DC/CC COUNCILLORS</p> <p>LN provided a DC report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thames Water – virtual meeting arranged for this week, currently finalising agenda. All local parishes have confirmed attendance. • WODC looking at 2022/3 Budgets • Covid walk-in clinic times have been extended • Well-being Grant cut off date is 8th December • The application for the solar farm is now live on the WODC planning portal – LN encouraged all to make comment as it would have an impact on SH. <p>DL unable to attend but provide a CC report (see Annex).</p>
21/132	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>CURRENT APPLICATIONS: No Current applications.</p> <p>GUARD ROOM UPDATE: Contact had been made with Hayfield Homes to progress the handover. A snagging list was provided and details of a solicitor were confirmed. Hayfield Homes to cover reasonable Legal costs. ACTION: TG to chase for handover date.</p> <p>Insurance cost confirmed £218.97 plus IPT. ACTION: TG to confirm hand over date to insurers to initiate cover.</p>

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	<p>Tables and Chairs: Options were provided by GS – selection was made by PC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economy Banqueting Chair x 30 • Gopak Economy Folding Tables (white) x 6 <p>ACTION: PC to place order once handover date is confirmed.</p> <p>Hire Rates: PC agreed the rates should mirror the rates of the Holland Room at the Village Hall (this was resolved at previous meeting).</p>																																				
21/133	<p>COMMUNICATION BOARDS</p> <p>ACTION: TG to confirm cost of 3 x aluminium boards with lift-up fronts plus 2 sets of mounting posts.</p>																																				
21/134	<p>BUDGET 2022</p> <p>The budget was discussed in detail. The budget was approved following changes annotated by MJ – the precept was agreed at £35k.</p> <p>ACTION: TG to circulate amended budget to all. TG to complete Precept request.</p>																																				
21/135	<p>VILLAGE HALL</p> <p>Although £5k has been included in the budget for maintenance the PC pay 50% of the annual Maintenance costs (£25k over 5 Years), further clarification is required on what the funds are intended for, as funding for the Village Hall should be for maintenance of the fabric and not improvement projects.</p> <p>ACTION: GS to provide a detailed breakdown of maintenance costs</p>																																				
21/136	<p>20 MPH LIMIT</p> <p>Village Poll: a good response to the survey with 83% in favour. In addition to the poll a number of supporting emails had been received.</p> <p>Highways had confirmed that the cost for 20mph signage is approx. £4k</p> <p>ACTION: TG to update budget accordingly.</p> <p>ACTION: TG to contact highways to ask them to look at repairing the speed detector at Sutton and find out whether they can be recalibrated to 20mph</p>																																				
21/137	<p>S106</p> <p>The application for funding of Solar Panels at the village hall had been signed, submitted and acknowledged.</p>																																				
21/138	<p>QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</p> <p>No questions to report</p> <p>Charlie Maynard attended the meeting to introduce himself, as he will be standing for DC</p>																																				
21/139	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>Cheques Issued:</p> <table> <tbody> <tr> <td>J Woodward</td> <td>Maintenance</td> <td>£333.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>R Smith</td> <td>Maintenance</td> <td>£62.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J Deane</td> <td>Village Voice</td> <td>£40.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D Axford</td> <td>Village Voice</td> <td>£9.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>M Kelland</td> <td>Village Voice</td> <td>£5.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E Lawrence</td> <td>Village Voice</td> <td>£3.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>O Newman</td> <td>Village Voice</td> <td>£8.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H&A McEachern</td> <td>Village Voice</td> <td>£6.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>T Newman</td> <td>Village Voice</td> <td>£16.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Royal British Legion</td> <td>Charity</td> <td>£50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WODC</td> <td>Bin Emptying</td> <td>£148.63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WODC</td> <td>Grass Cutting</td> <td>£248.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	J Woodward	Maintenance	£333.94	R Smith	Maintenance	£62.50	J Deane	Village Voice	£40.00	D Axford	Village Voice	£9.20	M Kelland	Village Voice	£5.00	E Lawrence	Village Voice	£3.60	O Newman	Village Voice	£8.20	H&A McEachern	Village Voice	£6.00	T Newman	Village Voice	£16.60	Royal British Legion	Charity	£50.00	WODC	Bin Emptying	£148.63	WODC	Grass Cutting	£248.00
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21/140	CORRESPONDENCE
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • email was received regarding a skateboard facility in the Village • email received regarding traffic to the solar plant.
21/141	OTHER BUSINESS
	Nothing to report.
21/142	NEXT MEETING:
	Monday 7 th February 2022

Signed

Date

Stanton Harcourt, December 2021

OCC news:

Once again, I need to start with Covid. Although the rates in Oxfordshire are dropping, the new, Omicron variant is a great worry, and we can expect that because Oxford is a centre of travel both nationally and internationally, that we will soon be seeing more cases locally, on top of the ones already announced. So it is vital that people are sensible, follow the rules about masks, and take care. There are local drop in centres for boosters in Witney and Kidlington, unfortunately with significant queuing.

The main activity at County Hall at present relates to the budget for next year. This is now out to public consultation and you can find it on the County Council website along with lots of detail Council proposes investments in greener and fairer priorities and plans to meet future funding challenges (oxfordshire.gov.uk)

It has been a challenging task to create a balanced budget given the very large number of things we want to do and the very limited available funds. There clearly are lots of things that we have to improve in key areas like adult social care and children's services. It is incredibly frustrating that we are having to spend the money that the government has awarded as housing infrastructure funds on a set of road changes that we don't think will be effective when we could spend it elsewhere, but we are unable to change these commitments made by the previous administration.

The HIF2 arrangements – better known as the A40 changes – are likely to go for formal planning permission early in the new year, which will herald a formal consultation period, and residents and parish councils will be able to have their say. My view is that the officers have done a good job of improving what was originally proposed, and that given that we are unable to change the project fundamentally, we can at least look forward to better placed bus stops, easier road crossings and some bus and cycling improvements, even if there are some areas that should be changed even more.

Oxfordshire County Council has taken over parking enforcement in Vale of White Horse and South Oxfordshire, and has increased the amount of enforcement to keep roads and pavements clear. It would be good if WODC, which runs enforcement here, also put effort into ensuring that parking is legal and considerate. I see many complaints from all of the villages in the Eynsham division about dangerous parking.

The final piece of funding to enable the First and Last Mile bus service to start on Jan 4 is now in place. It will be fantastic for people in Stanton Harcourt and Sutton to be able to get safely to Eynsham and Oxford and Witney, and to Standlake and Hanborough, without needing to drive. I very much hope people will opt to take the bus.

I was honoured to be at two community events recently, that show what fantastic communities we have. The new social club for seniors in Aston and Cote opened, and I was pleased to cut the ribbon on what will be a fantastic weekly event. And I took part in a climate change workshop held by pupils from all the schools that are part of the Eynsham Partnership Academy Trust, with students of all ages from Bartholomew Sixth Formers to youngsters from the various primary schools including Stanton Harcourt Primary. It was very impressive to hear well-argued cases for practical things that they thought the schools could do to address climate change, and there was commitment from the assembled head teachers to implement a number of them.

I hope everyone has a good Christmas and New Year.

Please contact me by phone 07852 748362 or email dan.levy@oxfordshire.gov.uk

21/117	ACTIONS CARRIED FORWARD	
CFW from June mtg	21/064: TG to create a list of current policies (a PC Policy Register) ready for review.	Cfw
CFW from July mtg	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 TG to report on issue type statistics at future meetings (standard agenda point)	Cfw
	MJ/JD to pass on Sutton by-pass plans to DL	Cfw
	21/096 Village Communication - MJ to progress the suggestion of two Parish Meeting Pencil in a Saturday in December 2021 – link to Guard Room opening Table at next meeting	Cfw
	21/097 S106 MJ to obtain quotes for additional Play Equipment	Cfw
	21/100 Finance TG to investigate possibility of changing banks	Cfw
CFW from Oct mtg	21/107 TG to confirm to DL our wish to participate in 20mph scheme and establish scope and estimated costs to PC We need to Survey the residents to ensure that 20mph is wanted by the community. The PC will need to pay for required road furniture. KH to do initiate facebook poll GS will include in December issue of Village Voice TG to obtain an estimate of the funding needed	Actioned
	21/110 MJ to confirm valuation to enable TG to arrange insurance and update asset register. Guard Room £220,000 provided ready for insurance Action TG to arrange insurance and update asset register.	Actioned
	21/112 All councillors to forward budget suggestions to TG by 22 October for discussion/approval at the November meeting JD and GS have submitted. GS to provide indicative estimates for the items suggested. TG to work up a draft budget for the next meeting	Actioned
	21/113 Notice Boards - MJ and TG to place item on November Agenda	Actioned
	21/113 TG to obtain costs for a pin board with unlocked sliding doors for Steady’s Lane	Actioned
	21/113 MJ to source signs for installation ‘no dogs’ Signs on the Jubilee field gate.	Actioned
	21/113 Over grown hedge MJ to contact the owner to ask for the hedge to be trimmed	Cfw
Cfw from Nov mtg	21/117 Flood Fair GS to attend on behalf of PC	Actioned
	21/118 Planning Naming of Butts Piece Road - TG to submit chosen names to WODC	Actioned
	Road Closure Coggs Lane 10 Jan – 24 Jan - TG to publish on web site closer to the date	Actioned
	Relocation of the new footpath on the Green Legal agreement to be progressed - MJ and TG to progress	Cfw
	21/119 20mph limit in village KH to do initiate facebook poll GS will include in December issue of Village Voice TG to obtain an estimate of the funding needed	Actioned
	21/120 Guardroom TG to set up insurance	Actioned
	GS to obtain costs for fit out (three quotes for chairs and tables)	Actioned

<p>JD to look at sensors for electric lights once transferred to the PC</p>	Cfw
<p>21/121 Village Hall TG to check whether the PC may legally fund some Village Hall maintenance each year.</p>	Actioned
<p>TG to place £5k in the 2023 draft budget in anticipation – ready for budget review</p>	Actioned
<p>Car Park refurb once we have received the donation TG to continue chasing donation GS to resurrect plans for discussion at next meeting</p>	Cfw
<p>S106 proposal MJ to sign S106 and submit on behalf of the PC</p>	Actioned
<p>Notice Board proposal GS to obtain 3 quotes for Village Hall Notice Board for next meeting TG to add Notice Board (all around the village) on next meeting Agenda</p>	Cfw
<p>21/122 Public Session Archive in the Guard Room? GS to see if we can install sufficient storage</p>	Cfw
<p>TG to write to W Gascoigne to highlight safety issue of hedge on Main Road</p>	Actioned
<p>21/123 Finance/Budget</p>	
<p>MJ to provide Proposal for Green space management (Strimmer needed, Ride on mower etc) GS to cost out suggestions already put forward TG to provide to GS contact for tarmac quote TG – figure for chipping to be related to Playground maintenance</p>	Actioned
<p>21/125 Other Business GS to confirm with RBL payment detail for cheque to be raised at the next meeting GS to Contact Lucy E to establish wreath provision and whether 1 or 2 wreaths should be laid TG to provide contact details of previous supplier of Christmas Tree MJ to order tree</p>	Actioned