

# WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Wootton (Abingdon) Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017 at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre.**

**Present:** Councillors Ludlow (Chair), Bristow, Brockliss, Fysh, Langley, Rayner, Parker, Shaw, Werrell, Westell and White.

## **1. CO-OPTION OF PROFESSOR LAURENCE BROCKLISS**

Professor Laurence Brockliss was co-opted as a Parish Councillor and signed the Acceptance of Office form.

## **2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **a) To receive any representations from any member of the public present.**

None

### **b) District/County Councillor Reports**

County Cllr Bob Johnston sent the following report -

1. At its last meeting of Full Council the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Plan Part 1 was adopted. It is both late and less than perfect. I voted for it, as did nearly all Councillors. This is because it gives the County considerable protection against unsolicited applications for mineral extraction. Work has already started on Part 2 and I am on the working party. The most controversial section of Part 2 will be the site allocations. None are likely in the Wootton Parish.
2. Work has started on the budgets, as usual there will be some difficult decisions and I am not expecting good news.
3. I can update on the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway. Some £27 million pounds has now been allocated (and is being spent) on options studies and so on. We expect to have a preferred route within 2 years. There is a potential 10 year timetable which could see it open by 2027. There is quite a head of steam behind it and I fear it will probably happen. I personally do not favour it because it threatens to be very destructive of the local environment. One potential route starts at Lodge Hill, crosses Radley College land and the river, skirts the Bartons and heads for the M40 at Wheatley before carrying on to points East. We shall know more when the National Infrastructure Commission issues a further report in November.
4. Wearing my other hat the Vale has agreed to go out to consultation on the latest draft of its Part 2 Local Plan. I voted against doing so at this precise moment in time because the County to say the least has concerns and potential objections about the safeguarding of the land from Dalton Barracks across Sunningwell to Lodge Hill for a cycle track and bus lane. This is in the wrong place and believe it or not originated with the Vale (not the highways authority!), I did not think it wise to process to consultation with a plan where there is potential objection from a major consultee. Wootton was not represented at the meeting.

## **3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Ted Carter and County Cllr Bob Johnston

## **4. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS**

None

## **5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**

The minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> September were approved and signed by the Chairman.

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## 6. MATTERS ARISING

### a) Community Centre - Para 6(a)

Cllr Fysh said that some 150 people had attended the Craft and Produce show on 1<sup>st</sup> October. The gates for the front entrance and the new back door had been ordered. The carpets and tables were to be cleaned. Progress has been made on the Children's Centre; the solicitor hopes that lease can be signed by the end of the month.

### b) Hedges and footpaths - Para 6(b) –

The footpath monitoring group (Cllrs Langley, Parker and Shaw) has met and discussed the footpaths. All the footpaths are being walked and checked by the group. Nine items have been reported and cleared. The group is working with both the Ramblers Assn. (Mr Jim Parke) and the OCC Countryside Service. One footpath close to Blagrove Farm has completely disappeared. An article will appear in the next community newsletter.

### c) Highways Para 6(c) – Clerk

Nothing to report.

### d) Transport/No 4 Bus Review – Para 6(d)

An appointment has been requested with Oxford Bus Company Senior Management to discuss the Neighbourhood Plan and VWHDC Local Plan Part 2.

### e) Playgrounds – Para 6(e)

The site has been cleared of the old equipment and most of the funding is now in place, from WREN and Awards for All (£10,000). An application is being made to the VWHDC for one item of equipment worth £7,544. Cllr Langley said that maintenance was required for the Deerhurst Park play area which is still the responsibility of Wimpey.

### f) Wootton Business Park – Para 6(f)

A meeting has been requested with Mr Lee Turner, who is now the officer responsible in OCC. He has promised to send options for dates.

### g) Joint Neighbourhood Plan – Para 6(g)

Two major events are being planned a Volunteers evening on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm at which the questionnaire will be piloted and a Business evening Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November 6pm to 9pm to identify people to join a business forum. A good turn-out at both events from Parish Councillors would be desirable and any help with setting up and refreshments would be greatly appreciated.

### h) The Vale of White Horse District Council Local Plan Part 2 – Para 6(h)

- The full consultation papers will be published on 11 October
- The key points are becoming clear – Whitecross remains in the Green Belt.
- Shippon is being removed from the Green Belt
- Responses are required by 22 November. The Parish Council will need to consider its response and take into account the separate responses from St Helen Without PC and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.
- The decision in the Plan to remove Shippon from the Green Belt is debatable as it would seem that this is not necessary to deliver the 1,200 properties in the Local Plan Part 2. In addition, Garden Villages are meant to be discrete entities and not joined to existing villages. However, the proximity between Shippon and the Dalton Barracks makes it very difficult to separate them with a green strip
- Focus may need to be on identifying Heritage sites and protecting green spaces; something that the Neighbourhood plan is well designed to do. Wootton green spaces and heritage sites should also be considered.

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- Arguments continue about Oxford's housing needs and whether the Growth Boards allocations to the Districts should be reduced. The Vale's position, having already fought and lost this battle, appears to be that any reduction in numbers will be rolled forward and taken into account in the next Local Plan.

## 7. DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

### a) Planning Enforcement

The VWHDC Enforcement Officer, Clare Merritt has commented as follows in relation to Lamborough House - "A report recommending enforcement action is with my manager for authorisation. It can take a few months to get an Enforcement Notice out but the process has been started."

### b) Applications received from the District Council for consultation and consideration by the Planning Committee

P17/V2123/FUL 10.8.2017	Proposed single storey annex Badgers Wood, Bedwells Heath, OX1 5JE Mr Jim Gabriel	No objections
P17/V2138/HH 16.8.2017	Two storey side extension to existing semi-detached house. 2 Mathews Way, Wootton OX13 6JX Mr & Mrs Oancea	No objections

It was resolved to confirm the Planning Committee's action.

### c) Decisions of the Local Planning Authority

P17/V1658/HH 16.6.2017	Proposed rear and side extensions, replacement dormer windows and other alterations to remodel the property. The Sheiling, Bedwells Heath, Boars Hill OX1 5JE Mr and Mrs D Hughes	No objections	Permit 29.8.2017
P17/V1811/FUL 6.7.2017	Variation of Condition 2 (approved plans) and Condition 4 (Tree Protection) on Planning Permission P16/V1684/FUL Replacement of existing dwelling with new two storey, four bed house with detached garage and landscaping. Additional ecology information received 15.9.2016. Woodland, Bedwells Heath, Boars Hill OX1 5JE Mr Ciaran Mallon	No objections	Permit 29.8.2017
P17/V1928/HH	Proposed loft conversion for two bedrooms and single-	No objections	Permit

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14.7.2017	storey rear extension for sitting room. 107 Whitecross, OX13 6BS Mr & Mrs R and T Jones	31.8.2017
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It was resolved to note the Planning Authority's decisions.

## 8. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr Werrell said that the hedges opposite Whitecross Metals need cutting back.

## 9. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

### a) 2016/17 Audit

The 2016/17 Audit has been received. No comments were made and the Notice of Completion of Audit has been posted on notice Boards. Cllr Ludlow proposed that the External Audit Report be noted. This was seconded by Cllr Bristow and approved unanimously.

### b) October 2017 Accounts for approval

Clerk Salary October	£906.74
Clerk Expenses October	£126.81
Post Office Ltd – HMRC PAYE & NI – Jul-Sep 2017	£898.73
David Stanford – Internal Audit fee	£82.50
BDO – External Audit fee	£360.00
Castle Water pavilion water – 8.8.17 – 31.10.17	£237.75
Be Free YC	£50.00
Day & Bell noticeboard rental	£2.00
Shippon PCC – Room Rental Neighbourhood Plan SG	£40.00

It was resolved that the October 2017 invoices be approved for payment.

### c) Applications for grants

None

## 10. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

Policing in the Thames Valley – September Newsletter  
 Agenda PTR Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> October  
 Vale Newsletter September 2017  
 CPRE September Newsletter  
 OALC Newsletter September  
 Open Spaces Society – Rights of Way  
 Oxfordshire Leader Funding  
 OCC – Emergency Planning

It was resolved to note the communications received.

## 11. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None

## 12. FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 7.30pm at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre.

Chairman.....

Date .....