

WOOTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Wootton (Abingdon) Parish Council held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6th March 2018 at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre.

Present: Councillors Ludlow (Chair), Bristow, Langley, Parker, Rayner, Werrell, Westell and White and County Cllr Bob Johnson.

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

One of the potential candidates (Allison) for the Clerk's post attended the meeting as an observer.

A resident, who lives in Huxley Close, attended the meeting. He said that a British Gas van was frequently parked at the entrance to Huxley Close obstructing visibility for vehicles leaving the Close. Councillors suggested that he contacts British Gas with details of the van.

b) District/County Councillor Reports

County Cllr Johnson confirmed that the OCC Council tax element would be increased by 5.99% representing £80 on a Band D property. The Government's proposals for the £250 million funding had been ratified by the County Council, South Oxfordshire District Council and the VWHDC. A timetable had now been given for the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway. The choice of corridor will be made this summer and the preferred route announced in autumn 2020. The route will not go through Oxford itself. The National Infrastructure Commission will be advising the Government. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2025 with a view to opening in 2030. It is proposed that the expressway should be 2 or 3 lanes with no hard shoulder and the minimum number of intersections. There had been a lack of full public consultation.

The VWHDC outsourcing continues to be a problem and some elements are being brought back in-house.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Brockliss, Carter and Shaw.

3. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL OR PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS

None

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 6th FEBRUARY 2018

The minutes of the meeting of 6th February were approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING

a) Community Centre - Para 5(a)

Cllr Fysh outlined the major expenditure the Community Centre had made on the Children's Centre, the heating system and the electrical breakdown in the main hall. The main sponsors for WADS-STOCK, Breckon and Breckon had indicated that they would not be sponsoring WADS-STOCK this year. Cllr Fysh asked if the Parish Council would be the main sponsor in 2018 at a cost of £250. Cllr Parker proposed that the Parish Council sponsor WADS-STOCK in 2018 to the tune of £250. This was seconded by Cllr Werrell and approved unanimously.

b) Hedges and footpaths - Para 5(b)

The hedge on Cumnor Road alongside No 13, The Willows, which residents had reported as obstructing the pavement, has been cut by occupant following complaints from residents.

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Cllr Werrell said that the bushes opposite Whitecross Metals were still posing a hazard to HGVs

c) Highways Para 5(c)

Following the harsh winter, potholes were re-appearing at the entrance to Mathews Way despite the recent re-surfacing.

The road in Wootton Village opposite the Church needs attention.

d) Transport/No 4 Bus Review/Bus stop – Para 5(d)

The new bus shelter at the junction of Whitecross and Sunningwell Road has now been installed.

e) Playgrounds – Para 5(e) /Cricket Ground

A quote of £5,670 + VAT had been received from Playground Services to extend the hoggin path alongside the zip-wire and to build a soakaway. This proposal was put forward to resolve the drainage problem. This exceeds the ballpark figure of £3,500 discussed at the site meeting. It was agreed that the proposal should be discussed with Mr Barry West who previously was an OCC Drainage Engineer, and possibly with Mr Martyn Boughton a Geotechnical Engineer who had helpfully discussed the drainage options previously.

The Abingdon and North East Area Committee of the VWHDC would be discussing the Grant application on Tuesday 13 March 2018 at 7pm at the council's offices in Milton Park; Cllrs Bristow and Parker agreed to attend.

It was proposed that the window at the Cricket Club, where vandals have obtained access, should be bricked up. This was agreed by the Parish Council and it was resolved that the 20017/18 £100 rent payment should be waived to help meet the cost.

f) Wootton Business Park – Para 5(f)

Mr Lee Turner at OCC had now returned to the office and was looking into taking action on the bus turning circle.

g) Joint Neighbourhood Plan – Para 5(g)

My Community has awarded the PC a full grant to cover the cost of the two Young People's days and the Character Assessment. There has been a good response to the questionnaire of around 500. The Young people's days went well will 43 young people at each venue

h) Vale of White Horse District Council Local Plan Part 2 – Para 5(h)

The Clerk attended the first workshop on 19th February run by the VWHDC consultants Hankinson Duckett. Local views appeared to be taken into account. All three groups recommended that the development of the first 1200 houses should be on one site rather than the three sites proposed by Carter Jonas. Two groups, both with Wootton representation, recommended that the site should be in the South with green protection between Rookery Close and the new development. The third group, with Shippon representation, recommended that the development should be in the North. This could affect the bus service through Whitecross and would have a bigger impact of traffic on the B4017. The SG were keen to have four members at the second workshop and were offered three. As a result the PC has also been offered three places. It was resolved that two councillors should attend with the Clerk? Clls Ludlow and Parker said that they would be available and Cllr Shaw would also be asked.

i) Data Protection - Paragraph 6

OALC has been asked if it can recommend a trainer to do a short group session for councillors; so far there has not been a response. There do not seem to be trainers available on the Internet; most are for on-line courses. OALC run courses which are currently fully booked. It would be very costly and time consuming to send all councillors on a course and it is questionable whether there is any point given that the issues relating to the PC do not

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appear to be significant. It would make sense to book the Data Protection Officer and the Clerk on a course, when one is available, so that they can then brief councillors.

6. LIAISON WITH NEIGHBOURING PARISHES

Sunningwell Parish Council has proposed that neighbouring councils meet together to liaise on areas of common interest. The meetings would include Radley, Kennington, South Hinksey and St Helen Without Parish Councils. It was resolved to respond that Wootton PC were in agreement in principle, but not at the moment due to resource restraints.

7. AGM AND ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

It was resolved to hold the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm on 1st May followed by the Annual General Meeting.

8. DEVELOPMENT MATTERS

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

P17/V3280/HH 12.1.2018	Replacement of existing temporary accommodation and shed with two storey granny annexe (second storey in roof space) 77 Hawkins Way, Wootton OX13 6LA Mrs Sharon Ward	No objections but drawings are inadequate to make a clear judgement
P18/V0043/HH 15.1.2018	Increase roof height of existing extension and increase floor space above. Details as per pre-application P17/V3056/PEO of 8/11/17 Greenacre, 13 Wotton Vill. OX1 5JL Mr & Mrs Ruben Diffey	No objections
P18/V0068/HH 22/1/2018	Two storey rear extension and loft conversion 155 Whitecross OX13 6BP Mrs Katrina Greenwood	No objections

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

b) Decisions of the Local Planning Authority

P17/V3013/FUL 28.11.2017	Extensions and alterations to provide 10 en suite rooms for visitors' accommodation. Foxcombe Hall, Berkeley Rd. OX15JF Mr Guy Liu	No objections	Permit 2.2.2018
P17/V3354/FUL 5.1.2018	Proposed erection of single storey front extension to existing recreational clubhouse building Blagrove Copse, Fox Lane Boars Hill, Oxford Mrs Jenny Harris	No objections	Permit 16.2.2018

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It was resolved to note the Planning Authority's decisions.

The proposal to sell the 7.35 acre field located immediately to the rear of Nos 151 to 213 Whitecross on the B4017 was discussed. It was noted that its use would be restricted to agricultural or paddock use.

9. MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Cllr Bristow raised the issue of Consultation on the London Oxford Airport Airspace Change Proposal; it was resolved that the Parish Council should object.

Cllr Westell asked about the insurance claim from the 2014 trip accident in the playground; there had been no further developments.

Cllr Werrell asked about the planning enforcement at Lamborough House.

10. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

a) Payments made between meetings

Adventure Plus – climbing wall; Young People's days	£1,080.00
Oxfordshire Play Assn. – Equipment; Young People's days	£75.00
Damascus Project – staff costs; Young People's days	£200.00
Playground Services Ltd – Tee Pee and Zip Wire	£14,866.00

b) March Accounts for Approval

Clerk Salary March	£1,057.39
Clerk Expenses March	£185.25
OALC subscription	£521.78
ST Grounds Maintenance – Litter picking February	£321.36
Richard Bahu – expenses Young people's days	£65.89
Georgie Clarke; minute taking NP SG	£45.00
OPFA Subscription 2018/9	£53.00

It was resolved to note the payments made between meetings and that the March 2018 invoices be approved for payment.

c) Applications for grants

None

11. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

South Oxfordshire DC – Planning Matters

OALC - Data Protection

Clerks and Councils Direct – March 2018

OALC Newsletter – February 2018

Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner's Newsletter

VHHDC – Leaders Newsletter February

South & Vale DCs – Safeguarding

Oxfordshire Leader Funding – February update

Vale News – February 2018

Parish Transport Representatives Meeting Agenda 19th February

OCC Battles Over

An event is planned at the Community Centre in November.

It was resolved to note the communications received

12. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Response to Clerk vacancy

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13. FUTURE MEETINGS

It was confirmed that the next meeting of the Council will be on Tuesday 3rd April 2018 at 7.30pm at the Wootton & Dry Sandford Community Centre.

Chairman Date