

**Oxhill Parish Council**  
**Minutes of a remote Parish Council Meeting**  
**held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2020 at 8.00pm**

Councillors Present

Cllr Harbour (Chairperson), Cllr Connolly, Cllr Rivers-Fletcher, Cllr Robertson and Cllr Stuart

Clerk to the Council, Mrs C Coles, District Cllr John Feilding and one villager

**20/48. Apologies for absence**

Cllr Chris Williams

**20/49. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda**

Cllr Stuart declared an interest in the Planning Application at Oak View, Green Lane.

**20/50. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and will be signed.

**20/51. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only**

Cllr Connolly gave an update on the rats. There has been further feedback from villagers and a pest control company called in. Cllr Connolly is to continue to monitor the situation.

**20/52. Public Participation Session**

Cllr John Fielding used this Agenda item to speak about a letter of complaint that he understood had been made to SDC about himself and Mr Hedley. The Chair denied that it was a complaint and referred to it as an 'enquiry'. The Chair agreed to forward the letter on.

**20/53. To receive a report from the County and District Councillor**

District Cllr Feilding reported that the Covid 19 pandemic had cost the district a lot of money. There is a Boundary Commission Review and some of the Councils may amalgamate. Leisure centres and pubs will be re-opening. The Chief Police Constable has put on extra patrols in the area. There is a lot of positiveness.

County Cllr Chris Williams had circulated his report.

The main points included:

Shire Hall is still in lockdown and staff working from home. All meetings are held on Microsoft Teams or Zoom. The Council is preparing a policy for continuing after lockdown. The first full meeting of the Council is on 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

The key financial headlines:

The total estimated financial impact is £60.0M. This is £16.5M more than reported due to including, a provision for the cost of social distancing on home to school transport should this be required in September and an increase in the estimated loss of income from business rates and council tax in 2020/21 and future years. The estimated costs are based on a lockdown until the end of July. The Authority does not anticipate any cash flow difficulties as a result of Covid 19. There will be areas where the increase in spend or loss of resourcing represents a permanent change. It is likely that the Authority will have to make some difficult choices about priorities over the coming months and increase in the level of budget reductions required over the medium term.

**20/54. To approve Model Standing Orders and Financial Regulations**

The model Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were both circulated prior to the meeting. They were approved and accepted.

**20/55. To receive an update on footpaths**

A list of footpath problems were reported at the last meeting.

Mr Beesley has shown an interest in being involved and introduced himself. He moved into the village in October and likes the strong community spirit. He is happy to be involved and improve the footpath network. There are a group of people who would be happy to co-ordinate lightweight maintenance tasks to keep footpaths open. Some paths are overgrown with vegetation. The footpaths fall under Rights of Way and it's a voluntary partnership scheme. They have limited resources. It was proposed by Cllr Connolly and seconded by the Chair that Mr Beesley will lead and co-ordinate the volunteer group.

Both bridges have been reported. Wooden slats for the bridge behind the church which has a gap in it, have been ordered. A second hand rail will be installed to make it safer for children to cross.

Cllr Feilding noted that there are various organisations such as the NFU and Ramblers who know the legalities and insurance requirements. All footpaths have to be kept open and accessible. There are stewardship schemes which enable farmers to get funding to deliver effective environmental management on their land. Walkers should be mindful of these schemes and walk on footpaths.

**20/56. To discuss planting at Cariad**

A letter was sent to the Enforcement Team at SDC. They have replied to say that the planting season has passed and it may not be appropriate to require further planting until October. Cllr Stuart noted that the property has now been sold.

*Action: The Parish Clerk to pass this information to the Enforcement team at SDC.*

**20/57. To discuss a speed camera**

Cllr Rivers-Fletcher noted the council's frustrations again as Highways will not allow a VAS to be put up. He has contacted Cllr I Secombe, the leader of WCC and is awaiting a reply. He proposed to the Parish Council to purchase a speed camera at a cost of £200.00. Proposed by Cllr Connolly. It was agreed this is a positive step forward. It has been a discussion point for the last three years and will prove whether speeds are accurate. Cllr Feilding spoke about Speedwatch which runs in Tysoe. They are very active and know the legal position.

**20/58. To receive an update on the new bus shelter**

It was previously agreed that a wooden oak bus shelter would be made to stand outside the village hall. The village hall front would act as the back of the shelter. The cost is £2200.00. The Chair did obtain two quotes but this contractor was selected based on the bespoke design and how it will fit into the rural area. The Chair will obtain three installation quotes. WCC have waived the £121.00 fee.

**20/59. To receive an update on planning**

One new application had been received since the last meeting:

*20/01157/FUL, Erection of 2 x bed semi detached properties at Oak View, Green Lane.* No objections with comments. This application was received between meetings and Cllr Stuart did not take part in any decision making.

Older applications

20/00566/LBC, Repair of corner post at The Hollies, Rouse Lane. Granted by SDC.

20/00985/FUL, Provision of hardstanding to side of driveway and double gate at 11 Leys Field. Withdrawn.

20/01076/FUL and 20/01077/LBC, Work at The Old Rectory. No objections by PC.

**20/60. Financial Report**

*The following payments were approved under statutory powers:*

£30.00 to M McKail (Internal audit)

£576.00 to Tysoe Childrens Group (newsletter copying)

£40.00 to the Information Commissioner (Data protection)

**20/61. To receive the following correspondence**

Severn Trent and Environment Agency – High Water Demand. This detail will be put in the next newsletter.

SDC/WDC, Next Steps

SDC, New Point of Contact

*To*

SDC, Church Farm on Whatcote Road. The Parish Council have written to Enforcement at SDC who have advised the case is time dependant. There have been complaints about bonfires which are connected. The details to be passed to Cllr Feilding and Environmental Health.

**20/62. To receive Councillors Reports**

Cllr Robertson has received a quote to purchase and install an additional waste bin. The cost is £370.00 and the emptying annual cost is £111.86. It was agreed to purchase two bins. The contractor is installing bins in August if the Parish Council can pass the information to them before then.

*Action: Cllr Robertson to submit a site plan.*

Cllr Rivers-Fletcher spoke about the waste which is being dumped on the lane next to Oxhill Farm. This has been ongoing for a long time and reported to the authorities.

*Action: Cllr Feilding and Cllr Stuart to meet on site.*

Complaints have been received about motorbike noise in the village.

*Action: Cllr Stuart to speak to the person involved.*

**20/63. Date and Time of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 8pm

The Chair thanked Mr Beesley for attending the meeting. There being no other business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.20pm.