

Oxhill Parish Council
Minutes of a Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 10th March 2020 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Councillors Present

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

Clerk to the Council, Mrs C Coles, County Cllr Chris Williams, District Cllr John Feilding and six villagers

20/17. Apologies for absence

None.

20/18. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda

No interests were declared.

20/19. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2020

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

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

The postbox by the crossroads has been damaged and taped up. Royal Mail were contacted and have confirmed a village this size only requires one postbox.

20/21. Public Participation Session

It was noted that heavy plant machinery are damaging Whatcote Road.

20/22. To discuss a potential scheme for a new dwelling at Windmill Farm, Red Horse Vales Ltd

The Director of Sheldon Bosley Knight was unable to attend the meeting. He will reschedule to attend at a later date.

20/23. To receive a report from the County and District Councillor

The main items from Cllr Williams report included:

On 18th February, WCC agreeing the financial plan for the next five years as well as setting a budget for 2020/21. The following investments were agreed, £182M for Adults and Older people in need of support, £187M to give children the best possible start in life, £50M to improve the quality of the residents roads, £27M for the Fire Service to keep residents safe. Council tax will rise by 3.99% which is a 1.99% increase with 2% for Adult Social Care.

District Councillor J Feilding read out a statement. He assured the meeting that he will continue to serve his constituents in the best possible way. He spoke briefly about electric cars. Some villages are looking at providing charging points and the Government are looking at grant aid. Details of the green waste service are on the SDC website. There will be a £40 annual charge. Everyone will have to pay and the less well off can pay quarterly.

20/24. To discuss and agree a date for a village litter pick

It was agreed to hold a village litter pick on 18th April. Equipment will be provided.

Action: Cllr Robertson to lead and Cllr Stuart to provide refreshments.

20/25. To receive an update on planning

Three applications had been received since the last meeting:

- 19/03356/FUL, Proposed single storey extension to front at Stablecroft, Green Lane. No objections. Granted by SDC.
- 20/00458/TREE. Fell 1 x Cherry Plum at Gilks Cottage, Gilks Lane. Under consideration.
- 19/03100/FUL, Proposed annex comprising ancillary bedroom accommodation at Homestead, Main Street. Withdrawn.

20/26. Financial Report

The following payments were approved:

£400.00 (contribution to OVH utilities)
 £19.76 to L Stuart (website)
 £15.00 to WALC (training)
 £5.00 to WALC (Good Cllr Guide Book)
 £78.80 to M Collins (village website costs)
 £30.00 to Parish Clerk (Purchase of copy of SDC Core Strategy)
 £480.00 to Parish Clerk (hours)
 £120.00 to HMRC
 £32.40 to Parish Clerk (mileage)
 £600.00 to Oxhill PCC (grass mowing)

20/27. To receive the following correspondence

The following correspondence had been circulated:

- County Highways, Issues. The Parish Council noted their frustration as highway matters are reported and brushed aside. Cllr Williams agreed to arrange a site visit with Highways and a Parish Councillor to look at the current issues. The Clerk agreed to check the correct procedure in reporting potholes as each authority is different.
- Stratford District Council, Leys Field Development. Work is being done and the developer has flattened the soil. There are problems between the developer and management fees. Two properties are occupied.
- WCC, Road closure on Green Lane from 30th March to 7th April for BT work.

20/28. To receive Councillors Reports

Cllr Connolly and the Chair gave an update on the Assets of Community Value (ACV's). They were introduced by the Coalition Government to give more power to the people. Communities have a right to identify a building or other land that they believe to be of importance to their community's social well-being. The matter was on the December meeting agenda. Parish Councils can submit a listing and there is a procedure to do this. They are considered by Stratford District Council and if approved, listed for five years. The Parish Council were previously concerned as the pub was up for sale and a developer was interested. An ACV order could prevent the pub being sold for the wrong reason. The pub is no longer for sale and the owner has a new Chef and other plans to improve it. There is no point in applying for an ACV for the village hall as improvement work is planned. An ACV could be considered if development might occur at a later date.

Action: Cllr Connolly agreed to circulate the details on ACV's.

Cllr Connolly gave an update on footpaths. It was agreed to publish a local footpath map for new residents. The options are to either produce a new map or use the Definitive Footpath map with extra notes. There will be less work to use the existing map.

Action: It was agreed for a consultation exercise to be carried out and a note put in the May/June Oxhill News.

Cllr Rivers-Fletcher gave an update on speeding. Speed signs cost £2K-3K. Any measures that are implemented will have to be funded by the Parish Council with highway consent. Vehicle

Activated Signs can either be battery or solar powered and can collect data. Other villages are dealing with speeding in different ways. Pillerton Priors have Speedwatch and Wellesbourne has a VAS. Oxhill have carried out a speed survey in the past. From the residents present they said that there are sporadic cases of speeding. A small number of vehicles go fast including tractors. It was agreed to distribute a questionnaire asking for ideas.

Action: Cllr Rivers-Fletcher to reword and distribute the questionnaire.

Cllr Stuart highlighted an article in the recent WALC newsletter giving details of funding for village halls.

Cllr Stuart has looked at benches. She suggested one is fitted when a bus shelter is installed.

Cllr Stuart reported two bridges which require attention.

Action: The Parish Clerk to contact the residents concerned and report.

Cllr Robertson gave an update on dog bins. The approximate cost is £300.00 and the bins would require cementing in place.

Action: The Parish Clerk to ask SDC of the cost to empty the bins.

The Chair gave an update on the flooding initiatives. Sandbags cost £130.00 and he has found somewhere to store them. A note will be put in the next Oxhill News to ask who is affected. 2 signs will be needed for the Main Road and Back Lane.

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting closed at 9.25pm.