

Oxhill Parish Council
Minutes of an Annual Parish Council Meeting
held Tuesday 23rd May 2023 at 8pm
in The Old Chapel

Councillors Present

Cllr Connolly, Cllr Rivers-Fletcher, Cllr Storey and Cllr Stuart

Clerk to the Council, Mrs C Coles, Cllr Littlewood and nine villagers

23/34. Elections

Election of Chair and Signing of Acceptance of Office form

It was proposed by Cllr Rivers-Fletcher and seconded by Cllr Connolly that Cllr Stuart be Chair. Cllr Stuart signed the Acceptance of Office form.

Election of Vice-Chair

This item will be deferred to the July meeting.

The Councillors begin their new four year term and the remaining Councillors signed Acceptance of Office forms.

23/35. Apologies for absence

Cllr Robertson (holiday) and County Cllr Chris Mills (personal)

23/36. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda

No interests were declared.

23/37. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14th March 2023

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

23/38. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda

Purchase of Gardner field - There is no new update. The field can still be used. This item will be revisited at the July meeting.

Broken road sign on Whatcote Road – This has been fixed and is back in place.

23/39. Public Participation Session

Gill Stewart was at the meeting to discuss the extension of the Whatcote Road pavement to the Sett. It is a pedestrian and safety issue. Everyone has to walk on the road at this point and it is not just exclusive to the people in the Sett. The Parish Council has put weight behind other projects such as mending the footbridge. The Chair noted at this point that PC money was not used to mend the bridge. Seven emails of support had been received for the extension of the footpath and Mrs Stewart thanked all those who had supported her.

The Parish Council obtained a quote in 2019 and the cost then was £4K. The Parish Council has contacted Warwickshire Highways again and they will carry out a new survey which will cost £500.00 and be non-refundable. If the project goes ahead this cost will be deducted from the final sum.

Cllr Rivers Fletcher asked if the people in the Sett would contribute? A villager noted that a condition when he bought his house was that the footpath would be built. He stated he has the youngest children in the village and there was an incident today with a cyclist and speeding car. He uses the pavement every day but has only used the field twice. It matters to him.

The village were very fortunate last year and received money from Cllr Mills. Cllr Mills also gave money to the Village Hall Committee. The Parish Council have other monetary projects to consider such as the field purchase and the AD application in Tysoe which has not been decided yet.

Highways previously quoted for a 1.5 metre width. This will be checked but it may be the legal width. The stones were discussed which are illegal and should be moved.

A villager suggested that the village crowd fund to raise £500.00 for the survey to be carried out. Without the survey the actual up to date cost will be unknown.

It was agreed that more information is needed such as if the required legal width is 1.5 metres and how long the quote will last?

Action: The Parish Clerk to email Warwickshire Highways and Cllr Chris Mills.

23/40. To receive a report from the County and District Councillor

District Councillor Littlewood spoke at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Cllr Mills had circulated a report. The main points included:

Charger Safety, Hate Crime in Warwickshire, Transforming SEND support in Warwickshire, Warwickshire's Food Strategy set to boost affordability and sustainability, Cost of Living, I need Help Now, Vital Support for parents and carers, Energy Bills Support Scheme, Warwickshire Working Together Charter launched, Bus Travel to stay cheaper for longer in Warwickshire, County Councillor Grant Fund. The full report is on the village website <https://oxhillcommunity.co.uk>.

23/41. To discuss the proposal to extend the Whatcote Road pavement to the Sett

Covered under public participation.

23/42. To receive an update on the footpath bridge

The new bridge has been replaced and is well used. There is another bridge to be repaired. It is just outside the village boundary between Oxhill and Pillerton. It has been reported to WCC.

23/43. To receive a litter pick report and discuss biannual litter picks and set dates

The Chair arranged a litter pick after the Coronation weekend. 20 people helped and 8-10 bags were collected. There is a regular group who litter pick. It was agreed another litter pick would take place on 14th October. Equipment can be borrowed from SDC.

23/44. To receive an update on the Housing Needs Survey

The survey was printed and will be distributed with the Oxhill News.

23/45. To discuss the loose kerb sets on Main Street

Kerb sets were damaged when Voneus were in the village. Cllr Stuart to send a photo to the Parish Clerk.

Action: The Parish Clerk to report to Highways.

23/46. To receive an update on planning

Older

- 23/00898/TREE, Tree work at Blackford House, Main Street. No objection by PC or SDC.
- 23/00576/TREE, Tree work at Little Barn, Church Lane. No objection by SDC.

23/47. Financial Report

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

- £18.00 to Parish Clerk (SLCC Membership)
- £28.80 to TEEC (website)
- £161.00 to WALC (subscription)
- £159.23 to Zurich Municipal (Insurance)

AGAR for year ending 31st March 2023

To approve and sign the Certificate of Exemption, Section 1 and Section 2

The documents had been circulated. The Certificate of Exemption, Section 1 and Section 2 were all approved and signed by the Chair and RFO/Parish Clerk.

Action: The Parish Clerk to forward the Certificate of Exemption and Notice of Public Rights to the External Auditor. All other documents will be put on the website and village noticeboards.

23/48. Councillors Reports

Cllr Connolly reported the kissing gates and stiles which have been replaced. The one at Blackford Way was not replaced due to low usage and financial constraints. More usage is to be encouraged.

Cllr Rivers-Fletcher spoke about speeding. The Parish Council are not allowed to buy any speed signs to help with the problem. A new survey will be carried out in the summer and the data resent. PC Speedy is successful.

23/49. To note next meeting date and time

Tuesday 11th July 2023 at 7.30pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

