

Oxhill Parish Council
Minutes of an Annual Parish Council Meeting
held Tuesday 7th May 2024 at 8pm
in The Village Hall

Councillors Present

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

Clerk to the Council, Mrs C Coles, County Cllr Mills, District Cllr Littlewood and three villagers

24/32. Elections

Election of Chair and Signing of Acceptance of Office form

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

Election of Vice-Chair

It was proposed by Cllr Stuart and seconded by Cllr Connolly that Cllr Robertson be Vice-Chair.

24/33. Apologies for absence

None

24/34. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda

Cllr Stuart declared an interest in item 24/45 as the owner of the cottages in Green Lane. Cllr Robertson and Cllr Connolly declared interests in item 24/41 as nearby residents of Leys Field.

24/35. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2024

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

24/36. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda

Guardianship of defibrillator – There is no further news on this. The question will be asked at the training session.

24/37. Public Participation Session

A villager spoke on behalf of the Village Hall. The hall looks lovely but is not complete. They are trying to fund raise as some items are not complete. A further £10K is needed. He asked if the village hall could be considered for funding in the future. This will be added to the agenda in July.

Action: The Chair to pass a new funding request form to the villager.

24/38. To receive a report from the County and District Councillor

The main points from Cllr Mills report included

Warwickshire Strategic Economic Plan, LCE fund pumps £2.5 million into businesses in two years, Warwickshire chosen as pathfinder for national reform of children's social care services, Measles, Whooping Cough, Council highlighting mental health and wellbeing support available to residents throughout May, Upper Lighthorne Primary Care Facility, Financial Stress, Warwickshire Resilience Forum, Queensway and Ford Foundry Roundabout works. The full report is available to read on the village website www.oxhill.co.uk.

A villager noted that he had read in the media that a lot of businesses will finish this coming year. Town centres are dying. The cost of parking is high. Cllr Storey asked what the plan is to stay ahead? Private accommodation should be brought back into town centres but the regeneration cost is high.

The report from Cllr Littlewood included:

Cabinet

A number of items were brought to Stratford Upon Avon District Council cabinet in April.

1. Gateway site Framework Master Plan. The aim of the project is to revive and rejuvenate the area between Windsor Street and the railway station and make it more attractive to visitors.
2. Supplementary Planning Documentation regarding Open Spaces.
3. The Ecological Emergency (Biodiversity)

Major Planning Issues

There is no up to date news on the Tysoe Anaerobic Digester application. Progress is slow.

Policing

An update document has been produced listing the preferred ways to contact the police. Congratulations to Philip Secombe at being re-elected for the third time as PCC.

HUGS 2

This is a Home Upgrade Grant available for those who can benefit from insulation and boiler upgrades. Funding is available to houses which don't use mains gas for heating. The funding is provided by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero.

24/39. To receive an update on defibrillator training

30 people had registered an interest in training. Two sessions have been arranged for 8th June and 15th June 9.30-11.30. The dates will be put on Facebook.

24/40. To discuss sewage on Manor Fields

There has been lots of correspondence on this and the situation is moving forward. There is CCTV on the sewer and its being reviewed and watched. There is concern of the depth of drains. Tree ownership was briefly discussed nearby. There is a tree on the verge which is obstructing vehicles. It is on no mans land and will have to be reduced or felled.

24/41. To discuss rain water management at Leys Field

Emails from a villager of Leys Field have been received. Water floods into gardens after heavy rain. The attenuation pond is not working despite the very wet winter. A new trench with gravel may solve the problem. The details will be passed to Cllr Littlewood.

24/42. To receive an update on planning

One new application had been received since the last meeting

- 24/00824/TEL28, Installation of a 12m pole for the mounting of LoRaWAN gateway equipment at Leys Field. The PC have objected with comments. This application is for Severn Trent to read water meters with a machine. It is currently operating in Stratford.

24/43. Financial Report

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

- £600.00 to Tysoe Childrens Group (newsletter copying)
- £159.23 to Zurich Municipal (insurance)

- £175.20 to WALC (membership)
- £30.00 to J McKail (internal audit)

To consider a grant towards CCOTS – Community Choir of Oxhill, Tysoe and Shenington (details circulated)

Action: Cllr Rivers Fletcher to complete a new funding request form. To be discussed in July.

To consider a grant to support Shipston First Responders to raise funds to buy a vehicle (details circulated)

Action: The Chair to complete a new funding request form. To be discussed in July.

To consider a donation to Shipston Home Nursing

Action: Cllr Connolly to complete a new funding request form. To be discussed in July.

24/44. AGAR for year ending 31st March 2024

The internal audit has been carried out. All documents were circulated prior to the meeting.

- To approve and sign the Certificate of Exemption.*
This document was approved and signed by the Chair and RFO.
- To approve and sign Section 1*
This document was approved and signed by the Chair and RFO.
- To approve and sign Section 2*
This document was approved and signed by the Chair and RFO.

Action: The Parish Clerk to submit the Certificate of Exemption to the external auditor before 30th June and place the documents on the website and notice-board.

24/45. To receive the following correspondence

- Letter re cottages on Green Lane
- Emails re footpath to The Sett and affordable housing
- Tysoe Childrens Group (increase in copying costs from 1st May 2024. Councillors discussed it being a valuable resource but queried the amount of copies that are made.

Action: The Chair to meet Vanessa and Grenville about the work involved.

24/46. Councillors Reports

Cllr Connolly spoke about the footbridge which request replacing. He has received a quote for £1500.00. The Chair knew of another supplier but it is the same company who quoted before. The Parish Council can apply to Cllr Chris Mills for a grant after 20th May.

Action: Cllr Connolly to apply for a grant.

24/47. To note next meeting date and time

Tuesday 9th July 2024 at 7.30pm

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.30pm.