

Oxhill Parish Council
Minutes of an Annual Parish Council Meeting
held on Tuesday 14th May 2019 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall

Councillors Present

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

Clerk to the Council, Mrs C Coles, County Cllr Chris Williams and three villagers

19/28. Elections

Election of Chairperson and signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office form

Cllr Harbour was elected to be Chairperson. He signed the Acceptance of Office form.

Election of Vice-Chairperson

Cllr Stuart was elected to be Vice-Chairperson.

19/29. Apologies for absence were received from

There were no apologies.

19/30. To receive Declarations of Interest under the Council's Code of Conduct relating to business on the agenda

There were no interests to declare.

19/31. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2019

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved and signed.

19/32. To note any matters arising from the minutes not included on this agenda for report only

The recent litter pick was well attended.

19/33. Public Participation Session

Concern has been expressed about a possible planning application/development for affordable housing on the edge of the village. The idea was first muted eighteen months ago. The Chair advised that the Parish Council have not received any official documentation to date.

19/34. To receive a report from the County and District Councillor

The main points from Cllr Williams report included:

April is the last month of the council year and is very quiet. Steps are being taken to implement new procedures and all Council members are getting to know new Officers. Add to this the uncertainties of Brexit and the political purdah as a result of the forthcoming District elections in four of the five District/Borough Councils. No decisions have been taken that would impact Oxhill.

One important issue that the County want resolving is the long awaited Green paper by parliament on the importance of social care. The issue of guidance has been delayed for two years during the domination of parliamentary time due to Brexit. Warwickshire has the highest ageing population which is increasing.

19/35. To consider the report on traffic calming

A scheme has been agreed with Warwickshire County Council following a visit by two Highways staff. A slow sign and junction sign will be placed outside Heritage Farm. All entry points into the village will have 30mph signs and dragons teeth. There will be roundels on the road. The 30mph sign on Green Lane cannot be moved for the time being as it will be too costly.

The total cost of the project is £5.7K and Cllr Chris Williams has agreed to donate £3K. Thanks was given to Cllr Williams for this donation. An order has been placed with the contractor.

The following points were made. Parked cars on the road reduce speeding. The lack of street lighting restricts what can be considered to reduce speeding. The police and WCC look at fatality numbers. There is the possibility of applying for a grant for road safety plans from the Warwickshire PCC. The deadline for applications is 3rd June.

Action: The Chair to contact Gary Palmer at WCC to ask if he can visit the village.

19/36. To discuss training for Councillors

There is free training available for new Councillors and a planning workshop in Southam on 14th September. Cllr Stuart would like to attend the planning workshop.

Action: Councillors to let the Parish Clerk if they are interested in attending training courses.

19/37. To discuss objectives for the year

There is sufficient money in the budget to look at future projects. The idea of a bus shelter was discussed again. Mr Moore has a cheaper quote for materials only and the labour with some voluntary help would be free. Most Councillors were in agreement as it would be used by school children and the elderly. It was agreed that full costings are needed.

The following objectives were agreed for the year:

- a. Professional planning advice if it is needed.
- b. Additional traffic calming measures.
- c. Bus shelter.

19/38. To receive an update on planning

New Applications

19/01049/FUL, Change of use of existing building and adjacent land from mixed B1 and Sui Generis (specialist sheep housing) to mixed B1 and Sui Generis (light Industrial and motor vehicle storage and refurbishment – part retrospective at Church Farm, Whatcote Road. Under consideration. The Parish Council have to respond by 20th May.

Action: The Chair to speak to the applicant.

19/01067/REM, Access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale at Land adjacent to Oxbourne House, Whatcote Road. No objections.

Older Applications

19/00953/TREE, Fell an apple tree at Churchview, Green Lane. No objections.

19/39. Financial Report

To review the current budget and forecast to 31st March 2020

The Parish Council are currently working to budget.

The following payments were approved under statutory powers:

£797.75 to Marshalls Landscape Products (Planters) – 18/19 payment

£19.76 to L Stuart (website)

£16.00 to SLCC (Clerks membership)

£103.44 to Jane Moore (herbs for planters)

£126.00 to WALC (membership)

Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2018/19 Part 2

To approve and sign the Certificate of Exemption. The form was approved and signed by the Chair and RFO.

To approve and sign Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement. The form was approved and signed by the Chair and RFO.

To approve and sign Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2018/19. The form was approved and signed by the Chair and RFO.

19/40. To receive the following correspondence

The following correspondence had been circulated:

- Invitation to Royal Marines Band Concert. A poster would be put on the notice-board.

19/41. To receive Councillors Reports

Grenville Moore has agreed to carry on liaising with SDC about the illegal tree felling in Church Orchard and represent the Parish Council for matters to do with Leys Field. It was agreed he should be invited on behalf of the Parish Council to continue. Cllr Stuart agreed to support him with his permission.

The Chair spoke about the Security marking. An event was held on Saturday 11th May with SmartWater and the police. They helped people to mark tools. The Chair had purchased 50 sets of Smartwater kits and sold 34. The response was very pleasing.

Action: The Chair to thank those who purchased kits and helped with the event. The details will be included in future welcome packs. A shorter note to be put in the Oxhill News.

19/42. Date and time of next meeting

Tuesday 9th July 2019 at 8pm in the Village Hall

There being no other business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.56pm.