

Minutes of the Meeting of Uffington Parish Council, Monday 13th March 2017 at 7.30pm at the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall

Present: Cllr Simon Jenkins (Chair), Cllr Karen Pilcher, Cllr Graham Banks, Cllr Paul Coad, Cllr Mike Oldnall, Cllr Fenella Oberman

Clerk/Finance Officer: Julia Evans

District Councillor: Cllr Robert Sharp

County Councillor:

Members of the Public: Mr G Rumble, Mr Steve Nowell, Ms Ruth de Wilton, Mrs Fay Forster

67/17	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Constance sent her apologies.	Action
68/17	DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS None.	
69/17	MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON 6th FEBRUARY 2017 Cllr Banks proposed acceptance of the minutes of the Monthly meeting held on Monday 6 th February 2017. Cllr Coad seconded. RESOLVED. The minutes were signed.	
70/17	REMAINING BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING: Litter Bin – Mr Scrivens will carry out the work later this week. Review of Burial Fees – It was agreed to maintain the current burial fees for the next financial year and review again next March; Cllr Oberman will review burial ground fees against those charged by the PCC Bridge by the pond – The work has been completed.	FO CLOSED
71/17	COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT: Cllr Constance sent a written report. She is attending a planning briefing for clarification on Local Plan Part 2, especially sites offered but not allocated. Consultation on preferred allocated sites has started. She promotes the benefits of the amended proposals for Better Oxfordshire, which includes 15-20 Area Executive boards instead of 5. She supports the new proposal because it ensures real powers at area level. The proposal will be submitted to the Secretary of State before end March and a 'minded to' decision is expected in May. If approved there will be a general consultation before formal approval in July and implementation regulations will be written by December for presentation to Parliament. We could be ready for Unitary Elections in May 2019.	
72/17	DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT: Cllr Sharp reported that the housing delivery target for the Vale was 1028 units per year He stated that 1097 houses had been built and sold in the 12 months to October 2016. Cllr Oldnall asked whether the Neighbourhood Plan would provide any additional protection against further large developments. Cllr Sharp agreed that it would but the lack of a 5 year housing land supply would override this. He pointed out that the Western Vale has no new houses allocated in LPP2, only around 20 units per year for windfall sites. Cllr Oldnall noted that clarity was required on what would happen if the 5 year housing land supply was lost. Cllr Sharp reported that the Vale had set its budget for the next financial year. Also, at the Council meeting last week the Vale voted in favour of the Better Oxfordshire proposal. Cllr Sharp was thanked for attending.	
73/17	POLICE REPORT: This was not available. The area report for March has been circulated by email.	
74/17	OPEN FORUM: Mrs Forster raised concerns regarding the planning application for two new houses on land off Fowler Road; the concerns included boundary issues which she had also raised with the applicants. Mr Nowell asked if there was any progress on the installation of a defibrillator. Cllr Oldnall stated that there was no progress to report. Mr Rumble presented an update on the village hall project. A meeting has been held	

	with the contractor and the hall has been booked out for part of August/September for the work to insulate the ceiling in the large hall. The small hall may need to be done at a later date, possible during the Autumn half term, due to time constraints. The Committee has enquired about LEADER funding but their project is not suitable for this fund. They have made an application to TOE and also the Faringdon Rotary. They also plan to apply to WHST and the Vale Capital Community Fund. Mr Rumble also reported that the kissing gate at the back of Jacksmeadow has been installed.	
	ONGOING PROJECTS	
75/17	Parish Council assets and Land Registry: Good progress has been made. Statutory Declarations regarding the Old Schoolroom ownership have been signed and are with the solicitors. The application to the Land Registry will be made any day.	
76/17	Station Road development: The sale of the 12 th open market property has taken place and the Vale have invoiced the developers for the S106 contribution to the Parish Council.	
77/17	Proposed Housing Development on land at Fernham Road. A meeting between the developers and the Parish Council has been scheduled for 19 th April at 4.30pm.	
78/17	Community Led Plan update: A Go Active Gold taster event was held on 20 th February but no one attended. An over 60s swimming offer has been publicised. A film afternoon is planned for 12 th April.	
79/17	Creation of a Neighbourhood Plan - update: The new area designation for the Uffington and Baulking Neighbourhood Plan has been signed off by the Vale. Cllr Jenkins to circulate Terms of Reference to the Steering Group. The Housing Needs Assessment would be completed shortly.	SJ
80/17	Development of an Emergency Plan: Nothing to report.	
81/17	Tom Brown's School Room Update: Cllr Pilcher reported that repairs to the first wall have not yet started; she is trying to get a date from the builder. She thanked all those who helped with the gardening and the removal of rubble. A nomination as an Asset of Community Value has been registered with the Vale by Uffington Heritage Watch. The Parish Council have been notified as owners and trustees of the building. Cllr Pilcher outlined what an ACV is and the implications: 1) it removes the right of the owners of the asset to develop or change the use of the land without a consultation period of at least 6 months; 2) it is a material consideration in the case of a planning application; 3) the organisation who registered the asset have the right to bid in the event of a proposed sale; 4) the asset can be compulsorily purchased by a local authority if it is under threat; 5) the registration is for 5 years. Cllr Pilcher stated, as a Councillor and Chair of Uffington Museum Trustees, that there was no intention by the Parish Council to sell the building or for the Trustees to do anything with it other than maintain it as a museum.	
82/17	S106 Funds - Update on Community Art Project: A meeting was held with Tom Hills, the selected artist. Content for the Information board was discussed along with the Parish Trails. Cllr Pilcher to write an article for The Courier about the project.	KP
83/17	Speed Reduction Measures on Fawler Road: Permission to install the VAS has been requested of OCC Highways. No response to date. Clerk to chase.	JE
84/17	Playdale Quote for work in the Play Area: Nothing to report	
85/17	Request for grant from S106 funds from Friends of St Mary's Church: The details of the application had been circulated to the Parish Council who noted that they are not in a position to award grants at the moment because the funds have not been received. It was noted that the Friends have raised a great deal toward the project. A number of concerns were raised about the application from members of the public. Cllr Oldnall suggested seeking further clarification from Mr Foster.	
	PLANNING MATTERS	
86/17	New Applications to be considered:	

	<p>P17/V0330/HH – New House, Green Lane. First Floor side extension. The Parish Council had no objection to this application.</p> <p>P17/V2063/FUL – Appletree Cottage, High Street. Demolition of garage. Erection of single storey rear extension, two storey front extension and loft. It was noted that the building is within the conservation area. The proposal is very large and the proposal for wood cladding is not in keeping with the surroundings and will look different from the adjacent, attached house. OCC Highways has expressed concern over parking due to the loss of the garage. The meeting agreed to object on the grounds that it is too large, there is not enough parking and it is not in keeping. Cllr Oldnall to draft a response.</p> <p>P17/V0322/FUL – Craven Yard. Retrospective application for a new dwelling and garage. It was noted that the house is over height (the application shows the house at the same height as the neighbours – it is higher) and the plans do not show details of the garage, but the location of the concrete slab indicates that it would restrict the windows of the neighbouring property. The house dominates the area to an excessive extent. The Parish Council agreed to object to the application. Clerk to inform the case officer and advise that details of the objection would follow shortly.</p> <p>P17/V0485/O – Land adjacent to Fawler Road. Development of two new detached dwellings. It was noted that there is a history of refused applications in this area. The proposed design of the houses is not good. The drainage solution may be inadequate, and there would be adverse effects on the setting of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty The meeting deferred a decision for further consideration and a site visit. A response is due by 21st March.</p> <p>Cllr Sharp was requested to call in the applications for Craven Yard and Appletree Cottage.</p>	<p>MO</p> <p>JE</p>
87/17	<p>Local Plan Part 2</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins had previously circulated details about Local Plan Part 2. A note will be put in the Courier. Cllr Jenkins noted that an invitation has been received from the Conservation Officer for the Parish Council to participate in an appraisal of the Uffington Conservation Area. It was confirmed that the Parish Council would assist as required.</p>	
	<p>FINANCE</p>	
88/17	<p>To approve March payments and sign cheques:</p> <p>A full list of payments is attached to these minutes. Cllrs Pilcher and Jenkins proposed and seconded approval of payments totalling £3651.24. RESOLVED. The cheques were signed.</p> <p>Museum costs:</p> <p>It was noted that from 1st April the telephone and broadband costs for the museum should come out of the UMT account. Plusnet to be informed of the change. The Electricity direct debit has been transferred to UMT with effect from 1st April. Clerk to request repayment of 50% of the electricity for 2016/17.</p> <p>Subscriptions: it was agreed to continue with all the existing subscriptions except Clerks & Councils direct. To be reviewed again in November.</p> <p>2017/18 Budget: The meeting approved the 2017/18 budget that had been previously circulated.</p> <p>Appointment of Internal Auditor: The meeting agreed to appoint Trish Ingham as internal auditor for 2016/17.</p> <p>NJC Pay Scales: The meeting agreed to adopt the new NJC pay scales with effect from 1st April.</p>	<p>KP/Clerk</p>
	<p>ANNUAL/QUARTERLY REVIEWS</p>	
89/17	<p>Review of Risk Assessment: The revised Risk Assessment was adopted. Clerk to put on website.</p> <p>Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations: It was agreed that no changes were required to the Standing Orders or Financial Regulations.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

90/17	UPKEEP (INC. WATERCOURSES) Tree Survey and Trees on The Mound: Quotes to be obtained for the high priority work required as identified in the Tree Survey. A letter to be written to residents of Craven Common regarding the trees on the mound. Cllr Pilcher to draft a letter.	SJ/Clerk KP
	GENERAL	
91/17	Monthly Play Area inspections: Cllr Oberman noted that there were no issues to report.	
92/17	Website: Nothing to report.	
93/17	Parish Council Archives: This is ongoing.	SJ/KP/Clerk
94/17	Photocopier: The novation agreement has been sent to the school for signature. Letter to be sent to regular users and a village email to be sent out. Cllr Banks to take a final meter reading.	Clerk/SJ/GB
95/17	Village Defibrillator: Nothing to report.	MO
96/17	Proposal to update The Courier: Cllr Jenkins to put an item in The Courier asking people to send their articles / photographs etc in colour. He will also ask for a volunteer to help with advertising.	SJ
	CONSULTATIONS	
97/17	None.	
	CORRESPONDENCE/AOB	
98/17	Request from SSE for consent to install a stay wire on an already installed pole in High Street. Consent was given. Cllr Jenkins signed the consent form. PC Insurance: Cllr Pilcher noted that the museum contents should be removed from the PC insurance. Twinning and village Signs: These are in a very poor condition. It was noted that the railings beside the stream in Fernham Road are damaged. OCC Highways (Lee Turner) has been asked to look into this.	Clerk
99/17	DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be Monday 10 th April 2017 at the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall. This will also be the Annual Assembly. The main council meeting will start at 6.30pm. WI will provide refreshments in the foyer from 7pm. Annual Assembly to start at 7.30pm. Cllrs Oldnall and Coad gave their apologies.	

The meeting closed at 10.20 pm