

**Minutes of the Meeting of Uffington Parish Council  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.30 pm  
At Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall**

Present: Cllr Simon Jenkins (Chair), Cllr Mike Oldnall, Cllr Nigel Puddicombe, Cllr Graham Banks, Cllr Dale Pilchowski  
Clerk/Finance Officer: Julia Evans  
District Councillor:  
County Councillor: Cllr Yvonne Constance  
Members of the Public: 5 members of the public

277/19	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Cllr Oberman, District Cllr Boyd.	<b>Action</b>
278/19	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</b> None.	
279/19	<b>MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019</b> Cllr Puddicombe proposed acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November; Cllr Oldnall seconded. <b>RESOLVED.</b> The minutes were signed.	
280/19	<b>REMAINING BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>252/19 (226/19 - 201/19 - 177/19 - 155/19 - 131/19 - 107/19 - 77/19 - 52/19 - 29/19 - 4/19 - 226/18 - 299/18) – Community Speedwatch.</b> No progress. Cllr Constance to take the matter up with Matthew Barber.</li> <li>b) <b>252/19 (226/19 - 201/19 - 194/19) – Consideration of a Winter Salt bin.</b> No progress on installation. Cllr Constance to chase.</li> <li>c) <b>272/19 – Improvements to Footpath 19.</b> Cllr Jenkins had circulated a report on the proposals ahead of the meeting. The current stiles on the path from Upper Common Lane to Sower Hill Farm plantation are suitable for upgrading to kissing gates. To date two landowners have agreed to the upgrade. Mr Cavanagh (DC) will assist with preparing an application for a TOE grant. Three quotes will be required for the work. The meeting agreed to fund 10% of the cost from S106 funds. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe. <b>RESOLVED.</b></li> </ul>	<p>YC</p> <p>YC</p> <p>SJ/DC</p>
281/19	<b>COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b> Cllr Jenkins thanked Cllr Constance for her help in getting the water leak in Fernham Road fixed. He noted that the traffic lights were still in situ. Cllr Constance reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) OCC were currently budget setting. The demand for social care was taking up much of the available funds.</li> <li>b) There was a big push on climate action. OCC was the top recycler in the country. Their target was to increase recycled waste to 70% by 2025. Next year the focus would be on improving food recycling; she drew attention to the forthcoming Vale notice on recycling.</li> <li>c) OCC was working with TOE to increase tree planting and they would be seeking to promote this with Parish Councils.</li> <li>d) The program for zero emissions in Oxford City would go live in January. A congestion charge would be introduced in the city in 2021.</li> <li>e) Nine more residential parking zones were to be established in Oxford.</li> <li>f) The Oxford-Cambridge expressway offered a solution to congestion on the A34 by stopping the mixture of strategic and local traffic around Oxford. The preferred route was not yet published.</li> <li>g) Cllr Constance stated that HS 2 was essential to increase capacity, and she was pushing for the re-opening of a railway station at Grove.</li> <li>h) The SODC Local Plan was still with the Secretary of State; the Housing Infrastructure Fund of £550M was at stake.</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Puddicombe questioned the Oxford Growth Board – how does it link to the Parish Council as there were no Parish Councillors on it? Cllr Constance stated that it is not directly linked to Parish Councils, but that it is not a decision making body. Cllr Constance was thanked for attending.</p>	
282/19	<b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b> No report.	
283/19	<b>POLICE REPORT</b> The report had not yet been received.	
284/19	<b>OPEN FORUM</b>	

	<p>Mr Hatcher gave an overview of the UBW minibus, which was a 16 seater. It was a not for profit organisation and currently had ten volunteer drivers, with an average age of c70 to 75; the driver age limit is 80 years. There were six people on the management committee. The bus made three routine trips per week and was also available for private hire.. The organisation was saving for a replacement bus which would cost £24k. The current challenges were the age of the drivers and finding new volunteers. The permit to operate the bus would run out in 2022. The organisation planned to continue until further notice. Cllr Jenkins asked if there was anything the Parish Council could do to help. Mr Hatcher stated that they really need more drivers. Cllr Constance praised the work of the organisation.</p> <p>Mr Hatcher was thanked for his update.</p> <p>The other members of the public were present to hear items on the agenda.</p>	
	<b>ONGOING PROJECTS</b>	
285/19	<p><b>UB Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>Cllr Oldnall reported that the NP website had been closed down. All the documents were now available on the Parish Council website.</p>	CLOSED
286/19	<p><b>Old Schoolroom Repairs</b></p> <p>a) <b>Sarsens</b> - No progress. Waiting for assistance.</p> <p>b) <b>Fire Risk Assessment</b> – Cllr Jenkins had circulated the Fire Risk Assessment ahead of the meeting. It was reviewed and approved. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe. RESOLVED.</p>	SJ CLOSED
287/19	<p><b>S106 and CIL Contributions</b></p> <p>a) <b>Allotment Bridge</b> – Cllr Jenkins had circulated an update ahead of the meeting. A useful meeting had been held with OCC Highways, who suggested that it might be possible to install a pipe bridge. However Cllr Jenkins stated that the Environment Agency had classified the stream as ‘a main river in a flood risk zone’, and bridging it would require a bespoke permit. Cllr Jenkins to contract the Environment Agency to establish what was required, and the cost. Cllr Constance questioned the definition of a main river given that responsibility for maintenance was local. Other options were still being considered, particularly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Through the School playing field. Response was awaited from both OCC and the Church, but this was now looking unlikely as it would not be a permanent solution.</li> <li>ii. Use of the footpath from Waylands Estate. The OCC Countryside Officer) felt that this was possible, but there were width issues.</li> <li>iii. An alternative access from the Waylands Estate was still on the table but Mr Avenell was not happy with this suggestion. He insisted that the agreement was for a bridge over the stream. Cllr Jenkins pointed out that other options needed to be considered due to the likely cost of a bridge, and that it had previously been agreed that expenditure in the region of £45,000 (the first estimate for a metal bridge) would not be acceptable.</li> </ol> <p>b) <b>Other suggestions for S106 projects</b></p> <p>A seat near the shop for Community bus passengers. Cllr Oberman had circulated a quote of £506 plus installation. The Parish Council considered the proposal and agreed to support it, with a maximum spend of £1000. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Oldnall. RESOLVED.</p> <p>c) <b>Improvements to The Courier</b> – Cllr Pilchowski had The Courier independently reviewed and it was found to be very good. Cllr Pilchowski to circulate a Communications Strategy before the next meeting. Cllrs Jenkins and Pilchowski to meet and discuss.</p>	SJ  FO  DP/SJ
	<b>PLANNING MATTERS</b>	
288/19	<p><b>New Applications to be considered</b></p> <p>a) <b>P19/V3105/FUL – Creslu, Woolstone Road.</b> Variation of condition 2 (drawings - addition of conservation rooflights in dwelling and proposed double garage instead of a single garage on application ref. P18/V2052/FUL posed replacement dwelling). Cllr Jenkins outlined the planning history of the site and urged consistency with previous comments. The meeting discussed the application. Concerns were raised about the creeping expansion of the site, the visibility of the site from Dragon Hill and the impact on the AONB, Uffington Conservation Area and nearby listed buildings. As this was a new application the NP should have been considered, but it was not mentioned. There was no heritage statement. Cllr Constance stated that the Case Officer must consider the NP and</p>	SJ

	<p>the Conservation Officer should comment on the application. It was agreed to submit a holding objection pending the Conservation Officer's review. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED. Cllr Jenkins to draft a response.</p> <p>b) <b>P19/V3159/HH – Gate Cottage, Lower Common.</b> Proposed extension and new garaging. The Parish Council had no objection to this application.</p>	
289/19	<p><b>Update on outstanding planning applications:</b></p> <p>a) <b>P19/V2658/HH and P19/V2659/LB – The Old Bakehouse, High Street.</b> Rear extension, alterations and refurbishment. Awaiting determination.</p> <p>b) <b>P19/V1685/HH – The Laurels, Broad Street.</b> Removal of oil tank and boiler. Replacement with two air source heat pumps. Installation of new garage door. Permission granted.</p> <p>c) <b>P19/V2064/HH – Land adjacent to Dragon Hill.</b> New self-build four bedroom detached house with attached garage. Awaiting determination.</p> <p>d) <b>APP/V3120/W/19/3235719 – Common Farm, Lower Common.</b> Appeal against refusal of permission for three dwellings. Appeal Granted.</p>	
	<b>FINANCE</b>	
290/19	<p><b>To approve December payments:</b> The payments totalling £846.00 were approved. Proposed: Cllr Puddicombe; seconded: Cllr Banks. RESOLVED. Cllr Jenkins to authorise the payments online. The accounting summary was signed.</p>	SJ
291/19	<p><b>2020/21 Budget</b></p> <p>The updated budget was reviewed. The proposed precept was £26,660, which is a band D equivalent of £72.25, an increase of £2.52 on the current year. This was approved. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe. RESOLVED.</p>	Clerk
292/19	<p><b>Application for a grant from Uffington Museum Trust.</b></p> <p>The request was for £125 toward the cost of Aerial Photographs. Cllr Oldnall requested visibility of the UMT accounts. Cllr Puddicombe suggested that all grant applications should include the last set of approved accounts. JE to put this in the grants policy. The grant of £125 was approved. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Pilchowski. RESOLVED.</p>	Clerk
293/19	<p><b>THE JUBILEE FIELD TRUST</b></p> <p>a) <b>Monthly Play Area inspections:</b> Cllr Oberman reported via email that there were no issues. The new gate had been installed.</p> <p>b) <b>Request to use Jubilee Field in 2020 for a Metal Detecting Day.</b> Permission was granted; contact was via Mrs Pilcher</p> <p>c) <b>Report on the Poplars:</b> Cllr Jenkins asked whether the recommendations in the report should be carried out. It was agreed that quotes should be obtained. Cllr Jenkins reported that the agreed routine work on trees would be carried out on 17<sup>th</sup> December.</p>	FO KP SJ
294/19	<p><b>ANNUAL/QUARTERLY REVIEWS</b></p> <p>a) <b>Review of Information Security Policy.</b> Carried forward to January.</p>	C/F: Clerk
295/19	<p><b>UPKEEP (INC. WATERCOURSES)</b></p> <p>a) <b>Pond Dredging.</b> Malcolm Hinton is not yet ready to carry out the work.</p> <p>b) <b>New hedge.</b> The volunteer with the digger has not yet given a date for the work. The whips have been received.</p> <p>c) <b>Spring Field Tidy.</b> It was agreed that this would be held on 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020.</p> <p>d) <b>Uffington Deep Clean.</b> This will take place between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> January. Cllr Oldnall has completed the schedule. Clerk to send to the Waste Team.</p>	Clerk
	<b>GENERAL</b>	
296/19	None.	
297/19	<b>CONSULTATIONS</b> None	
	<b>CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR THE JANUARY AGENDA</b>	
298/19	<p>a) <b>Update of full fibre connectivity.</b> The Government is offering free connectivity to public buildings. The village hall committee is interested and has responded to the questionnaire. No action.</p> <p>b) <b>High Sherriff's Awards.</b> No action.</p> <p>c) <b>Review of Allotment Charges.</b> Clerk to add to the January agenda.</p> <p>d) <b>Changes to website regulations.</b> The website will need to be updated to meet the new regulations by September 2020. Approval was given for Cllr Oldnall to attend the next available course. Expenditure of £50 was approved, Proposed</p>	Clerk (agenda)

	Cllr Puddicombe, Seconded Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED. <b>e) Printing Welcome Packs.</b> Cllr Pilchowski noted that this currently relied on goodwill, which was not sustainable. The Parish Council to consider appropriate tools next year.	
299/19	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> The next meeting will be on Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall.	

The meeting closed at 21.40