

**Minutes of the Meeting of Uffington Parish Council  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 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 Fenella Oberman

Clerk/Finance Officer: Julia Evans

District Councillor:

County Councillor:

Members of the Public: 1 member of the public

249/19	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Cllr Pilchowski, District Cllr Boyd and County Cllr Constance.	<b>Action</b>
250/19	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</b> Cllrs Jenkins and Puddicombe declared an interest in Item 13a.	
251/19	<b>MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2019</b> Cllr Puddicombe proposed acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October; Cllr Oberman seconded. RESOLVED. The minutes were signed.	
252/19	<b>REMAINING BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>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> Awaiting progress from Thames Valley Police.</li> <li>b) <b>226/19 (201/19 - 194/19) – Consideration of a Winter Salt bin.</b> Awaiting installation.</li> <li>c) <b>226/19 (221/19) – Advertising signs in the car park.</b> Completed.</li> <li>d) <b>230/19 – Request for help for local scouting groups.</b> The actions resulting from the discussion at the meeting on 14 October were circulated on 5 November.</li> </ul>	<p>SJ</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p>
253/19	<b>COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b> Cllr Constance sent a written report which was circulated. She reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The OCC Leader has announced OCC's Climate Action Plan which will set a target to be carbon neutral by 2031 in the Council's estate; to replace all 400 m/v fleet with electric vehicles; to complete the streetlight programme to replace 50,000 lamps with LED; to aim to recycle 70% of waste. OCC would soon announce the arrival of a new officer to lead the County's reduction of plastic use, increase separation of food waste and drive the recycling programme.</li> <li>b) OCC will continue to support all 65 organisations in the Community Action Group and are working with SSE and EDF on radical new Local Energy distribution for renewable energy within the County.</li> <li>c) OCC were pressing Government to raise the building standards for energy efficiency to Code 4 asap.</li> <li>d) Highways continues to repair and resurface roads west of Wantage and we see great improvements in maintenance of our local roads.</li> </ul>	
254/19	<b>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b> Cllr Boyd sent a written report in which he reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Climate Emergency Advisory Committee – The inaugural meeting of this Committee took place on 15 October 2019. The Committee has recommended that the Council should aspire to become Carbon Neutral by 2030 and the District by 2045. In the first instance the Council should aim for a 75% reduction in carbon emissions in its own operations by 2025 and for the whole district by 2030.</li> <li>b) Local Plan – Although the Vale has adopted Part 2 of the Local Plan there is still an issue with the South Oxfordshire Local Plan. The Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has stepped in and instructed that for the time being their Plan was to be on hold. It is doubtful that any further progress will be made until after the General Election.</li> <li>c) The public consultation on the Oxford to Cambridge Expressway is still to be published by Highways England.</li> <li>d) Oxfordshire Plan 2050 details are available on the Oxfordshire County Council website where there is a 30-page document entitled A vision for the Future.</li> <li>e) Civil Parking Enforcement – Councillors will be attending a presentation on 11</li> </ul>	

	<p>November and will report back in the December Report.</p> <p>f) Thames Valley Police presentation to Council on 9 October. A copy of the presentation had been circulated to Parish Councils. .</p> <p>g) Safe Places – The Safe Places Scheme provides people who may experience difficulties in public places with the assurance that support is available. In our area there are 7 places and these are all in Faringdon. More details may be found on the Vale website.</p> <p>h) General Election – Three public meetings are affected by the General Election; details are as follows: Joint Scrutiny scheduled for 3 December has been cancelled. Cabinet meeting scheduled for 6 December has been moved to The Beacon at Wantage and the full Council meeting scheduled for 11 December has been postponed to 18 December.</p>	
255/19	<p><b>POLICE REPORT</b></p> <p>The report had not yet been received.</p>	
256/19	<p><b>OPEN FORUM</b></p> <p>The member of the public present opened a discussion on the project to install a bridge to provide vehicular access to the allotments and to his paddock; this is recorded under Minute 259/19 below.</p>	
	<p><b>ONGOING PROJECTS</b></p>	
257/19	<p><b>UB Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>Cllr Oldnall reported that the final consultation period on the 'made' NP had closed. He would close the NP website and the Plan and principal supporting documents would be placed on the village website. All other information currently held on the NP website would be archived. More hard copies of the plan are to be printed.</p> <p>Membership of the Oxfordshire Neighbourhood Plans Alliance (ONPA) was considered at £50 per year. It was agreed to subscribe from NP funds. Proposed Cllr Banks, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED.</p>	<p>MO</p> <p>Clerk</p>
258/19	<p><b>Old Schoolroom Repairs</b></p> <p>a) <b>Sarsens</b> - No progress.</p> <p>b) <b>Review of building action plan</b> – Complete.</p> <p>c) <b>Fire Risk Assessment</b> – The Fire Prevention Officer was unable to carry out an FRA. Cllr Jenkins to do this using information provided on gov.uk.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>SJ</p>
259/19	<p><b>S106 and CIL Contributions</b></p> <p>a) <b>Allotment Bridge</b> – Cllr Jenkins reported that a meeting had been arranged with OCC Highways on 25 November, to discuss the specification for a bridge. (After Note: This was subsequently changed to 20 November). Mr Avenell stated that he required a farm bridge not a fully specified road bridge. Cllr Jenkins would also discuss an alternative option with the School; a meeting with the Head Teacher had been arranged. . Other options were also under consideration.</p> <p>b) <b>Other suggestions for S106 projects</b></p> <p>i. A seat near the shop for Community bus passengers. Cllr Oberman to speak to the shop owners.</p> <p>ii. A skateboard park. Cllr Banks noted that studies and costings had previously been carried out. A scheme worth having would cost many thousands of pounds and would be out of proportion to the likely number of users. It was considered more important to obtain playground equipment for older children (age 8 +).</p> <p>iii. Funds toward a sound and projection system for the Village Hall. Mr Rumble reported that he and Mr Armishaw were investigating the cost. Mr Avenell stated that the idea was to improve facilities to increase usage of the hall.</p> <p>c) <b>Improvements to The Courier</b> – Cllr Pilchowski to meet with Mr Packford.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>FO</p> <p>DP</p>
	<p><b>PLANNING MATTERS</b></p>	
260/19	<p><b>New Applications to be considered</b></p> <p>a) <b>P19/V2658/HH and P19/V2659/LB – The Old Bakehouse, High Street.</b> Rear extension, alterations and refurbishment. No objections. Cllr Jenkins to draft a response with consideration to the UB NP.</p>	<p>SJ</p>
261/19	<p><b>Update on outstanding planning applications:</b></p> <p>a) <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>b) <b>P19/V1990/HH – 7 Jacksmeadow.</b> Single storey rear and side extensions. Permission granted.</p> <p>c) <b>P19/V2064/HH – Land adjacent to Dragon Hill.</b> New self-build four bedroom</p>	

	detached house with attached garage. Awaiting determination. d) <b>APP/V3120/W/19/3235719 – Common Farm, Lower Common.</b> Appeal against refusal of permission for three dwellings. Awaiting determination.	
	<b>FINANCE</b>	
262/19	<b>To approve November payments:</b> The payments totalling £4405.89 were approved. Proposed: Cllr Puddicombe; seconded: Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED. Cllr Jenkins to authorise the payments online. The accounting summary was signed. JE to ask RBS if a date can be added to the Summary Report.	SJ Clerk
263/19	<b>Application for a grant from Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall</b> The request was for £500 to assist with operating costs in 2020. Cllr Jenkins asked what the financial situation was at the end of the last financial year. Mr Avenell stated that the figures were available on the Charity Commission website. A grant of £500 was approved, to be paid in January 2020. Proposed Cllr Puddicombe, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED.	Clerk
264/19	<b>Application for a grant from Uffington Museum Trust.</b> The request was for £125. It was agreed to carry this forward to December as more non-trustees were required.	Clerk (agenda)
265/19	<b>UBW Minibus.</b> There was a discussion on new bus regulations. Cllr Jenkins to ask Mr Hatcher to attend a PC meeting to explain the situation.	SJ
266/19	<b>Savings Account:</b> It was agreed that some funds should be transferred into an interest-bearing account. £60k is to be transferred in total. £30k will go into an instant access account and £30k into an account with the best available rate, but with the money not to be locked up for more than 12 months.	Clerk/MO
267/19	<b>Review of Q2 Accounts</b> Cllr Oldnall reported: a) The reports from the new system are helpful. b) His review aimed to identify any virements. He suggested virements of £708 from 4150 into 4040, £258 from 4150 into 4050 and £196 from 4150 into 4060. Any excess in 4150 to go into EMR at the end of the year. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe. RESOLVED c) Funds from 4310, 4320, 4550, 4560, 4580, 4600. 4760 and 4820 to go into EMR at the end of the financial year. d) Funds from 4650 to go into a project cost centre.	C/F: MO  Clerk Clerk Clerk
268/19	<b>2020/21 Budget</b> The first draft 2020/21 budget was reviewed. Most of the budget is the same as last year except where there is a known increase. The proposal is to increase the precept by 3%. Cllr Banks asked for the band D figure, but the tax base used to calculate this is not yet available. To be reviewed again at the December meeting.	C/F: MO/Clerk
269/19	<b>Woolstone Clerk</b> The contract for the Woolstone Clerk has been agreed. Woolstone PM to be invoiced for the first three months' salary costs.	Clerk
270/19	<b>THE JUBILEE FIELD TRUST</b> a) <b>Monthly Play Area inspections:</b> Cllr Oberman reported that there were no issues with the Play area. The installation of the new gate is still outstanding. b) <b>Poplar Trees/Other trees:</b> A report has been received from Arbocare. Cllr Jenkins to review and circulate. The headline is that nothing needs to be done urgently, but some work has been recommended. c) <b>Routine Tree work.</b> Cllr Jenkins proposed removing two potentially dangerous dead trees behind the shop and removing a limb from a plum tree overhanging Upper Common Lane. The cost of £310 was approved. Proposed Cllr Oberman, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe, RESOLVED.	FO  SJ / Clerk (agenda) SJ
271/19	<b>ANNUAL/QUARTERLY REVIEWS</b> a) <b>Review of Allotment rents.</b> Cllrs Jenkins and Puddicombe declared an interest. Cllr Oldnall took the chair. It was proposed that the allotment rent be waived for the first year of tenancy. This was agreed. The annual rent of £40 was also discussed and it was agreed to leave this at £40 for now. Clerk to research what other allotments cost. Cllr Jenkins resumed the chair. b) <b>Review of Grants and Donations policy.</b> Formatting to be standardised. No other changes required. c) <b>Review of Equality and Human Rights Policy.</b> Formatting to be standardised. No other changes required. d) <b>Review of GDPR Data Protection Policy and privacy notices.</b> Formatting to	Clerk Clerk Clerk Clerk

	be standardised. No other changes required. <b>e) Review of Information Security Policy.</b> Carried forward to December.	C/F: Clerk
272/19	<b>UPKEEP (INC. WATERCOURSES)</b> a) <b>Tree Survey.</b> This was partially covered in Minute 270/19 above. Cllr Jenkins has circulated an updated spreadsheet of the 2017 survey. It was agreed that a survey was not required in 2020. b) <b>Pond Dredging.</b> Malcolm Hinton has been instructed to carry out the work. c) <b>Field Tidy.</b> A good team of people turned out. A 2-metre strip has been cleared of brambles overhanging the fence between the Jubilee Field and Craven Common; a large patch of brambles close to Upper Common Lane has also been cleared. It was a very good effort. d) <b>New hedge.</b> Cllr Jenkins has found a volunteer to bring in a mini digger to remove the elder bushes. Awaiting delivery of the hedge plants.	CLOSED  SJ
	<b>GENERAL</b>	
273/19	a) <b>Improvements to Footpath 19.</b> There are 10 stiles along the route which could be suitable for replacement with kissing gates. It was proposed to apply for a TOE grant. Quotes will be required and agreement with the landowners will need to be established before any application is submitted. Cllr Oldnall to produce a map of the area. Cllr Jenkins to produce a 'scoping' report before contacting the landowners. b) <b>Consideration of VE day celebrations on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020.</b> No action. c) <b>Christmas Tree Collection point.</b> The Vale would collect any trees deposited at the Village Hall on 20 <sup>th</sup> January, but the Village Hall Committee required collection by 11 <sup>th</sup> January. It was therefore agreed not to participate in the scheme this year. d) <b>Vale Deep Clean.</b> Cllr Oldnall presented the schedule from the previous deep clean and suggested adding Jacksmeadow; it was agreed that the Vale should be requested to go ahead. Cllr Oldnall to provide a new map.	MO/SJ  MO/JE
274/19	<b>CONSULTATIONS</b> None	
	<b>CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR THE DECEMBER AGENDA</b>	
275/19	Consideration of a date for the Spring Field Tidy to be added to the agenda.	Clerk (agenda)
276/19	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b> The next meeting will be on Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 at 7.30pm in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall.	

The meeting closed at 21.50