

**Minutes of the Meeting of Uffington Parish Council
Monday 11th March 2019 at 7.30pm
At Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall**

Present: Cllr Simon Jenkins (Chair), Cllr Karen Pilcher, Cllr Mike Oldnall, Cllr Graham Banks, Cllr Paul Coad,
Clerk/Finance Officer: Julia Evans
District Councillor: Cllr Robert Sharp
County Councillor:
Members of the Public: Mr Geoff Rumble

Cllr Jenkins declared that a confidential session would be held at the end of the meeting.

49/19	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE County Councillor Constance	Action
50/19	DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS None.	
51/19	MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 11th FEBRUARY 2019 Cllr Banks proposed acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11 th February; Cllr Coad seconded. RESOLVED. The minutes were signed.	
52/19	REMAINING BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 29/19 (4/19 - 326/18 -296/18 - 261/18 - 231/18 - 203/18 - 176/18 - 148/18 - 118/18 - 59/18 - 30/18 - 4/18 - 331/17 - 302/17 - 276/17) Adoption of Jacksmeadow estate by OCC Highways. The main highway was adopted last year. Cllr Jenkins has asked for clarification on exactly what has been adopted. b) 29/19 (4/19 - 326/18 - 299/18) – Community Speedwatch. Five volunteers have now come forward. Watchfield equipment is to be borrowed for w/c 25th March. The Police are happy for the Parish Council to train the volunteers. Clerk to arrange a meeting with Shrivenham Parish Council to discuss sharing the purchase of equipment. c) 29/19 (22/19) – Cameron Wyard DoE award. The work to be carried out on the Jubilee Field hedge has been agreed and will be started on 16th March. Another DoE volunteer has come forward. Cllr Oberman suggested that some work was required in the Church yard. There is also usually work to be done around the village with litter picking. 	SJ SJ/Clerk SJ
53/19	COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT Cllr Constance sent a written report which had been circulated. Cllr Banks noted that he has reported the failed lights on Fix My Street but there has been no action yet. In an email Cllr Constance urged the Parish Council to response to the Oxfordshire Plan 2050 with regard to the lack of information about the A420. Cllr Sharp noted that the Vale had raised similar issues. Cllrs Jenkins and Oldnall to develop a response.	SJ/MO
54/19	DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT Cllr Sharp reported that the VWHDC budget had been approved. The Vale portion of the Council Tax will rise by £5 per household. The Vale is still awaiting information on what will replace the New Homes Bonus; there would be a spending review later in the year. Cllr Jenkins asked if there was an update on the Fernham Road planning application. Cllr Sharp replied that it was still going through the normal process, but there had been no change of opinion by the Planning Officer. Cllr Jenkins asked whether Cllr Sharp had any contact with the Tree Officer, but Cllr Sharp had not. Cllr Jenkins to email the Tree Officer with a copy to Cllr Sharp. Cllr Sharp was thanked for attending.	
55/19	POLICE REPORT No report. To be circulated when received.	
56/19	OPEN FORUM Mr Rumble asked what was planned for the Jubilee Field tidy. Cllr Jenkins replied that there will be the routine tidy-up work plus hedge clearing at the southern side of the field, adjacent to Upper Common Lane. Cllr Banks added that the area near Upper Common Lane (by the swings) will need clearing of brambles and the area around the pond is also to be cleared. The debris is to be placed on the slope near the pond. It was noted that any work will be weather dependent. Mr Rumble reported that there were a number of dead elms that need taking down. Cllr Banks to investigate. The Beaver Scouts may be attending; they will be asked to help with the litter pick.	

	<p>A resident has suggested leaving extra wildlife space when cutting the grass. Cllr Banks pointed out that there are already a lot of 'wild' areas and scrub around the edge of the field which are not mown and provide plenty of cover for animals. It was agreed that the current arrangements provide a good balance of cover for wild life and of mown open space for recreation / family sports and games etc.</p> <p>Cllr Oldnall reported that the stream on the Woolstone Road had been dug out in the autumn but the far bank vegetation had been retained. Evidence suggests that the Water Voles are still present.</p> <p>Mr Rumble was thanked for attending.</p>	
	ONGOING PROJECTS	
57/19	<p>Creation of a Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>Mr Andrew Ashcroft has been appointed as the Examiner by VWHDC. He has already visited the Plan Area and he has sent a number of questions. The NPSG is in the process of answering them. There were three groups of questions: 1) VWHDC housing policies and minor points; 2) Vale Public Consultation comments. These are around Local Green Space and Open Countryside; 3) Various agents for landowners have requested an allocating plan. An NPSG meeting is scheduled for 14th March to sign off the response which must be submitted by 15th March. Cllr Oldnall asked for Parish Council approval for the proposed response. It was agreed that the response could be submitted once signed off by the NPSG.</p> <p>There followed a debate on the definition of Open Countryside and Local Green Spaces. It was agreed that one Local Green Space (LGS 4) could be removed, subject to review by the NPSG on 14 March, if required by the Examiner as there appeared to be no strong reason to retain it in the NP; however it was noted that no further amendments may be made to the NP unless they were requested by the Examiner.</p>	
58/19	<p>Old Schoolroom Repairs</p> <p>Andrew Townsend has completed the inspection at the end of the 6 month retention period and the Final Certificate has been received. The OSR repair account had been circulated. Cllr Jenkins is in touch with North Wessex Downs LEADER Fund to claim the final payment from them.</p> <p>Sarsen stones: a source of stone has been identified. Cllr Jenkins will investigate. If suitable they may have to be stored temporarily on the bank outside the museum. OSR Building Action Plan: Cllr Jenkins to confirm the recommended frequency of ongoing checks with Andrew Townsend. This will be factored into the budget in future years. Cllr Pilcher noted that in 2016 it was suggested that a check is carried out every 5 years; at that time the cost was £350.</p> <p>Cllr Pilcher reported that Paul Pounds will carry out the window clean/repair on 1st April. The external lights will not be changed. Cllr Pilcher to establish whether the new ones can be sold.</p> <p>It was noted that the final 50% of the Vale grant had not yet been received. The Vale to chase their supplier.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>KP</p>
59/19	<p>S106 Contributions</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	
60/19	<p>Defibrillator Project</p> <p>The Parish Council thanked the Russ family for the training they carried out; it was informative, helpful and amusing. Over 90 people have been trained. Information cards are being produced and will be distributed to all households. Cllr Coad will deliver them with the What's On magazine. Cllr Oberman suggested that this would be a good example of Community work for the DoE volunteers.</p> <p>The defibrillator signs have not yet been installed in the telephone kiosks. Uffington has been selected to produce a report for a Case Study for the OCC Councillor Priority Fund. Cllr Jenkins is working on this.</p>	SJ
	PLANNING MATTERS	
61/19	<p>New Applications to be considered</p> <p>a) P18/V2199/O – Land off Fernham Road. Outline application with all matters reserved except for access, for up to 20 dwellings. Amended plans. The Parish Council objected to this application.</p> <p>b) P19/V0429/HH – Cuckoo Cottage, High Street. Proposed single storey rear extension. The Parish Council had no objection to this application.</p> <p>c) P19/V0450/HH – Symes Cottage, Broad Street. Proposed single storey rear extension. The Parish Council had no objection to this application.</p>	
62/19	Update on outstanding planning applications:	

	<p>a) P19/V0207/HH – 1 Craven Common. Extensions. Awaiting determination.</p> <p>b) P19/V0273/HH – Meadowbrook, 4 Fawler Road. Demolish existing garage and construct new drive and outbuilding. Install new gates. Awaiting determination.</p> <p>c) P18/V2990/FUL – Common Farm, Lower Common. Erection of three dwellings and associated works. Amended plans. Permission refused.</p> <p>d) P18/V2632/FUL – Dragon Hill, Woolstone Road. Erection of a single dwelling, with new access. Revised plans. Awaiting determination.</p> <p>It was noted that the Planning Inspectorate has still not notified the Parish Council of the appeal for the two bungalows at Dragon Hill.</p>	
	FINANCE	
63/19	<p>To approve March payments: Cllrs Jenkins and Pilcher proposed and seconded approval of payments totalling £4220.62. RESOLVED. A full list of payments is filed with these minutes. The payments were reviewed and would be authorised electronically by Cllr Pilcher before 14th March. Cllr Jenkins will authorise the payment to J B Kerr. The list of funds to be transferred to EMR was approved. Proposed: Cllr Jenkins Seconded: Cllr Oldnall. RESOLVED.</p>	KP/SJ
64/19	<p>Making Tax Digital Cllr Oldnall had circulated a proposed solution to MTD. It was agreed that the Parish Council should remain VAT registered; therefore it would be necessary to sign up for an accounting package in order to accommodate MTD. Cllr Oldnall discussed the different options that were reviewed. The recommendation was the RBS Rialtas solution. It was noted that the cost was not within the budget and if approved would need to be taken from reserves and recovered next year. Ongoing support costs would be included in the budget in future years. The software is likely to be available in June. It was agreed to accept the proposal. Proposed: Cllr Pilcher, Seconded: Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED.</p>	MO/Clerk
65/19	<p>NJC Pay Scales Cllr Oberman proposed adopting the new NJC Pay Scales with effect from 1st April 2019. Cllr Banks seconded. RESOLVED.</p>	
66/19	<p>THE JUBILEE FIELD TRUST</p> <p>a) Monthly Play Area inspections: No problems to report. Cllr Oberman to obtain a quote to strip the paint from the old slide.</p> <p>b) Poplar Trees: Cllr Jenkins to try and make contact with Tim Stringer, the Vale tree officer. (See 54/19 above)</p>	FO SJ
	ANNUAL/QUARTERLY REVIEWS	
67/19	The quarterly review has been completed.	
68/19	<p>UPKEEP (INC. WATERCOURSES)</p> <p>a) Flooding. The culvert at Shotover has been repaired and the blocked pipe cleared. The ditch on Broadway needs clearing out, between the farm and the culvert. Cllr Jenkins to contact the landowners.</p> <p>b) Benches on Jubilee Field. The equipment has been ordered. Cllr Oberman to chase for a delivery date. Installation will take place as soon as possible. The new gate on the playground to be installed before the end of April.</p>	SJ FO
	GENERAL	
69/19	<p>a) Local Council Elections. The nomination forms must be with the Vale by 4pm on 3rd April. Debate followed on how to encourage local interest. Information has been posted on Facebook. It needs to go out again. It was suggested that individuals be approached.</p>	
	CONSULTATIONS	
70/19	<p>a) WHDC Local Plan Part 2. There will be no impact on the western Vale. Cllr Jenkins to review.</p>	SJ
	CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR THE APRIL AGENDA	
71/19	The April meeting will have a reduced agenda due to the Annual Assembly. Cllr Jenkins to review the aims and objectives for the coming year. The theme is to be Communication. Cllr Jenkins to circulate some ideas.	SJ
72/19	<p>DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be on Monday 8th April 2019 at 6.30pm in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall.</p>	

The meeting closed at 21.35