

**Minutes of the Meeting of Uffington Parish Council
Monday 8th February 2021 at 6 pm
By Zoom conference**

Present: Cllr Mike Oldnall (Chair), Cllr Simon Jenkins, Cllr Graham Banks, Cllr Nigel Puddicombe, Cllr Dale Pilchowski, Cllr Fenella Oberman
Clerk/Finance Officer: Julia Evans
County Councillor: County Cllr Yvonne Constance
District Councillor: District Cllr Nathan Boyd.
Members of the Public: One member of the public

Minute	ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Action
27/21	None,	
	ITEM 2 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
28/21	None	
	ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 11th JANUARY 2021 AND THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15th JANUARY 2021	
29/21	Cllr Puddicombe proposed approving the minutes of both meetings. Cllr Jenkins seconded. RESOLVED.	
	ITEM 4 – REPORT FROM THE UBW CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT GROUP	
30/21	Cllr Oldnall reported: a) There was very little new happening at the moment. b) A note had been circulated to the volunteers outlining how those in difficulty may be able to get financial help. Volunteers were to advise anyone they felt might need such assistance.	
	ITEM 5 – REMAINING BUSINESS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING	
31/21	a) 09/21 Partial refunds for suspended Garden Waste Collections. Cllr Boyd was not sure when the garden waste collections would restart. It was pointed out that the Vale were planning to carry out the contracted number of collections during the year.	Cllr Boyd
	ITEM 6 – COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT	
32/21	Cllr Constance had sent a written report containing the latest information on the OCC budget and COVID vaccinations and other related matters which had been circulated. At the meeting she thanked Cllr Jenkins for his work as Chair of the Parish Council and welcomed Cllr Oldnall as the new Chair. She reported that: a) The Parish Council was thanked for connecting local people to the Business Support Grants. b) The OCC budget for 2021/22 was going before full Council on 9 th February. The budget had been balanced. There was to be an increase of 2.99% for the main Council Tax and 1% for social care. c) £14.2m had been saved in the transformation of access to services. Centralising of Customer Services had been very successful. d) A recent report had indicated that the current average broadband speed in Uffington was 45Mbs, and that everyone had at least 30Mbs. There was one exception which was a property in Broad Street. The Parish Council was asked to get in touch with the residents of that property, suggesting that they contact OCC in an effort to try and improve their speeds. 53 people had registered for Fibre to the Premises which was to be delivered by Airband. There was a big drive to get rural premises connected; the new scheme was due to start in March. e) OCC had made £250k available to improve drainage on roads. This was to be focussed on high flood-risk areas. f) The helicopter that came down in the area had been removed; the removal process took the military a week and there had been no assistance required from OCC. Cllr Oldnall noted that the broadband figures quote in the report did not appear to match those found from the UPC survey. Cllr Constance was thanked for attending.	MO
	ITEM 7 – DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT	
33/21	Cllr Boyd had sent a written report which had been circulated. At the meeting he reported: a) That the Vale Communications team continued to provide COVID updates. b) The Climate Emergency Advisory Committee meeting had been moved to May. c) Garden Waste collection services were still suspended and there was no indication	

	<p>when they would resume. Staff illness at Biffa was still high. There was no information on possible refunds.</p> <p><u>Afternote:</u> Restarted on 15/02/2021</p> <p>d) Civil Parking Enforcement had been agreed and was expected to start in November.</p> <p>e) The deadline for the CIL consultation was midnight on 8th February.</p> <p>f) Compliance Marshals were still carrying out inspections. Their task was to give advice.</p> <p>g) The next full council meeting was Wednesday 10th February. The District Council Tax was to be set at this meeting.</p> <p>h) He was supporting the '20's Plenty' campaign along with the District Councillors from the Shrivenham area.</p> <p>i) COVID rates were still high. There were 40% more people in hospital than at the previous wave. It was felt that although the peak if infections may have passed, there was still a long way to go.</p> <p>j) Community hubs were still running.</p> <p>k) He still had funds available for COVID support.</p> <p>Cllr Oldnall asked about the Baulking Lakes planning application which had recently been refused. Cllr Boyd stated that an appeal was expected. Enforcement was looking into what action could be taken on the unapproved development of the site. The second planning application was still being considered.</p> <p>Cllr Boyd was thanked for attending.</p>	
ITEM 8 – OPEN FORUM		
34/21	The member of the public present had nothing to raise.	
ITEM 9 - ONGOING PROJECTS		
35/21	<p>Update on new OSR footpath.</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins reported that DMW Landscapes were expecting to start and finish work this month subject to the weather.</p>	
36/21	<p>Vehicle Bridge to the Allotments.</p> <p>The Parish Council Solicitor had confirmed that the Treasury Solicitor was prepared to release the triangle of land in Waylands, potentially to allow the Parish Council to take ownership of the land. Quotes were being received for the reduction of the hedge and for replacement fencing. Cllr Jenkins was to contact with the Landowner regarding the size and siting of the new shed. It was suggested that Parkers Landscaping be asked to quote. Cllr Jenkins to contact them to obtain a quote.</p>	SJ
37/21	<p>Improvements to Footpath 19.</p> <p>It had previously been agreed that the funding gap would be filled from Parish Council funds and S106 contributions. A supplementary application had been submitted but the S106 team had said they could not consider this until 19th April 2021 due to redeployment on Covid duties. As this was not a new application, Cllr Jenkins had asked Cllr Boyd to encourage them to bring this forward to ensure that the project could be completed this summer. The cost of the gates had already increased at least twice. It was not possible to purchase the gates up front because this would prejudice other grant funding. Discussion followed on whether there was any way the gates could be purchase now; it was agreed to remain with the current plan. Cllr Boyd agreed to chase this.</p>	SJ/NB
38/21	<p>Active Travel/Highways Speed Reduction Measures</p> <p>a) Funding had been put in place from the Councillors Priority Fund and Council for the poles and Speed Warning Sign. Awaiting the installation of the poles and delivery of the device. Cllr Constance noted that they were due to be installed shortly, but the recent bad weather may have led to delays. Cllr Constance agreed to chase Mark Francis.</p> <p><u>Afternote:</u> Poles installed on 15/02/2021</p> <p>b) Cllr Oldnall reported that at the recent NAG meeting Thames Valley Police had announced that they were hoping to re-introduce the Speedwatch initiative using standard devices selected by them. This was a sophisticated device which would allow monitored speeds to be sent to, and coordinated by, a central location allowing the identification of repeat offenders in different locations. Cllr Constance stated that this would be a great boost to the plan to offer 20mph speed limits in the next OCC administration.</p>	YC
39/21	<p>Defibrillators</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins had sent a written report which had been circulated. He reported:</p> <p>a) Cardiac Science had been acquired by Zoll,</p> <p>b) Replacement pads were due soon. Cllr Jenkins to deal with this.</p> <p>c) The cabinet in the Uffington telephone kiosk had become difficult to open. Cllr Jenkins to get Zoll to inspect/repair it if it cannot be resolved locally.</p>	SJ
40/21	Proposal to install a dog waste bin at Jacksmeadow	

	There had been no progress.	DP
41/21	Improvements to Broadband This matter had been covered in minute reference 32/21 above. It was noted that Uffington would be in the next tranche of installation. Cllr Oldnall to make contact with the OCC Rural Broadband team to identify options for the way ahead.	MO
42/21	Proposal For a Village Lengthman No progress.	C/F MO
ITEM 10 - PLANNING MATTERS		
43/21	New Applications to be considered: a) P21/V0009/HH – Gate Cottage, Lower Common. Two-storey side extension, single-storey side and rear extensions, glazed link and the erection of a one and a half storey outbuilding, incorporating a garage, annexe and home office. The Parish Council had no objections. b) P21/V0006/HH – Rowan Lodge, Fernham Road. Conservatory to rear extension. The Parish Council had no objections. Proposed Cllr Banks, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED.	Clerk
44/21	To consider any new applications received since the publication of this agenda: None.	
45/21	Update on outstanding planning applications: a) Planning Appeal Consultation - P20/V0394/FUL - UFF – Meadowgold. The appeal was awaiting determination. Cllr Oldnall outlined the response that had been agreed at the last meeting, which was to object to the application and to raise a complaint against the agent. The Planning Inspector had rejected the Parish Council's submission because some statements about the Agent did not relate to the appeal. The Inspector required amendments to be made to the submission and these comments removed. This had been done and the appeal comments resubmitted. It was then proposed that a letter be written to the agent and a draft had been circulated. Two decisions were required: i. Did the Council agree to send the letter? Discussion followed on this matter. A number of amendments to the letter were proposed. Cllr Oldnall to update and recirculate. It was agreed that the letter was to be sent once the wording had been approved. ii. When should the complaint be sent to the RPTI? It was suggested that this should be done once the appeal had been determined. Cllr Oldnall reported that in the past week four separate complaints had been received about the builders and work at Meadowgold. They related to issues with noise, the speed of vehicles, damage to the road surface, rubbish in the hedgerows left by the builders, and builders parked vehicles blocking the lane. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the owner of the property. MO to draft and circulate the letter. b) P20/V1739/FUL and P20/V1740/LB. Dovecote, Britchcombe Farm. Retrospective application for conversion of dovecote to a dwelling. Awaiting determination.	MO MO MO
ITEM 11 – FINANCE		
46/21	a) To approve February payments: The payments totalling £1202.13 were approved. Proposed: Cllr Puddicombe; seconded: Cllr Pilchowski. RESOLVED. Cllr Oldnall to authorise the payments online.	MO
ITEM 12 - THE JUBILEE FIELD TRUST		
47/21	a) Monthly play area inspection. Cllr Oberman reported that she had completed the monthly inspection and that there were no issues arising. b) Extension of hedge line. Cllr Oberman reported that progress was slow due to the weather. Ground had been cleared more than half way, but work was currently on hold. Another reminder for help to be sent to volunteers when the weather improves. A resident had requested that the gap beside the stile be filled in. It was noted that the Parish Council had previously decided to leave the gap; Cllr Oberman proposed reinforcing that decision. Following discussion it was agreed to leave the gap. Proposed Cllr Oberman, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe. RESOLVED. Cllr Oldnall to reply to the resident. c) Puddle by the bridge, A very large puddle had developed by the bridge from the High Street. Cllr Oberman asked whether gravel could be put down to fill the hole. This was agreed. Cllr Oberman to contact Mr Forster.	FO MO FO

ITEM 13 – ANNUAL / QUARTERLY REVIEWS		
48/21	Emergency Plan Cllr Jenkins had received 3 responses from people with vehicles and equipment that could be used in the event of an emergency. The member of the public agreed to provide a tractor or 4x4 if required. He was also able to provide a chainsaw and a generator. Cllr Jenkins thanked him for his offer and would update the plan (to Version 3) which was to be sent to OCC and the Emergency Planning group.	SJ
49/21	Review of Standing Orders The updated document had been circulated and was approved for adoption. Proposed Cllr Puddicombe, Seconded Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED.	
50/21	Review of Financial Regulations The updated document had been circulated and was approved for adoption. Proposed Cllr Puddicombe, Seconded Cllr Pilchowski. RESOLVED. Cllr Pilchowski had raised some points which would be clarified outside the meeting.	Clerk
51/21	Review of Risk Register The updated document had been circulated. It was noted that a new sections on Business Continuity and the UMT had been included. It was approved for adoption. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe. RESOLVED.	
52/21	Review of Business Continuity Policy The updated document had been circulated. It was noted that the policy will necessitate changes to other policies and procedures. The Policy was approved for adoption, Proposed Cllr Pilchowski, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe,	
ITEM 14 – UPKEEP (INC. WATERCOURSES)		
53/21	Dredging the Stream around Jubilee Field It was noted that the drains and ditches were flowing well. It was questioned whether dredging was still required. Cllr Jenkins to discuss with Malcolm Hinton.	SJ
ITEM 15 - GENERAL		
54/21	Website Accessibility Audit. All the work had been completed.. Mark Woodman had done a very good job and his invoice had been cleared in the February payments.	CLOSED
ITEM 16 - CONSULTATIONS		
55/21	PCC Council Tax Increase The Police C C were planning to increase their element of Council Tax by approx. 5% in order to improve services. Cllr Oldnall had responded to the consultation supporting the proposal.	CLOSED
56/21	CIL and Developer Contributions 25% of CIL contributions will come to the Parish. Cllr Oldnall had responded to the survey in support of the new charging schedule.	CLOSED
ITEM 17 – CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS FOR THE MARCH 2021 AGENDA		
57/21	Correspondence None	
58/21	Matters for the March agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) New standing items to be included the Agenda. The Allotments will be included as standing items on future agenda.. b) Rubbish on the Sports Field. Following discussion it was agreed that this was a matter for the Sports Club. No Council action was required. c) Fly Tipping. This matter had already been dealt with. The bags had been removed and the situation clarified. d) Annual Assembly. Consideration of the format of the Annual Assembly to be added to the March agenda. 	Clerk (Agenda)
ITEM 18 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING		
59/21	The next meeting will be on Monday 8 th March 2021 at 18.00 by Zoom conference.	

The meeting closed at 19.56