

**Minutes of the Meeting of Uffington Parish Council
Monday 8th March 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: Five members of the public

Minute		Action
ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE		
60/21	None,	
ITEM 2 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST		
61/21	None	
ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 8th FEBRUARY 2021		
62/21	Cllr Puddicombe proposed approving the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8 th February. Cllr Jenkins seconded. RESOLVED.	
ITEM 4 – REPORT FROM THE UBW CORONAVIRUS SUPPORT GROUP		
63/21	Cllr Oldnall reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) There was very little new happening at the moment. b) The Government four step plan began today. This had been publicised, including being posted on the notice board, and the information from the Vale and OCC had been circulated. 	
ITEM 5 – REMAINING BUSINESS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING		
64/21	None.	
ITEM 6 – COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT		
65/21	Cllr Constance had sent a written report containing the latest information on OCC transport initiatives and COVID vaccinations which had been circulated. At the meeting she reported that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) She was pleased that OCC were being helpful regarding the Broadband scheme. The Government voucher scheme gives up to £1.5k per household toward the installation of Fibre infrastructure with an OCC top-up of £7k per household in some circumstances. b) She was pleased to see the new SID in place. Cllr Jenkins noted that all the poles had been installed and the road repainting completed. c) Test and trace was going to plan. The infection rate in the county has dropped by 26% although it had increased slightly in the Vale over the past week. The vaccine programme was continuing to roll out. d) OCC was moving forward quickly on a wide range of traffic management schemes. Active Travel funding had been extended to Bicester and Witney, and it was to go to other towns as the money came in. e) OCC intended to roll out 20mph speed limits to all villages. It was hoped that this would be up and running shortly after the elections in May and the standardised equipment 'kits' would be available for purchase by parishes. <p>Cllr Constance was thanked for attending.</p>	
ITEM 7 – DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT		
66/21	Cllr Boyd had sent a written report which had been circulated. At the meeting he reported: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) That the Vale Communications team continued to provide COVID updates. b) A testing centre for those who were symptom free and in public facing jobs had been set up at The Beacon in Wantage. c) The Climate Emergency Advisory Committee would next meet on 19th April, The agenda was due to be published shortly. d) £240k had been raised towards crested newt protection. e) A new partnership had been set up between the Vale, SODC and Oxfordshire Greentech to advise on becoming carbon neutral. f) Garden waste collections had resumed. Biffa had stated that they were only contracted for 20 collections per year and this had already been met. g) Civil Parking enforcement would begin later this year. h) The February full council meeting set the Council Tax for 2021/22. The Vale and OCC had increased their portions slightly. The PCC had increased their portion to the maximum permitted. Cllr Boyd warned that a larger increase was to be expected next 	

	<p>year.</p> <p>i) The '20's Plenty' campaign (See 65/21e above) had been unanimously approved at the full council meeting and would roll out within the next 18 months.</p> <p>j) Consultations on S106 leisure contributions were to start in Wantage, Faringdon and Grove to establish the funds could be spent in their local areas. This has come from the Wessex Leisure Centre plan. Cllr Jenkins to send information on the Uffington funded element to Cllr Boyd.</p> <p>k) The 2021 Census was due to take place on 21 March. Residents were urged to complete it online as soon as possible.</p> <p>l) Work was continuing of the Southern Connector Road in Swindon. OCC was meeting regularly with Swindon Borough Council to discuss the impact on the A420.</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins raised a query about the 2012 change of use planning application for the allotment now that the bridge condition had become uneconomically viable. Cllr Boyd agreed to respond later in the week.</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins asked whether the COVID support group should be asked to provide assistance regarding the Census for those who could not deal with it online. Cllr Boyd pointed out that Census agents had been recruited and these would be knocking on doors providing assistance. Cllr Oberman asked for confirmation that the '20's Plenty' campaign would come out to the villages. Cllr Boyd confirmed that it should be across the board.</p> <p>Cllr Boyd was thanked for attending.</p>	SJ
ITEM 8 – OPEN FORUM		
67/21	<p>One member of the public present raised the matter of the traffic implications of the three new dwellings being constructed on Lower Common, permission for which had been granted on appeal. The Parish Council was reminded of the parking requirements it had requested and was asked whether the request had been incorporated into the planning permission. Concern was raised about pedestrians in the area, especially children, as there was no proper pavement present. Reassurance was sought that contractor's vehicles would not park on Lower Common, and details of the builders were requested. Cllr Oldnall pointed out that neither of the Parish Council's requested had been accepted into the final permission and we did not yet know who the builders were. Cllr Jenkins pointed out that there may be an opportunity to address some aspects when the Reserved Matters raised by the Appeal Inspector were submitted. As there was no traffic management plan it was suggested that contact be made with the site manager when the developer is known. Another member of the public asked whether a no waiting restriction could be imposed. Cllr Constance agreed to enquire about options for this but noted that the Parish Council would need to fund it. She suggested erecting 'children playing' signs warning that children were present. Cllr Pilchowski suggested that, nearer the time, the Parish Council write to the Jacksmeadow residents associated suggesting that children are walked the longer route to avoid issues in the area.</p> <p>The members of the public were thanked for attending.</p>	YC
ITEM 9 - ONGOING PROJECTS		
68/21	<p>Update on new OSR footpath.</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins reported that the project had been completed. Mrs Pilcher was thanked for seeing the project through.</p>	CLOSED
69/21	<p>Vehicle Bridge to the Allotments.</p> <p>A written update had been circulated. At the meeting Cllr Jenkins reported that:</p> <p>a) The lawyers were working on the paperwork. The area required to enlarge the footpath still needed to be signed off in a deed.</p> <p>b) Quotes had been circulated for the shed, hedge and fence work. It was agreed to appoint Pepler Fine Fencing subject to approval from the school. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED.</p> <p>Afternote: School approved on 11 March 2021.</p> <p>c) A framework for the timing was required. The school was ready to start work from April.</p> <p>d) The Lawyers had advised that no work should start until ownership of the 'triangle' had been clarified. The Parish Council agreed to accept the risk. Cllr Puddicombe advised that the area was small and unlikely to be an issue. He suggested that if the shed were to be removed, the concrete base should remain for the time being.</p> <p>e) All the work would be carried out by the same contractor so phasing should not present a problem.</p>	SJ
70/21	<p>Improvements to Footpath 19.</p> <p>The Vale were to consider the S106 application on 23rd March.</p>	SJ
71/21	<p>Active Travel/Highways Speed Reduction Measures</p> <p>This matter was covered in minute reference 65/21 above. It was pointed out that it might be possible to install an additional pole at Shotover on the 30mph sign or between the 30mph sign</p>	

	and the first house, however this would not be a suitable location for Speedwatch as it had previously been ruled out during a police risk-assessment visit.	
72/21	Defibrillators Cllr Jenkins reported that all the defibrillators had been checked and they were all OK. The list of Guardians had been updated. Cllr Pilchowski was due to take on the co-ordination role. The pads would expire in April; new pads were to be ordered by Tori Russ.	SJ/DP
73/21	Proposal to install a dog waste bin at Jacksmeadow There had been no progress. Cllr Oldnall suggested amending the requirement to the one bin on the current Biffa route.	DP
74/21	Improvements to Broadband Mrs Foxhall (KF) had attended a meeting with the OCC Broadband team and reported: a) There was a lot of funding potentially available. b) The plan was to stop supporting copper lines within the next 5 years or so. c) Demand for fast broadband would continue to grow over the years. d) A new scheme was to be launched on 1 st April which would provide £1500 for home connections and £3500 for business connections. This was expected to cover the full cost on the installation. e) It was noted that it was harder to obtain domestic items from Airband and Openreach provided a more attractive package. The latter was likely to take longer but the delay was likely to be months rather than years. f) Listed Building Consents would need to be considered. g) It was noted that the school was not on the Government rollout list but the Museum was. h) The extra cost for fibre connectivity was likely to be around £5 per month. i) Mrs Foxhall suggested arranging a public meeting with a view to finalising an application. The key was having sufficient support. Cllr Pilchowski pointed out the VOIP phones would not be suitable for those who had emergency telephone connections in their homes which relied on a mains supply. Mrs Foxhall was thanked for her report.	KF
75/21	Proposal For a Village Lengthman No progress. To be carried forward until after Annual Assembly and AGM.	C/F MO
ITEM 10 - PLANNING MATTERS		
76/21	New Applications to be considered: a) P21/V0556/AG – Common Farm, Lower Common. Erection of steel portal framed building. The Parish Council had no objections. b) P21/V0179/HH – Little Orchard, Packers Lane. Ground and first floor extensions. Cllr Jenkins suggested noting the UBNP policies relevant to this and all future applications. Cllr Oldnall to itemise these. Clerk to submit a no objections response.	Clerk
77/21	To consider any new applications received since the publication of this agenda: None.	
78/21	Update on outstanding planning applications: 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. Awaiting determination. b) P21/V0006/HH – Rowan Lodge, Fernham Road. Conservatory to rear extension. Permission granted. c) Planning Appeal Consultation - P20/V0394/FUL - UFF – Meadowgold. The appeal was awaiting determination. d) P20/V1739/FUL and P20/V1740/LB. Dovecote, Britchcombe Farm. Retrospective application for conversion of dovecote to a dwelling. Awaiting determination.	
ITEM 11 – FINANCE		
79/21	a) To approve March payments: Cllr Oldnall outlined the Woolstone payroll situation and stated the Woolstone clerk would be paid directly by Woolstone Parish Meeting. Payments totalling £5056.71 were approved. Proposed: Cllr Jenkins; seconded: Cllr Puddicombe. RESOLVED. Cllr Jenkins to authorise the payments online. b) To receive the Interim Internal Audit Report. This was presented and noted. Cllr Puddicombe felt that the Parish Council was already complying with the necessary controls for invoices. Clerk to raise at the next audit. c) Transfer of funds to EMR at the end of the financial year. It was agreed to transfer a maximum of £9775 to EMR. Proposed Cllr Puddicombe, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED.	SJ Clerk Clerk
ITEM 12 - THE JUBILEE FIELD TRUST		
80/21	a) Monthly play area inspection.	

	<p>Cllr Oberman reported that a screw had been removed from the wing of the MUGA next to the baseball hoops. This had been replaced, but it was no longer tamper proof. The large swings require remedial work as the matter had worn away. Mr Forster had been asked to quote for repairing the area. It was agreed to approved up to £500 for the work. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Banks. RESOLVED.</p> <p>b) Extension of hedge line. There had been a good turn out of volunteers and the job was almost complete.</p> <p>c) Puddle by the bridge, Cllr Pilchowski thanked Cllr Oberman for resolving this problem. The repair was timely and excellent.</p> <p>d) Spring Field Tidy, This will go ahead on the weekend of 20th/21st March in a socially distanced manner; Cllr Banks to organise</p>	<p>FO</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>GB</p>
ITEM 14 – ALLOTMENTS UPDATE		
81/21	<p>Allotments Cllr Puddicombe reported that the November inspection had resulted on three warnings being issued. Since then two of the plots had been given up and re-allocated. The next inspection was due in April. A review of the tenancy agreement and code of conduct had been carried out. Mr Godsell had prepared notices regarding the communal compost head and the Public Right of Way. He had also installed chippings to clear up the muddy area. Cllr Oldnall asked whether the first year free scheme was to continue. It was agreed that it would as it was an incentive. It was noted that OCC Highways had refurbished the bridge because of a safety issue; this had been done well.</p>	
ITEM 14 – ANNUAL / QUARTERLY REVIEWS		
82/21	<p>Emergency Plan Cllr Jenkins reported that Version 3 of the Emergency Plan had been circulated and acknowledged by OCC. Responsibility had been handed over to Cllr Oldnall. It was agreed that the plan would not be put on the website as it contained personal data.</p>	CLOSED
83/21	<p>Annual Asset Review The quarterly asset review document had been circulated. Various councillors would carry out different checks as part of the usual activities. The Clerk and the Chair would carry out the Annual Asset Review. Only assets of financial value would be checked; trees would not be included.</p>	
ITEM 15 – UPKEEP (INC. WATERCOURSES)		
84/21	<p>Dredging the Stream around Jubilee Field It was noted that the drains and ditches were flowing well. Cllr Jenkins had spoken to Malcolm Hinton who had suggested that there was no need to dredge the stream as long as the edges were kept cut back,</p>	CLOSED
ITEM 16 - GENERAL		
85/21	<p>a) Annual Assembly. The normal format was a short Parish Council meeting followed by the Annual Assembly. It was not possible to postpone the latter until after 21st June. Cllr Oldnall suggested that the Annual Assembly should consist of a written report which would be circulated to the village, followed by the meeting on Zoom. It was agreed that the Chairman's report would be included in the next Courier. The deadline for copy was 22nd March. Various suggestions for items to be included were discussed.</p> <p>b) The return to face to face meetings. The legislation permitting remote meetings expires on 6th May, but the current Roadmap suggests that face to face meetings could not be held until 21st June. It was proposed to bring the May meeting forward to Wednesday 5th May. The June meeting could then be skipped if necessary. This was agreed,</p>	<p>MO</p> <p>Clerk</p>
ITEM 17 - CONSULTATIONS		
86/21	<p>Application for a Street Trading License at the White Horse Hill car park It was noted that the National Trust were supporting the application but that Woolstone Parish Meeting were not. The Parish Council were in favour of the application.</p>	Clerk
ITEM 18 – CORRESPONDENCE		
87/21	<p>Correspondence None</p>	
ITEM 19 – MATTERS FOR THE APRIL AGENDA		
88/21	<p>Matters for the April agenda Covered in minute reference 85/21 above.</p>	
ITEM 20 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING		

89/21	The next meeting will be on Monday 12 th April 2021 at 18.00 by Zoom conference. The Annual Assembly will follow immediately afterwards.	
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The meeting closed at 20.15