

Minutes of the Meeting of Uffington Parish Council Monday 11th October 2021 at 6.30pm In the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall

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

Minute	ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Action
247/21	Cllrs Oberman and Pilchowski; District Cllr Boyd.	
ITEM 2 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST		
248/21	None.	
ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 13 th SEPTEMBER 2021		
249/21	Cllr Puddicombe proposed approval of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13 th September. Cllr Banks seconded. RESOLVED. The minutes were signed.	
ITEM 4 – REMAINING BUSINESS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING		
250/21	<p>a) 224/21 (195/21 - 170/21 - 145/21) – Revisions to the Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Oldnall suggested that revisions to the Neighbourhood Plan should follow on from the progress of the Oxfordshire 2050 and South & Vale 2041 plans and that he would try and identify a sensible ‘intercept’ point when those plans were sufficiently firm. It was agreed to close this matter.</p> <p>b) 224/21 (195/21 - 172/21) – Notification of traffic control measures and roadworks. Cllr Oldnall noted that the process worked well at a County Level. The problems occurred when a private individual had work done, as information was not being received. Cllr Constance was not sure of the process in this instance and agreed to look into it.</p> <p>c) 224/21 (204/21) – Planning Process (formerly Dragon Hill). Cllr Jenkins had spoken to Cllr Boyd who had reported that Adrian Duffield had answered the wrong question due to confusion over which ‘Dragon Hill’ site was being referred to. Cllr Boyd had gone back to him and was awaiting a response.</p> <p>d) 224/21 (196/21) Speedwatch update – An update had been received from PC Lee Turnham. Cllr Jenkins noted that a timeframe for rollout had not been provided for this area, but that we would be asked to register in the future. A group of volunteers was available to operate the system. He agreed to send a note round asking them to confirm that they were still interested. Cllr Oldnall noted that others had expressed an interest in becoming involved. It was agreed that the registration should be completed when available.</p> <p>e) 225/21 – Implementation of a 20mph zone – Trials were being carried out elsewhere which appeared to be successful. Cllr Constance hoped that some of the costs would be borne by OCC and that Parish Councils would only have to pay for signing and lining, but she had not been able to confirm this. Cllr Oldnall suggested putting some money in the budget for this next year should it be decided to adopt the 20mph scheme. He also stated that he would produce an article for the next Courier seeking village opinions.</p>	<p>CLOSED</p> <p>YC</p> <p>NB</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>MO/Clerk</p> <p>MO</p>
ITEM 5 – COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT		
251/21	<p>Cllr Constance had sent written reports which had been circulated. At the meeting she reported that</p> <p>a) Civil Parking Enforcement would not roll out at village level unless the Parish Council was very interested. Information had been sent to them. Towns were likely to be invited to give notice of proposed enforcement areas.</p> <p>Cllr Constance was thanked for attending.</p>	
ITEM 6 – DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT		
252/21	Cllr Boyd had agreed to provide a written update covering any outstanding actions.	NB
ITEM 7 – OPEN FORUM		
253/21	a) Spencer Cottage. A resident reported they had not been formally informed about the decision that the application for work at Spencer Cottage was permitted development. The resident was unhappy about the outcome. Cllr Oldnall explained	Clerk

	<p>the Permitted Development process. Clerk to send the letter of explanation that had been received from the case officer.</p> <p>b) Graffiti. A resident reported that there was a lot of graffiti on the railway bridge (the road bridge). Cllr Jenkins agreed to take a photograph and report it on Fix My Street.</p> <p>c) Heating in the small hall. A member of the village hall committee demonstrated the fan which had been installed in the small hall to provide extra ventilation when the windows were closed. It was noisier than the village hall committee had expected it would be and this was being investigated.</p>	SJ
ITEM 8 - ONGOING PROJECTS		
254/21	<p>Improvements to Broadband</p> <p>Mrs Foxhall reported that she had spoken to BT and received a spreadsheet showing the details of the project. There were two options available. She had reviewed the spreadsheet and removed those addresses which had been included but were not relevant. Although a re-costing was required, it was likely to be around £1100 per property. There were various infrastructure challenges which would have to be overcome, and another 50 people would probably be needed to sign up in order to cover the cost. Cllr Oldnall pointed out that if enough people did not sign up the difference could be paid by the other residents. In response to a question from Cllr Jenkins, Mrs Foxhall confirmed that extra cables would not be installed; the services would use the existing cables and poles. Mrs Foxhall and Cllr Oldnall would be sending a formal response.</p> <p>Mrs Foxhall was thanked for attending.</p>	KF / MO
255/21	<p>Access to the Paddock (formerly Vehicle Bridge to the Allotments).</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins reported that there was no update on the legal documentation. Cllr Oberman had purchased some whips to replace the old hedge and Pepler Fencing were to dig up the old hedge line to facilitate replanting.</p>	FO
256/21	<p>Improvements to Footpath 19.</p> <p>Cllr Jenkins reported that the opening ceremony had been very successful, and a lot of people had turned up. Cllr Oldnall noted that he was pleased that the attendees included two S106 staff from the Vale and the Operations Manager from TOE.</p>	CLOSED
257/21	<p>Consideration of new projects</p> <p>a) Improvements to the footpath from Jubilee Field to Craven Common. Cllr Oldnall felt that this was not a priority project and as it was of disproportionate benefit to Craven Common residents and as such, he did not think that it would be eligible for S106 funds. Cllr Banks noted that a fine balance was required between providing a dry path and laying 'acres of concrete'. He felt that the path needed to be raised and suggested that scalplings might be suitable for this. A resident pointed out that they had installed the existing slabs close to her fence and people using the path had been holding on to the fence and breaking it. Cllr Banks suggested putting slabs down the middle of the path away from the fence. The resident felt that the path was not just used by Craven Common residents; Cllr Banks agreed. The resident had some paving slabs available and offered to donate them if required. It was agreed to obtain further costings.</p> <p>b) Conversion of the three stiles on FP26. It was reported that the landowner had pointed out that there was a fourth stile, not owned by him, that exits onto Packer's Lane. Cllr Oberman had contacted the owner who had confirmed that he wanted to retain this one in its historic form (i.e., not a kissing gate). Cllr Oldnall noted that TOE had indicated that they might be able to support the project and suggested that this was a higher priority than the Craven Common path. It was noted that the stile near the Old Police House may be more expensive as work would be required on the footbridge. The next TOE round was in January 2022. Cllr Oberman was asked to price the whole project for three stiles, and to discuss with the other landowner whether his gate might be included.</p> <p>c) Footpath 4. Cllr Jenkins reported that he did not feel any action should be taken until a response had been received from the Countryside Alliance Team although he pointed out that some of the other stiles in the area were dangerous.</p>	FO FO
ITEM 9 - PLANNING MATTERS		
258/21	<p>CIL from Lower Common development. It was confirmed that the Parish will receive 25% of the CIL contributions from this development. The contributions will be paid to the Vale in three tranches and then be passed on to the Parish Council. The first tranche had already been received by the Vale and the Clerk was to establish when it would be paid over.</p> <p>Afternote: first payment to be in April 2022.</p>	Clerk
259/21	<p>New Applications to be considered:</p> <p>a) P21/V2645/HH – The Clock House, High Street. Extension to existing building.</p>	Clerk

	Response due by 14 th October. There were no objections.	
260/21	To consider any new applications received since the publication of this agenda: None.	
261/21	Update on outstanding planning applications: a) P21/V2468/AG – Stable Cottage, High Street. Agricultural building for lambing and storage of agricultural machinery. The Vale had determined that this application would require full planning permission. Cllr Oldnall explained the situation with this type of development and why this was required. b) P21/V2435/LDP – Spencer Cottage, Broad Street. Proposed single storey rear extension. Permitted development enquiry. The Vale had determined that the application was considered permitted development and that there was no need for the Council to comment. c) P21/V2473/FUL – Oldlands Copse, Station Road. Change of use of existing agricultural building to tourist accommodation. Awaiting determination. d) P21/V2503/HH – Dragon Hill, Woolstone Road. Proposed first floor and side extensions to existing bungalow. Erection of detached garage building with accommodation over. Awaiting determination. e) P21/V1908/HH – 1 Jacksmeadow. Two storey side extension. Awaiting determination. f) P21/V2000/HH – 6A Broad Street. Double storey rear extension and single storey rear extension. Permission granted. g) Planning Appeal Consultation - P20/V0394/FUL - UFF – Meadowgold – Appeal Dismissed. The Parish Council had submitted a reply to the RTPI on 26 July. Awaiting response from RTPI.	
262/21	Britchcombe Farm. Cllr Jenkins reported that Lot 1 of Britchcombe Farm had been sold to Lovat Parks Ltd which specialised in caravan parks and sites. They had put in an application for clarification/rationalisation of an application submitted by the previous owner. They had also submitted a scoping opinion request on whether an Environmental Impact Assessment was required; the Vale had determined that it was not. A group had been established to challenge any proposed changes to the site which is highly visible from White Horse and Dragon Hill. Cllr Jenkins sought approval from the Parish Council for himself and Cllr Oldnall to be involved with the group. Approval was granted. A letter had been drafted and circulated to the Parish Council for comment. It was proposed that the letter be sent from the Parish Council. This was agreed subject to a minor amendment proposed by Cllr Puddicombe to the letter. Afternote: letter sent 12 October 2022	MO
ITEM 10 – FINANCE		
263/21	a) To approve October payments: Payments totalling £1741.16 were approved. Proposed: Cllr Puddicombe, seconded: Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED. Cllr Oldnall to authorise the payments online. b) To receive the external Audit Report. The report was presented, and the contents noted.	MO
ITEM 11 - THE JUBILEE FIELD TRUST		
264/21	a) Monthly play area inspection. Cllr Oberman reported, via Cllr Oldnall, that there were no problems in the play area. Applications to use the field. The Scouts and the Farmers Market were booked for the same date. Cllr Oberman had contacted the organisers and determined that the events would not clash.	FO
ITEM 12 – ALLOTMENTS UPDATE		
265/21	Allotments a) Allotments Update. Cllr Puddicombe reported that the tenancies had all been renewed except one, which had been refused because there had been no activity on the plot for the past year. Three plots had been surrendered and there was one new tenant. 22 out of the 29 plots were now occupied. Cllr Puddicombe and Mr Godsell (Chair of the Allotment Association) had discussed half plots and it was suggested that they initially be offered to current tenants. Cllr Puddicombe also suggested including an update on vacant plots in the weekly newsletter as there was not currently a waiting list. b) Fence Repair. Cllr Puddicombe had circulated quotes for the repair of the fence. The quotes do not include the gates or the fence by the paddock. The project was not considered urgent, but it was recommended that it be planned for next year. It was agreed that a full, not interim, repair should be undertaken. A cost	NP Clerk

	<p>was to be included in next year's budget. Cllr Oberman had offered some posts for temporary support.</p> <p>c) Bridge. A resident had complaint about the bridle bridge into the allotments from the Fernham Road had become slippery when wet and a danger to horses. The Council was unable to take action on the bridge itself and was awaiting guidance/action from the OCC Countryside Action Team. Mr Godsell had put some stones around each end to improve access. Mr Godsell was thanked for this prompt action.</p>	
ITEM 13 – OSR UPDATE		
266/21	<p>OSR Update</p> <p>a) Building Action Plan. Nothing to report.</p> <p>b) Repairs. Repairs were required to internal plasterwork and roof tiles. Quotes were being obtained. The museum curator was concerned about the tiles due to the approach of winter but felt that the plasterwork was less urgent. She noted that it was very difficult to obtain three quotes for this sort of work. Cllr Oldnall asked where the funds should come from. Small amounts could be taken from the routine maintenance budget but questioned when the major repairs fund should be used. Cllr Jenkins felt that both jobs were routine maintenance, and the plastering should be included in next year's budget. It was agreed that the tiles were to be repaired as a matter of urgency and the plastering would be budgeted for next year. However, if the quotes were high then consideration would be given to the funds coming from the major repairs fund. Cllr Puddicombe proposed approving the funds for the tile repairs. Cllr Banks seconded. RESOLVED.</p>	NP/Curator
ITEM 14 – ANNUAL / QUARTERLY REVIEWS		
267/21	<p>a) Review of Burial Ground fees. The fees were last increased in 2019 and it was agreed that there would be no change.</p> <p>b) Equal Opportunities Policy. The document had been reformatted to conform to the new standard. The Clerk had suggested that it should include employees as well as residents. This was agreed and the updated policy was adopted.</p> <p>c) Grants Policy. The document had been reformatted to conform to the new standard. A minor change had been made to the method of payment. The was approved subject to minor amendments.</p>	Clerk
ITEM 15 – UPKEEP (INC. WATERCOURSES)		
268/21	<p>a) Pond Dredging. Cllr Jenkins had spoken to Malcolm Hinton who was going to assess the work required.</p> <p>b) Village Stream. Cllr Jenkins was waiting for BGG to cut the verges and then cleaning out the ditches could be carried out. He confirmed that some cleaning had taken place in the area near the sports field, but it would need a digger to clear it further in the future.</p> <p>c) Grass and Hedge cutting. Cllr Jenkins noted that someone had cut some hedges, but it was not BGG. Cllr Oldnall asked whether work had been carried out to the trees in the Burial Ground as there was still funding available to do this if required. Cllr Jenkins to investigate.</p> <p>d) Plans for tree survey. The quinquennial tree survey was due in January 2022. There was money available in this year's budget. Clerk to identify some arboriculturists. Special consideration was to be given to the poplars.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>Clerk</p>
ITEM 16 - GENERAL		
269/21	<p>a) Celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee 2022 No progress. Cllr Oldnall to discuss with Cllr Oberman. Several residents had suggested that they would like the recent village picnic repeated next year, which could provide a starting point for ideas.</p> <p>b) December Courier. Cllr Oldnall asked for articles to be included in the December Courier. Cllr Puddicombe agreed to produce something about the allotments. Cllr Oldnall to produce something about Speedwatch and the 20mph initiative. He also agreed to contact the Scouts to establish whether they would like to contribute something. He noted that several people had mentioned changing the cover of The Courier; Cllr Oldnall suggested this was a good idea.</p>	<p>FO</p> <p>NP/MO</p>
ITEM 17 - CONSULTATIONS		
270/21	<p>a) Oxfordshire 2050 Plan – closed 8th October. Cllr Oldnall had submitted a response.</p> <p>b) Call for Land and Buildings Available for Change - South and Vale 2041 Local Plan. The deadline for this had been missed. Cllr Oldnall noted that we could include</p>	<p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p>

	c) our own Local Green Spaces in the next revision of the Neighbourhood Plan. Consultation on the Statement of Community Involvement – Closes 20 th October. Cllr Oldnall noted that the document contained a clear outline of the planning process. He agreed to put it on the list of essential reading for Councillors. He also agreed to develop a response to the consultation.	MO
ITEM 18 – CORRESPONDENCE		
271/21	<p>a) Litter Pick. This was to be held over the weekend of 23/24th October. Clerk to have the equipment delivered to the village hall. Event to be advertised on the Weekly Email and Facebook</p> <p>b) Civil Parking Enforcement. This was covered in minute reference 255/21 above.</p> <p>c) Thames Water Presentation. There had been no further response from Thames Water. It was agreed to close the matter.</p> <p>d) Filming – This was due to take place on 1st and 2nd November and 16th and 17th December. Residents were to be requested to move their vehicles for the duration of the filming. There followed a discussion on the traffic disruption this might cause. It was noted that they would be visiting the village on Thursday. Cllr Oldnall suggested meeting with them. He agreed to telephone them tomorrow. It was further agreed to include an item in the next newsletter and on Facebook.</p>	<p>Clerk MO/SJ</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>SJ/MO</p>
ITEM 19 – MATTERS FOR THE NOVEMBER AGENDA		
272/21	None	
ITEM 20 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING		
273/21	The next meeting will be on Monday 8 th November at 18.30 in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall.	

The meeting closed at 21.15