

**Minutes of the Meeting of Uffington Parish Council  
Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 6.30pm  
At Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall**

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: Cllr Yvonne Constance

District Councillor: Cllr Nathan Boyd

Members of the Public: 11 members of the public

Minute	ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Action
51/22	None	
	<b>ITEM 2 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
52/22	None.	
	<b>ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2022</b>	
53/22	The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> February were approved. Proposed Cllr Puddicombe, Seconded Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED.	
	<b>ITEM 4 – REMAINING BUSINESS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	
54/22	<p>a) <b>29/22 (4/22 - 302/21 - 250/21 - 224/21 - 196/21) Speedwatch update</b> – Newsletter received from Lee Turnham. Cllr Jenkins to circulate with the weekly newsletter. There were now 4 volunteers but Cllr Jenkins would like a few more. Shrevenham has had a trial. Clerk to send Neil Platten and Gerard Pearson contact details to Cllr Jenkins.</p> <p>b) <b>29/22 (4/22 - 323/21) – Business Vehicles parking on pavements.</b> Cllr Oldnall had contacted the PCSO who had been to look at the area. However, this was during the day when there were no vehicles. Cllr Oldnall had noticed that since then there had been fewer vehicles but Cllr Pilchowski felt that there had been no change. As the Council has no legal powers in such cases the matter had been notified to the Jacksmeadow Management Company.</p> <p>c) <b>29/22 (23/22) – Craven Common – Trees on the Mound.</b> There were three respondents to Cllr Oldnall's for comments on planting. Mr Godsell to take this matter forward and notify the Council when complete.</p> <p>d) <b>29/22 (23/22) – Operation London Bridge.</b> A summary of options had been circulated. Cllr Oldnall had sent out a note about a condolence book. It was agreed to purchase a plain one from John Lewis. It was agreed to hold it in the shop when the time came. Cllr Oldnall to speak to the shop owners.</p>	<p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>MO</p>
	<b>ITEM 5 – COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b>	
55/22	<p>Cllr Constance had sent a written report which had been previously circulated. At the meeting she reported that:</p> <p>a) The 20mph scheme was closer to implementation.</p> <p>b) The main issue was the local transport strategy. The next stage of consultation will be in early summer, which will include information on the A420.</p> <p>c) She was pleased that the resurfacing on the B4507 was going ahead. Cllr Oldnall noted that the road closures were not contiguous and on different days which would lead to confusion.</p> <p>d) There were issues around the recent Thames Water road closure in Baulking due to the length of time it had taken which she had brought to the attention of the OCC officer responsible (See 57/22 below).</p> <p>Cllr Constance was thanked for attending.</p>	
	<b>ITEM 6 – DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT</b>	
56/22	<p>Cllr Boyd would send a written report. At the meeting he reported:</p> <p>a) The Thames Water issue resulted in waste bins not being collected. Our MP had contacted Thames Water about this. The bins were to be collected on 15<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p>b) Council tax bills had been delivered today. There was an £85 per annum rise for band D properties. He had heard that the Vale may consider increasing it beyond the £5 increase limit next year. This would involve approval from the Government. It was going to be a financially difficult year for the Vale.</p> <p>c) The £150 council tax grant needed to be applied for, it would not be paid automatically. It was only for band A-D properties.</p> <p>d) EV charging points were being installed in council car parks in Wantage and</p>	NB

	<p>Faringdon.</p> <p>e) The Vale was carrying out a property review and was considering making some strategic decisions. It was likely that some properties would be sold off e.g. The Beacon.</p> <p>Cllr Boyd was thanked for attending.</p>	
<b>ITEM 7 – OPEN FORUM</b>		
57/22	<p>a) Mr Coxhead felt that the Parish Council should send a stiff letter to Thames Water because of the issues that had arisen from the road closure. He felt that this was totally unacceptable. Cllr Oldnall felt that there was not much that the Parish Council could do. Cllr Constance suggested that the Parish Council write a formal letter to Keith Stenning, Senior Traffic Manager at OCC because of the number of complaints; the road was closed without warning or explanation and for too long. Cllr Jenkins stated that we should write to the CEO of Thames Water, with copies to our MP and OCC and this was agreed. Cllr Banks pointed out that the area of road actually being worked on was very short. Mr Godsell asked how long the sewage tankering was going on for. This was not known.</p> <p>b) A Resident asked about the planning application for 9 Jacksmeadow. She noted that the planning department had said it was not in keeping with the rest of the property and that the fence might be a Health and Safety risk. Cllr Boyd agreed to speak to the case officer. Cllr Oldnall suggested writing to the case officer as well. He asked for a copy of the correspondence the case officer had sent to the resident.</p> <p>c) Mr Godsell requested email addresses of the allotment plot holders. Clerk to ask all plot holders if they will agree to their addresses being passed on and to ensure this was compliant with GDPR.</p>	<p>NB/MO</p> <p>MO</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<b>ITEM 8 - ONGOING PROJECTS</b>		
58/22	<p><b>Improvements to Broadband</b></p> <p>a) Ms Foxhall reported that a meeting had been held with the OCC broadband team. There were three projects rolling out Fibre to the Premises in the village.</p> <p>b) Airband were running 17 months late delivering to rural businesses and their infrastructure had to be complete by end May. Their fibres will be run through Uffington, probably along Woolstone Road and Broad Street. Those living along the Airband route will be able to connect to fibre and would probably be approached by Airband to do so.</p> <p>c) OCC had contracted (via another contractor) with Openreach to connect up the school, the museum, and the village hall with FTTP.</p> <p>d) The local Community Fibre Partnership (CFP) scheme had 95 properties signed up and this project would be carried out by Openreach if it proved affordable. A response was expected in October 2021 but was now not expected until March 2022 which would indicate the cost of the scheme and OCC could then attempt to rationalise this with the Museum/School/Hall contract in order to achieve better overall value for money. There was a risk to this CFP as funding was due to end in June 2022.</p> <p>e) An update email to all those registered was planned in the near future.</p>	<p>KF /MO</p> <p>KF/MO</p>
59/22	<p><b>Access to the Paddock (formerly Vehicle Bridge to the Allotments).</b></p> <p>Cllr Jenkins reported that there was no progress. It was between our solicitor and OCC estates. Cllr Jenkins to send details to Cllr Constance who agreed to chase this.</p>	SJ/YC
60/22	<p><b>Conversion of the three stiles on FP26.</b> A response was awaited from TOE as to whether we had received the grant and how much this would be. Cllr Jenkins to chase this.</p>	SJ
<b>ITEM 9 – PLANNING MATTERS</b>		
61/22	<p><b>New Applications to be considered:</b></p> <p>a) <b>P22/V0486/FUL - Moor Mill Barn Moor Mill Farm.</b> Full planning application for change of use of an agricultural barn to a dwelling, together with associated external alterations, Formation of a garden, provision of parking, installation of ground source heat pump and mechanical ventilation with heat recovery (MVHR) unit, roof-mounted solar panels and boundary treatment. Response date 29th March. There were no objections</p>	
62/22	<p><b>To consider any new applications received since the publication of the agenda</b></p> <p>None</p>	
63/22	<p><b>Update on outstanding planning applications:</b></p> <p>a) <b>P21/V3477/FUL – Border Meadows, Woolstone Road.</b> Variation of condition 2 on application P19/V2064/FUL - raise the ridge line for the centre section of the build. Permission granted.</p> <p>b) <b>P22/V0090/LB – The Baker’s Arms, High Street.</b> To mount an additional wall mounted aluminium street name plate beneath and existing street name place containing additional information to side elevation of an existing building. Awaiting</p>	

	<p>determination.</p> <p>c) <b>P22/V0010/HH – Broadway Farm.</b> Revision to application P21/V0360/HH in order to create a detached annex. The proposal seeks planning permission to revise the previously agreed application to create an attached annex, to now make the annex detached from the rear of the garage, in effect moving the building by 1.5m and establish a walkway in between the two buildings. The purpose will remain the same as will the materials being used. Awaiting determination.</p> <p>d) <b>P21/V3056/HH – 9 Jacksmeadow.</b> Extension to existing fence (retrospective). Awaiting determination.</p>	
64/22	<p>a) <b>Britchcombe Farm – report on Working Group meeting.</b> The last meeting was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. Cllr Jenkins to circulate the minutes. Cllrs Jenkins, Oldnall and Boyd had a meeting with Emily Hammerton, but there will not be any further meetings until a planning application is received. Cllr Jenkins had a meeting scheduled with a PR company to develop a communications strategy.</p> <p>b) <b>Discussion with Raoul Fraser.</b> Mr Fraser had been unable to attend this meeting as planned. He will be asked to attend the April meeting instead. <b>Afternote:</b> He had accepted this invitation and will be invited to speak at 7pm prior to the Annual Assembly.</p> <p>c) <b>World Heritage Status.</b> Cllr Jenkins had circulated a paper proposing the designation of the White Horse area as a World Heritage site. It was not a quick process. Dr Godfrey showed a map showing the area in question and gave a brief presentation on the how the process would work. Cllr Puddicombe proposed that the Parish Council sign up in principle to support the application to inscribe the Landscape of the White Horse as a World Heritage site and to investigate further. Cllr Jenkins seconded. <b>RESOLVED.</b> <b>Afternote:</b> As this is not specific to Britchcombe Farm, it will be added to the Ongoing Projects category in future.</p> <p>d) <b>Talk by Mr David Miles.</b> About 50 people attended this event.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>CLOSED</p>
<b>ITEM 10 – FINANCE</b>		
65/22	<p>a) <b>To approve March payments:</b> Payments totalling £1613.55 were approved. This included the Malcolm Hinton invoice. Proposed: Cllr Puddicombe, seconded: Cllr Pilchowski. <b>RESOLVED.</b> Cllr Oldnall to authorise the payments online.</p> <p>b) <b>EMR.</b> It was proposed that unspent funds with an EMR category be put into EMR at the year end. Any other unspent funds were to go back into general reserve. Proposed Cllr Pilchowski, Seconded Cllr Oberman. Cllr Jenkins suggested amalgamating EMR pots where possible and this was agreed as part of the end-of-year process.</p> <p>c) <b>NALC Pay Scale increase.</b> This was to be backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 and the back pay was to come from the administration cost centre.</p> <p>d) <b>Chairman’s Allowance.</b> An allowance of £300 had been agreed at the February meeting (Minute reference 40/22). The budget had been amended to include this sum which would be taken from General Reserves for the financial year 2022/23.</p>	<p>MO</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>CLOSED</p>
<b>ITEM 11 - THE JUBILEE FIELD TRUST</b>		
66/22	<p>a) <b>Monthly play area inspection.</b> Cllr Oberman reported that there were no issues in the playground.</p> <p>b) <b>Memorial Bench on Jubilee Field.</b> No progress. Cllr Oberman to chase.</p> <p>c) <b>Applications to use the field.</b> None.</p> <p>d) <b>Broken branches.</b> Cllr Pilchowski had been tidying up all the broken branches. He was thanked for his work.</p> <p>e) <b>Grass cutting.</b> The field was still wet but will need to be cut soon. Clerk to write to sports club to confirm that they will be carrying out the grass cutting this year and ask them to confirm the price.</p>	<p>FO</p> <p>Clerk</p>
<b>ITEM 12 – ALLOTMENTS UPDATE</b>		
67/22	<p><b>Allotments Update</b> Nothing to report.</p>	
<b>ITEM 13 – OSR UPDATE</b>		
68/22	<p><b>OSR Update</b></p> <p>a) <b>Window repair.</b> Cllr Puddicombe had contacted Paul Pounds for a quote but had not heard back. It was assumed that he was not interested in the work. The other quote received was £1926. Cllr Puddicombe agreed to ask whether Paul Pounds was planning to submit a quote. If not, it was proposed to go ahead on a single tender. Proposed Cllr Puddicombe. Seconded Cllr Pilchowski. <b>Afternote:</b> Paul Pounds had confirmed that he did not wish to bid for this work due to other commitments.</p>	<p>NP</p>
<b>ITEM 14 – ANNUAL / QUARTERLY REVIEWS</b>		

69/22	<p>a) <b>Review of Asset Register.</b> Cllr Jenkins pointed out that the kissing gates were donated to the landowners. Clerk to remove them from the asset register. No other comments had been received.</p> <p>b) <b>Review of Risk Assessment.</b> An extra appendix had been added to include the field tidy and litter pick. Cllr Oldnall to tidy up the risk scores for this. Cllr Jenkins pointed out that the date needed to be changed on the Covid support appendix.</p> <p>Both items were agreed. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Oberman.. RESOLVED.</p>	Clerk
	<b>ITEM 15 – UPKEEP (INC. WATERCOURSES)</b>	
70/22	<p>a) <b>Village Stream.</b> The stream was running well.</p> <p>b) <b>Tree Survey.</b> This had been finished today. Cllr Oldnall had been given a verbal debrief and was expecting the report and invoice within the next 10 days. The trees were in a good condition generally, but ash die back was starting to take hold in the village. The poplars were very sound and the surveyor had felt that original quote of £15k was far too high. The surveyor suggested that the middle tree should be pollarded because of a split. He had suggested coming back for a quick check when they the trees were in leaf. The full report would be circulated when received.</p>	CLOSED  Clerk
	<b>ITEM 16 – GENERAL</b>	
71/22	<p>a) <b>To ratify the decisions made by Committees in 2021/22.</b> A list of decisions made by committee meetings which needed to be ratified had been circulated and was agreed. Proposed Cllr Oberman, Seconded Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED.</p> <p>b) <b>Operation London Bridge.</b> Information had been sent out about operation London Bridge. Cllr Banks suggested making owners of private flagpoles aware of the rules for flags. All public meetings would be suspended during the period of public mourning.</p> <p>c) <b>Celebrations for the Platinum Jubilee 2022.</b> The Parish Council will sponsor a village picnic. It was agreed that the pizza van should be booked, and a bar would be required. Cllr Oldnall to ask the pizza company and Fox and Hounds. Cllr Oldnall asked whether teas were required, and he agreed to try and find someone to provide them. A plaque had been purchased to accompany a memorial tree which had yet to be purchased.</p> <p>d) <b>Annual Assembly.</b> Cllr Oldnall to circulate the proposed agenda. Raoul Fraser will be attending and will be the guest speaker who will speak first. Refreshments were to be provided. A budget of £75 was approved for this. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe. RESOLVED. Cllr Jenkins suggested asking Mr Fraser whether he needed the projector facility and to speak to village hall about sound system.</p> <p>e) <b>Jubilee Field Trust AGM.</b> This was be held at the May meeting.</p>	CLOSED  CLOSED  MO  MO MO
	<b>ITEM 17 – CONSULTATIONS</b>	
72/22	<p>a) <b>Draft Joint Design Guide.</b> Cllr Oldnall to will look at this on 15<sup>th</sup> March.</p> <p>b) <b>Local Transport Plan –</b> Cllr Oldnall had reviewed the document and sent out some notes. A response had been submitted. Councillors were advised to comment in their own right if they wished to do so.</p>	MO CLOSED
	<b>ITEM 18 – CORRESPONDENCE</b>	
73/22	<p>a) <b>Thames Water – Road Closure &amp; Sewage.</b> Covered above (See 57/22).</p> <p>b) <b>Two unsolicited petitions received.</b> One was suggesting that caravan sites could be used for Ukrainian refugees. The other was to try and reintroduce 4-wheel drive vehicles on to the Ridgeway. It was agreed that both of these did not require a reply.</p> <p>c) <b>Cycle Tour –</b> Concern about the roads had been put on Fix My Street and OCC had been notified. Details of the event were awaited.</p>	
	<b>ITEM 19 – MATTERS FOR THE APRIL AGENDA</b>	
74/22	<p>a) Cllr Oldnall to circulate details of Annual Assembly agenda which would be preceded by a short (30 minute) Council meeting covering only essential actions.</p> <p>b) <b>Footpath 19 –</b> Cllr Puddicombe reported that there were horses in the field without being roped off from the public right of way. This had caused a problem for a walker. Cllr Jenkins felt that there was no requirement for the Footpath to be roped off. He agreed to walk through the area and investigate.</p>	MO SJ
	<b>ITEM 20 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>	
75/22	The next meeting will be on Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 18.30 in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall. This will be immediately prior to the Annual Assembly.	

The meeting closed at 21.24