

**Minutes of the Meeting of Uffington Parish Council  
Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 6.30pm  
At Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall**

Present: Cllr Mike Oldnall (Chair), Cllr Simon Jenkins, Cllr Nigel Puddicombe, Cllr Dale Pilchowski, Cllr Graham Banks

In Attendance: Mrs J Evans (Clerk)

District Councillor: Cllr Nathan Boyd

County Councillor: Cllr Yvonne Constance

Members of the Public: 4 members of the public

Minute	ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Action
187/22	Cllr Fenella Oberman.	
	<b>ITEM 2 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>	
188/22	Cllr Puddicombe for agenda item 16.	
	<b>ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2022</b>	
189/22	The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> August were approved. Proposed Cllr Puddicombe, Seconded Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED. The minutes were signed.	
	<b>ITEM 4 – REMAINING BUSINESS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	
190/22	<p>a) <b>163/22 (139/22 - 114/22 - 79/22 - 57/22a) – Thames Water.</b> Cllr Jenkins reported that Cllr Oberman had attended a meeting with Thames Water. They were shown what work had been done and what was still required. Thames Water agreed to look into the situation and liaise with OCC Highways. They had suggested that widening the gateway was the best solution but they had not approached the landowner.</p> <p>b) <b>163/22 (153/22) – Courier Delivery.</b> Cllr Oldnall thanked everyone who had delivered The Courier in his absence. There had been a few issues with the new cover that were eventually resolved with the help of the printing company. Questionnaires were included with The Courier and some had been returned. The deadline was 30<sup>th</sup> October. The cost of producing the magazine had increased significantly and this could affect the number of paper copies printed in the future which would be reviewed once the outcome of the survey was known.</p> <p>c) <b>20 MPH Survey</b> – To be considered at the November meeting once the outcome of the survey was known.</p> <p>d) <b>163/22 (139/22 - 70/22) – Quotes for tree work.</b> Three tree surgeons had been identified. Cllr Oldnall to provide details of the work to be done, which would exclude the poplars. Cllr Puddicombe suggested asking Heritage Tree Solutions, based in Ashbury, to quote.</p> <p>e) <b>184/22 EV Charging point.</b> Cllr Pilchowski had discussed this with a member of the village hall committee. The cost of the project was to be investigated. There would be a cost for the initial survey to establish what the options were. It was agreed to close this matter until further progress had been made.</p> <p>f) <b>142/22 – Container on Broad Street.</b> The container had been installed and no complaints had been received.</p>	<p>CLOSED</p> <p>MO</p> <p>MO</p> <p>MO/Clerk</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p>
	<b>ITEM 5 – COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT</b>	
191/22	<p>Cllr Constance had sent a written report that had been circulated. At the meeting she reported that</p> <p>a) The EV charging points being installed in local towns were government funded. They were designed for those drivers who did not have their own driveways. She was not aware of any grants that could be applied for by the Parish Council.</p> <p>b) OCC were changing their transport strategy from a predict and provide model to a decide and provide. The strategy would be shaped by Councillors and Officers rather than by consultation.</p> <p>c) The Highways maintenance budget was to be expanded to maintain cycle and footways as well as roads although there had been no indication that the budget would be increased to facilitate this.</p> <p>d) OCC intended to provide support for the warm spaces initiative although she did not yet have any details of the funding to be made available.</p> <p>e) The 20 MPH scheme was not likely to be implemented until 2023 due to the number</p>	

	<p>and duration of the surveys necessary.</p> <p>f) There was funding available in the Councillor Priority Fund (CPF) – see 197/22.</p> <p>g) The operator license application for Uffington Trading Estate had been withdrawn.</p> <p>Cllr Constance was thanked for attending.</p>	
<b>ITEM 6 – DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT</b>		
192/22	<p>Cllr Boyd reported that:</p> <p>a) The Autumn vaccination programme was ongoing. He asked the Parish Council to send out reminder notes as people were not being notified.</p> <p>b) The Vale website had a section on help with the cost of living.</p> <p>c) The Vale was looking into the warm spaces initiative and would be working with OCC on this.</p> <p>d) A full council meeting was scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> October at The Beacon. EV charging, waste services, the cost of living and fracking were on the agenda.</p> <p>e) Cllr Elaine Ware was a member of the Integrated Care Alliance and their next meeting was in November.</p> <p>f) The Vale had moved its offices back to Abbey House in Abingdon.</p> <p>g) The Oxfordshire 2050 plan had been scrapped. The Vale and South Oxfordshire would decide their own local housing needs which would go forward into a new local plan.</p> <p>h) The results of the call for sites had been published, These were to be assessed and there would then be a consultation.</p> <p>i) There had been a rise in anti-social behaviour across the Western Vale.</p> <p>j) The whole of Baulking Lane was to be closed in January to replace electricity poles.</p> <p>k) Public waste bins were going missing. They had been seen being loaded onto a Biffa lorry. He had been told this may have been part of the waste bin survey.</p> <p>l) 64 EV charging points had been installed across the Vale. They were slow chargers and took about 8 hours to charge a car. Fast chargers were available at other non-council sites.</p> <p>m) He had received some representations about the Dragon Hill plans and had a request to call it in but it was too late to do so. Cllr Oldnall expressed concern about this and Cllr Boyd agreed to try and call it in and would discuss this with the Planning department.</p> <p>Cllr Boyd was thanked for attending.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>NB</p>
<b>ITEM 7 – OPEN FORUM</b>		
193/22	<p>a) <b>Toddler Group Grant.</b> Cllr Oldnall suggested that this grant application might be a good contender for the Councillor Priority Fund. Ms Foxhall explained that she had been looking at how they might support young families over the coming winter, which was likely to be difficult. They would like to offer free sessions to those who could not afford to pay and they would also like to offer a more substantial meal. As they did not have a bank account grant funds would need to be paid to the village hall committee to cover the cost of the hall hire until March. The cost was £220 and the village hall committee had confirmed that they would accept a block booking and a subsequent one-off payment. Cllr Oldnall to submit an application to the CPF.</p> <p>b) <b>Village Trail Board.</b> Mrs Pilcher reported that the trail welcome board had been revarnished and the person had not charged for his time and anticipated that a donation for the materials would probably be forthcoming. It was noted that this would need to be re-done every four or five years.</p> <p>c) <b>OSR Heating.</b> Mrs Pilcher reported that she had been looking into the heating system in the Old Schoolroom. The current storage heaters were out of date and not fit for purpose. A free survey was to be carried out on 13<sup>th</sup> October and Cllr Puddicombe agreed to attend.</p> <p>d) <b>Car Park repairs.</b> Mr Rumble reported that the village hall management committee had agreed to repair the car park tarmac.</p> <p>e) <b>Fire Assembly point.</b> Mr Rumble pointed out that there was now a fire assembly point at the children’s play area which was to serve both the hall and the shop.</p> <p>f) <b>Warm Spaces initiative.</b> Mr Rumble was aware of the toddler group plans (see a) above) and noted that the church was also considering setting up a warm meeting place. Mrs Forster had been approached about winter lunches and suggested that they could perhaps double up with the toddler group.</p> <p>The members of the public were thanked for attending.</p>	MO
<b>ITEM 8 – ONGOING PROJECTS</b>		

194/22	<b>Improvements to Broadband.</b> There had been no progress. The project was still awaiting the availability of a commercial arrangement that people could sign up to.	MO
195/22	<b>Access to the Paddock (formerly Vehicle Bridge to the Allotments).</b> Cllr Constance had facilitated access to the OCC legal department. A new lawyer had been appointed who had suggested an annual renewable licence rather than an easement. Cllr Jenkins had been liaising with our Solicitor about this as this was not what was required.	SJ
196/22	<b>Conversion of the three stiles on FP26.</b> All complete.	CLOSED
197/22	<b>Suitable projects for Councillor Priority Fund.</b> Covered in minute references 193/22, 202/22 and 208/22.	
<b>ITEM 9 – PLANNING MATTERS</b>		
198/22	<b>New Applications to be considered:</b> a) <b>P22/V1141/FUL – Dragon Hill, Woolstone Road.</b> Proposed erection of 2 x 4 bed detached dwellings (self-build). Additional plan received on 24 <sup>th</sup> August. This was covered in minute reference 192/22 above. Matter to be kept open. b) <b>P22/V2252/HH – Slate House, Upper Common.</b> Proposed rear extension and associated alterations. Response due by 21 <sup>st</sup> October. There were no objections.	Clerk
199/22	<b>To consider any new applications received since the publication of the agenda</b> a) <b>P22/V2279/HH. The Old Police House –</b> Proposed extension to garage to create a workshop, and to install an ensuite with two roof lights to the second floor of the dwelling. Response due by 26 <sup>th</sup> October. It was felt that although the new rooflights would have little impact, the extension to the garage was too large. It was agreed to submit an objection based on overdevelopment of the site. Cllr Oldnall to draft and circulate a reply.	MO
200/22	<b>Update on outstanding planning applications:</b> a) <b>P22/V1782/HH – 16 Jacksmeadow.</b> Single storey side and rear extension. Granted. b) <b>P22/V0345/FUL – Sowerhill Farm.</b> Installation of outdoor arena with lights. Change of use from agricultural to equestrian. Awaiting determination. c) <b>P22/V1771/HH – Threeways, Woolstone Corner.</b> Proposed extension to balcony. Granted. d) <b>P22/V1507/LDE – 4 Jacksmeadow.</b> Erection of outbuilding to form summer house. Application for lawful development certificate. Permitted development approved. e) <b>P22/V1788/HH &amp; P22/V1789/LB – The Vale Cottage, High Street.</b> Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey replacement extension. Installation of solar panels to rear roof slope and new garage doors. Granted. f) <b>P22/V1684/HH – Hendra, Broad Street.</b> Proposed garage carport with associated store, proposed porch and conversion of integral garage to habitable accommodation. Awaiting determination. g) <b>OH2057352 / 1328707 BRM PLANT HIRE &amp; SALES UK LTD’ - Uffington Trading Estate,</b> Operator license application. Withdrawn. h) <b>P22/V1042/FUL – Land north of Baulking Lane, Baulking.</b> Change of use of land to residential for one Gypsy Traveller family. The development to comprise one static caravan, one touring caravan, parking for two vehicles, associated hardstanding and infrastructure. Retrospective. Refused. i) <b>P22/V1003/FUL – The Fairmile Farm, Baulking.</b> Retrospective change of use to 1 no. Gypsy/Traveller pitch, comprising 1 static caravan and 1 touring caravan and associated works. Refused.	
201/22	<b>Britchcombe Farm</b> Cllr Jenkins reported that there had been rumours that the land had been sold. He noted that it was said to be an internal transfer within Lovat Parks. It was agreed to issue one more invitation to Raoul Fraser to attend a Parish Council meeting. Cllr Oldnall to write to him.	MO
<b>ITEM 10 – FINANCE</b>		
202/22	a) <b>To ratify September payments.</b> The payments totalling £633.36 were ratified. Proposed Cllr Puddicombe, Seconded Cllr Banks. RESOLVED. b) <b>To approve October payments:</b> Payments totalling £1577.49 were approved. Proposed: Cllr Pilchowski, seconded: Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED. Cllr Oldnall to authorise the payments online. c) <b>Receipt of CIL.</b> It was agreed to accept the payment of CIL from the Vale. Proposed Cllr Pilchowski, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe, RESOLVED. d) <b>External Audit Report.</b> The report was presented and accepted. No matters had been raised. Cllr Oldnall thanked the Clerk for achieving this outcome. e) <b>Request for a grant from Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall Community Association.</b> A grant of £500 was requested toward the cost of ongoing	MO    SJ/DP/MO

	<p>maintenance. It was noted that the grants policy was not clear on whether grants for maintenance were permitted. The grant was approved. Proposed Cllr Pilchowski, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe. RESOLVED.</p> <p>f) <b>To consider other early grant requests.</b> Cllr Oldnall felt that the application to support the village Christmas tree was a good contender for the CPF. The cost was about £160. Cllr Constance felt that it would definitely be a suitable project and agreed to find out how long it was take for the funds to be made available. Cllr Oldnall to submit a grant request to the CPF.</p>	YC/MO
<b>ITEM 11 - THE JUBILEE FIELD TRUST</b>		
203/22	<p>a) <b>Monthly play area inspection.</b> No update available.</p> <p>b) <b>Review of RoSPA report.</b> The bolts and shackles had been replaced. A quote for repainting had been received. A quote for replacement matting under the swings was awaited.</p> <p>c) <b>Applications to use the field.</b> None. It was noted that Scarrot's Fair came on different dates to those requested and that they had not sent their usual donation.</p> <p>d) <b>Location for Gardening Club tree.</b> Cllr Oberman was still liaising with gardening club with regard to the location of the tree.</p>	FO FO FO
<b>ITEM 12 – OSR UPDATE</b>		
204/22	<p><b>OSR Update</b> Cllr Puddicombe confirmed that he would be attending the review of the heating system.</p>	NP
<b>ITEM 13 – ANNUAL / QUARTERLY REVIEWS</b>		
205/22	<p>a) <b>Adoption of the new code of conduct.</b> The new code of conduct was adopted. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe, RESOLVED. New Register of Interest forms were to be completed by all members. The Clerk was to make the necessary signature page available in an editable form</p> <p>b) <b>Civility and Respect pledge.</b> It was agreed to sign the civility and respect pledge. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED.</p> <p>c) <b>Health and Safety Policy.</b> It was noted that the last paragraph referred to Covid. Cllr Oldnall suggested replacing this with a generic paragraph. Cllr Puddicombe noted that no one was listed in the first aid section in Appendix 1. Clerk to establish whether a person needed to be named or whether we could defer to using the NHS 111 service.</p>	All Councillors Clerk Clerk
<b>ITEM 14 – UPKEEP (INC. WATERCOURSES)</b>		
206/22	<p>a) <b>Village Trail Repairs.</b> New panels had been received. Cllr Oldnall to investigate the problems with the wood on the posts when the panels were installed.</p> <p>b) <b>Village Stream.</b> The stream was running well. Cllr Jenkins had started to clear further down the stream including the ditches around the village. Cllr Jenkins and Mr Godsell to do this once BGG had completed the mowing and hedge cutting. Mr Palethorpe had also volunteered to help but this was subject to his availability.</p> <p>c) <b>State of Stiles on Footpath 4.</b> OCC had still not responded on why the work was still outstanding. TOE was due to meet with Arthur McEwan-James and would discuss this matter with him.</p> <p>d) <b>Painting the bus shelter.</b> A quote had been circulated covering painting of the telephone box, the bus shelter and the play equipment. The cost was £1280. The quote was approved. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Puddicombe. RESOLVED. Cllr Pilchowski was thanked for clearing out the inside of the phone boxes. Cllr Pilchowski reported that the phone box in Baulking was in a poor condition. Cllr Oldnall to write to the Chair of Baulking Parish Meeting.</p> <p>e) <b>VAS Issues.</b> There had been no progress. Cllr Oldnall to look at the unit. The Clerk had written to the supplier asking if it was acceptable for Cllr Oberman to deliver the unit to them personally but had not received a reply.</p> <p>f) <b>Defibrillators.</b> Cllr Pilchowski noted that the pads would need to be replaced next year.</p>	MO/KP SJ MO MO
<b>ITEM 15 - ALLOTMENTS</b>		
207/22	Cllr Puddicombe reported that the tenancy agreements would be sent out shortly. Another plot had been let. A tenant had left the village but wanted to keep their plot and this had been agreed,	
<b>ITEM 16 – GENERAL</b>		
208/22	g) <b>Community Speedwatch.</b> Cllr Jenkins reported that there were now enough people trained and qualified to run the scheme. Four sites had been agreed and he hoped to get agreement for another. The equipment required would cost £550 and he asked Cllr Constance if she would support this from the Councillor Priority Fund.	SJ/YC

	She agreed subject to Parish Council agreement which was provided. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Pilchowski. RESOLVED. It was noted that Hi-Vis Jackets needed to be included in the cost. Cllr Constance agreed to assume a total cost of £600. Cllr Oldnall to submit an application to the CPF.	MO
<b>ITEM 17 – CONSULTATIONS</b>		
209/22	a) <b>Consultation on Community Engagement.</b> Cllr Oldnall had responded to this,	
<b>ITEM 18 – CORRESPONDENCE</b>		
210/22	a) <b>Call for sites.</b> The information had been published and circulated.	
<b>ITEM 19 – MATTERS FOR THE NOVEMBER AGENDA</b>		
211/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Civility and Respect Pledge</li> <li>b) First draft of the 2023/24 budget</li> <li>c) Community Governance Review</li> <li>d) Invitation to Raoul Fraser to speak at the Open Forum</li> <li>e) Review of work to poplars</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Puddicombe asked who was responsible for the Wellington Bomber memorial. Cllr Jenkins reported that it relied on local residents keeping it tidy. He suggested that perhaps someone should be given responsibility for it.</p>	
<b>ITEM 20 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>		
212/22	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 6.30pm.	

The meeting closed at 21.01