

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 1st November 2017

Public Participation session: 15 minutes maximum

RS-A: Thanks for information on the Stargate (Weston Manor) and its repair. Library kiosk had been installed outside the Village Hall. The scheme relies on the trust of people to borrow and return books as and when they've finished with them. Comment on cleaning of signs and surplus signs still up (Ice-Cream Farm, Black Sheep). CCTV installed on Village Hall and in the Village Shop.

Cllr. Griffiths (OCC): She will be producing Parish Report that will be circulated in due course. Kirtlington have been looking at a 20mph throughout the village and a figure of £3,600 has been quoted as a ball-park figure for the administration costs and signage. Police have indicated that they wouldn't "police" a 20mph zone. CDC have a reserve of money put aside for "Country Parks" – she will find out if this is to support existing open spaces or to develop new ones.

Council Business:

17.317.1 To receive any apologies for non-attendance

Cllrs present: Davis, Hessian, Miller, Norris.
Apologies received from: Cllrs Bohm, Donne & Roper.

17.317.2 To receive any declarations of interest

None received.

17.317.3 To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 4th October 2017

Minutes were approved as read.

17.317.4 Past Subject Matters – for the purpose of report only

From Public Participation session:

Tree Preservation Order on oak-tree: previous arboricultural officer (CDC) has left. Clerk has spoken to temporary officer who indicated that he'd looked into the file and could find no reference to trees in the file and had sent a plan of the site and asked for the tree in question to be marked, which the Clerk had done. Clerk to follow up this with officer and others.

Stargate – Weston Manor: area around the gate has been cleared and it appears that the gate hinges have been mended as it opens freely. A footpath has been created around the outside edge of the moat. There is very little water in the moat but there are plans to carry out remedial work to the weir to stop leaks and thus raise water levels.

17.316.9: A response to the Oxford's Unmet Housing Need consultation had been submitted before the deadline. Clerk thanked Cllr. Griffiths for providing additional information on this subject.

17.316.12: work on the willow tree in front of Oak View will take place next week – it will include pollarding the tree and this has been sanctioned by Cherwell.

Footpath by Village Hall: a report had been received about the uneven state of the footpath. Footpath crosses private land and owner does carry out remedial work at times but this degrades quickly in bad weather. Footpath Officer has been notified.

17.317.5 To receive update on Neighbourhood Plan (Cllr. Davis)

Cllr. Davis circulated a flow-chart showing the Neighbourhood Plan process and indicated the stage it was at currently – Submission to LPA (CDC). One

outstanding report – Strategic Environmental Assessment – should be submitted soon. This will be followed by the Independent Examination.

- 17.317.6 To receive information on Planning Applications and note decisions**
Cllr. had already circulated a summary of current applications. Revised drawings had been submitted for the Dower House and this needs the PC to comment. Also our comments on the installation of the LPG tanks at Southfield Farm need to be submitted.
Also need to follow up the issue regarding the footpath around the oak-tree and the fact they (CDC) appear to be ignoring the advice of their arboricultural officer and concerns regarding flooding.
Cllr. Griffiths advised that we copy in our CDC District Councillors on planning issues and concerns.

- 17.317.7 To approve the following items of expenditure:**
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| Cherwell District Council (Emptying dog bins) | £384.38 |
| Eric Payne – grass-cutting (Sept-Oct) | £ 60.00 |
- These items were approved.**

The Clerk reminded Cllrs. that at the March meeting it had been agreed to donate a sum of £500 towards the cost of the Village Hall Telephone Kiosk library, on the proviso that this would be given when the rest of the monies had been found. As the kiosk is now in place it was agreed that this sum of money would be given to the Village Hall Committee.

- 17.317.8 To receive report from Traffic Calming Advisory Group**
Report given by Cllr.Davis
The Parish Council had already agreed to release funds to cover the cost of the submission of an application to reduce the speed limit. Once drafted this would need to be submitted by the Parish Council.
They will conduct a survey - gathering opinions for lowering the speed limit and the installation of other traffic calming measures.
Looking to have a meeting of residents to discuss traffic calming issues.
Cllr. Griffiths (OCC) asked to be copied in on any correspondence sent to OCC

- 17.317.9 To receive update from Transport Advisory Group**
Report given by Clerk: A meeting has taken place with Community First Oxfordshire where helpful information was provided as to how to set up a community bus scheme. Further discussions need to take place with neighbouring parishes and a survey of the parish will need to take place so we can gauge the needs and expectations of the public for a local bus service. Various funding possibilities are being investigated.
As for the Section 106 monies that should come from the Southfield Farm development, I have had some feedback from OCC but it focused on the Vehicle Activated Sign as a form of traffic management and not the transport infrastructure improvements that the larger portion of the monies was scheduled to be used for. Louise from Community First Oxfordshire admitted that finding the correct people to talk to is frustrating for them yet alone us but she has offered to help.
The Bus Bartons Community scheme has proved very successful and is branching out and we will be talking to them to see if we can utilise their vehicles or be part of their scheme.

17.317.11 To receive report on Playing Field and Play-area – including Spinney

The shed for the grass mower is in place but it was deemed unnecessary to move the mower down there when it wouldn't be used until next year. However, Continental Landscapes took it upon themselves to do another cut last week – it probably needed the one more cut but I'd not asked them to do it and I've now told them to cease!

I spoke with the Duchy as to the replacement of the fence between field and spinney. They replied that the felling had been a significant cost exercise (there not being much value in poplars and that they hadn't got funds to erect the fencing. They suggested that there was scope for developing a transition margin between playing field and woodland –opening up the edge so that it is essentially grass with a few widely spaced trees before you get into the woodland proper. “ Having spoken to various people in the village there is support for this proposal. However, there are also concerns about safety. So, someone else from the Duchy is coming to view the work, etc., I'd explained that I wasn't too pleased with the state that the spinney was left in. And also that it had been our fence and it wasn't our responsibility that the fence had to be taken down to fell the trees. In the meantime I've contacted our insurers to see if we are liable to fence off the stream and whether a sign or signs indicating that people enter/walk/play in the spinney at their own risk would suffice.

When the timber from the spinney was removed from the car-park, the vehicle used damaged the mesh used to reinforce the grass area and also damaged the tarmac and curb edge. This has also been brought to the attention of the Duchy who have been asked that the damage be rectified.

17.317.12 To receive report on other outstanding issues – hedge-cutting, planters, etc

You should see most of the planters in-situ next week. They have been planted with bulbs but will have some hardy flowers (pansies, etc) to give some flower-power over the winter months.

Cllr. Norris reported an old stone milestone hidden in the hedge near the Old Police House. Suggested that this could be moved so it is more visible and made a feature?

The hedge bordering the playing field roadside needs to cut and layered during the winter months.

The Clerk reported that the Cherwell Executive have approved the addition of an additional councillor commencing at the next election in May 2018. This will bring the total of councillors on the Parish Council to eight.

17.317.13 Date of next meeting: 6th December 2017

Provisional dates for 2018:

January 10th, February 7th, March 7th, April 11th, May 2nd, June 6th, July 4th, August – no meeting, September 5th, October 3rd, November 7th, December 5th.