

## East Hagbourne Parish Council

### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at East Hagbourne Pavilion

#### **1) Attendance, apologies, declarations of pecuniary interest and vacancies.**

Present were Cllrs D. Rickeard (Chair), I. Duff, D. Button, C. Topping, J. Elliott, C. Gover, S. Beynon

In attendance A. Leigh (Clerk) and four members of the public.

Apologies for absence were received from County Cllr P. Greene.

D. Button registered a non-pecuniary interest for item 6e.

D. Rickeard proposed S. Beynon for co-option as Councillor and C. Topping seconded. S. Beynon was co-opted as Councillor. S. Beynon and A. Leigh to work on the filling out/submission of the Declaration of Interests form within 28 days. There is now one vacancy remaining.

#### **2) Public Forum and Questions.**

a) Mr Simon Clarke of Didcot Town Council introduced himself as a prospective candidate for Oxfordshire County Council at the elections planned for May 2017.

b) Comments of Fieldside residents on planning application P16/4158/FUL  
G. Beard gave an overview of his plan and why he chose a new build over renovation of the existing house. S. Beynon read a collection of comments from the residents of Fieldside. The Council will consider all these comments in preparing its own submission to the Planning Department, led by Iain Duff.

#### **3) Reports from County Councillor and District Councillor.**

Report from County Cllr Greene (see attachment 2) was noted.

#### **4) Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th December 2016.**

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed, with one change, and signed by the Chairman.

#### **5) Actions from previous meetings.**

2015-09-03: Pavilion and Bakers Lane Signs – CG indicated that this should not be her action item. AL to follow up on whereabouts of signs.

2015-10-06: New Dog Bins - CG has numbered dog bins.

2016-09-03: Progress web site migration - DR indicated this is still on the list of action items, but to be followed up on once the Grainger planning appeal has finished.

2016-09-02: Land Registration documents - AL to follow up on missing documents.

2016-10-03: Close Cemetery Bank Account - DB indicated this is in progress. DB/AL to follow up.

2016-12-01: Engage BGG to clear scrub at the Recreation Ground – AL indicated she has e-mailed BGG about this, but has not had a response. AL to follow up, as the clearance needs to take place prior to the end of March.

2016-12-02: Make compensation payment for broken car window – AL indicated this was completed.

2016-12-03: Circulate recommendations on training courses – AL circulated the list of courses for the year. AL to do a proposal on which ones she would like to take and submit it to the council for approval. AL to ask OALC about any possibility of a Roles and Responsibilities course on a Saturday.

2016-12-04: Liaise with CB and report incidents of damage by farm traffic – ID indicated CB is away and will liaise when he returns.

2016-12-05: Review draft proposal in preparation for decision at next meeting. See item 9a

## **6) Items for Discussion/Decision**

- a) Grass Cutting – review of status: AL to follow up with BGG as soon as scrub clearance scheduling and some double payments are sorted.
- b) Scrub clearing at Recreation Ground – AL has contacted BGG about this and has not had a reply. As indicated above, AL to follow up as clearance needs to take place prior to the end of March.
- c) Training courses - AL circulated the list of courses for the year. AL to do a proposal on which ones she would like to take and submit it to the council for approval. AL to ask OALC about any possibility of a Roles and Responsibilities course on a Saturday.
- d) Highways/footpath repairs – There are no real updates on the Parish Path and the ivy on the lamppost. DR continues to work on sorting them. CG has reported a pothole opposite upper cross to Fix My Street.
- e) Pedestrian access to the Recreation Ground by neighbours. – DR reported that several houses backing on to the Recreation Ground have gates allowing direct pedestrian access. This is with the agreement of the Parish Council and hence does not confer a right of way. He proposed that since this was arranged several years ago the agreement should be renewed. Council agreed to move forward on preparing an agreement between the Council and the residents stating that we give permission for them to access the Recreation Ground from their garden gates. DB will ask residents if they have a copy of the old agreement and DB and DR to come up with a proposal for a new agreement.

## **7) Items for Report.**

- a) Report on Grainger Appeal: The Appeal took place during the week of 9<sup>th</sup> January. Closing arguments to take place Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> January. DR thanked CT, MTGG team and people in the parish who worked so hard on the appeal. Council agreed to put a thank you in the next parish magazine.
- b) Neighbourhood Plan Report – The NP team are working towards a first complete draft by the end of February. Work is progressing on the Character Assessments and there has been discussion on the scope and format needed to meet the Council's needs. As a result, the work plan and time needed have been reviewed. Jeremy Lake and Steven Warnock estimate they will need another 5-6 days to complete the work over the original estimate of 10 days. Most of the difference can be accommodated within the already agreed budget, but Council agreed to an cover any shortfall.
- c) Cemetery Committee Report – nothing to report
- d) Pavilion and Car Park status. The council is waiting for a timetable for finishing the project.

- e) Article 4 Kingsholme Close. Sue Harris has indicated that SODC are aiming for a directive by the end of January. DR has approached SODC Cllr Murphy, who is working to maintain momentum.

### 8) Correspondence.

A Freedom of Information request has been received addressed to the Parish Council, relating to contacts with land developers in the context of the Neighbourhood Plan. We need to respond within 20 working days. DR to work on this and then ask CT and AL to review.

### 9) Finance.

- a) Following review of the budget figures presented by DB, the council agreed to increase the precept by 4.16%.
- b) Expenditure and receipts since last meeting and account balances

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Cheque no.</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Date</u>
John Stanley	Window repair	373	90.00	19/12/16
Mullins	Pavilion car park	374	15,492.60	19/12/16
BDS	Car park survey	375	2,238.12	04/01/17
Jeremy Lake	Neighbourhood Plan Character Assessment	376	780.40	11/01/17
HM Revenue and Customs	PAYE for Lucy Dalby handover time	377	298.80	11/01/17
Steven Warnock	Neighbourhood Plan Character Assessment	378	2,215.20	11/01/17
Lucy Dalby	Clerk salary – handover	379	144.60	19/01/17
Allison Leigh	Clerk salary	380	417.36	19/01/17
VOID	(Put wrong amount)	381		
VOID	Addressed to wrong individual	382		
Allison Leigh	Mileage and Expenses	383	115.56	19/01/17
Chris Alberry	123 account	384	28.78	19/01/17

Receipts since last meeting

Interest	£0.26	05/12/16
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Accumulated Account Balances

Barclays Banks accounts (4)

£46,698.00

The Special Project balances are:

Neighbourhood Plan	£10,443.00
Mind the Green Gap	£ 6,987.00
Cemetery	£ 3,520.00
Car park	£ 9,440.00

c) Payments requiring approval

Payment of the 123-reg invoice from Chris Alberry was approved and cheque 384 written as noted in 9b.

10) Items for report and inclusion on the February agenda.

- None noted.

The meeting was declared closed at 9:20pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 23rd February 2017 in East Hagbourne Pavilion.

Signed.....Dated.....

## ATTACHMENT 1 ACTION LIST

ACTION NO	WHAT	WHO	STATUS
2015-09-03	Pavilion and Bakers Lane Signs	AL	Requested
2015-10-06	New Dog Bins	CG	Requested
2016-09-03	Progress web site migration	DR/CG	
2016-10-02	Land Registration Documents	AL	In progress
2016-10-03	Close Cemetery Bank Account	AL/DB	In progress
2016-12-01	Engage BGG to clear scrub at the Recreation ground	AL	In progress
2016-12-02	Make compensation payment for broken car window	AL	Done
2016-12-03	Circulate recommendations on training courses	AL	Item 6c
2016-12-04	Liaise with CB and report incidents of damage by farm traffic	ID/AL	In progress
2016-12-05	Review draft precept proposal in preparation for decision at next meeting	All	Done
2017-01-01	Follow up grass cutting proposals with BGG	AL	
2017-01-02	Prepare proposal for agreement with Recreation Ground neighbours	DR/DB	
2017-01-03	Respond to FOI request	DR/AL/CT	

## OCC REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS **JANUARY 2017**

### **PLANS TO TRANSFORM ADOPTION SERVICES ACROSS THAMES VALLEY**

OCC is joining forces with neighbouring councils to create a Regional Adoption Agency (RAA) for the Thames Valley. The agency will improve outcomes for both children and adopters – including the ability to match children with families more quickly and improve support services for adopters. The Government has advised that a grant of £300k will be made available to help set up the new service. OCC will be the host authority within a partnership known as 'Adopt Thames Valley', alongside six other councils (Bracknell Forest, West Berkshire, Windsor and Maidenhead, Wokingham, Swindon and Reading) and two Voluntary Adoption Agencies (PACT and Barnardo's). All partners have begun work to develop the new shared service across the geographical area covered by the councils.

### **LAUNCH OF NEW ONLINE FLOODING 'TOOLKIT'**

A new online 'toolkit' has been launched by OCC which provides information and advice for those wanting to take action to safeguard their homes or businesses against the effects of flooding. Visitors to the site can use its tools to determine whether their home or business is in an area at risk at flooding, and links to a series of 'How To' guides. The toolkit also explains the different types of flooding that can occur with bespoke guides on how to deal with them and, for those responsible for things such as drains and streams running across their land, guides on how to carry out preventative maintenance. Interactive illustrations give visual inspiration for ways people can protect their properties and highlights often forgotten areas such as garages, airbricks and cable holes. The toolkit can be found at [www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com](http://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com)

### **ADULT SOCIAL CARE PERFORMANCE ABOVE NATIONAL AVERAGE**

The delayed transfers of care (DTC) figures released in December show Oxfordshire improving significantly on the situation a year ago: total delayed transfers of care were 11% lower, and those due to social care delays were 19% lower. This compares with a rise in numbers nationally of 25% in total and 41% due to social care. Nationally over a third of all DTC cases were attributable to social care delays, but in Oxfordshire it was less than a fifth.

### **HOME LIBRARY VOLUNTEER SUCCESS AND NEW LIBRARIES E - NEWSLETTER**

In September OCC launched a county-wide campaign for Home Library Service volunteers. This successful campaign has led to 150 volunteer applications so far, and the campaign was shortlisted for a public sector communications award. Home Library Service volunteers choose and deliver books to those who are unable to get to a library. More information about the scheme, including details of what volunteering involves and interviews with those who benefit from the service, can be found at: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/homelibrary](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/homelibrary)

The Library Service has also recently launched a bi-monthly newsletter sent to 6000 library service users. It contains the latest libraries news, events, book recommendations, volunteering opportunities and more, including information about Zinio (free electronic magazines), eBooks, People's Network (free public access to computers) and Wi-Fi in Libraries. Parish councils are requested to inform residents that they sign up at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/librariesnewsletter](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/librariesnewsletter)

### **GRANT FUNDING ANNOUNCED FOR 'OPEN ACCESS' CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

Community-led schemes will complement a comprehensive new service for 0-19-year-olds across Oxfordshire, which ensures children at risk of abuse and neglect are protected and that families who need extra help are identified at an early stage. Applications received during the first round of the £1m grant scheme were assessed by a cross-party working group of councillors which made recommendations to the council's Cabinet. Six community groups planning to run 'open access' children's services were successful and will receive funding worth £163,000 from the scheme. They are:

- **BUTTERFLY MEADOWS (BLOXHAM) - £29,384**

- **CARTERTON TOWN COUNCIL - £30,000**
- **BRIDGES (OXFORD) - £30,000**
- **GRANDPONT NURSERY (OXFORD) - £35,600**
- **ST NICHOLAS PRIMARY SCHOOL (MARSTON) - £8,000**
- **SHARING LIFE TRUST (THAME) - £30,000**

A further eight bids were supported in principle by the working group, but deferred to the second round of bids so that further work can be carried out on their business models. The panel refused just three bids – in these cases the eligibility criteria were not met.

### **HEALTH INEQUALITIES COMMISSION REPORT**

Oxfordshire's Commission on Health Inequalities has published its recommendations to narrow the health and wellbeing gaps which divide communities in the county. The Commission was set up earlier this year by the Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board. Its members came from health, local authority and voluntary sectors. Public sessions were held at venues across the county and evidence was taken from a wide range of statutory, voluntary and private sector organisations. The Commission heard that Oxfordshire, overall, is an affluent county with relatively low levels of deprivation, but there are significant variations. Among the 60 recommendations made by the Commission are:

- **AN INTEGRATED TRANSPORT STRATEGY TO REDUCE SOCIAL ISOLATION**
- **GREATER INVESTMENT IN PREVENTION OF ILL HEALTH**
- **EMPLOYERS TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH OF WORKING PEOPLE**
- **GREATER INTEGRATION OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE AND MORE SUPPORT FOR UNPAID CARERS**
- **PUBLIC SECTOR ORGANISATIONS SHOULD REVIEW THEIR BUILDINGS AND LAND WHICH MIGHT BE USED FOR KEY WORKER AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING**
- **PROMOTION OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND EXERCISE AMONG VULNERABLE GROUPS**
- **MORE PROVISION FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

The next steps for the Commission will be to promote the findings of the report and for discussion of what can be achieved through local action.

### **OXFORD PARKWAY/CITY CENTRE OPENING**

The link between Oxford Parkway and the city centre was opened at the beginning of December with a journey time of just 8 minutes. The Secretary of State for Transport, Chris Grayling, attended the opening. OCC Leader Ian Hudspeth took the opportunity of talking to him not just about railways, but also the road problems in Oxfordshire, particularly with regard to the A34, A40 and A420. Ian went on to remind the SoS that if we are to have the projected extra houses and jobs, then OCC needs the funding for the infrastructure to deliver sustainable development.



Cllr Patrick Greene – Didcot East & Hagbourne Division –  
Oxfordshire County Council