

East Hagbourne Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on Thursday 23rd February 2017 at East Hagbourne Pavilion

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

Present were Cllrs D. Rickeard (Chair), D. Button, C. Topping, J. Elliott, C. Gover, S. Beynon, County Cllr P. Greene and District Councillor J. Murphy.

In attendance A. Leigh (Clerk) and 2 members of the public, Mrs Linda Benton and Mr Roger Phipps.

Apologies for absence were received from I. Duff.

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

2) Public Forum and Questions.

Mrs Linda Benton and Mr Roger Phipps attended to discuss a Poet's Trail. They provided a map of proposed sites and discussed possible ideas for signage along the trail. Council expressed support in principle for the plan and asked Mrs Benton and Mr Phipps to come up with a proposal for what the signage would look like.

3) Reports from County Councillor and District Councillor.

Reports from County Cllr Greene(see attachment 2) and District Cllr Murphy (see attachment 3) were noted.

4) Confirmation of the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th January 2017.

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

5) Actions from previous meetings.

2015-09-03: Pavilion and Bakers Lane Signs – In progress

2015-10-06: New Dog Bins: CG indicated people are complaining there is nowhere along the Sustrans Route to put dog waste other than at the far Didcot end. SODC has indicated that they no longer provide dedicated dog waste bins, but that the general rubbish bins could now be used and they would be willing to supply these. She indicated that 2 bins would be helpful – one on the steps leading up to the embankment at the railway bridge on main road that would be paid for by EHPC and one near the bridge over the Parish Path. The latter is in West Hagbourne, so WHPC would need to be consulted.

AL to raise the West Hagbourne one at the WHPC meeting on Wednesday, 1st March. A new action item to be created.

2016-09-03: Progress web site migration – ongoing.

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

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

2016-12-01: Covered in Item 6(b)

2016-12-04: Covered in Item 6(c)

6) Items for Discussion/Decision

- a) **Grass Cutting:** AL to follow up with BGG as soon as scrub clearance scheduling and some double payments are sorted. If the issues aren't sorted, DR suggested the council may look to another contractor.
- b) **Scrub clearing at Recreation Ground:** AL indicated BGG has done some of the scrub clearance, but DB indicated there was more to clear and the tractor had created deep ruts on the ground. AL to contact BGG to rectify this and to follow up on double payments.
- c) **Highways/footpath repairs**

14 Main Road lamppost & Bishops Orchard lamp: In terms of 14 Main Road, DR indicated OCC had engaged SSE to cut a small amount of vegetation from around the light and have cut the stem, so it will slowly die. However, the bulk of the ivy remained. He indicated it might take volunteers to cut the remaining bits. The Bishops Orchard lamp remains out of order, but has been reported to OCC. Repair will depend on how they prioritise it.

Jeff Powell letter re damage to verges: AL indicated Jeff Powell had sent a letter indicating he would raise the issue with the farmers. He also asked if villagers could ensure hedges/branches are cut back so as not to damage the mirrors on the tractors/straw being pulled off trailers. Item to be put in Parish Magazine.

Hedge along Greenshutters: Lonicera hedge is leaning over the pavement and although it has been well trimmed it needs major cutting back to avoid obstruction. It causes problems for people with pushchairs and a lady on crutches had difficulty passing. AL to contact the owner regarding this matter.

- d) **Pedestrian access to the recreation ground by neighbours:** DB explained the background that around 1989 letters had been sent to residents. Formal agreements had never been signed.
- e) **Donation request from CPRE:** AL to contact them regarding clarification on donation vs subscription.
- f) **Renewal of insurance:** AL indicated the Zurich insurance is up for renewal as of 31st March 2017. She has provided quotes from Zurich and Came & Company for 2017/2018. AL and DR to review.
- g) **Use of Recreation ground for the Village Fete:** Council agreed to close the Recreation Ground for the Church on Saturday 10th June. It was further agreed to cover the cost of hiring the Pavilion for this event to the sum of £75. Learning from last year's Fête, some discussion is needed on access to the field and in particular controlling vehicles. A representative from EHPC to attend the next fete committee meeting.
- h) **Adoption of telephone kiosk:** AL indicated BT had sent a letter through SODC regarding keeping our telephone kiosks. We have indicated we may like to keep them. DR proposed that we should retain the one by the bus shelter as a home for the defibrillator, but that we had no need to retain the one in Harwood Road. A notice regarding this to be put in the Parish Newsletter.
- i) **Plans for the APM:** The APM is to take place on Thursday, 27th April. Among the items for discussion would be Chairman's Report, Neighbourhood Plan and thanks

for the Mind the Green Gap team. DB and JE gave apologies for the meeting.

7) Items for Report.

- a) **Neighbourhood plan report:** There was a meeting on Monday, 21st February. Jeremy Lake talked about the history of the village and Steven Warnock talked about the village from a geological point of view. 25-26 members of the public attended. The PC is hopeful to give SODC a first draft by 10th March. It is hopeful the document will be completed by late summer.

In terms of the Appeal decision on the Green Gap planning application, a decision from the Inspector is expected around the end of March.

- b) **Cemetery committee report:** There will be a committee meeting on Monday, 27th February.
- c) **Pavilion and car park status:** There are several groups wishing to book the Pavilion including a baby class every Tuesday. DR reported that there is a leak in the central heating circuit to the changing rooms, but that the showers can still be used with heating from the immersion heater. AL and DR to look into insurance.
- d) **Article 4 Kingsholme Close:** The Article 4 Direction has been granted, subject to a consultation period. AL to respond to survey on behalf of Parish Council in favour of it.
- e) **Annual Litter Pick April 29:** DB to provide high visibility jackets. DR to put a notice in the Parish Magazine. AL to source other equipment from SODC.
- f) **FOI request:** Completed.
- g) **Electronic banking:** The council discussed the possibility of electronic banking and AL presented the process. The council decided to remain with cheques.

8) Correspondence.

None.

9) Finance.

a) *Payments since last meeting*

Payee	Item	Cheque no.	Amount	Date
Community First Oxfordshire	Neighbourhood Plan	102386	5660.40	3/2/17
SODC	Dog bin emptying October – December 2016	102387	138.14	23/2/17
EHS&RC	January 19 th PC meeting	102388	25.00	23/2/17
Allison Leigh	Clerk salary	102389	417.36	23/2/17
Mullins	Pavilion car park	102390	5171.84	9/2/17
Hagbourne Village Hall	Cemetery Committee meeting	102391	7.00	23/2/17

Allison Leigh	Expenses, mileage and training	102392	141.04	23/2/17
Dentons	Grainger appeal	102393	2037.10	23/2/17
Lucy Dalby	Memory stick	102394	10.00	23/2/17

b) Receipts since last meeting

Reeves – Harris Memorial	£80.00	January 2017
Reeves – Walton Memorial	£80.00	January 2017
Standing order	£4.00	1/2/17

c) Accumulated Account Balances

Barclays Banks accounts (4) £ £29,589.93

d) The Special Project balances are:-

Neighbourhood Plan	£ 7,426.00
Mind the Green Gap	£ 3,589.42
Cemetery	£ 3,866.01
Car park	£ 5,130.13

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

- Possible purchase of projector. CT to research.
- Audit - AL and DB to meet with internal auditor

The meeting was declared closed at 10:00pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 30th March 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	Create new item
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
2016-12-04	Liaise with CB and report incidents of damage by farm traffic	ID/AL	In progress

REPORT TO PARISH COUNCILS FEBRUARY 2017

UNITARY UPDATE

Last week OCC launched 'A Fresh Start for Oxfordshire', a draft of OCC's intended proposal for DCLG on how and why a single unitary authority for Oxfordshire could work. The full proposal can be found online at www.oneoxfordshire.org. There will be meetings with key local stakeholders in the coming weeks and activities will take place across Oxfordshire's libraries. An online survey will enable OCC to engage with the wider public. The results of these actions will be incorporated into a revised version of the proposal document to be considered at the March 14th meeting of the Cabinet. Following advice from the DCLG at the end of last year, OCC has been reassured that there is nothing preventing the pursuing of reorganisation of local government in parallel to working with the District Councils on a potential devolution deal for Oxfordshire. OCC is keen to hear from as many councillors, community groups, businesses and residents as possible via the website.

PROPOSALS FOR SPENDING £3.4M OF ADULT SOCIAL CARE TEMPORARY FUNDING

Proposals for how £3.4m of temporary funding can be spent were discussed at Cabinet on 24th January. The money would come from OCC being allowed by Government to set a 5% council tax rise in 2017/18 and 2018/19 – with 3% intended to be spent on adult social care. If the council votes to levy the 5% council tax increase at its budget meeting in February, OCC proposes to spend the adult social care portion of the money investing in capacity building and resilience, to help respond to future demand. The proposals are for the temporary funding to be spent in three key areas over the course of 2017/18 and 2018/19:

1. £1.01million to grow, develop and build resilience in the external care workforce

The social care workforce and, in particular, the home care workforce, is one of the key constraints on the health and social care system in Oxfordshire. Issues with recruiting, retaining, training, and supporting this workforce, combined with the high cost of living mean that the private and voluntary sector face issues in providing adequate numbers of staff. The £1.01m would be used to improve recruitment and retention for existing providers, and the skill base of local care workers. It would increase workforce and capacity, and would benefit individuals funding their own care.

2. £1.485 million to transform delivery

OCC proposes to invest £1.485m in transforming capacity in the public and private sector. This involves optimising the use of available care capacity, improving purchasing and sourcing, and working with people who use services and their carers to make services better. OCC plans to increase staff capacity (social workers, occupational therapists, and care managers) to ensure the right size for home care packages whilst at the same time supporting people to have the maximum levels of independence. It is also proposed to create additional capacity to support assessment and reviews to achieve maximum flow for the whole system. OCC also proposes to invest in improvements to systems to enable it to better to track and monitor the care demands in order to understand and use available capacity. This investment would release additional capacity into the homecare market, increase the availability of homecare, and improve the speed and timeliness of social care assessments.

3. Daytime support (£650,000)

This money would be used to form part of the £975,000 that OCC is proposing to spend supporting Daytime Support Services to transition to the new model of service provision. (Further detail can be found in the next item).

ADDITIONAL £975,000 TO HELP TRANSITION FOR DAYTIME SUPPORT SERVICES

OCC is proposing a new daytime support system that would enable older people and people with disabilities to live independently in their community. Having listened to more than 1,000 responses to a consultation that ran during November and December, the OCC's original proposals have changed to reflect comments made - with £975,000 extra being spent. The proposals continue to include a guaranteed core service for people who require daytime support, alongside financial support to enable community-based services to continue to flourish. People with 'assessed needs' who receive help from OCC's adult social services would continue to receive support under a new proposed structure for daytime support in the county. The proposal now includes the additional money to be spent as follows: 1. An additional £550,000 in a transition fund for voluntary sector providers who receive grant funding from the council. This is in direct response to providers who responded to the consultation to say more time was needed. 2. An additional £100,000 on fundraising support for the voluntary sector. 3. Replacing current annual funding for 47 community-based daytime support services with grant pots totalling £350,000 a year.

RESPONSE TO CCG'S CONSULTATION ABOUT OXFORDSHIRE'S HEALTH SERVICES

The Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group has now launched the first phase of its consultation on proposed changes to health services in Oxfordshire. OCC is a consultee in the process, and Cabinet is due to make its view known at the cabinet meeting on 21st February. OCC officers are currently examining the detail of the proposals, and Cabinet will consider these alongside the emerging public view. The Cabinet's view will also be fed into the full debate on the consultation, which the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (HOSC) is hosting on the 7th March. HOSC is an independent joint committee, which includes representatives from the four District Councils, the City Council and County Council. The issue is also scheduled to be debated at the full Council meeting on the 21st March to ensure that all County Councillors are given the opportunity to voice local concerns.

CARERS SET TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE PERSONAL BUDGETS

OCC currently provides personal budgets of between £200 and £600 a year to more than 1,800 people who provide care to relatives and others. A consultation was undertaken during 2016 about discontinuing these personal budgets to save the county council £690,000. However, after having listened to consultation responses, a new proposal has been made for annual personal budgets of £300 targeted at those carers with the highest needs. It is estimated that only one-third of those who received a personal budget in 2016/17 would not do so at all in 2017/18. The revised proposals will save OCC £588,000, with £400,000 of this to be directly reinvested in preserving the Dementia Service which supports 120 people in Oxfordshire.

Cllr Patrick Greene – Didcot East & Hagbourne Division – Oxfordshire

**SODC A Conservative District Councillor's View
(Or What The Council Is Doing)**

February 2017.

Devolution

After reviewing the various options for forming Unitary Local Government for Oxfordshire with DCLG and other partners and advisors, we have come to the conclusion that it will be best to form one council. We have commenced negotiations with Oxfordshire Council Council for us to join them in the bidding process to ensure that the best possible deal for our residents is achieved.

There will be much more information in coming months and we will be passing this on to you through the various communications channels available.

Planning Matters.

Didcot Garden Town is a major part of our plan for development in the District, offering a significant number of jobs and home. Work on seven work streams including - master planning, housing delivery, EZ implementation, infrastructure, branding and communications/ engagement is now well under way. Further information can be found at <https://didcotgardentown.org>

Neighbourhood Planning Up-date.

As I wrote last month, Minister For Housing Gavin Barwell MP, announced new ways Neighbourhood Plans will affect development. This has significant implications for existing and up and coming Neighbourhood Plans and emphasises the importance of keeping them up to date. As expected the developers are none too keen on this provision, and they are challenging the mInister's decision with a Judicial Review. This may prove premature as the Government's White Paper is expected this month and we anticipate that this provision will be included in the Bill.

Neighbourhood Planning Conference

On Friday 20 January 2017 John Howell MP hosted a Neighbourhood Planning conference in Benson. The main target audience were those who have adopted Neighbourhood Plans or those looking to develop one. Our policy officers were also on hand to assist and answer questions.

The event was well attended by over 100 people and provided a good opportunity for local residents to understand more about the process and raise concerns and feedback to officers.

5 Year Housing Land Supply (5YHLS) update

Our position remains that we have 3.8 years housing land supply (target 5YHLS).

- We have updated the district-wide completions data, which is being verified before we recalculate our 5YHLS
- We have received applications on Wallingford Site E (Winterbrook area), the edge of Reading for 245 homes and smaller sites around Brightwell cum Sotwell, Sonning Common, Shiplake, Chalgrove and Crowmarsh - all for between 30 - 150 dwellings.

Monitoring Progress

- Majors: 87% decided within 13 weeks against local target of 70% (national target 60%).
- Minors: 84% decided within 8 weeks against local target 75% (national target 65%).
- Others: 93% decided within 8 weeks against a local target of 90% (national target 80%).
- 65% appeals dismissed (15% performance increase on this time last year) local target 74% (average national position 60%)

Appeals Public Inquiries

- East Hagbourne, land east of New Road, - held over 6 days in January 2017. We are waiting to hear whether the Inspector's decision will be recovered in due course.
- Tetsworth - traveller site of 12 pitches outside of the Green Belt and is scheduled for the second week of June.
- Thames Farm, Shiplake – Planning Inspectorate is seeking our views on having a co joined inquiry for the quashed appeal decision (110 units) and second appeal against a scheme for 90 units refused in August 2016..
- CABI, Crowmarsh – appeal recently lodged - scheme for new offices and residential development refused in June 2016 will be the subject of an inquiry in the summer.

Enforcement

- 31 new cases opened
 - 16 cases closed
 - three cases closed were more than six months old
- Our six week performance was 86 per cent this month (target 80%). 25 per cent of cases closed this month were found not to be breaches of planning control however 56 per cent (which equates to nine cases) were closed as 'others'.
- Unauthorised residential use in Berrick Salome
 - Unauthorised engineering operations in Kingwood
 - Unauthorised change of use of land at Shiplake Bottom
 - Unauthorised display of advertisements in Henley

South Local Plan 2033

- The Second Preferred Options consultation is scheduled to commence at the end of March 2017. The slight delay from the last update is to ensure we have the most robust evidence available to support the consultation – particularly for infrastructure. It will take the form of a full Draft Local Plan to include development management.
- The emerging Local Plan was subject to a 'critical friend' review by the Planning Inspectorate. Key actions are to ensure that we demonstrate a thorough justification of site selection and arrival at our Objectively Assessed Need. The use of topic papers to support the consultation was strongly recommended to demonstrate the assessment of all options and process from start to finish.

Design Guide shortlisted for award

South and Vale urban design officers together with collaboration from other specialist officers have had the South Oxfordshire Design Guide shortlisted for the Public Sector entry in the Francis Tibbalds Urban Design Awards 2017.

Being shortlisted for the award is a good step towards raising the profile of the Council and the need to secure high quality design in South Oxfordshire. Awarded by the Urban Design Group, the awards give more recognition to urban design work, particularly at project stage. Voting is now underway and the results will be announced in March 2017.

Great British Spring Clean

We are backing a new nationwide campaign to get half a million people out and about cleaning up their local communities in March 2017. The Great British Spring Clean aims to help bring people together to clear up the litter that blights their local streets and parks.

Litter remains a huge problem across the country, causing harm to the environment and wildlife, with councils in England having to spend over £700 million on street cleaning services every year. To take part in the campaign and for information on how to set up your clean-up event visit www.greatbritishspringclean.org.uk.

We will be encouraging and supporting groups and individuals who want to help by offering equipment free of charge. If you require litter pickers, sacks, gloves and high visibility jackets please contact Eleanor Bunn by email (eleanor.bunn@southandvale.gov.uk) or call 01235 422146. Please book in your equipment requests as soon as possible as there is limited availability.

Voluntary and Community Sector Forum

The annual South and Vale Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Forum, supported by the councils, will be held on 15 March 2017 (9am-4.30pm). The Forum aims to bring local community and voluntary groups together so they can share ideas and advice. The event, at Cornerstone Arts Centre, is free to attend and includes two workshops, lunch and a funding information fair, plus time for networking. Please invite community and voluntary groups in your area to come along.

For more details about the day's programme and to book a place at the Forum please see the OCVA Forum page at <http://southandvale.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=33bec1cf8b5523ad47c7183a0&id=08ffb5b5f3&e=eda6ce4f57> and If you have any questions about the event email OCVA at admin@ocva.org.uk or call 01865 251946.

Communications

Another quick reminder that we are keen to improve communications with residents and South News, the newsletter which includes information of interest to residents, is one of our initiatives. Please do encourage local residents to sign up for the newsletters which will be published every two months.

South News keeps residents in touch with news from the council, including the latest on planning and housing in South Oxfordshire, news on recycling collections and events at our leisure centres and Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot.

To receive South News visit www.southoxon.gov.uk/southnews

From local start-up to world leader - Register now for the South and Vale Business Breakfast

Businesses are invited to join the South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils' annual Business Breakfast on Tuesday 21 February 2017 at De Vere Oxford Thames Hotel, Henley Road, Sandford on Thames, OX4 4GX, starting at 7.30am.

The free event, this year hosted by South Oxfordshire District Council, includes a light breakfast followed by a series of presentations about issues affecting businesses locally plus a question and answer session.

Key note speaker will be Mathew Hornsby, Sales Director and co-founder of yacht and powerboat specialists Williams Jet Tenders, based in Berinsfield and following the Brexit vote of 2016, Garry Young, Senior Adviser at the Bank of England will be sharing his thoughts on business and economic prospects and what it means for local businesses.

More information and registration at

<http://southandvale.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=33bec1cf8b5523ad47c7183a0&id=27a3bd9dd3&e=eda6ce4f57>

Waste contamination update

To reduce contamination in the recycling we collect we've been running a campaign to get residents to recycle loose or use clear sacks so that waste crews can see what is in each bin before emptying it. Crews do not empty green bins which contain black or coloured sacks.

The campaign has been very successful. The quality of the recycling has improved, the contamination rate is falling and across the South and Vale districts we only have to have to leave a couple of dozen bins un-emptied each day.

New waste vehicles to improve collections

We are planning to introduce a new fleet of waste collection vehicles in June which will further improve our collection service.

Residents will only see a minor change to their collections, recycling or waste will be collected by one vehicle and food collected by a separate vehicle rather than the current vehicles collecting both. Collections will continue to take place on the same day but not necessarily at the same time. Changing to a two pass system will give more operational flexibility when Biffa experience breakdowns or delays and will also provide more resilience when it comes to managing the increase in property numbers as a result of new developments.

Also by changing to a two pass system each vehicle will have increased capacity, this will reduce the number of visits in a day to the disposal points.

Our Communication Team is working to inform residents of the change.

Modern slavery campaign

We are supporting a Home Office campaign to raise awareness about Modern Slavery. This follows the introduction of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and supports the work of the Community Safety Partnership Plan.

Modern Slavery can include forced labour, child slavery, or women being forced into prostitution and will often be linked to human trafficking.

To help raise awareness of the campaign we've put up posters in all our leisure centres and public toilets. The Modern Slavery Helpline number is 0800 0121 700.

Jane Murphy