

Minutes of the Meeting of Uffington Parish Council Monday 13th March 2023 at 6.30pm At Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall

Present: Cllr Mike Oldnall (Chair), Cllr Simon Jenkins, Cllr Graham Banks, Cllr Fenella Oberman

In Attendance: Mrs J Evans (Clerk)

District Councillor: Cllr Nathan Boyd

County Councillor:

Members of the Public: 2 members of the public

Minute	ITEM 1 – APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	Action
49/23	Cllr Puddicombe, Cllr Pilchowski and County Cllr Constance.	
ITEM 2 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST		
50/23	None.	
ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 13th FEBRUARY 2023		
51/23	The minutes of the Parish Council monthly meeting held on Monday 13 th February 2023 were approved. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED. The minutes of the Parish Council closed meeting held on Monday 13 th February 2023 were approved. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Banks. RESOLVED The minutes were signed.	
ITEM 4 – REMAINING BUSINESS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING		
52/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Councillor Priority Fund Application. This was carried forward. <u>Afternote:</u> The funds were received on 14th March. b) Emergency Plan. Updated document to be sent to OCC. Cllr Oldnall to send a copy to the Clerk. Afternote: Copy sent. 	CLOSED CLOSED
ITEM 5 – COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT		
53/23	No Report. Cllr Boyd confirmed that the Councillor Priority fund was likely to be reduced next year.	
ITEM 6 – DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT		
54/23	<p>Cllr Boyd reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The pre-election period would start on 20th March. b) Voter ID was being rolled out and information would be included with Council tax documentation. c) The Vale was looking for poll clerks for the forthcoming elections. d) Waste calendars were now available and would be on the Vale website. e) The Vale was pushing ‘no mow May’ and was encouraging wildflower meadows. f) The Vale was working with the Community Payback scheme to provide help with community projects. g) Sewage discharge had been an issue everywhere over the weekend. Cllr Jenkins had flagged the issues in Uffington. h) He had sent out a survey which included a question about Britchcombe Farm. A majority of respondents were against any development of the site although a smaller number was in favour due to additional employment opportunities. i) The applications at Baulking Lake were going to appeal. The original date had been postponed but the appeal was still going ahead. <p>Cllr Boyd was thanked for attending.</p>	
ITEM 7 – OPEN FORUM		
55/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update on OSR Heating project. Mrs Pilcher reported that three quotes had been received and the Trustees had selected a preferred supplier. The White Horse Show Trust had been approached for a grant toward the cost. b) Wilts & Berks Canal Trust. Mrs Pilcher asked for a contact for the Wilts & Berks Canal Trust. Cllr Oldnall to provide this. Afternote: contact provided c) Kerbs Repairs. Mr Rumble reported that the repairs been made to the kerb at the car park entrance. A vote of thanks was recorded to Mr Rumble for undertaking the work. d) Brownie Camp. The brownies had booked both halls for the weekend 7/8/9 July for a camp. The had asked to use the Jubilee Field. It had been pointed out that 	CLOSED

	<p>they would need to share it with the public. They had also asked if they could have a small campfire or firepit. Permission was granted.</p> <p>e) Coronation Sunday event. The Sunday evening event needed a volunteer who had access to a laptop as the village hall could not provide one.</p> <p>f) Sign near The Green A member of the public had asked why the sign by The Green was so high. Cllr Oldnall to investigate whether it could be lowered.</p> <p>The members of the public were thanked for attending.</p>	MO
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	ITEM 8 – ONGOING PROJECTS	
56/23	a) Access to the Paddock (formerly Vehicle Bridge to the Allotments). Cllr Jenkins reported that things were slowly progressing.	
	ITEM 9 – PLANNING MATTERS	
57/23	New Applications to be considered. None.	
58/23	To consider any new applications received since the publication of the agenda. None.	
59/23	<p>Update on outstanding planning applications:</p> <p>a) P22/V2978/S73 – Dragon Hill. Variation of condition 2 and removal of condition 7 of approved plans P22/V1141/FUL. Amended plans. Permission had been granted by the Vale planning committee. It had been passed by 3 votes to 5.</p> <p>b) P22/V2987/FUL – School House Field, Broadway. Retrospective application for the rebuilding of an agricultural barn. Granted.</p> <p>c) P23/V0142/LB – Tamerlane Cottage, Packers Lane. Replacement of flue liner which serves a woodburning stove. Raise height of the chimney stack and replace existing pot. Awaiting determination. Afternote: Granted.</p> <p>d) P22/V2252/HH – Slate House, Upper Common. Proposed rear extension and associated alterations. Awaiting determination.</p> <p>e) P22/V0345/FUL – Sowerhill Farm. Installation of outdoor arena with lights. Change of use from agricultural to equestrian. Awaiting determination. NB asked why this was outstanding. The Vale has asked for additional information which may not yet have been supplied. Cllr Jenkins to chase/confirm. Afternote Cllr Jenkins has spoken to the applicant at Sowerhill Farm.</p>	SJ
	ITEM 10 – FINANCE	
60/23	<p>a) To approve March payments – The payments totalling £2210.75 were approved. Proposed Cllr Banks, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED. Cllr Oldnall to authorise.</p> <p>b) Malcolm Hinton invoice – A maximum of £1000 was approved. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED. Afternote: invoice for £530 + VAT received and paid.</p> <p>c) Transfer of funds into EMR at year end. Proposals to transfer funds into EMR at year end had been circulated and were approved. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED.</p> <p>d) Donation to Clean Slate. A donation of £50 was approved. Proposed Cllr Banks, Seconded Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED.</p>	MO
	ITEM 11 – THE COURIER	
61/23	Cllr Oldnall reported that the collation of the Spring edition had started. The deadline for articles was 20 th March. Cllr Oberman requested an item on the Coronation. She also felt that a photograph of the crocuses would make a good front cover. Mrs Pilcher reported that she had a picture of them that had been taken by a drone and she agreed to send it to Cllr Oldnall. It was also suggested that an update on Britchcombe Farm be included.	MO Mrs Pilcher
	ITEM 12 – JUBILEE FIELD	
62/23	<p>a) Monthly play area inspection. The matting underneath the big swings required attention. Mr Forster had been asked to look at it. The two gates into the play area also required attention.</p> <p>b) Applications to use the field.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Brownies - The Brownies application was covered in 55/23 (d) above. ii. Open Gardens - The Gardening Club and the Church were holding Open Gardens on 11th June. Permission was requested to use the field for car parking. It would need to be marked out. It was agreed that the field could only be used if it was not waterlogged. iii. Coronation weekend – The field would also be used for the Coronation weekend events. 	FO
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	<p>c) Grass Treatment. Cllr Jenkins had spoken to Mr Coxhead and it was agreed to take no action.</p> <p>d) Hole in the footpath. Carried Forward.</p> <p>e) Tree felling. BGG had been asked for a date to carry out the work. No response received yet. Cllr Jenkins suggested informing residents once a date was known. Clerk to chase.</p> <p>f) Chippings. Mrs Pilcher reported that she had a large bag of chippings and offered it for use on the field. It was suggested that they should be spread around the trees. Cllrs Jenkins and Oberman to look into this.</p> <p>g) Field Tidy. The field tidy was to date place on 25th March. It was noted that this was the same date as the Church tidy. It was agreed not to change the date. There was to be a bonfire and ivy needed to be taken off trees. The need for the spiral covers on the hedging plants was to be reviewed.</p>	<p>DP</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>SJ/FO</p> <p>FO</p>
ITEM 13 – OSR UPDATE		
63/23	<p>a) Cllr Puddicombe had sent a written report. Request for permission to use land behind the museum for temporary builder's storage. Permission to use the land as builders' storage was refused. However, it was agreed that they could leave things there while unloading. It was noted that the grass had been damaged and it would need to be made good when the work had been completed.</p> <p>b) Cllr Jenkins had re-secured the museum signpost and Cllr Puddicombe was to repaint the sign</p>	<p>NP</p>
ITEM 14 – ANNUAL / QUARTERLY REVIEWS		
64/23	<p>c) Business Continuity Plan. It was questioned whether the Clerk's laptop should still be in plan. It was agreed to reword to read 'laptop or cloud solution'. It was noted that old minute books ought to be in proper storage. A fireproof cabinet was too expensive. Wording to be changed to read 'History Archive'. The Solicitor did not have the title deeds and Cllr Jenkins only had copies. Cllr Jenkins did have originals for the more modern leases. Cllr Jenkins to speak to solicitor about this. Leases to be added to the text. It was agreed to approve the plan subject to these amendments.</p> <p>d) Information Security Policy. An explanation was provided on email backup. Only the Clerk should hold original documents. Policy approved.</p> <p>e) Financial Regulations. Approved.</p> <p>f) Standing Orders. Approved.</p> <p>g) Risk Assessment. Approved subject to the amendments Cllr Jenkins had sent by email.</p> <p>All the above approvals were proposed by Cllr Jenkins and Seconded by Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED.</p> <p>h) Asset Register. This had not been circulated because of a technical issue with Alpha. This had been resolved and a copy had been sent to Cllr Oldnail just before the meeting. To be circulated to the rest of the Council for checking. It was agreed to review the register again once the assets had been physically inspected.</p> <p>i) Burial Ground policy. Cllr Banks suggested that a definition be provided for eligible ashes interments. Following discussion it was agreed that the first person must be eligible but further definition was not necessary. The policy was approved. Proposed Cllr Banks, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED.</p> <p>j) It was reported that the notices in the burial ground were very old and needed reprinting. Cllr Oberman agreed to reprint and laminate them.</p>	<p>SJ/Clerk</p> <p>MO</p> <p>FO</p>
ITEM 15 – UPKEEP (INC. WATERCOURSES)		
65/23	<p>a) Defibrillators. Nothing to report.</p> <p>b) Village Stream and pond. Cllr Jenkins reported that the stream was flowing well. A quote had been received to clear the sedge in Broad Street. This was accepted. Proposed Cllr Jenkins, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED. Cllr Jenkins to notify the contractor.</p> <p>c) Stiles on Footpath 4. Cllr Jenkins had escalated the lack of a response to the relevant cabinet member at OCC.</p> <p>d) Salt Bin at Sower Hill. The bin had been requested. A response had been received indicating that it would be installed this year.</p> <p>e) Litter bin. The liner of one of the litter bins had rusted through. A quote had been received for a replacement metal one. A further quote was to be obtained for a</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>SJ</p> <p>CLOSED</p>

	plastic one. A maximum of £100 was approved. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Jenkins. RESOLVED	MO
ITEM 16 - ALLOTMENTS		
66/23	There had been no further changes in allotment tenancies. Clearance of the four remaining plots was underway so it would be possible to accommodate new applicants. Sarsens had been placed to try and prevent further damage to the roadside bank adjoining the car parking area.	
ITEM 17 – GENERAL		
67/23	<p>a) Community Speedwatch. Two sessions had been held since the last meeting. Two vehicles had been reported in the first session; none in the second. Another session was due to be held later in the week.</p> <p>b) Arrangements for the 2023 elections. The Clerk reminded everyone of the dates for the collection of nomination forms. It was noted that the programme for the Annual Assembly might need to change if the election was contested.</p> <p>c) Proposal for new ashes plots in the Burial Ground. Covered in minute reference 64/23 (i) above.</p> <p>d) Arrangements for the Coronation. Covered in minute reference 55/23 above.</p> <p>e) Ideas for the Annual Assembly. Cllr Oldnall suggested the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Update of the Neighbourhood Plan ii. Church Clock iii. Canal Trust update iv. Coronation lunch v. Suggestions for projects for the next year <p>Cllr Oldnall to ask the Church tea ladies if they would be produce refreshments as a fundraiser for the Church clock. The Parish Council meeting was to start at 6pm and the Annual Assembly to be 6.30pm for a 7pm start.</p>	<p>SJ</p> <p>Clerk/MO</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p> <p>MO</p>
ITEM 18 – CONSULTATIONS		
68/23	<p>a) 20 MPH scheme. The consultation closed on 10th March. Cllr Oldnall had responded on behalf of the Parish Council.</p> <p>b) NPPF. Cllr Oldnall had reviewed this. No action was taken. It was noted that there would be further consultation in the future.</p>	<p>CLOSED</p> <p>CLOSED</p>
ITEM 19 – CORRESPONDENCE		
69/23	<p>a) Sports Club grass cutting. A quote had been received. The cost had increased by £200 (approx 7%). This was approved. Proposed Cllr Oldnall, Seconded Cllr Oberman. RESOLVED.</p> <p>b) Sewage Works. It was reported that Thames Water were corresponding with the landowner over the widening of the track to the sewage works.</p>	
ITEM 20 – MATTERS FOR THE APRIL AGENDA		
70/23	This was to be a short meeting covering planning, finance and any urgent matters only.	
ITEM 20 – DATE OF NEXT MEETING		
71/23	Monday 17 th April 2023 at 6pm.	

The meeting closed at 20.55