

Wheatley Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes 11th April 2022

The meeting was held in the Merry Bells and Chaired By Wheatley Parish Chairman Alison Sercombe., with the Clerk (Michelle Legg) present to take the minutes.

Members of Public: Approx. 20 in total including parish councillors A Cooper, R Harding, D Lawrence, T Newman, P Ramsdale, A Sercombe (Chair), L Tully, P Wilmott, and M Legg (Clerk).

The event was opened to public at 7pm to find out about parish council initiatives ahead of the formal meeting that began at 7.30pm and closed at 8.33pm

1. Cllr Alison Sercombe welcomed the community to the meeting.
2. Minutes from Annual Parish Meeting 2021 were approved and signed as a true record of the meeting.
3. Cllr Sercombe gave a precis of the annual parish council report that was available to attendees and attached to the minutes.
4. Clerk update – main points covered in the council report. Those in attendance were given an update on the Community Larder project, which will hopefully launch in the next few months.
5. Update from South Oxfordshire District Council Cllr Alexandrine Kantor, gave a brief update, including attending a meeting at the pavilion to discuss the project to redevelop the site.
Looking forward to hearing the responses from the High St parking consultation.
Reminded those present that there is support for those who are having financial issues or are vulnerable.
6. Update from Oxfordshire County Council Cllr Tim Bearder – no update as Cllr Bearder was not present.
7. Open Floor and Q & A – Items raised.
 - Village Square seating – questioned the quality of the work. The council are working with contractors on this.
 - Farm Close Rd planting area – weeds. Site is to be maintained by the parish council as part of its seasonal activities.
 - HGV's on High St – Asked for an exclusion notice for the one-way system or Holloway.
Other issue raised around HGVs in general using the village as a cut through.
Residents can report concerns over HGV's to Trading Standards (OCC).
The parish council are re invigorating the Traffic Working group and will be focusing on Littleworth Rd, illegal parking and HGV's.
OCC Cllr Bearder should be approached to deal with OCC issues.
 - Several residents thanked the parish councillors for their work. One in particular asked whether there were more ways in which councillors can engage with the community.
The parish council meets every month and meetings are available to the public,

councillors hold parish surgeries twice a week, edit and produce a newsletter six-times a year and have an online presence.

Anyone interested in becoming a parish councillor is urged to come forward and to speak to the Chairman or the Clerk.

- Resident offered to assist with raising the council's profile.
- Resident asked about jubilee events. The working document was on display at the meeting and would be confirmed nearer the event, and available in the next Wheatley News.

Wheatley Parish Council Annual Report

Wheatley Parish Council
has continued to support the community as
we all emerge from Covid-19 restrictions

2021-22

Supporting the Community

- Strategic Plan deliverables
- Improving Village Square
- Planted 14 new trees and improved areas for wildlife
- Maintaining open spaces and play areas
- Awarded £9,540 of grants to organisations, supporting the village and residents
- Challenged in appropriate planning applications
- Wheatley Information Leaflet updated for 2022



Working with the Community

- Working with residents of High St to review parking restrictions
- Working with Wheatley Playing Field Trust to build a new sports pavilion
- Working with Wheatley Primary School to tackle parking issues on Littleworth Rd
- Investigating a Community Larder/Fridge
- Organised and supported community events, including Cuppa, Cake and Chat events
- Given presentations to Wheatley Society and Wheatley Beavers Colony
- Reviewing Neighbourhood Plan
- Worked with Wheatley Village Archive to create and install new interpretation board
- Worked with Sustainable Wheatley to create a Volunteer Litter Crew

Our income...*

• Precept	£138,954
• Newsletter advertising	£ 13,192
• Grants & Donations	£ 5,648
• Allotments rentals	£ 226
• Community Infrastructure Levy	£ 82

...and how we spent it*

• Staff costs and Cllr development	£52,293
• Office and meeting costs	£13,615
• Newsletter production	£ 10,215
• Trees & Open Spaces	£ 28,494
• New Pavilion	£ 49,963
• Events	£ 434

*as of 28.02.2022

2022 and beyond

We are still in challenging times for so many reasons not least financially, which is why your parish council voted to keep the 'parish' part of the council tax at its 2021 levels. This will have an impact on our finances but we would rather share the load. This will limit what we can invest in this year, but with careful planning we hope to deliver some of our projects and support others.

We are involved in the Jubilee Celebrations in June, the Play and activity Day in July, and working on developing a Youth Council. Your council will continue to support parish Wellbeing initiatives, and is currently focusing on traffic and community safety for all of our parishioners. Cllr Alison Sercombe Chairwoman of Wheatley Parish Council

Wheatley
Parish Council