

Wheatley Parish Council Minutes

Monday 2nd December 2019

Present: Cllrs P Bignell (PB) M Booth (MB), A Cooper (AC), P Gregory (PG), R Harding (RH), P Harrison (PH), P Hood (PHo), D Lamont (DL) (Chair), T Newman (TN), A Sercombe (AS), R Street (RS), L Tully (LT), P Willmott (PW).
Absent: R Forsyth (RF),

Officer: Michelle Legg, Clerk to the Parish Council (Clerk) **Members of Public:** 3

The meeting opened at 7.35pm

Action

112. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Cllr Shepherd, OCC Cllr Bearder, SODC Cllr Kantor
113. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Cllr Lamont, Wheatley Playing Field Trust, Cllr Willmott, Wheatley Playing Field Trust and Wheatley Rugby Club,
114. **TO RECEIVE MINUTES and ACTIONS** from Parish Council meeting on Monday 4th November 2019 were signed as a true record of the meeting.
115. **TO WELCOME A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THAMES VALLEY POLICE**
Meeting welcomed PC's Mel Stafford and Ian Kent who gave an update on local issues. Wheatley remains a low crime area but councillors shared concerns for specific criminal/safety concerns.
The community were asked to remain vigilant and to contact police if witnessing suspicious behaviour, either by calling 999 or 101 or reporting online
116. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM OCC COUNCILLOR TIM BEARDER** – nothing to report.
117. **TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM SODC COUNCILLOR ALEXANDRINE KANTOR** – update circulated in absence and noted.

The meeting was opened up to the public at 20:00

Resident raised Taylor Wimpey site access into Spinney

Felt that this went against planning consent. Information was given regarding feedback and comments from SODC Planning Officers, which state that this is not a planning condition.

Work continues to liaise with Taylor Wimpey in trying to find a resolution

Resident raised issue of criminal activity

Concerns raised over speed and size of vehicles and safety of pedestrians. All of these issues lie with Oxfordshire County Council. The parish council continue to liaise with officers on these issues.

Resident re tellers at Polling Day

Raised concern of intimidation from tellers in porch area during polling day.

This is an issue for the election team at South Oxfordshire and information has already been shared with the resident.

J Fox re Wheatley Neighbourhood Plan

Spoke in relation to Item 119 on the agenda and spoke about the support for the green route for the village.

Meeting was taken back into session at 20:25

118. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE CLERK

- i) Tree Planting at Playing Fields carried out, a delay in the arrival of the tree for Crown Road means this will now take place on 6th Dec. **Clerk to inform Chair when tree guards arrive.**
- ii) Repairs to Lock-up have been approved and quotes are being sought from contractors to undertake the work. “ have been received so far
- iii) Wheatley Newsletter – printed and distributed
- iv) SSE undertaking repairs have been undertaken.
- v) Parish Office closure during festive period 24th Dec-1st Jan inclusive
- vi) SODC Capital Grant for Farm Close Road Rec has been made.

Clerk

119. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM WNP COMMITTEE – update previously circulated and further verbal updates were given in public session

120. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON WHEATLEY/HOLTON PAVILION

First meeting took place and have actioned creating a list of proposed contractors/project managers and external funding. Continue to look at other similar projects in the area for inspiration and ideas.

121. TO RECEIVE UPDATES ON PARISH COUNCIL’S ACTION PLAN - noted

122. PROPOSAL TO SUPPORT A JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB FOR WHEATLEY –. Proposal by Cllr Willmott seconded by Cllr Newman was discussed and approved.

123. PROPOSAL TO CONSIDER CREATING A YOUTH COUNCIL FOR WHEATLEY
Proposal by Cllr Newman, seconded by Cllr Hood was discussed and approved unanimously.

124. PROPOSAL TO CREATE A WELLBEING COMMITTEE

Was discussed but Councillors felt that further clarification was needed before they could take a decision.

125. TO REVIEW POLICIES

- i) Grants Policy 2020-21 - approved
- ii) Publication scheme – revisions since Nov 2019 - approved

126. TO APPROVE REVISED FINANCIAL REGULATIONS - approved

127. TO AGREE AND APPROVE BUDGET AND PRECEPT REQUEST FOR 2020-21

This was discussed at length. Cllr Lamont proposed that the precept request including an increase of 7.5% was approved, this was seconded by Cllr Sercombe and approved by the council.

Cllr Lamont proposed, seconded by Cllr Sercombe that the budget for 2020-21 was approved.

Cllr Newman proposed that standing orders were suspended in order to address the remaining agenda items. This was approved.

128. TO RECEIVE UPDATE/MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM:

- i) Finance Committee – next meeting 16 Dec
- ii) Open Spaces Committee – minutes circulated from meeting 18 Nov
- iii) Planning Committee – minutes previously circulated, meeting next 11 Dec
- iv) Staffing Committee – minutes and update from meeting 14 Nov

129. TO RECEIVE UPDATES/REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL PARTNERS

- i) Community Transport Scheme – no update.
- ii) Expressway Advisory Group – purdah/elections has delayed a decision

- iii) Howe Trust – trees will be planted in autumn 2020 and spare trees may be available to the parish council. OSC to consider this
- iv) Littleworth Playing Fields Working Group
- v) Maple Tree Centre – AGM took place on 28 Nov and draft annual report and notes from meeting circulated.
- vi) Merry Bells -
- vii) Neighbourhood Action Group – no meeting
- viii) OALC – update circulated
- ix) Oxford Brookes Residents Association – minutes previously circulated meeting next week. Recent updates of closure of site 2020 and beyond
 - x) Village Square Improvement Group – meeting on the next meeting
 - xi) Wheatley Charities – nothing to update
 - xii) Wheatley Playing Field Trust – update provided
 - xiii) Merry Bells 50th – work continues with events.

130. CORRESPONDENCE AND ANY URGENT ITEMS REQUIRING ATTENTION

- i) SODC updates – festive waste collections, election details
- ii) Royal Mail plans to close Wheatley sorting office
- iii) Arriva – response re bus route changes.
- iv) Any urgent items to be considered
Breame Oak and Ochre Close changes to roadside markings were noted and agreed.

131. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- i) Road closure for High St on Fri 29 Nov due to Christmas Fair.
- ii) Saturday surgery dates for Jan-Mar 2020
- iii) Flood Alleviation – conversation with Wheatley Primary school

MEETING CLOSED AT 21:57

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 6TH JANUARY 2019