

Minutes of the Fyfield and Tubney Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 30th September 2021.

Present: Mr Julian Mellor – Chair.
Mrs Penny Budgen.
Mr Jonathan Greaves.
Mr Alan Woodward
Dr Stephen Fraser – Clerk.

Ms Juliette Ash – OCC Councillor.
Mr Jerry Avery – VofWH Councillor.

9 members of the general public.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from

Mr Nicholas Keene
Mr John Watts

Prof. & Mrs J Burley and Ms Emma Harris.

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting.

These were signed as a true record by the Chair.

3. Matters Arising.

Mr Mellor reported that a meeting had been held with Mr Mike Francis, OCC Highways, to discuss issues on the A420 near Tubney Church.

Mr Francis reiterated OCC's reluctance to install any traffic lights at bus stops as this would impede the flow of traffic along the road. In addition there was insufficient space to install a central safety island in the roadway. However, he did accept that the volume of HGV traffic was high and suggested a speed survey as a potential means of getting action. The survey would cost £150. He was hopeful that this could come from OCC budgets but if not, it was **resolved** to fund the survey from Parish funds, though Mr Greaves was unhappy that we should have to pay for data collection when the issue was obvious.

Mr Francis was also shown the sunken drainage manholes which caused excessive rumble noise on a 24 hour basis as well as the vibration caused by fast heavy traffic. He would forward the issue of the manholes to the appropriate Highways group and advised that the District Council's Environmental Health inspector be requested to look into the noise and vibration issues at the property. **Mr Avery would contact the District officer.**

The long standing water leak was also discussed. Though marked by Thames Water no action had been taken for months and there was water damage to the adjacent road. Mr Francis would expedite with Thames Water after receiving the reference number from the clerk. In fact, two days later, traffic lights were installed but removed the same day without any remedial work being done. **The Clerk to ask Mr Francis when work would be carried out.**

Mr Greaves had looked into the cost of a slate War Memorial that could be affixed to the churchyard wall on the green. His initial findings were not encouraging at an indicative cost of £5,000 with doubts about the ability of the wall to support the fixture. This was considerably more than the indicative budget of £1,000 set at the last meeting. It was felt that there was now little support for this venture given the passing of the significant Great War anniversaries and the presence of memorials within the parish church.

Mr Greaves to approach the stone mason on Ock Street, Abingdon for a quotation. In the meantime, Mr Harris would speak to Mr John Lay in respect to his preference, given that he was the prime mover of this memorial.

4. Planning.

The following applications had been approved with No Comments

- P21/V1065/HH Tubney Farm House, Tubney
- P21/V1260/FUL 12 St Johns Close, Fyfield
- P21/V1362/LB Tubney House, Tubney
- P21/V1361/FUL Tubney House, Tubney
- P21/V1412/HH The Longhouse, Fyfield Wick
- P21/V1587/HH Poppy Cottage, Fyfield
- P21/V1657/FUL The Old Forge, Fyfield
- P21/V1881/HH 25 Digging Lane, Fyfield
- P21/V1883/LB 25 Digging Lane, Fyfield
- P21/V2094/HH 2 The Ride, Tubney
- P21/V2556/HH Field House, Fyfield

5. Lioncourt.

Mr Mellor stated that Lioncourt had not appealed the rejection of their application but that it was understood by District that another application was likely. The application had been rejected on the blatant disregard of the restrictions imposed by the Frilford Junction and the Marcham Air Quality management Area. The OCC Frilford & Marcham Optioneering Study was due in March 2022 and this would set out how these two problems could be addressed. The issue of this study and any subsequent adoption of its proposals could lead to further development applications.

Mr Avery drew the meetings attention to government proposals on revised planning control which would result in an almost free hand to developers. He was hopeful that the loss of the Amersham by-election and the recent replacement of the Housing Minister would result in these proposals being quietly dropped.

6. Finance.

The Clerk reported the current financial position as follows:

• Balance of Precept brought forward.	£2,755.81
• Record payment of the following.	
• Clerk's Expenses 2019 – 2020	£50.00
• Comet Bus Subsidy 2021 - 2022	£500.00
• Payment for Netherton Cherry Tree	£45.00
• There had been no receipts since the last meeting.	
• Balance of Precept carried forward.	£2,165.81
• Balance of CIL brought forward.	£3,578.50
• There had been no transactions since the last meeting.	
• Balance of CIL carried forward.	£3,578.50

The Clerk anticipated receipt of the second precept instalment (£1,500.00) and a CIL payment (£2,385.67) during October.

7. Speed Control Measures

Mrs Budgen confirmed that OCC would erect four poles for SIDs, three in Abingdon Road and one in Netherton Lane. They would also place Crocodile Teeth markings at the start of speed restrictions in Abingdon Road and 30mph roundels at the start and adjacent to each repeater sign on both roads. This would be done at OCC expense. The Parish Council would have to purchase and supply the SIDs and be responsible for moving them every four to six weeks as they were not recognised as permanent road signs.

The STOP IT campaign reported that they had raised £3,185 towards the cost of purchasing a SID. There was some discussion over the need for two SIDs which was deferred to the next agenda item.

The Clerk stated that only the Parish Council could install a SID so would have to purchase on behalf of the STOP IT campaign or be gifted the unit. Given that it would have to cover the unit with its insurance and hold any warranty, it seemed preferable to transfer the funds to the Parish Council.

The Clerk had also spoken to Mr Bahn who was chair of the Highways & Amenities committee at St. Helen Without parish. They had recently acquired a SID and erected it in Barrow Road. Their council would discuss possible loan of their device subject to a financial contribution.

8. Potential CIL Expenditure.

The Clerk stated that current CIL receipts were as above and that there was a substantial amount in the precept account. He anticipated further CIL and Precept payments in October. The only major upcoming expense was the Parish Insurance of about £300 in November. In addition, he wished to hold a reserve of £1,000 as this has been the amount held on average for many years. If the next Precept instalment of £1,500 was ring fenced for this use, then together with the anticipated CIL payment next month, some £8,100 was available in Parish Funds.

The following were considered as suitable for these funds:

- Elan City SID(s) at a cost of approximately £3,000 each.
- Street Lighting at Tubney Church Bus Stop at approximately £4,800.
- Community Area in Fyfield Church at a project cost of about £50,000.

Support of the War Memorial was discounted given the preceding discussions.

The general consensus was that all three projects were to be supported.

It was **resolved** to purchase two Elan City SIDs using the STOP IT money and parish funds subject to confirmation of final costs.

It was **resolved** to proceed with the installation of lighting at the bus stop, subject to minimising the impact of the lights on adjacent properties and confirmation of final costs by OCC.

It was **resolved** to support the Church Community Area subject to available funds. This would be a phased development with requests for funding being initiated shortly.

The Clerk to finalise costs for two SIDs and associated hardware from Elan City.

The Clerk to finalise costs for the street lights with OCC.

Ms Ash indicated that she had some funds available to support community projects such as these and was able to assist with covering any shortfall up to £1,500.

9. OCC Councillor's Proposed Communication Mechanisms.

The Council was not happy with Ms Ash's proposals, preferring face-to-face meetings where possible. **Mr Mellor would prompt Ms Ash regarding forthcoming meetings using Outlook. Mrs Budgen would explore joining the What's App group.**

10. Oxfordshire Plan 2050.

Councillors had not identified any potential threats to the parish. The consultation closes on the 8th October 2021 so no further action at this point.

11. Joint Local District Plan 2041 – Call for Sites.

Multiple sites have been proposed within the parish which will be considered by the District Council for inclusion. Until such sites have been identified, no objective action can be initiated.

12. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – Queen’s Green Canopy

The idea of planting trees was well received but as it was getting late, it was decided to **defer discussion to the next meeting.**

13. Local Government Association Code of Conduct.

In accordance with advice from the District Council’s Head of Legal & Democratic Monitoring, it was **resolved** to adopt the LGA Model Code of Conduct. **The Clerk would place the code on the website.**

14. Consultation on Ox-Cam ARC.

Mr Avery expressed grave concerns over the sheer volume of housing within this proposal. However, with the consultation closing on the 12th October 2021 the Council had nothing to submit at this point in time.

15. AOB.

The Clerk had received notification of a Village Deep Clean by District contractors on the 29th November until 1st December. He identified the Main Road in Fyfield as needing attention, including the footpath from there towards the church. It was also suggested that the footpath along the A420 at Tubney Church needed attention. **The Clerk to advise District of the parish’s priorities.**

The Clerk had received a request for financial support from Home Start Southern Oxfordshire. In view of the large amount of expenditure agreed above it was decided not to support the charity at this time.

There being no other items, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10:00pm.

Next Meeting Thursday 11th November 2021.