**Meeting of Ashbury Parish Council**

**Ashbury Village Hall**

**Monday 13th January 2020 at 7:30pm**

**Minutes**

Present: Cllr C Davies (Chairman), P Cowx, A Alvarez Nishio,C Prentice, A Reynolds, A Smythson, County Cllr Y Constance

L Evans (Clerk), 4 Members of the public.

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| **ITEM** |  |  |
| **1** | **To receive apologies for absence**  District Cllr S Howell, E Ware |  |
| **2** | **To receive any declarations of Personal, or Personal and prejudicial interest in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting**  None |  |
| **3** | **To approve the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting on Monday 11th November 2019**  Approved. |  |
| **4** | **To address matters arising from the previous meeting**   1. **Misuse of Waste Bins –** Approach to be made to R&C to determine if waste from bin at the bus shelter can be emptied in their commercial bins. 2. **Condition of Upper Mill Pond –** Flow has still not improved Cllr C Davies to contact property owner, to contact property owner. We understand that the willows have been cut back but there is still a great deal of detritus and weed in the pond itself. This is of concern considering recent heavy rains. Will continue to monitor flow. 3. **Possible non-compliance with planning consent-** Enforcement Officer has visited and Owner advised on remediel action that is required. The enforcement officer will report back when the actions have been completed. 4. **Grasscutting at St Mary’s-** Cllr Davies tabled a Heads of Agreement for St Mary’s Church grass-maintanence enabling the PCC to use their own contractor but paid by the Council. Cllr C Davies asked for approval of the Heads of Agreement- Unanimously agreed. 5. **Fence erection on Village Green adjjacent to Wixes Piece-** Cllr C Davies table a Heads of Agreement that determines the previously ambiguous boundary on terms acceptable to both parties. Cllr C Davies asked for approval of the Heads of Agreement- Unanimously agreed. 6. **Clothes Bank-** Cllr A Alvarez Nishio contacted A Bunce regarding space for the textiles recycling bank in the Free Church car Park- Cllr A Alvarez Nishio to check location with A Bunce and then confirm with Children’s Air Ambulance. | **AAN**  **CD**  **EW**  **CD**  **CD**  **AAN** |
| **5** | **County & District Councillors-** To receive reports from County and District Councillors- District Cllr report attached (to minutes in appendix 1 ).  County Cllr Y Constance wished to congratulate the Parish on finding a replacement for the Shopperbus, and securing start up funding of up to £3,000 from OCC.   1. **Resurfacing** - County Cllr Y Constance explained that at a recent Locality Meeting scheduled work for road resurfacing was discussed and Chapel Lane and Church Road shall be resurfaced in Quarter 1 (early summer). Cllr C Davies stated that other roads are in a very bad state of repair, notably: Pounds Piece & Berrycroft, the latter having contributed to a serious accident. 2. **Missing Bollards**- Replacement bollards were ordered on 14th November, the order is currently being chased. 3. **Fix My Street**- Not responding quick enough to reports- New scheme coming into place for a central complaints log- County Cllr Y Constance to send out email address to Chair and Clerk. 4. **A420**- Due to the recent number of accidents on the A420 including a fatality County Cllt Y Constance wants to take action to improve the safety of the road using the Safety Budget.   District Councillor Ware had filed a written report in which she asked that particular emphasis be given to the newly elected district council’s approach to climate change – appendix 1 refers. |  |
| **6** | **Chairs Verbal Update (3 minute time slot)**  Motion 1 – to approve amended Standing Orders  Proposed: Cliff Davies. Seconded: Anne Reynolds- unanimously agreed with minor adjustments.   1. **Replacement Shopperbus –** An arrangement has been reached with the operators of the Uffington community minibus [UBW], a fully accessible 16-seater, that will take effect on 1st April 2020 and OCC have confirmed that bus-passes will be accepted on this service. Cllr C Davies tabled a report setting out the basis for an agreement, and this was unanimously approved subject to final agreement on completion. 2. **Sub-Committee-** Cllr P Cowx and James Reade have agreed to head a sub-committee to organise volunteers to operate the replacement shopperbus. Cllr A Alvarez Nishio to draft a email for the Round Robin email asking for volunteers to help run the service. Cllr C Davies thanked those that had helped establish the new service. | CD  PC/  JR  ANN |
| **7** | **Clerks Verbal Update (3 minute time slot)**  No update given. |  |
| **8** | **Councillors Forum-** To receive reports from responsible officers (12 minute time slot)   1. **VE 75th Celebration-** Cllr A Alvarez Nishio commented that the 75th VE Celebration is taking place in May and suggested this tie in with the Village Green planting- E Derrington to take to the next Village Green meeting and will report back. 2. **Deep Freeze-** Cllr P Cowx had received a verbal compliant regarding a deep freeze outside the Shop- Cllr C Prentice to speak to the lease-holders and report back. 3. **BT Interent-** Cllr P Cowx explained that BT Internet service to the village is poor and would like to gather residents comments on this issue via a Round Robin email -agreed. | ED  **CP**  **PC** |
| **9** | **Sub Committee Reports-** To receive reports from Sub-committees (6 minute time slot)   1. **Village Green –** E Derrington presented the report (attached to minutes in appendix 2)- over 30 trees have been planted and all seem to be doing well. The next tree planting is scheduled for 20th February 2020 . Malthouse entrance and playing field not complete due to adverse weather. Cllr C Davies proposed thanks to Liz and team- unanimously agreed. |  |
| **10** | **Financial Matters**   1. Bank Reconciliation to be signed- Cllr C Davies approved and signed bank reconciliation 2. Motion 2 – to approve amended Financial Regulations   Proposed: Anne Reynolds. Seconded: Cliff Davies- unanimously approved subject to minor typos being corrected.   1. Motion 3 - to approve a 20% increase in the annual precept to £9,984   Proposed: Peter Cowx. Seconded: Christopher Prentice- Precept form signed by Cllr C Davies and Clerk- Cllr A Reynolds to scan and send document, confirming receipt   1. Budget | **AR/**  **CD**  **AR** |
| **11** | **Planning Matters**  **Applications;**   * **P19/V3225/FUL –** The Old Dairy, Kingstone Winslow, Ashbury- Conversion of redundant dairy building to habitable accommodation, removal of steel framed barns.- The meeting agreed that there is no great objections as long as the environmental issues are dealt with.   **Consultation ends 22.01.20**   * **P19/V1678/FUL-** Land adjacent to ‘Hillfurlands’, Walnut Tree Hill, Ashbury- Proposed dwelling (amendment to design) – Granted subject to defined conditions being met. * **S/OUT/19/0582 -** Lotmead Site, New Eastern Villages Wanborough Swindon - Outline Planning Application (means of access off Wanborough Road not reserved) for demolition and/or conversion of existing buildings and redevelopment to provide up to 2,500 homes (Use Class C3); up to 1,780 sqm of community/retail uses (Use Class D1/D2/A1/A3/A4); up to 2,500 sqm of employment use (Use Class B1); sports hub; playing pitches; 2no. 2 Form Entry primary schools; green infrastructure; indicative primary access road corridors to A420; improvements to Wanborough Road and associated works.   **Decisions:**   * **P19/V2565/FUL –** Westlands, Idstone Road, Ashbury- Change of use of 175 Sq m of agricultural land to residential – Granted   **Other:**   * **P19/V1158/LDP –** Sarsen Cottage, Kingstone Winslow - Change of use to holiday accommodation – Declined, and original planning consent subject of review [4c-above refers]. | **EW/**  **CD** |
| **12** | **Public Forum-** To take comments , representation or queries on agenda items- None raised |  |
| **13** | **Individual Topics (12 minutes allocated)**   1. Actions from Rospa Report- Both gates to the play park have been rectified. After inspection it was found that the fixings to the tops of the swing could have not been installed in any other way- Cllr A Reynolds to make Rospa aware of this for future reference. 2. )     **Maintenance of Ashbury website hosting and email hosting platforms**- Cllr A Alvarez Nishio has contacted Steve Treadwell regarding the email hosting platform.  He has agreed that it would be more efficient to have the APC be the contact address for this account.  Account contact details have been changed to that of the APC clerk.  Cllr Cliff Davies wondered if we are better to manage the website ourselves.  We will continue to manage our corner of the website for now. Cllr A Alvarez Nishio and Cllr P Cowx to speak to Steve Treadwell regarding the best course of action going forward and report back at the next meeting. | **AR**  **AAN/PC**  **AAN/PC** |
| **14** | **Agenda Diary**   1. **Code Of Conduct-** This will need to be signed by all Councillors at the next meeting | **LE** |
| **15** | **Correspondence**  12.12.19: Resident of Pounds Piece wishes to see road resurfaced- as explained above, there are only two roads assessed by Highways as needing resurfacing – this to be pursued with County Cllr Constance | CD |
| **16** | **Future Agenda Items**  Request County Cllr Y Constance report five days prior to the meeting. | **LE/**  **CD** |

Laura Evans – Clerk to Ashbury Parish Council

The next meeting will be held on 9th March 2020 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall

Appendix 1

**District Councillors Report to Parish Councils**

**Watchfield & Shrivenham Ward**

**December 2019/January 2020**

**Vale of White Horse District Council**

December was a relatively quiet month due to the General Election. As this report is prepared at the beginning of January there will be a further update on January issues included in the February report.

**Full Council Meeting held on 18 December 2019 –** Five Motions were considered by the Council and all agreed.

1. **In context of Climate Emergency** – Council commits to exploring planning policies which positively encourage all renewable sources of energy including onshore wind farms as part of the next Vale Local Plan and Oxfordshire Plan 2050.
2. **Council notes the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism –** Council to adopt the IHRA definition. Adopt the All Party Parliamentary Group on British Muslims (APPG) and officers to update the Council’s equality policies
3. **Votes for 16 and 17 year olds –** The Leader to write to relevant Ministers and local MP’s expressing the Vale’s support for the Votes at 16 campaign and for the Vale to consider participating in any pilot scheme
4. **Proportional Representation –** The Leader to write to the relevant Government minister and two local MP’s requesting that all elections be run using a form of Proportional Representation
5. **Unitary Authority/Merger –** Three requests were agreed

– officers to contact MHCLG to explore the approach the Secretary of State will take on any proposals for unitary based reorganisation

- The Chief Executive and Leader to report to full Council by summer 2020 outlining their understanding of the Governments intentions

- Officers bring forward proposals to consider a formal merger with South Oxfordshire District Council with the same number of District Councillors, creating a single district council based on their combined geography and increased financial resilience.

**Climate Emergency** **Advisory Committee** – The next meeting of this committee will take place on Tuesday 28 January at Milton Park. This is a public meeting and will commence at 6.30pm.

**Local Plan Part 2 –** As previously reported the decision to adopt the Plan was agreed by full Council on Wednesday 9 October2019.

However, the issue with South Oxfordshire’s Local Plan still remains. A decision on the way forward is awaited from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government Robert Jenrick.

**Planning**

**Construction continues on all four sites in Shrivenham**. The objection by OCC on application P19/V2162/FUL-2(VAR) at the L&G development has now been resolved.

**Festival Grants –** The Vale scheme is open for grant applications of up to £1,000.

**Civic Parking Enforcement –** There has been a slight delay in preparing the final report which is now expected in the next couple of months This delay is to enable OCC as the lead authority to do more sampling of signs and lines in order to determine the potential capital outlay.

Although we don’t hold surgeries we are always available to deal with any issues

Simon Howell – 01793 784491 – [simon.howell@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:simon.howell@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

Elaine Ware - 01793 783026 – [elaine.ware@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.ware@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

Appendix 2

**Ashbury Parish Council - Village Green Sub-committee**

**Progress Report January 2020**

1. The tree planting in December was a great success. About 40 sponsors and volunteers came to help, either with planting or with refreshments, and at the end of the morning members of the community came to admire the work and share some mince pies and mulled wine. I'd like to thank everyone involved – it was a real pleasure to be part of such a joint effort. We managed to plant over 30 trees and six weeks on they all appear to be doing well. Of the trees planted, 17 were sponsored, with donations totalling £4850. In addition 4 trees were dedicated to local people who have given special support to the project, and one was given to the Church as a prize for the Christmas raffle (the winner was delighted with it!).
2. The issues with the Malthouse Close entrance and the playing field are still to be addressed. The very wet weather during November and December has prevented the contractor from taking action, but getting the work finished satisfactorily is now a priority. Only when this has happened will the contractor receive full payment of his bill.
3. We're planning a second tree-planting, probably on Saturday 29 February. We already have 3 sponsors signed up and will be advertising for more shortly. As well as sponsorship of new trees we'll be offering the option of “adopting” trees already planted, suggesting a donation approximately half the figure for a new tree. We'll also be encouraging groups of friends or neighbours to get together to sponsor.
4. The subcommittee meets next on 27 January, when, as well as the items already mentioned, we'll be considerng quotations for an information board – to include a map of the trees and sponsors' dedications, and thinking about a celebration in May/June to mark the official opening of the Green.

Liz Derrington

13 January 2020