

**CULHAM PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on Tuesday 14th**  
**January 2020 at Culham Parochial C of E School**

**Present: Cllrs S. Casey-Rerhaye (Chair), A. Steele, A. Morris and P. Owen**

**In attendance: L. Dalby (Clerk) and ten members of the public.**

**1. Public Participation (Max 15 minutes)**

Mr Taylor reported that SODC have received further information from Morrels agents but have not had the opportunity to discuss them. The family are waiting to have a meeting with SODC to discuss the figures and would like a decision either way. Two other options are to ask for a bigger motel or sell to convert into house.

Residents from Thame Lane reported issues with speeding on lane. There was a crash before Christmas. They also commented that most schools have traffic calming or 20 mph limit and they would like this in Thame Lane. The problem is not just school traffic but also traffic from Warren Farm. The gridlock drives some of the poor behaviour and is challenging for residents. A cat has been killed and a stationary car totalled. It is now the only access road for children of Thame Lane residents to the school. The verge has been torn up because buses can't pass.

Residents have met with Count Cllr Lindsay-Gale and OCC highways who suggested a speed survey as a starting point.

Council agreed to fund a speed survey which will cost £115.

The matter was discussed and it was agreed that a better travel plan for the school would help by reducing car numbers. Council will find out if it is possible for pupils to use the Culham Science Centre bus.

Once the results of the speed survey are known options will be discussed with OCC

**2. Reports from County and District Councillors**

Cllr Casey-Rerhaye reported that SODC had received a letter from Central Government with a deadline to respond with what the exceptional circumstances are for the withdrawal of the Local Plan. SODC are considering the legal implications of the letter. SODC are discussing the response and asking for a meeting and asked Parish Councils to write to ministers and MP. Council asked Mrs Baird to write a response on behalf of Culham PC to send to the minister.

**3. Apologies for absence**

There were none.

**4. Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest**

There were none

**5. Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed by the Chair.

## **6. To discuss a Neighbourhood Plan – presentation from SODC**

Ricardo Rios and Robyn Talbot from SODC gave an outline of creating a Neighbourhood Plan. There are 19 made plans in south Oxfordshire and 4 are at examination stage. They explained the support available from SODC and also the challenges of creating a plan especially for a smaller community.

Most Parish Councils organise a public event to attract volunteers to become steering committee which is a sub-committee of PC with terms of reference. The committee reports regularly to the Parish Council but the Parish Council does not steer the process.

The Parish Council discussed the practicalities of doing a Neighbourhood Plan. The advantages would be to gain some control of the Local plan and also extra CIL money.

It was agreed to apply to SODC for a Grant to start the process and hold a Public Meeting at end of February to gauge support.

## **7. Clerk's Report**

There was none

## **8. Recreation ground Report**

The group have applied to SODC for a grant towards the play equipment and are preparing further applications.

## **9. To discuss the War Memorial and possible VE Day/Battle of Britain Day Commemorations**

Mr Epps showed council the designs for the plinth for the War memorial. He now has to apply for a faculty for the work. Garden to be planned around it.  
Next meeting for VE Day.

## **10. To discuss speeding in the parish**

As per public participation.

## **11. To discuss high speed broadband**

The County Council has secured funding for extra broadband. Cllr Owen to follow up.

## **12. To discuss grass cutting strategy and overhanging hedges/trees**

It was agreed to keep the same contractors. The clerk will chase Mr Boyland about a wildflower meadow in the recreation field.  
Oak on High street and hedge on Burycroft need reporting.

## **13. To discuss tree planting**

The trees have been planted and a grant has been applied for. Peter Kirby and Anne Sing put in a lot of work. Need to be watered from end of March.

## **14. To discuss Didcot Garden Town**

Responses to the Garden Town have been requested from Parish Councils. It was agreed the council should respond asking for an understanding of what it is the council is being asked to respond to.

**15. To agree response to Application to record a footpath in the parish**

Agree it should be adopted as a footpath as it is used regularly.

**16. To discuss the budget for 2020-21**

The budget was discussed and a precept of £18,910 was agreed.

**17. Agree Accounts for Payment**

The following accounts for payment were agreed

Payee and Reason	£ detail	£ VAT	£ total
L. Dalby – Clerks Salary and Expenses	204.78		204.78
HMRC – PAYE	47.00		47.00
J. Boyland – Maintenance	48.00	9.60	57.60
A. Steele - trees	776.17		776.17

The following payments were made between meetings

Payee and Reason	£ detail	£ VAT	£ total
L. Dalby – Clerks Salary and Expenses	204.78		204.78
HMRC – PAYE	47.00		47.00
J. Boyland – Maintenance	48.00	9.60	57.60
Oxford Diocese – Rent of recreation field	776.17		776.17

**18. Correspondence**

There was none

**19. Items for report and inclusion on February's Agenda**

Neighbourhood Plan

**20. Future Meeting**

The date of the next Parish Council meeting was agreed as 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 starting at 7.30pm. Venue to be confirmed.