# CULHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on Wednesday, 29th July 2024, hosted at St Paul's Church, Culham**

| **Attendees – Councillors:** | **Apologies noted:** |
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| Chris Pritchard (CP) CHAIR | Robin Bennett (RB) County Councillor |
| Caroline Baird (CB) | Mike Richmond-Cooper (MRC |
| Sam Casey-Rerhaye (SCR) Councillor and District Councillor | Siobhan Sargeant (SS) |
| Nacho Gimenez (NG) | |
| **Members of the public:** | **In Attendance:** |
| | Denise Corney – Clerk |
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The meeting opened at 7.30pm

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| **1.** | **Welcome, Apologies and Quorate**<br>The Chair welcomed all to the meeting. The meeting was Quorate. Apologies were noted as above. | **ACTION** |
| **2.** | **Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest**<br>None | |
| **3.** | **Report from SODC Councillor – Sam Casey-Rerhaye**<br>SCR gave a short verbal update.<br><br>A recent presentation entitled 'Managing Parishes Environmentally' was given at Cholsey Parish Council Meeting which was also recorded. SCR would forward the recording for information to councillors.<br><br><u>SSEN Resilience Fund</u><br>The fund is split into two categories: community-led physical and environmental resilience, and Low Carbon Technology (LCTs).<br><br><u>The new community-led physical and environmental resilience grants.</u><br>• Half of the £3m funding will be available over the next four years to enable communities to apply for grants that will bolster physical and environmental resilience measures. Further details of the criteria are found in the fund guidance and in the application form. Grants of up to £15,000 will be awarded to successful applicants in this category.<br><br><u>The new low-carbon technology grants.</u><br>• The other half of the funding being made available over the next four years will also be available for non-profit organisations to apply for grants to go towards the purchase of new Low-Carbon Technology. For example, a successful grant application could result in a social housing scheme or community centre being awarded funding to contribute to the cost of EV chargers, solar panels, battery storage or backup, low carbon heating systems, smart heating controls, or other general energy efficiency measures. Grants of up to £20,000 will be awarded to successful applicants in this category.<br>• Note: SSEN is aware there are often lengthy lead times associated with community project preparations, as well as getting approval to connect | |

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| | some low carbon technologies. Considering this, SSEN is advising applicants to consider projects that have already been approved to apply in the current round, as the timescales for awarding and spending funds may be more likely to align. Those who are uncertain of their timescales can contact colin.mcmillan@sse.com to discuss this in more detail.<br><br>The deadline for applications to both categories is **5pm on Saturday 31st August 2024**, and applicants are asked to consider the criteria in the fund guidelines. The application documents can be downloaded on our website www.ssen.co.uk/pcnz. This gives full details of what can be supported by the fund as well as guidance on which projects will be prioritised. | |
| **4.** | **Report from County Councillor**<br>No report received for July. | |
| **5.** | **Clerks' Report**<br>The Clerk gave a brief verbal update from the Clerk's Report and any additional items which had arisen:<br>• Diocese of Oxford – have requested a copy of the lease – The Glebe recreation ground to forward to solicitors for renewing the term.<br>• Awaiting further updates from Nicola Smith, Planning Officer – Community Orchard.<br>• ROSPA report – received- Clerk will circulate to councillors and contact Wes King regarding quoting for repairs and a monthly check as an alternative to A&W Grounds checks.<br>• NG drew attention to the possibility of the use of water heating which could be relayed from Culham site. NG would circulate details to councillors and Clerk would research in more detail.<br>• The Clerk would investigate possible grant funding for bus shelters. | **CLERK** |
| **6.** | **Public Participation (15 minutes maximum)**<br>No members of the public were present. | |
| **7.** | **To Approve Minutes from 12th June 2024**<br>The minutes from 12th June 2024 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. **APPROVED.** A signed copy of the minutes would be uploaded to the website. | **APPROVED**<br><br>**CLERK** |
| **8.** | **To Approve: A&W Grounds' quotation – hedge on Tollgate Road**<br>Councillors APPROVED the quotation subject to condition that the work would be undertaken to the specification outlined and agreed by Councillors. NG would arrange to meet with A&W Grounds and discuss in detail. | **NG** |
| **9.** | **To Agree: Application to change section of national speed limit in Thame Lane**<br>CP had drawn attention to the repot from 2017 which had suggested that the speed limit should be reduced from 60mph on rural roads. Councillors agreed to apply to Highways for a reduction to 40mph. The Clerk would email the highways liaison team to find out the steps required to apply for the change of speed limit. | **CLERK** |

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| **10** | **Finance:** Budget Variation Report<br>The Clerk had circulated the report which had shown that there were no significant changes against budget. The Clerk would add the new laptop to the asset register along with depreciation of the previous laptop. The previous laptop would be given to the Chair for use with Parish Council work.<br>The Clerk to contact Lucy Dalby regarding the stored filing cabinet and this could be collected and stored at the Glebe, provided it was lockable and secured. | **APPROVED** |
| **11** | **To Agree Accounts for Payment:**<br>Clerk's Salary – July - £442.00<br>Clerk's Salary – August - £442.00<br>Clerk Expenses – paid on 1st July – Laptop and McAfee virus protection £449.98<br>Scribe Monthly fee £37.20<br>A&W Grounds – June invoice 0029 £1260.00<br>ROSPA Inspection Fee £136.80 | **AGREED**<br>**AGREED**<br>**AGREED**<br>**AGREED**<br>**AGREED**<br>**AGREED** |
| **12** | **To discuss the following Planning Applications:**<br>P24/S1759/0<br>SCR had circulated a note to councillors with suggestions for the Parish Council response to the application. Councillors **AGREED** to adopt the objections noted and the response would be submitted by the Clerk, with some minor amendments to SODC. The response to be submitted w/c 12th August 2024 which had been agreed with the planning officer.<br><br>Councillors **AGREED** for the Parish Council to respond to the SESRO consultation. CB would submit on behalf of the PC. | **CB/CLERK** |
| **13** | **Items for report and inclusion on next Agenda:**<br>Clerks Report, updates from Councillors. | |
| **14** | **Date of Next Meeting:**<br>**11th September 2024 at 7.30pm.** | |

The meeting closed at 8.45pm