

**OWSLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
9th April 2020
COMMENCING AT 7:00 PM *VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM***

PRESENT.

Parish Councillor John Chapman (Chair).

Parish Councillors: Roger Page, Paul Bowes, Paul Phillips, Mark Egerton, Charlotte Thompson, Will Martin

IN ATTENDANCE.

Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) Juanita Madgwick

District Councillor Laurence Ruffell (Left after item 40/20)

District Councillor Hugh Lumby (Left after item 40/20)

1 member of the public was present and left after item 39/20.

34/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

County Councillor Rob Humby

35/20 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS FOR AGENDA ITEMS.

Councillor Chapman declared an interest in planning application SDNP/20/01018/FUL Moris Farm, Hurst Lane, Owslebury, Winchester, Hampshire, SO21 1JQ.

36/20 APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Councillors noted their acceptance of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th March 2020, and the Council **Resolved**, unanimously, they were a true record.

37/20 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

a) Planning Applications

Moris Farm:

The planning applicant was present and noted the following on the application:

The applicant has consulted with the SDNP. The facility was for the applicants own person horses and would not be opened up for use for other horses. There would be no lights or music played on site.

The training arena in this application is to be moved to the South paddock along the hedge, the hedge runs along the road and would hide the outdoor activity area.

The barn is to be sited at the North East corner of the site; it would be of a better build than the existing barn. The applicant would add their own security to the barn; the barn windows would have shutters to stop light pollution.

The applicant noted that they would plant more trees to shield the houses. The applicant noted that the manure would be emptied monthly and that they would be trying to help with the reduction in flies and rats.

38/20 DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILORS REPORT

COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

The County Councillor was not present therefore there was no report.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

District Councillor Ruffell commented on the district Councillor Report (Appendix 1), which had been circulated to councillors before the meeting.

39/20 PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

Councillor Chapman logged out of the meeting whilst this planning application was discussed and logged back after the discussion had finished.

SDNP/20/01018/FUL	Moris Farm Hurst Lane Owslebury Winchester Hampshire SO21 1JQ
Proposal	Erection of an equestrian barn and construction of manege (part retrospective) (resubmission)
PC Comment	The Parish Council will make a comment on this application to send to the planners. See Appendix 2 for comment.

SDNP/20/01073/CND	Elm Farm Baybridge Lane Owslebury SO21 1JN
Proposal	Variation of condition 2 of approved planning consent SDNP/19/02780/HOUS
PC Comment	The Parish Council do not wish to make a comment on this planning application.

b) Planning Decisions

There were no planning decisions

c) Enforcement Matters

The Clerk noted that she had received an email regarding a potential Planning Enforcement issue at Maple Down Farm. It was noted from one of the Councillors that the Farmer had knocked a barn down for a new track for better access to the Farm.

40/20 RIGHTS OF WAY

a) Red Lane

The Chairman noted that he had emailed the Landowner of Red Lane however the Landowner was still waiting on the quotes. It was noted that nothing will be done for the next few months due to the virus pandemic.

b) Trees

The Clerk noted that she had received an email regarding Trees being cut down in Whites Hill. The Councillors noted this and asked the Clerk to put an OIS out to residents that it is nesting season and hedges & Trees should not be cut back or down at this time.

Action:	By Whom:
Send out OIS on cutting Trees and Hedges	The Clerk

c) Footpath 4

Councillor Martin noted that footpath 4 was very overgrown and in places impassable. The Councillors asked the Clerk to contact the landowners to cut the vegetation back and to contact the Countryside Service to ask if they could help with cutting back the vegetation.

Action;	By Whom:
To contact the Landowners & Hampshire Countryside to cut back the vegetation	The Clerk

d) Pitcot Lane Bollard

Councillor Phillips noted that the Bollard had still not been sited properly at the end of Pitcot Lane. The Councillors asked the Clerk to email Hampshire Highways on when this will be done.

Action:	By Whom:
Email Hampshire Highways on when the Bollard will be set	The Clerk

e) Playground

Councillor Chapman noted that the large wooden gate at the playground was rotting and needs replacing. The Council **Resolved** unanimously to replace the gate once the lockdown had been lifted.

Councillor Chapman noted that he had brought another padlock to lock the yellow gate.

41/20 FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND STATUTORY MATTERS

a) Payments & Receipts

The Council **Resolved** unanimously to approve the following payments and authorised the Chairman, Councillor Phillips or Councillor Martin to authorise the electronic payments as necessary.

Payments:

PAYMENTS	Amount (£)	Payee	Payment Type
125	36.19	1 & 1 Interent Extended Support & Domain	DD
126	100.00	Grant to Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (Minute 30/b)	Paid
127	59.99	Ink Cartridges	CC
128	44.95	WCC Annual Play Area Inspection	
129	380.20	Clerks Salary Mar 20	
130	95.00	HMRC	
131	69.25	Clerks Expenses Mar 20	
132	21.65	OPH Hall Hire Mar 20	
133	7.17	SSE (Street Lights)	
134	20.00	Chairmans Expenses Q4	
135	14.39	Zoom	CC
136	112.00	Newsletter	
137	100.00	Steve Comley (Grass Cutting Mar)	
138	1,364.73	Swanmore PC - CSO (Feb & Mar)	

Receipts:

Voucher	Amount (£)	Payee	
RECEIPTS			
66	732.49	VAT Return	
67	11.25	Penni Harrison Use of Playground	
68	0.03	Interest Business banking account	

b) Estimated Financial Outcome 2019/20

The Council noted the RFO's summary of the outturn for 2019/20 and the main reasons for the variances against budget. The Council had operated well within its budget. The Council

had operated well within its budget and was able to further enhance its reserves for known future expenditure notably on the CSO's salary.

c) Reserve Levels March 2020

The Council noted the RFO's comments on the type and level of reserves held at 31st March 2020. The Council considered each of the ear-marked reserves and was satisfied the reserves were required for the purposes stated, and were not excessive. The Council considered the level of the General reserve and considered it was sufficient to deal with unexpected expenditure during the year.

d) Review of Fixed Assets Register 2019/20 Policy

The Council noted the Assistant RFO's summary of fixed assets, including the related accounting policy, and was satisfied it reflected all the assets of the Council.

e) Review Clerks Salary

Councillor Chapman noted that the Clerk was currently on the SCP Pay Scale 15 and the Clerk should automatically progress through the pay scales by annual increments. The Council **Resolved**, unanimously, to approve the Clerk to progress through the SCP Pay Scale to Scale 16.

42/20 INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

a) COVID-19

Councillor Chapman noted that the COVID-19 volunteers were doing an amazing job around the village and would like to thank Carol Chaplin – Rogers for setting up the group and to Councillor Thompson on setting up the mapping system.

b) Eastleigh Plan

Councillor Chapman updated the Council on the outcome of the Planning Inspectors report from the Eastleigh Plan. The planning inspector had released her report which saw options B&C being removed. The Council will wait for Eastleigh's formal response to the report and how the Inspector reacts to this before making any more decisions.

43/20 DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

The Clerk noted that the Annual Parish Meeting in May would not be held this year, due to Government guidelines.

The Council agreed the next Council Meeting would be held when needed virtually at a mutual time for all Councillors.

The meeting closed at 8pm

Chairman: John Chapman

Date: 11/05/20

Owslebury Parish Council Winchester City Councillor Report April 2020

1. Introduction

Winchester City Council's principle focus at the moment is on addressing issues arising from Coronavirus. As well as seeking to deliver the vast majority of its services as usual, it has been continually updating advice and guidance released from Government to offer the best support possible for residents and businesses across the District during the COVID-19 infection.

The definitive list of advice can be found on the Council's website at <https://www.winchester.gov.uk/covid19>.

2. Council Tax support and benefits

Council Tax is payable over ten months, with the first payment due this month. No payments are then due in the final two months. There is an option for those in financial hardship to apply to move the two payment free months to this and next month, dependent on individual circumstances. Anyone wishing to take advantage of this should contact the Revenues and Benefits team at the Council.

Similarly, council tenants having difficulty with rents should contact the Council at the earliest opportunity. The Government has introduced provisions relating to rent deferment whilst possession proceedings for non-payment of rent are not permitted at present.

Residents are also encouraged to sign up to benefits where available to provide some longer term security.

3. Shielding and community support

The Parish has received a separate update in relation to the arrangements for shielding which is the national system to support the 1.5 million most vulnerable citizens.

As part of the nationwide response, the Council and other districts in Hampshire have been working with the County Council to establish a new system to make sure that anyone who needs help because of the current 'lock down' can get through to someone who can help.

Anyone who needs assistance with problems arising from their self isolation or shielding at home should ring the County Council helpline on **0333 370 4000**. This is available from **9.00 am to 5.00 pm 7 days a week**. The County Council will decide who is best able to assist them via a triage process, and some may be referred to Winchester City Council if it is considered they are the appropriate agency to help them.

The Council has also prepared a list of community support groups and may refer calls onto them.

Residents needing help should continue to use local support where they have contacts. Otherwise, they should call the helpline number given above.

More information can be found on the Council's website at:
<https://www.winchester.gov.uk/get-help>

It should also be noted that the Council are continuing to offer urgent housing repairs for council tenants but are otherwise rescheduling repair and routine maintenance for them until later in the summer.

4. Refuse collection and other waste issues

Waste and recycling collections are continuing for now on their usual cycle. It may be necessary in due course to remove some aspects of the service. This may start with the removal of garden waste collection and residents are asked to consider composting as an alternative. Bulky waste collection has been paused for now.

The bin collection teams will be starting earlier than usual and so residents are advised to put bins out the night before.

Hampshire County Council has closed the waste depots across the county. There has been a concern that this may lead to more fly tipping, although there is little evidence of this as yet. However, Winchester City Council's fly tipping and prosecution work is continuing and is viewed as a priority during the lockdown. All incidents of fly tipping are being investigated, and dealt with as per the Council's normal regime, including a fixed fine or prosecution where there is any evidence. Residents are encouraged to continue to report any incidents of fly tipping so that the Council can investigate and address these - please do not assume someone else has reported it.

The grounds team are still working although as a result of absences they are having to prioritise keeping open spaces safe.

Pest control has been paused and the teams redeployed onto other areas.

5. Bonfires

Residents are actively encouraged not to have bonfires. Coronavirus is a respiratory illness and bonfires could well be unhelpful to those affected.

6. Business support

The Council's website (see link above) also includes a link to a detailed page covering support available to businesses. Letters have gone out to 2,700 businesses to ensure they are aware of business rate relief and business grant availability. £29m has been received from Government to cover the direct costs of these measures. Businesses are encouraged to make applications without delay.

7. Virtual meetings

Most physical meetings across the District have now been cancelled or have been moved to virtual meetings. This includes meetings of parish councils and parish meetings. As we would now be in a purdah period due to the local elections, this has not proved too problematic to date, with the exception of planning meetings, which have been cancelled for April. However, this will become more of an issue as time passes, especially for meetings that are required to take place.

The Coronavirus Act 2020 provides for the Secretary of State to make regulations to allow deferment of some meetings and for virtual meetings to be convened where possible, for example via Skype, Zoom or Google Teams. The Council are currently reviewing the implications of this and more details will be available in due course, including advice on annual meetings.

8. Planning applications

Planning applications can continue to be made and will be considered, both those dealt with by Winchester City Council and the South Downs National Park. As referred to above, Winchester City Council's planning meetings for April have been cancelled. The Council is considering in light of the new regulations how going forward meetings can be held, evidence considered and site visits take place.

9. Elections

The Coronavirus Act 2020 has also postponed the elections due to take place this May. There was no election scheduled for Winchester City Council for the Upper Meon Valley ward (in which this parish is located) but other wards did have elections scheduled which have now been postponed. Similarly the election for the new Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight has been postponed.

As a result of the postponement, those in elected posts that were up for election will continue in those posts for another year.

These elections will now occur next May, at the same time as the Hampshire County Council elections. Postponed elections will be for a term one year shorter than usual, to reflect the deferred year. Any by-elections which may arise in the meantime will also be deferred until next May.

10. Wickham Fair

The 2020 Wickham Horse Fair has been cancelled due to the Coronavirus crisis. It was due to take place in May. However, following consultation between representatives from the event, the police, Hampshire County Council and Winchester City Council, the police have announced the cancellation of the event. It is hoped that the cancellation will prevent attendees travelling unnecessarily to the event.

It is expected that the event will return next year.

11. Eastleigh Plan

The inspector has this month issued a report regarding areas of the Eastleigh Local Plan where she continues to have significant concerns and setting out options for taking matters forward.

Her report in particular identifies major problems with Options B and C, which are the two that most directly affect the Upper Meon Valley ward and in particular Upham and Owslebury parishes. In her assessment, she finds herself unable to conclude that Eastleigh's approach to the site selection represents a justified and evidence-based approach.

Her conclusion, which is to be welcomed, is that the plan either needs to be substantially modified or withdrawn.

12. Boomtown

Music festivals occurring in May and June this year, such as the Isle of Wight Festival and Glastonbury, have generally been cancelled as a result of the ongoing Coronavirus situation. Various local festivals and events have similarly had to be cancelled.

Boomtown is due to take place in August this year. The organisers have announced a reduction in the maximum numbers of members of the public attending of 20% from last year's figure.

However, it is unclear whether in practice restrictions will have been lifted in sufficient time to allow site set-up to occur or for significant numbers to attend. The Council is working with the police and the organisers as to the best approach.

Laurence Ruffell Hugh Lumby

Appendix 2 – Comments to Planners on Planning Application: SDNP/20/01018/FUL

MORIS FARM
SDNP/20/01018/FUL

Owslebury Parish Council (OPC) is concerned that the site requested is near a busy road junction. Owslebury has approximately 175 cars per hour speeding through morning and evening (M3 and Winchester rat run). Also several large articulated vehicles turn here daily towards/ into the Grain Store and Marwell Zoo. The Council believe that there is a Health and Safety issue regarding the horses being sited so close to the busy road. Surely the nearness of this traffic is not conducive to horse training?

The Parish Council fully supports stabling and equestrian use of land as there are in fact in excess of 14 such establishments within the parish

Nevertheless the Parish Council does have concerns as to the current application, made just 3 years after the original permission. Therefore this Council cannot support this application and strongly objects to the siting of the stables and arena 50 metres from the houses in Hurst Lane.

The Parish Council fully supports concerns voiced by the local residents.

Noise and pollution are the main concerns.

- Human voices and noise from training horses and the natural smells associated with animals.

- Light pollution from security lighting.

We are also concerned with the enormous stable block that does not seem compatible with private use. We are also concerned with the proximity of the barn to the houses on Hurst Lane and potential rodent/ fly/pest problem this could have on the residents of these houses.

In the application documentation under:

'Settlement Character':

It states "it is not within or adjacent to a settlement" This is incorrect as there are houses less than 50 metres away from the field.

To the question: 'Neighbours not affected by development' N/A was written? This too is incorrect.

Owslebury Parish Council does not object in principle to Moris Farm as an equestrian centre as proven by the Council's original approval for stabling in 2016.

The Parish Council might look favourably if the stables/barn and arena were sited at either the North West or south west corner of the site. There are stables at the south west according to the previous permission

If SDNP are minded to support the application then OPC requests that it goes to a public meeting of the full Planning Committee for discussion. OPC would want to address that meeting.