

**OWSLEBURY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
13th NOVEMBER 2017
COMMENCING AT 7.30PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM, OWSLEBURY PARISH HALL**

PRESENT.

Parish Councillor Gerry Tull, Vice Chairman (in the Chair).
Parish Councillors: Paul Bowes, Mark Egerton, Roger Page.

IN ATTENDANCE.

Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO): Michael Cleary.

Two members of the public were present.

185/17 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Parish Councillor John Chapman
Parish Councillor Paul Phillips
Parish Councillor Will Martin
County and City Councillor Rob Humby.
District Councillors Laurence Ruffell and Amber Thacker.

186/17 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS ON AGENDA ITEMS.

Councillor Tull noted his personal interest in an Agricultural Prior Notification in connection with Pitcot Farm. Councillor Page noted his personal interest (as owner of a nearby property) in an Enforcement case involving Woodland View stables. Councillor Tull noted his personal interest (in discussing and advising in his personal capacity) in an Enforcement matter involving Woodland View Stables.

187/17 APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Councillors noted their acceptance of the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th October 2017, and the Council **Resolved** they were a true record.

188/17 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.

A parishioner outlined her major concerns as to the part the Council had played in assessing planning applications and in a related and long running Enforcement case (in all over some 14 years). The parishioner felt the Council had been overly influenced by one councillor who lived in a nearby property and with whom the parishioner had a difficult relationship. She gave examples of the actions taken and the adverse impact on her health. The Clerk explained the Council had advised Winchester City Council of its comments on the relevant planning applications. WCC had determined the applications and subsequently instructed Enforcement. If the parishioner wished to complain about the conduct of the Enforcement action the complaint should be directed to WCC. He noted the Council had written to WCC to express its concern as to the length of time the Enforcement case was taking. A councillor noted the Council had treated the applications and the Enforcement action in the same way as for any other parishioner. The Council had expressed its comments to WCC and left the matter for them to decide and to take whatever action they felt necessary. Councillor Tull commented it was unfair in the extreme for a parishioner to have waited so long for WCC to resolve the matter one way or the other. He commented that in the end, WCC, having acted inappropriately for a long period, had decided not to pursue the Enforcement notice. Councillor Tull suggested, in part because of his own personal interest in the matter, the parishioner should discuss with Councillor Chapman (Chairman) the parishioner's concerns about the Council's role in the matter.

189/17 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS.

There were no reports from the County or the District councillors.

190/17 RURAL TRANSPORT SERVICES.

Councillors noted the likelihood of HCC cuts to the subsidies for bus services. Councillors expressed concern a further reduction in the local service would lead to the social isolation of those residents who did not have, or were unable to drive, cars. The Clerk noted the efforts being made by Bishop's Waltham to retain rural bus services. It had been suggested that a small charge be levied in place of 'free' bus transport simply so as to retain a sensible frequency of services. Councillors didn't believe this would be acceptable and may not, in any-event, materially affect the viability of the current service. However they asked the Clerk to ask the

community whether such a possibility should be explored further. Councillors noted other options such as a community mini bus service should also be explored, although these were likely to involve a higher cost.

Action: Local transport services.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk to ask community for views re introduction of small charge for present level of bus services. Council to consider other transport options. 	Clerk

191/17 POLICE & NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT.

There was no report from the Police. Councillor Bowes, Chair Neighbourhood Watch, commented on the incidence of crime in areas close to the parish – damage to cars and property and ‘shed shopping’. Whilst crime in Owslebury is relatively rare, residents should be vigilant in protecting their property.

192/17 PLANNING

a) Planning applications - APN.

SDNP/17/05470/APNB	Pitcot Farm, Pitcot Lane
Proposal:	Proposed agricultural building.
Deadline for comments	22/11/2017

Councillors noted the proposed building was unlikely to affect neighbouring properties or materially negate the views of the countryside from local paths They suggested some landscaping may be appropriate and asked the Clerk to suggest same to the Planning officer.

b) Planning decisions.

The Clerk noted the following decisions had been announced by SDNP since the last Council meeting:

SDNP/ 17/04212/LIS	Park View , Longwood,
Proposal:	Internal alteration to modern elements of the cottage and alterations to fenestration. (Amended description)
Decision	Approved

WCC 17/00884/FUL	Little Ranch Portsmouth Road Fishers Pond
Proposal:	The use of land for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes and erection utility/dayroom
Decision	Refused

c) SDNP draft local plan.

The Clerk commented on the main points in the proposed SDNP local plan which may affect development in the village. He stressed the local plan is ‘landscape led’ and when assessing planning applications greater importance would be placed on the protection of the countryside, including trees, hedgerow, vegetation, wildlife and countryside views, and to ensure proposed developments ‘fit-in’ with the village landscape. Councillors agreed to reflect on the proposed plan and inform the Clerk if they had any material comments to report to SDNP. Their main concern was the ability of SDNP to enforce its policies, notably in relation to the protection of trees, hedgerows and wildlife. The Council also expressed its continuing concern about the proposed settlement boundary. The Clerk explained the methodology used by SDNP. However councillors felt the boundary was arbitrary, divisive between neighbouring properties some of which would be within the boundary and others outside, and cuts-through gardens of some properties. The Council **Resolved** unanimously that further representations should be made to SDNP, and asked the Clerk to issue information on the Owslebury Information Service encouraging residents to submit representations.

Action: SDNP local plan.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to issue OIS • Clerk to submit further representation to SDNP re settlement boundary. 	Clerk

d) **Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC) local plan.**

i. **Meeting with George Hollingbery MP.**

The Clerk updated the councillors on the recent meeting he and Councillors Chapman and Phillips had attended between local parishes, District and County Councillors and local MPs, George Hollingbery and Steve Brine. The meeting had considered the main issues that could impact the local area if options B&C of the EBC plan were to be adopted. The meeting considered the further steps that could be taken to ensure EBC thoroughly investigated all options, and not just B&C.

ii. **Consultation meeting with EBC officers.**

The Clerk updated councillors on the recent meeting he and Councillor Chapman had attended between local parishes and District Councillors with EBC officers. The officers had provided further information on the progress of the plan and the evidence they would be seeking before making a recommendation to EBC as to which of the options should be adopted. They listened to the many concerns expressed by parish and district councillors.

e) **Enforcement matters.**

The Clerk noted he had received a report from Enforcement on Dundee Farm, Long Ash and Woodland View Stables. Councillors noted the comments but asked the Clerk to discuss the matters further with Enforcement and to report back to the Council.

Action: Enforcement matters.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to discuss matter further with Enforcement re Long Ash and Dundee Farm. 	Clerk

193/17 HIGHWAYS.

a) **Additional road safety signage.**

Councillors shared Councillor Tull's concerns about the need for additional signage at key points in the parish to warn drivers of such matters as sharp bends and concealed entrances. Indeed, the Council had done so in relation to Whites Hill. In the absence of any signage from Hampshire Highways, councillors confirmed they had no objection to Councillor Tull erecting a sign at his own expense on his land, and the Council would consider, in due course, the need for other signage in the parish at its expense.

b) **Whaddon Lane ditch.**

Councillor Tull expressed his continuing concern about the need to have the ditch cleared of surplus mud, a view shared by other councillors. Hampshire Highways had not done so and Councillor Tull had offered to provide assistance to Marwell Wildlife Park to help improve the ditch which was by their land. The Clerk noted he would contact HH and Marwell again to see whether something could be done in the short term.

Action:	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to discuss with HH and Marwell Wildlife. 	Clerk

c) **Hedges.**

Councillors noted many residents had cut their hedges but there were some that required cutting back. Councillors agreed to inform the Clerk of the hedges involved and, if necessary, the Clerk or Hampshire Highways would issue a statutory notice for the owner to cut back the offending hedge.

Action: Hedges.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor to advise Clerk of overgrown hedges. Clerk to inform HH or issue statutory notice. 	Cllrs & Clerk

d) **Positioning of signs.**

Councillors asked the Clerk to discuss with Hampshire Highways the positioning of signs at the Longwood crossroads as well as the signage at the junction of Portsmouth Road and Hurst Lane. The signs obscured sight lines.

Action: Positioning of signs.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clerk to discuss with HH positioning of signs at Longwood Road junction and Portsmouth/Hurst Lane. 	Clerk

194/17 RIGHTS OF WAY.

Councillors asked the Clerk to make further enquiries of HCC in relation to the poor state of the path at Red Lane (RBW31) and the path (RBW50) running past Hydes Barn, the path being too restricted by branches and vegetation for the safety of horse riders and walkers.

Action: ROW	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk to discuss with HCC improvements to Red Lane path and BWxx (Hydes Barn) 	Clerk

195/17 OPEN SPACES, RECREATION AND PLAYGROUND.

i. Weather-proofing.

The Council **Resolved**, unanimously, to accept the quotes for the weather-proofing of the Glebe Field gate (£70) and the bus shelter on the Recreation Ground (£120).

ii. Play equipment inspection.

The Clerk noted the operational audit of the play equipment did not reveal any major, immediate, issues. The equipment continued to be in good condition. However there were minor issues which would need attention in due course. The Council agreed Councillor Page should review with the Clerk the work involved.

Action: Play equipment.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Page to inspect with Clerk, and Clerk to update and action rectification plan. 	Cllr Page and Clerk

196/17 FINANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND STATUTORY.

a) Payments made by RFO on behalf of the Council.

The RFO noted he had made a payment of £19.12 on behalf of the Council for the website service agreement (three months) with 1&1 Ltd, and £20 for the purchase of a replacement keyboard. The Council **Resolved**, unanimously, the RFO should be reimbursed for such expenditure.

b) Payments and receipts.

The Council **Resolved**, unanimously, to approve the following payments and authorised any two of the four approved signatories (Councillors Chapman, Phillips, Bowes and Martin) to authorise electronic payments, cheque payments being authorised by Councillors Page and Egerton.

Voucher	Amount (£)	Payee	Purpose	
PAYMENTS				
60	19.12	M Cleary	Reimbursement re service agreement with !& Ltd (VAT £)	Cheque
61	48.00	HALC	Clerk update course (VAT £8)	Cheque
62	20.00	M Cleary	Reimbursement re purchase of replacement keyboard.	Cheque
63	321.54	M Cleary	Clerk's net pay for October.	Cheque
64	214.00	HMRC	October PAYE	Electronic
65	26.78	M Cleary	October expenses(Travel £9.80; printer cartridges £14.15 plus £2.83 VAT)	Cheque
66	30.15	OPHMC	October room bookings	Electronic
67	290.00	S Comley	Grass cutting	Electronic
68	90.00	Play Inspection company	Operational audit of play equipment (VAT £15)	Electronic

Receipts

Amount (£)	Payer	Purpose	
0.03	Lloyds	Interest	Electronic
12.50	Mary Needham	Use of play area October	Electronic

c) Data Protection Act.

The Clerk noted the recent strengthening of requirements under the Data Protection Act – which would come into effect early next year – and Councillors noted he would be undertaking relevant training in its application.

197/17 CLERK'S REPORT.

The Clerk commented on the actions taken on matters determined at previous meetings and not included on the agenda (Appendix).

188/17 INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING.

There were no specific matters, other than those already noted in the minutes, councillors wished to be included on the agenda for the December meeting.

199/17 DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING.

The Council agreed the next Council Meeting would be on Monday 4th December 2017 at 7.30pm in the Committee Room.

The meeting closed shortly after 8.45pm

Chairman ..John Chapman.....Date: 4th December 2017

APPENDIX: CLERK'S REPORT ON ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT INCLUDED ELSEWHERE ON AGENDA.

Action: .Low lying branches	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> .Clerk to choose contractor provided cost no more than £200. S. Comley instructed (after leaf fall).	Clerk
Action: Staggs Gate pond	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk to review boundaries; Search completed; historic maps to be reviewed.	Clerk
Action: Traffic management.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Councillor Egerton to discuss with school governors and seek their support. Chairman to write to parents and to parishioners. Agreed to hold-back for time being	ME/JC/ Clerk
Action: DBC check	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk to arrange for contractor to undertake DBS check and Council to pay costs involved. In hand – September/October	Clerk
Action: Benches	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Tull to provide bench Defer for time being	Cllr Tull
Action: Parish Hall Advisory Committee.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk to set-up and prepared preliminary list of issues OPHMC to consider revisions to current constitution. Cttee 'on hold'.	Clerk
Action: Weeds.	By Whom:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk to arrange for week killer re path leading from Glebe field In hand	Clerk