

Minutes of the Fyfield and Tubney Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8th January 2020.

1. Present:

Mr Julian Mellor – Chair.
Mrs Penny Budgen
Mr Jonathan Greaves.
Mr John Watts.
Mr Alan Woodward.
Dr Stephen Fraser – Clerk
Mrs Fitzgerald-O'Connor – Oxford County Council

Eight members of the general public.

2. Apologies.

Apologies had been received from Mrs Jean Burley and Mr Jerry Avery – Vale of White Horse DC.

3. Minutes of the last meeting.

These were signed as a true record by the chair.

4. Matters arising.

Mr Woodward reported that the raised drains at Tubney Church had still not been attended to. **Mr Woodward to chase the issue yet again.**

Mr Greaves reported that following recent meetings concerning the flooding risk in Netherton Lane, a potentially dangerous collapse of the verge into a culvert had been identified. However, representatives from OCC and Vale of White Horse both deemed that remedial work was not their responsibility. It was felt that a serious accident would occur if a vehicle fell into the void. **Mr Greaves to seek urgent remedial action by OCC.**

The issue of speeding rat-runners through the village was also discussed. This was worst in the morning rush hour when the village was used as an avoidance route for the A415/A420 intersection. The acquisition and deployment of a portable Speed Information Sign was discussed. **The Clerk to seek clarification from the police as to the legality of using such a sign and its probable cost.**

Mrs Fitzgerald-O'Connor was requested again to determine OCC Highways options for reducing speeding within the village.

5. A420 Road Issues.

Following the death of a pedestrian resident crossing the A420, both Mr Mellor and Mrs Budgen had been lobbying OCC for immediate action. Their emails had also been forwarded to our new MP, David Johnson. A meeting with OCC officers, scheduled for January, had been delayed due to personal issues but we were assured that this would occur soon.

Some email responses indicated that the A420 would be addressed in the next OCC Local Transport Plan. It was the general consensus of the meeting that we had been requesting safe crossings for some years and that the time for talking was over.

It was suggested that the public lobby various OCC councilors, officers and their MP. **The Clerk to distribute Mr Mellor's and Mrs Budgen's emails to the parish mailing list and include a list of email addresses for potential recipients.**

A general comment indicated that the public were unaware of parish council meetings, despite these being publicised on the parish web site and on notice boards. **The Clerk to email meeting agenda to the parish mailing list and also the two local parish facebook groups.**

6. Lioncourt development.

No decision has been made on the current application. The District Council web site shows a target decision date of February 2020.

7. Oxford – Cambridge Expressway.

Mr Watts had seen a flyer from FLAG indicating that they were opposed to the expressway. The Parish Council, however, confirmed its position of waiting until a route was decided before expressing an opinion. Only then could its impact on the parish be assessed.

8. Tubney Quarry.

Mr Mellor reported that there had been no indication as to when this plan would be finally published. **The Clerk to seek clarification on publication date.**

9. Review Attendance at Parish Fete.

Mrs Budgen stated that the stall at the fete had been intended to raise awareness of the parish council and believed this had been achieved. A lot of people from outside the village had also visited the stall. She believed it would be worth repeating in the future. Unfortunately, no fete was scheduled for 2020.

10. Planning.

The following applications had been approved with No Objections

- P19/V2873/FUL Old Farmhouse, Fyfield

The Clerk had received email notification that a modification to this application had been submitted and would be circulated as soon as received.

11. A420 Underpass Track.

The Clerk reported that the underpass track was now fully cleared and that he was still preparing the paperwork for the submission as a bridleway on the definitive map.

The council agreed that once the bridleway was approved, regular maintenance should be covered from the parish precept. A local request for a budget estimate had been unsuccessful.

12. Fyfield Green Cherry Tree.

The Clerk stated that an application for work on the cherry tree had been submitted to the District Council and permission should be granted within six weeks.

Mr Gooding had now supplied a written quotation for the works confirming a charge of £345.00.

13. Finance.

The Clerk reported the current financial position as follows:

- Balance brought forward. £924.21
- There were no transactions to report.
- Balance carried forward. £924.21

The Clerk circulated details of income and expenditure to date resulting in the above bank balance together with a predicted spend up to the accounting year end. This consisted of:

- Cherry Tree Works £345.00
- Domain Fees – 1 Year ‘fyfieldandtubney.org’ £26.73
- Clerk’s Expenses £50.00

This would leave an anticipated Year End balance of £502.48

Expenditure for the year would be £1,295.59 against a precept of £1,000.00.

As most of the parish expenditure was unpredictable, the Clerk was only able to predict budget estimates for the following items in 2020-21:

- Insurance £250.00
- Clerk’s Expenses £50.00
- Web Hosting Fees – 2 years £77.96
- Domain Fees – 1 Year £27.00

These totaling: £404.96

After some deliberation, it was **resolved** to set the precept for 2020-21 to £1,750.00. The chairman signed the request form for submission the the District Council.

14. AOB.

The Clerk warned that it may not be possible to make the parish noticeboards watertight and new boards may be required in the near future.

There being no further business, the chairman closed the meeting at 9:45pm.

Next Meeting Wednesday 11th March 2020.