

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE JUBILEE HALL ON 9th JANUARY 2023

Present: Mrs Caroline Hjorth (Chair)
Mr Duncan Boulton
Mrs Margaret Poole
Mr John Poole
Mr Ray Hudson

Ms Barbara Drysdale (Clerk)

Also present were: Cllr Caroline Newton (S0DC) and two residents

Apologies were received from: Cllr Les Gordon (LPC) & Freddie van Mierlo (OCC)

Item 1: MEMBERS’ DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None were received.

Item 2: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the parish council meeting held on 12th December 2022 were accepted as being a true record of proceedings by councillors and signed accordingly by the Chair.

Item 3: MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (INFORMATION ONLY)

There were none that are not covered under other headings.

Item 4: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN SESSION

No requests had been received by the Clerk.

Item 5: THAMES VALLEY POLICE

The meeting noted the usual TVP emails.

Item 6: DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS

The meeting noted receipt of Cllr van Mierlo’s monthly report and his apologies for absence. See Item 9.

Cllr Newton told the meeting that the timeframe for the new Local Plan had been agreed: it would be submitted to the Secretary of State in January 2025 and adopted in September 2025.

She also told the meeting that she still had some grant money available, with a deadline for applications of Friday 20th January. It was decided that LPC would submit a grant application for a new 3 seater bench in Postcombe, outdoor lights for the parish marquee and a Tommy figure for Postcombe. Councillors agreed that any shortfall in the grant request would be covered by LPC’s CIL money.

Clerk

Cllr Newton also told the meeting that she was planning to lodge a motion with S0DC asking for it to draw up a policy on solar farms, given the high number being proposed in the area. See also Item 13.

Chair:

Date:.....

Item 7: FINANCE

a) Councillors received and noted a budgetary control report for year to date from the RFO which showed balances as of 4th January 2023:

Treasurers Account: £2,721.81

Business Savings Account: £18,658.63

Hall Account: £6,317.18

The meeting noted that the RFO had transferred £2,000 from LPC's savings account to Treasurers account.

b) The meeting approved payment of the following outstanding accounts:

i) Air Ambulance Donation £200.00 S.137 LGA 1972

ii) Watlington Hospital Donation £150.00 S.137 LGA 1972

iii) PetWasteSolutions Dog bin emptying £92.95 S.111 LGA 1972

c) The Chair gave more details about the Coronation mugs she had found for the parish council to buy to commemorate the King's coronation in May 2023. It was decided that a mug would be given to each child of primary school age who either lived in the parish or attended the parish school. It was agreed that she would request a sample mug to show councillors at LPC's February meeting.

Chair

d) Councillors confirmed 2023-24 budget and precept submission, the Chair signed the submission form and it was agreed the RFO would submit the request immediately.

Clerk

Item 8: PLANNING

a) The meeting considered the following new applications:

i) P22/S4485/HH Vernon Cottage, 2 Weston Road, Lewknor
Single storey rear extension

Clerk

Councillors agreed to support this application

ii) P22/S4594/FUL Aston Rowant National Nature Reserve Carpark, Sunken Way Walk, Lewknor
Provision of revised access arrangements to Aston Rowant National Nature Reserve carpark to improve public accessibility and reduce anti-social behaviour
Councillors agreed to support this application

Clerk

b) The council noted the status of the following applications:

i) P22/S2744/HH & P22/S2745/LB Poplar Farm, Box Tree Lane, Postcombe Decision awaited
Proposed single storey rear extension, and internal/fenestration alterations to the existing house.

ii) P22/S4318/DPO The Blue Cross Little Cross, Lower Icknield Way near Lewknor

Discharge of legal obligations relating to S.106 Agreement (in the Schedule) dated

7th May 2004 between SODC and The Blue Cross

Decision awaited

c) Councillors noted the status of the appeal lodged on the following application:

P22/S1308/HH Anntara House, 8 Shirburn Road, Lewknor

Decision awaited

Erection of front porch and extension/alterations to roof structure of carport/garage

Conversion of roof space into a home office/gym and an external staircase.

Item 9: HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

a) M40 junction: the meeting noted the efforts of Cllr van Mierlo to get information from National Highways about their proposals to improve safety at the junction of the M40 and the B4009; however it appeared nothing would be happening in the near future. It was also noted that OCC had voiced its willingness to contribute financially. It was agreed this subject would be raised again in February when hopefully Cllr van Mierlo could attend.

Chair:

Date:.....

b) Manor Close: It was noted that while the work to tarmac the entrance to Manor Close had been carried out, the legal paperwork required by OCC had not yet been completed by the developer.

Item 10: CIL

The Clerk told the meeting that OCC would be erecting the new Village Only sign in Postcombe next week but that the second pair of village gates (paid for from OCC CIL money) were on order and still awaited.

Councillors noted that the amount developers had to pay in CIL contributions was rising but it appeared to be in only one category and the actual amount was not clear.

Item 11: SPECIALIST TOPICS

Cllr Hudson agreed to take on the specialist topics previously overseen by Cllr Rolfe until his resignation. It was decided that these would be slightly amended to Utilities, Waste and Data Protection (now on LPC website). The Clerk invited councillors to consider reviewing the subjects covered ahead of possibly amending them at LPC’s APCM in May.

Clerk/
All

Item 12: SPRING CLEANING

It was agreed that LPC would hold its spring clean litter pick on Saturday 4th March in both Lewknor village and Postcombe. The Clerk would order the relevant equipment from SODC and create notices.

Clerk

SODC Deep Clean: the Chair would submit the form with details of areas LPC wanted particular attention.

Chair

The Clerk would contact OCC about the A40 pavement which was again becoming overgrown.

Clerk

Item 13: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- Airband: there was much discussion about the most recent notification from Airband who were now planning to erect eight poles in Lewknor in spite of their T28 application to SODC being refused. Cllr Newton said she was taking up this issue with SODC Planning while LPC would repeat its opposition and concerns to Airband: the Clerk would draw up a letter for all councillors to approve via email.

CN/All

The meeting closed at 9.10pm

Chair:

Date:.....