**SHELLINGFORD PARISH MEETING**

**Minutes of Parish Meeting on 29 October 2019 at The Community Hall**

1. *Welcome and Attendance*

Barry Moody, Chairman, welcomed seventeen residents to the meeting and requested that they sign the Attendance Record. Apologies for absence had been received from Andrew Church, Louise Mollo, Fiona O’Regan, Dawn Pollard, Julian Pollard, Susan Price and Jennifer Thompson.

2. *Previous Meeting*

Minutes of the meeting on 29 April 2019 were reviewed and accepted as an accurate record without amendment. The Chairman signed these minutes.

3. *Matters Arising*

None arose.

4. *County Council Report*

Councillor Anda Fitzgerald-O’Connor had sent her apologies that she would not be able to attend the meeting.

5. *District Council Report*

The Chairman welcomed Councillor Nathan Boyd to his first meeting and congratulated him on his election in May. He submitted an oral report.

Political control of the District Council had changed in May, with the election of a Liberal Democrat majority, who had immediately established a Climate Emergency Committee as one of their first priorities.

VOWH Local Plan 2031 Part 2 had been reviewed and declared as “sound” by the Inspector. A motion to adopt Part 2 had been approved unopposed by the Council on 9 October. The new Council had considered other options, including withdrawal of Part 2, but had recognised that this could have led to developers pushing through speculative applications on appeal. South Oxfordshire District Council have been issued with a holding notice by the Minister for Housing preventing them from considering the withdrawal of their Local Plan. Infrastructure improvement funding across the county should still be approved but only if Local Plans proceed.

Festival grants of up to £1,000 are available on application

Nathan then answered questions from the attendees including the enforcement of car parking regulations and the village’s current Facilities Score.

6. *Planning Applications*

The Clerk reported on the applications that had arisen since the last Parish Meeting.

Permission had been granted to demolish an existing carport and balcony extension at 8 Castle Crescent and build a two storey link extension. Approval is subject to the creation of two car parking spaces and that the garage should be retained for parking only.

Earthline Limited had submitted an application on 25 July to extend mineral extraction on land to the west of the existing Hatford quarry. The Clerk had submitted a letter of objection due to the cumulative effect of dust from another mineral extraction process in our area. Both Oxfordshire County Council Public Health and the Environment Agency had raised concerns, which had led to Mary Hudson, the Case Officer, issuing a Regulation on 23 September requiring further data.

7. *Quarry Subcommittee Report*

The Clerk detailed the events that had occurred since the last Parish Meeting concerning the planning application for a western extension of the Shellingford Quarry.

The Quarry Subcommittee of the Parish Meeting had met on two occasions since April.

On 29 June a detailed response to the applicant’s further report concerning dust sampling had been submitted to Oxfordshire County Council. The Planning & Regulation Committee met on 19 July to consider the application. Both Mike Wright, representing the Subcommittee, and Fiona Wright, as a village resident, spoke at the meeting to express objections to the application. Unfortunately, the proposal was approved (by 8 votes in favour to 4 against) subject to a fully developed Dust Management Plan being submitted to the Committee for approval before any works commence.

A Noise Management Plan had been sent to the Clerk for comment on 7 October and two responses had been submitted on 25 October.

The Clerk expressed his thanks to Mike and Fiona Wright for representing the village so well at the 19 July meeting.

The Subcommittee will continue to monitor and comment on developments which can be viewed on the Oxfordshire County Council website (ref: MW.0104/18).

8. *Neighbourhood Plan Subcommittee Report*

The Chairman reported that the Subcommittee had met a VOWH officer recently who had explained that the Plan must consider the use of land. It cannot state that no development is required. Grants were available to assist with the costs of preparing a Plan. The officer had said that a Parish Meeting, as opposed to a Parish Council, could not establish a Neighbourhood Plan on its own. A Village Forum of at least 21 residents must be established.

Discussion was then held as to whether to proceed. Nathan Boyd commented that both Uffington and Baulking had been able to change developments. It was generally accepted that Shellingford needs new residents.

A vote to proceed and create a Neighbourhood Forum (of the required numbers) was proposed by Barry Moody, seconded by Mike Wright and passed unanimously.

9. *Financial Report*

Sue Terry, Treasurer, reported that the Exercise of Public Rights period required by law had been from 24 June to 2 August.

There was a balance of £8,184 in the Parish bank account.

10. *Precept for 2020/2021*

The Chairman suggested that the Precept for the year to 31 March 2021 should remain at the previous year’s amount of £1,500. Christopher Price proposed and Mike Wright seconded a motion to approve this, which the meeting did unanimously.

11. *Annual Charity Donations*

Amounts of £150 to First Responders, £50 to Wantage Independent Advice Centre and £50 to Thames Valley Air Ambulance were approved after votes proposed by Mike Wright and seconded by Christopher Price.

12. *Speed Watch Report*

Christopher Price submitted an oral report.

A check in May, on Church Street between 7.00 and 9.00, had produced similar numbers to the previous occasion of 78 vehicles. Another will be carried out before Christmas. Overall, the three recent speed watches conducted in the village had shown 5, 8 and 1 vehicles travelling in excess of the speed limit.

The speed sign indicators need to be re-calibrated by either the Highways Agency or Oxfordshire County Council.

If a permanent “Camera” sign could be installed it would negate the requirement for a temporary “Speed Camera” sign to be put in place whenever a check is happening. The latter sign tends to warn drivers.

The meeting passed a vote of thanks to Christopher and the Speed Watch team.

13. *Community Hall Report*

Sue Terry submitted an oral report.

Internal redecoration of the Hall is being considered.

14. *Parochial Church Council Report*

Sue Terry mentioned three important events in the coming months. Everyone is welcome to attend the Remembrance Sunday Service on 10 November, the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 30 November and St. Faith’s church Carols by Candlelight service on Sunday 15 December.

A project to create a toilet facility and connect water to the church was being led by Imogen Jonas and Pete Mattingley. They had recently attended a Diocesan meeting for advice and would be issuing a questionnaire to all residents in due course.

15. *School Headteacher’s Report*

Judith Terrell had submitted a written report which was issued to the meeting. This was reviewed.

16. *Any Other Business*

The Clerk was asked to report the poor state of repair of the bridge railings (over the stream to the north of the village) to Oxfordshire County Council.

The Gantlett family were thanked for notifying the village of the forestry work that is to be conducted on their land around the village.

17. *Date of Next Meeting*

Planned for Tuesday 28 April 2020 at 19.30 in the Community Hall.