

BRIGHTWELL-CUM-SOTWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting duly convened and held on 21st June 2016 at 7.30pm in the Church Room, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell

Present: Cllrs H. Baines(Chair), J. Debney, D. Fox and S. Jackson.

In attendance: L. Dalby (Clerk) and one member of the public.

1.	Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Cllrs C. Collett, S. Robson, A. McGivan and County Cllr L. Atkins.
2.	Minutes of the meeting held on 17th May 2016 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
3.	Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interest. There were none.
4.	Public Participation The resident raised concerns about the exit from Church Lane on to High Road and suggested that a mirror would make the junction safer. It was agreed to investigate how much a mirror would cost.
5.	Reports a) County Councillor's Report <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. When final decisions were made by bus operators about subsidized services, some in the area were saved but very regrettably that does not include the no 97 serving Long Wittenham or a service for the Shillingford Park site (where although there are some services continuing as revised 136/139, they won't, I understand, stop at Shillingford Hill). OCC is developing a possible alternative service and details are being worked on at the moment. It should launch before the subsidized services end in July and details will be posted at supportedtransport@oxfordshire.gov.uk.2. Discussions about Unitary Authorities continue ... The District Councils have withdrawn their original proposal which would have required at least two separate sets of primary legislation, and OCC are running a series of public meetings to look at how local councils and local residents may wish to see services provided in future.3. I have been given a place on the Planning and Regulation Committee at OCC which will determine planning applications which are dealt with at County rather than District levels. This is primarily schools but also includes minerals and waste matters for which OCC is the planning authority. It will be an interesting time.4. The Mobile Library service will cease to operate in September, with visits to schools ending at the end of the summer term. The Parish Council should have received an email about this on 6th June. The key point (most important by far) is to let people know that if they cannot get to the library in Wallingford or Didcot they can use the Home Library Service which will bring books to them. Details are on the OCC website.5. There is a drop in event at Oxford Town Hall on Tuesday 28th June from 2-8pm about the latest plans for the Oxford Flood Alleviation Scheme.6. As requested by Sue, I have asked Highways to see if anything can be done about the very faded yellow lines at the village school. I await a reply on that. b) District Councillors' Report The District Councillor's report was noted and is held on file.

c) Clerk's Report

The quote to repair the vandalised window at the Jubilee Pavilion was £370+VAT. The Parish Council Insurance Company have advised that as the excess is £250 in order to protect the no claims bonus it would be more cost effective to simply pay for the repairs.

Following the discussion at the APM the Clerk has confirmed with the County Council that the PC wishes to go ahead with the 20mph limit.

Sue Robson has met with Paul Sim to request a new quote for Solar Panels on the Jubilee Pavilion.

Shillingford will lose their bus service in July. The Clerk been in contact with the Public Transport Rep (Richard Borner) from Shillingford and is waiting for more information about the proposed Pilot Scheme from OCC. In the mean time Mr Borner is finding out how many residents would use the service and where they would need to go.

d) Planning Report

Ref	Description	PC Rec	Decision
P16/S1260 /HH	Erection of 1 st floor extension above existing single storey extension. Stewart Memorial, The Street, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell	NSV	Granted
P16/S1267 /HH	Demolition of existing detached residential annex, garage, and outbuildings. New 2 storey Entrance Wing (N). New 2 storey Living Room Wing (S). New 4 bay garage block annex with ancillary home office roof accommodation. Relocated access (Planning Permission: P15/S2702/HH). Address: Haddon Orchard Sires Hill North Moreton OX11 9BG	NSV	

e) Neighbourhood Plan Report

The NP Committee has appointed a consultant Neil Homer from RCOH to take forward the plan. RCOH is a small consultancy that has successfully helped 25 parishes take their plan to completion.

A grant of £5k from SODC and a further £9k from Locality have been applied for to pay for consultants help. Some additional funding from the Parish Council will be needed.

Clarification is currently being sought on whether potential changes to SODC Core Strategy would affect the requirements of our plan. We may have to make certain changes that have not been presented to the public before. It is anticipated therefore that we will be consulting widely with the parish over the summer months. Consideration will be given for holidays.

It is anticipated that Neil and the NP Committee may need to start to approach potential landowners to discuss the NP.

Cllr Fox reported that he had attended the SODC briefing about the Local Plan 2032. The preferred options will go out for consultation on 27th June. It is likely that the allocation for Brightwell-cum-Sotwell will be larger than planned in the Neighbourhood Plan.

f) Earth Trust

Cllr Robson went to the display of the plans that the Earth Trust have for the future of the site. It's very ambitious and will cost upwards of £5 million so serious fund raising will be needed. The plan is a three phase plan but the planning permission is going to be sought for the whole lot at the beginning. The new road is the most contentious part and she asked the chap in the barn what he thought the general feeling was from the visitors so far and he thought about 80% were in favour and were fed up of the present single track road. Lots of information of the Earth Trust web site and a space for comments.

Cllr Debney reported he is against the access road as her feels there is no evidence for the need for one and it will alter an ancient landscape.

Cllr Fox disagrees as more parking is needed on site which the County Council will only allow this if the current access is widened. The cost of widening the existing access is very expensive and would be equally as detrimental as the proposed new access. Pressure for new parking is coming from the expansion of both Didcot and Wallingford.

Cllr Baines is concerned that alternatives routes have not been explored.

g) Broadband

A letter has been sent to OCC regarding the poor Broadband Speed in the village requesting further investigation into the problem. Residents have also been encouraged to write and complain about the issue.

h) June's Payments for approval

Payee and reason	£ detail	£ VAT	£ total
L. Dalby – Clerk's Salary and Expenses	536.26		536.26
R. Sherwood - maintenance	70.00		70.00
HMRC – Clerk's PAYE	65.00		65.00
RJS(IA) Ltd – Internal Audit	225.00		225.00
Stewart Village Hall – hall hire for Queen's Birthday	30.00		30.00
Collier's of Crowmarsh – Sadolin for benches	16.58	3.32	19.90
Brightwell Vineyard – Wine for APM	69.81	13.96	83.77
BcSCVS – Refreshments for APM	24.77		24.77
AES Ltd – tennis court fence and noticeboard	673.00	134.60	807.60
John O'Conner Grounds Maintenance Ltd	485.33	97.07	582.40
Shillingford Hill Parkhome Residents Assoc. – Queen's Birthday Celebrations	67.95		67.95
Alison Zalinski – Queen's Birthday Celebrations	10.00		10.00
BcS PCC – Room hire			

The balance of the bank account on 31st May 2016 was £49,032.52. Since then a grant of £640 from SODC for the Queen's Birthday Celebrations and a repayment from VAT from HMRC of £5188.64 has been received.

6.	<p>Matters for Discussion/Decision</p> <p>a) Road Verges – management of grass and trees The A4130 verges have now been cut following complaints from the residents about safety problems exiting the village. The Clerk is waiting for information from OCC about taking over the management of these verges. Cllr Debney reported that he had spoken to OCC Highways Officers about the management of trees and hedges on the verges. OCC are considering cutting hedges on their land down to ground level to cut maintenance costs. He reported this would be detrimental to the village and nature. It was agreed that the Clerk would ask OCC for a plan of the affected areas in order that the Parish Council can discuss taking over the management of the hedges and trees as well as the grass on the verges.</p> <p>b) Village Map The map was agreed in principal as part of the CLP. The proposal is for a map of the village to be displayed in a prominent position to help visitors find their bearings. It was agreed that a digital map could be a better option.</p> <p>c) Internal Audit 2015/16 Report The internal audit report was discussed.</p> <p>d) Annual Governance Statements 2015/16 The Annual Governance Statements 2015/16 were agreed.</p> <p>e) Accounting Statements 2015/16 The Accounting Statements 2015/16 were agreed.</p> <p>f) Jubilee Pavilion Accounts The Jubilee Pavilion Accounts were noted. A signed copy is needed.</p> <p>g) A-Z A new forward is needed for the A-Z and the content will need to be checked for any updates.</p>
7.	<p>Matters for report and inclusion on July's Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A thank you letter has been received for the contribution to Brightfest. - The school newsletter included a report about eh proposed 20mph limits.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Tuesday 19th July 2016 at 7.30pm

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9 pm.