

**Minutes of the Little Coxwell Parish Council Meeting
Held in Little Coxwell Village Hall on Monday 24th April 2023**

1. Present: G Yarwood (Chairman), Fra Woodd, Dave New, A Whiteford (Councillors), C Weston (Clerk), A Benford (PPW), Cllr Elaine Ware (VWHDC), Cllr Bethia Thomas (OCC)
2. Apologies for absence were received from N J Mattingley, Cllr Simon Howell (VWHDC)
3. Declarations of interest. None
4. The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12th December 2022 were approved.
5. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.
 - 5.1. Installation of new bollards. The bollards have been installed by OCC. Due to the narrow verge at the corner of Woodbine Cottage it was not possible to locate a bollard exactly at the corner. One of the older plastic bollards removed from outside Spring Barn will be placed there instead.

Action: Dave
 - 5.2. The reduced speed limits of 20mph and 40mph have been implemented by OCC and it is felt the traffic is slowing down on the Fernham Road. It is hoped to install some form of "Village Entrance Gateway" signage on Fernham Road from both directions. Bethia suggested we should get advice from Mark Francis. There may be some funding available. Bethia to send us any information.

Action: Bethia
 - 5.3. Jubilee Tree Plaques. Jeanette continues to look into the design and sourcing of plaques. Caroline to forward information when available. Dave New said a simple brass plaque has been attached to the new Woolstone bench for about £50.

Action: Caroline
 - 5.4. A420 FATAc Meeting. Glen's input to the meeting was very favourably received. He suggested moving the footpath which crosses the A420 down from Wicklesham Farm to cross at the Park Road roundabout where a central reservation already exists. The funding for an A420 central reservation by the Fernham Road turning is still available and should be installed this year. It is still not known if this will include any lighting. The request to reduce speed limit along the A420 from Great Coxwell to Park Road roundabout was captured. Glen is still waiting to receive traffic data on which he offered to carry out some analysis. Bethia to ask Sally Thurston to chase.

Action: Bethia
6. County & District Councillors' reports.
 - 6.1. The key items from Bethia's report have been covered above.
 - 6.2. Elaine reminded us that there will be no annual report as we are in the Pre-election Period.
 - 6.2.1. The Eastern Village Connector Road may be open in September 2023 which should take some traffic off the A420.
 - 6.2.2. A waste and re-cycling strategy was recently published, and Elaine encouraged us to respond. This week was the 'extra garden waste' week, however no reminder was sent so unfortunately most residents were unaware.
 - 6.2.3. There is a Vale Climate Action Fund which can provide advice and grants for community buildings. For example, they could advise on whether solar panels may be appropriate for the Village Hall.

Elaine thanked the Council for their support. Elaine was also warmly thanked for all her help and hard work on behalf of Little Coxwell.

7. Planning

7.1. The following applications have been completed since the last meeting:

7.1.1.P23/V0445/AG- Broadleaze Barn Agricultural Implements and Straw Storage Barn – no application required.

7.1.2.P23/V0593/AG – Gorse Farm agricultural building extension – no application required.

7.1.3.P23/V0430/S73 - Orchard House – Variation of Condition 4 (Tree Protection). APPROVED

7.2. The following applications are still in progress:

7.2.1.P23/V0538/HH – Yew Tree House extension and new garage. No objections from PC

7.3. Party Barns. The 2 holiday let barns opposite the entrance to the village by Gorse Farm have been regularly causing issues such as noise late into the night at weekends. This is a major problem for neighbours and also animals at Gorse Farm next door. The buildings obtained planning permission as homes, not holiday lets, and the issues have now been reported to the Planning department who are investigating. Elaine Ware said she would also speak with Environmental health and planning.

Action: Elaine

8. Grundon Quarry. The initial Liaison Group meeting took place on 28th February 2023. The next meeting is in July and all parties encouraged to communicate between meetings.

9. Finance

9.1. Account Status. The Actual vs Budget YTD detail was distributed in advance of the meeting. The Actual vs Budget for year end 2022/23 was also circulated. There were no questions on these accounts.

- Total bank balance stands at £10,947.04. Note: £2,500 reserved for the Playing Field costs. There may be some legal costs related to the new 40mph speed limits.
- Income since last meeting
 - ◆ £650 Precept,
 - ◆ £1010 refund from Thrings of monies lodged with them in 2014 to pay for Council fees re Playing Field
- Expenditure since last meeting was in line with that agreed:
 - ◆ Defibrillator Pads £252
 - ◆ CCTV service and annual contract £111
 - ◆ CPRE £36
 - ◆ Note: Bollards were provided FoC (had expected £624)
- Income due before next meeting - None
- The following expected expenditure before next meeting was approved (excl VAT):
 - ◆ £400 Coronation Event
 - ◆ £280 Annual Insurance Renewal
 - ◆ £100 Uncontested Election Fee
 - ◆ Materials for village clean up – bench, phone box, pump
 - ◆ Paint for footpath ducking bar
- Expected Income due before next meeting - None

All known and estimated costs above are approved.

- 9.2. It was agreed that the full budgeted amount of £400 should be made available to assist the Village Coronation Events
- 9.3. The annual audit will take place on 13th June.
10. CCTV. The annual service took place OK. The engineer said the system is now very old, however the quality of picture is very good providing clear sight of vehicle number plates. Although it is slow to search through the pictures it has been very successful so far. Bethia said the Councillor Priority fund is re-opening soon if needed.
11. Footpaths. Andy B reported that he attended a one-day workshop for footpath wardens where he met Arthur McEwan-James. Andy showed Arthur a photo of the ducking bar at the end of the church path and said we haven't had any complaints in over 2 years. Whilst Arthur would have preferred a gate, but he suggested we leave it in place and highlight it in yellow or other suitable marking. Andy to make the change with the Parish Council paying for the paint/materials.
- Action: Andy B*
12. Village Playing Field.
The draft Heads of Terms were received on 31st January 2023 after assistance from Elaine. We responded asking for the earlier financial limits to be honoured (surveyors fees of £500 and legal fees of £1000) and a longer notice period, noting that the short lease effectively stops us from obtaining grant funding. The council agreed to the financial limits and extended the notice period to 6 months. The revised HoT were agreed on 17th February 2023. After much chasing the council confirmed on 24th April 2023 that they have instructed their legal department to draw up the lease. Caroline to chase early/mid May.
- Action: Caroline*
13. Sundry Items
- 13.1. Coronation Event. Pippa Reagan joined the meeting just for this agenda item to discuss some of the Clean Up activities.
- 13.1.1. The phone box would benefit from a new coat of paint and clean up.
- 13.1.2. The bench by the village pound needs stripping and repainting.
- 13.1.3. The pump needs some attention.
- 13.1.4. Grundons to be asked if they can sweep the village prior to the Coronation weekend.
- Pippa to put out a message asking for volunteers to do the phone box and the bench.
- Action: Pippa*
- Andy Whiteford to ask Grundons to sweep and do the work on the pump.
- Action: Andy W*
- The Parish Council will pay for materials such as the paint for the above tasks.
- 13.2. The various signs at the village entrance will be tidied up. Fra agreed to look into a new village map showing property names. Ideally a map which could be easily updated every few years as properties change.
- Action: Fra*
- 13.3. Vegetation by Village Hall Car Park. This will be addressed in the summer.
- Action: Dave/Glen*
- 13.4. OALC Membership. The benefits and costs of OALC membership were discussed and it was decided not to join.
- 13.5. Parish Council Election 4th May. All current councillors applied for re-election. No other candidate applications were received so the election is uncontested. There are "Acceptance of Office" and "Declaration of Interest" forms to be completed

within 28 days of the new term (which starts 9th May). Caroline to provide the forms at an appropriate date (next meeting).

Action: Caroline

14. Date of next meeting.

It is required to hold the next meeting (Annual meeting) within 28 days of the new term of office. It will also be necessary to hold a meeting late June, after the Audit, to sign off the Accounts and submit the documents to the External Auditor.

The date for the next meeting is Monday 15th May 2023 in the Village Hall. The meeting will start at 17.30 or 18.00 (tbd) as the hall needs to be vacated by 19.00.