

GREAT OXENDON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 4 July 2016

Present: Councillors Steedman, Barker, Rumsey, Jones, Wright, Strong and Hogarth

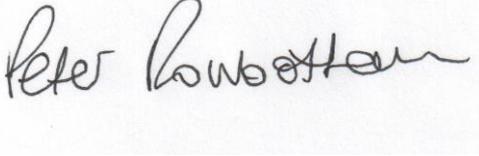
6 members of the public

1364	<p>Apologies –</p> <p>No Apologies had been received.</p>
1365	<p>Declaration of Personal & Prejudicial Interests</p> <p>Item 1370 - Councillor Barker declared a personal and prejudicial interest – proposed affordable housing at Braybrooke Road, Great Oxendon. Councillor Barker would not be participating or voting on this item.</p> <p>Item 1375 - Village Hall Grant Application – Councillors on the Village Hall Committee would not be participating or voting on this item. The Council would still be quorate for this item.</p>
1366	<p>Minutes of the Meeting and Annual Meeting held on 6 June 2016</p> <p>Both sets of minutes for 6th June 2016 were agreed as a true and accurate record.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Barker and seconded by Councillor Jones.</p>
1367	<p>Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting – 6 June 2016</p> <p>Councillor Colyer had indicated to the Chair that he had stood down as Parish Councillor. The Chair asked that a letter be sent to him thanking him for his time and effort serving the Parish Council.</p> <p>The new Councillors (Councillor Wright and Councillor Hogarth) had completed the Notice of Registerable Interests and the Code of Conduct Compliance forms.</p>
1368	<p>Open Forum</p> <p>Mark Linnell updated the Parish Council with the planning decision of NCC regarding the Wormslade Farm application. He thought that the decision to approve the application was disappointing. He had since been encouraged by many local people to seek a judicial review.</p> <p>A judicial review challenges the process but can be expensive. It may not change the outcome. The decision to challenge would be based on the likely level of financial contributions. The advice received from NALC suggests that the Parish Council may be able to contribute to a Judicial Review if it wishes.</p> <p>It was reported that overgrowing branches were causing problems outside the Rectory. It was thought that the PCC should be able to deal with this matter.</p>
1369	<p>Update from the local Councillor</p> <p>Apologies had been received from Cécile Irving Swift.</p>

1370	<p>Planning Matters</p>
1370/1	<p>Planning Applications to Consider. There had been no planning applications received from the Planning Authorities to consider.</p>
1370/2	<p>Wormslade Farm – The Parish Council was concerned of the potential impact of the Wormslade Farm development upon the village. If the legal advice suggested that a Judicial Review may be successful then the Parish Council would consider a financial contribution. The Parish Council agreed that it would consider a contribution of up to £3000 but this was subject to checking legislation, adequate budget being in place and a further discussion on 1st August. It was hoped that the Councils partners within the Cross Border Liaison Group would also contribute to the Judicial Review costs.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Jones. Unanimous.</p>
1370/3	<p>Proposed Affordable Housing, Braybrooke Road – (Councillor Barker left the room for this item) The Council considered an informal approach for a 'rural exception site' for affordable homes. The Parish Council had identified affordable homes as an objective within the Councils Design Statement. On the basis of the information provided it was agreed that the Parish Council support this proposal 'in principle'.</p> <p>This was proposed by Councillor Jones and seconded by Councillor Hogarth. (Councillor Barker then returned to the meeting)</p>
1371	<p>Police and Community Safety</p> <p>Council Barker reported on the Neighbourhood Watch initiative. He had attended an informative meeting with Andy Crisp together with Councillor Steedman and Helen Walsh. The Great Oxendon Neighbourhood Watch will be re launched at the end of the Summer. The Parish Clerk would send out a note to those on the mailing list asking for any interest in joining the relaunched NW Group.</p>
1372	<p>Environment</p>
1372/1	<p>Millennium Monument – There had been difficulty in getting more quotations for the required work to the Millennium Monument. The Builders at The George (TNDP Limited) had been approached and they indicated a willingness to do the work. The quote was £1287 plus VAT and this was thought by the Council to be best value. The slabs were being provided free of charge. Councillor Barker reported that the work could be carried out on the basis of the original approval letter from the Highway Authority. The previously selected bench would be provided at a cost of £1550 plus £125 delivery. Expected completion would be the end of September 2016.</p> <p>A budget of £4,000 had been set for this project and this had been carried over from the previous financial year. This project had been ongoing for some time. The proposed work was within this budget and the revised cost would be £2962.</p> <p>Parish Councillors discussed the costs of the project and expressed some reservations at these, particularly at a time when the Council was increasing its spending in other areas. The alternatives were discussed including the removal of the monument and a reduced scheme.</p> <p>It was agreed, as a result of a vote, to progress the Millennium Monument project to completion with a revised budget of £3,000.</p> <p>The vote was recorded as follows: For: Councillor Steedman, Councillor Barker, Councillor Rumsey and Councillor Wright. Against: Councillor Jones, Councillor Strong and Councillor Hogarth.</p>

1372/2	<p>Grass Cutting in the Village 2016 – The Parish Council had been dissatisfied with the current NCC grass cutting standards. The number of proposed cuts (3 per annum) was thought to be insufficient and the Parish Council agreed to use its own resources to urgently improve the village environment. The Parish Council agreed that Four Counties Grounds Maintenance be asked to carry out two cuts and one strimming exercise on a monthly basis. A budget of £1250 would be allocated.</p> <p>This was proposed by Councillor Hogarth and seconded by Councillor Wright. Unanimous</p>
1372/3	<p>Kerb Appeal – Councillor Rumsey outlined a proposed 'Kerb Appeal' initiative for the village. This is about the residents taking ownership of the outside of their properties to improve the neighbourhood. It was thought that this could be developed to include a mail shot, clean up days and a 'pride in the village' competition. An article or poster would be prepared by Councillor Rumsey for the Parish Newsletter. The Parish Council welcomed this.</p>
1373	<p>Highways</p> <p>Councillor Jones had met with Andrew Leighton of NCC regarding the traffic calming on the A508. He had produced some revised plans to extend the road markings. There was a six week lead time for this work to be carried out. There was another traffic survey planned for September – at present the data being used is from 2012. There had been some enforcement activity on the A508 – with the recent visit of an Officer with a 'speed gun'.</p>
1374	<p>Community</p> <p>Councillor Barker presented the latest Village Hall accounts for the year ending 2 May 2016. These had been requested for information by the Parish Council at the Annual Meeting. The accounts indicated total income of £5,059.71 and total expenditure of £3507.27. Following a question, Councillor Barker said he would feedback for the reason of an increased spend in 2013. The accounts were noted by the Parish Council.</p>
1375	<p>Finance</p> <p>1375/1 Grant application – An application form and latest accounts had been received from the Village Hall Committee. The Hall needed a new boiler as a matter of urgency. The work would cost in the region of £1800. The Parish Council considered the application and agreed to pay a grant of £1500. The following payment was therefore approved:</p> <p>Cheque 100743 – £1500 - Village Hall Committee - Grant -</p> <p>This was proposed by Councillor Wright and seconded by Councillor Hogarth. Unanimous (Councillors who were also on the Village Hall Committee did not vote on this item)</p> <p>1375/1 Approval of Payments. The following payments were approved by the Parish Council:</p> <p>Cheque 100741 - £525.56 - Peter Rowbotham, Parish Clerk – Salary and Expenses Cheque 100742 - £108.60 - HMRC – Tax for Clerks Salary</p> <p>The payments were proposed by Councillor Barker and seconded by Councillor Rumsey. Unanimous</p>
1376	<p>Chairs Report</p> <p>Councillor Steedman reported that the next Cross Border Liaison Meeting would be held on Wednesday 13th July at Harrington. Councillor Rumsey would also be attending.</p>

1377	<p>Parish Clerks Business</p> <p>Nothing to report</p>
1378	<p>Date and Time of the Next Parish Council Meeting</p> <p>Monday 1st August starting 730pm.</p>
<p><i>The meeting finished at 9.30pm</i></p>	

<p><i>Signed as a true and accurate record</i></p>	<p>Councillor Roseanne Steedman</p> <p>Chair Great Oxendon Parish Council 1st August 2016</p>
	<p>Peter Rowbotham</p> <p>Parish Clerk Great Oxendon Parish Council 26th July 2016</p> <p>077 1212 0231 parishcouncil@greatoxendon.org</p>