

Great Oxendon

Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 8th April 2019

Present: Councillor Steedman, Councillor Rumsey, Councillor Barker, Councillor Dr Jones, Councillor Carolyn Jones, Councillor Evans and Councillor Hogarth.

Apologies: Councillor Rumsey and County Councillor Irvine Swift.

Parish Clerk – Peter Rowbotham

Members of the Public: 2

1. **Welcome**

Councillor Steedman welcomed everyone to the Annual meeting of the Parish.

2. **Apologies**

Apologies had been received from County & District Councillor Cecille Irvine Swift.

3. **Parish Councillors introduced themselves to the meeting.**

The Parish Councillors introduced themselves to the meeting. The Chair stated that the Parish Council would always be open and transparent in its business and was always happy to receive comments on local community matters.

3. **Parish Council activities**

Councillor Steedman reviewed the Parish Council year. She highlighted the following:

- Focus on the A508 improvements – funding now in place and very hopeful of implementation of a traffic calming scheme during 2019
- Installed broadband to the Village Hall
- The Parish Council had received its first Community Infrastructure Levy of £6,607.33. This will probably be used for a new speed sign.
- Bought a World War 1 bench which will be installed at the Braybrooke Road junction – subject to permissions
- The Parish Council had grant aided the stained-glass window at the church
- The Parish Council had provided first aid training for villages to complement its funded defibrillator.
- A new welcome newsletter has been prepared, printed and circulated

- Planning Applications have been commented on. The position regarding Wormslade Farm had been monitored. Golden Stables is being monitored and support provided in the opposition of unauthorised development.
- The Parish Council commented on the review of parishes. Great Oxendon is not subject to any changes.
- It has received regular reports on Community Safety matters and the profile of Neighbourhood Watch has improved. New signs are in place and more residents had signed up for the alert system.
- New litter bins have been purchased.

The following challenges for the following year had been identified including -

- The ongoing discussions to have Neighbourhood Plan and how this could be delivered.
- Reviewing the street lighting. The Parish Council must agree and fund a scheme that balances enough light for community safety purposes and not too much to avoid urbanisation of the rural village.
- Local Government reorganisation – and its impact on Great Oxendon and the Council Tax payer
- Improving the street scene – removing litter, less dog fouling & fly tipping and better grass cutting standards within a very limited budget.

4 Youth Club

The Youth Club had continued in its existing format. Numbers attending are between 15 and 30 although it was noted that there was a national decline in attendances. The Club is still very active in crafts, outside activities, night walks and suppers. The playing field continues to be used although this now needs investment. Youth Club users play in the orchard and also help with gardening. The shed break in had been very disappointing with a loss of £1,300 worth of goods which was not replaced. The report was received by the meeting.

5. Village Hall

A productive year was reported for the Village Hall. New lights had been installed and the electrics had all been checked. Some electrical goods needed replacing including the Urn and the Cooker. The Christmas Teas and the recent Sunday lunch had proven popular. The fashion show was well received. The fund raising continues through the 50/50 club, Go Social and via the Parish Council grants system. The report was received by the meeting.

6 Open Forum

Improving the Village Hall for the use of meetings etc was discussed including have a large TV for presentations.

The Parish Newsletter was discussed. It was agreed that it is up to individuals to make this work. The reduced cost of production had been reflected in the reduced quality. There was advertising opportunities for the newsletter to pursue.

The path to the church needed restoring. A price was being obtained from JD Excavations.

A village tidy up was planned for April 27th.

Road markings had faded around the village. The opportunity would be taken to ask the County Council to do this when the traffic scheme is delivered.

The meeting finished at 9:30pm

Signed as a true and accurate record

2018/2019

Councillor Roseanne Steedman
Chair
Great Oxendon Parish Council

13th May 2019