

Great Oxendon

Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 9th April 2018

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

Apologies:

Parish Clerk – Peter Rowbotham

Members of the Public: 5

1.	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>Councillor Steedman welcomed everyone to the Annual meeting of the Parish.</p>
2	<p><u>Apologies</u></p> <p>Apologies had been received from County & District Councillor Cecille Irvine Swift, District Councillor Richard Auger and residents Michael and Ann Corner. Northants Police could not send a representative.</p>
3.	<p><u>Parish Councillors introduced themselves to the meeting.</u></p> <p>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 be happy to receive comments on local community matters.</p>
3.	<p><u>Parish Council activities</u></p> <p>It had been another busy year and the Chairman thanked the Councillors present for their valued support to Great Oxendon Parish Council and their ongoing commitment. The Clerk was also thanked for support to the Council.</p> <p>A welcome was recorded to this year's newly co-opted Councillors: Councillor Meryck Evans and Councillor Debbie Jones.</p> <p>The following Parish Council work was highlighted by the Chairman:</p> <p>Planning – There have been many varied applications whereby the Council has discussed and responded to applications. All the responses are contained within the minutes for the year. Applicants have attended meetings and views have been carefully listened to.</p> <p>Anaerobic Digester – This has been an on-going application and came back to the Parish Council for further consideration after an application was submitted to vary the operating conditions. The Chairman thanked Colin</p>

Brown and his team (including Councillor Stephen Hogarth) for the support he has given for this process. Colin Brown had represented the Parish at the recent County Development Control Meeting held in Northampton and did a great amount of work to challenge the proposed outcomes which could have a negative impact on the community. County Councillor Irving Swift had also supported the Parish Council and this was also appreciated. The Parish Council is committed to ensuring that the application is only progressed in accordance with the conditions and this will be closely monitored.

Defibulator

The Chairman thanked Councillor Hogarth for leading and delivering this project. Training will be rolled out at some point and this is being organised in conjunction with the help from St John's Ambulance.

Highways

The Chairman was disappointed that the Traffic Calming measure with the NCC was still not progressing despite the fact that a £10,000 contribution had been allocated to deliver the project. Other ongoing issues include the water leak on Main Street and pot holes.

The mowing of the highway verges is continuing to be managed by the Parish Council and thanks were recorded to Councillor Carolyn Jones for her ongoing support with this.

Millennium Monument

The remedial work was carried out on the Monument to our satisfaction and the Chairman stated that the outcome was very good.

Cross Border

These meetings were continuing and I Councillor Carolyn Jones was thanked for her support with these meetings. The meetings offered good networking and support between the nearby villages.

Golden Stables & Green Fields

Although this is not in our Parish area, Councillor Irving Swift continues to keep the Parish Council informed of any planning matters affecting these sites. Thanks were recorded to Councillor Irving Swift for the supporting throughout the year.

Policing

Councillor Barker was thanked for his work on community safety issues. The Parish Council will continue to work this year to try and get some engagement with the local officers who cover this area. In the meantime the Parish Council continue to receive Neighbourhood Watch reports which highlights crime in nearby villages and keeps the community involved. Great Oxendon residents were encouraged to sign up to the Neighbourhood Watch email alert services.

Village Plan

Great Oxendon have a Design Plan and discussions had taken place regarding the need for a Neighbourhood Plan. Further discussions are required and volunteers would be required from the Community.

The Parish Council thanked the Chairman for her comprehensive report.

4	<p><u>Youth Club</u></p> <p>Councillor Barker provided an update on the Great Oxendon Youth Club. The Club is held on Tuesday nights and numbers vary from 15 – 30 young people. These numbers remain healthy despite a national decline in attendance.</p> <p>The Club still has its mini bus which is used quite frequently.</p> <p>The playing fields is the biggest cost in terms of maintenance. The mower alone cost in the region of £4,500. Contributions have enabled replacement goal nets and a trampoline. The orchard and the garden is doing well but less engagement from the young people on this.</p> <p>This was a positive report and the Chairman thanked Councillor Barker for the informative update.</p>
5.	<p><u>Village Hall</u></p> <p>Councillor Carolyn Jones updated the meeting on the Village Hall. It was reported that the Hall had been modernised and updated with a view to increasing its usage. The venue would be promoted to increase awareness.</p> <p>Future plans include the improvements to the lighting system. The Parish Council was thanked for its financial contributions towards the Halls improvements. 'GO Social' and the 50/50 club had also contributed.</p>
6	<p><u>Open Forum</u></p> <p>It was requested that the antique clock in the Village Hall be restored/ fixed. Councillor Barker would look into this.</p> <p>The path running from Main Street to the Church was a little overgrown. It was requested that the Parish Council look at doing this with no dog fouling signs at each end.</p> <p>Any highway verges that need restoring should be reported via Street Doctor.</p> <p>The level of street lighting was raised an issue. It was thought that the bottom of Main Street needed additional lighting for safety reasons. This matter would be looked into.</p> <p>A resident was pleased that the Parish Council was working in harmony and also complimented the Chairman for the way in which she conducting the meeting . .</p>

The meeting finished at 8.24pm

Signed as a true and accurate record

Councillor Roseanne Steedman
Chair
Great Oxendon Parish Council

21st May 2018