

Parish of Ogbourne St Andrew, Ogbourne Maizey and Rockley

Minutes of the Meeting

Held on Microsoft Teams at 7pm on 11th January 2021

Present: John Hetherington (Chair)
Allison Holland (Clerk)
John Edmunds
Alan Brown
Nick Parsons
Yvonne Parsons

Public present: Stuart Williamson

Apologies: Sid Vincent
Steve Heaven

1. Minutes from the last meeting

The amended Minutes from the last meeting on 9th November 2020 were approved.

2. Matters Arising

Shipping Container - work has not been able to proceed due to Covid-19 lockdown. Item remains on the agenda.

WI Tree pruning - tree visited and need for attention agreed. JH to investigate costs and planning requirements.

3. Update on Community Pub Project

Thank was given on behalf of the project for the grant provided by the Parish Council to carry out the valuation on the pub. Valuation of the pub completed and a fair rate for the pub has been established although there is a gap between this and the asking price so a negotiation is underway. Overwhelming positive feedback was received from the village survey in support for the project.

An application has been submitted for the project to become a Community Benefit Society (a legal entity) which will then enable applications to be submitted to gain funding. It is expected that there will be an election process (possibly this summer) to elect the board of trustees.

A business case being drawn up to drive the project forward and it is expected that a Community Share Offer will launch on 1st February 2021 to further engage the local community.

4. Cycle Track Signage

A response was received from Sustrans regarding the incorrect signage by Wet Pits Lane. There have been numerous issues with the signage and a contractor is working his way along the cycle track to correct the errors.

John Hetherington has tabled a request for signage to warn all cyclists that there are pedestrians using the stretch of path behind Crawlings Piece and Sustrans have agreed to erect this signage in due course.

The councillors agreed that no signs to warn pedestrians about the cyclists should be erected at this time as there were concerns raised over Parish Council liabilities if there was to be an incident.

5. Planning

The Forge – reduction in height of trees on boundary. Passed with no issues.

The Old School – reduction in height and overhang of trees. No issues raised.

Townsend – tree reductions requested. Concern to be raised concerning the extent of the pollarding requested. The Parish Council has received a complaint regarding the previous removal of a hedgerow which was supposed to remain and now in its absence there is an issue with the large boiler and associated steam on the corner of Wet Pits Lane.

Maizey Farm – request to build three ponds down behind Bay Bridges layby/Hunger Bourne. It was thought that this could help with excess water issues in the village and no issues raised.

Wheatsheaf Cottage – applied for a dropped curb for extended vehicular access. Requests were heard that the footpath should be properly re-instated so it is obvious where pedestrian access runs alongside the busy A346.

6. Financial Report

Current account £2,286.73 Savings account £5,912.60 TOTAL: £8,199.33

Payments made since last meeting include £1,200 grant payment to Community Pub Project (covered by an equal transfer from the savings account), £149 for the Netwise Accessibility Update to the website, Clerks salary and newsletter expenses. Total expenditure was £1,544.75. Income of £948.57 was received from Ford Fuels as the parish rebate for the Cygnet Consortium.

It was agreed that Allison Holland should have access to the NS&I account as Clerk and agreed that the paperwork be submitted to change the signatory access. Three PC members need to sign the paperwork and Allison to contact people this week to achieve this.

7. 2021 Elections

There are elections to be held in May 2021 and the requirements of the Parish Council were discussed. It was agreed that Wiltshire Council usually send out paperwork in the period leading up to the election to ensure all proper procedures are followed.

8. Jobs for Parish Steward

The following jobs were recognised as a priority for the Parish Steward on their next visit to the village:

- The layby in Ogbourne Maizey has quite deep holes/ruts. Is it possible to have this levelled out?
- Area in front of Southview/Crow Lynch where the boarder has been dug up by tractors requires some attention.

9. Correspondence

Netwise V2 – a technological upgrade wordpress which affects the workings behind the webpage has been highlighted. The cost is £149 (reduced from £300 as we have already had the Accessibility upgrade work done). It is not compulsory to have this work completed but if it is not done by June 2021 Netwise will then not support the old technology and it could be liable to bugs. It was agreed that this work should be undertaken and Allison Holland to contact Netwise to organise.

10. A.O.B.

Scottish & Southern – NP raised the issue of an application to the Resilience Fund for funding for items for the Parish. Ideas discussed were a defibrillator or a pull along gritting machine. Issues with placing for a defibrillator including hard wiring into electricity. Any ideas to be forwarded to Nick Parsons and Yvonne Parsons to investigate the costs associated with defibrillator instillation.

Bank opposite The Willows – concern over tractors usage of verge/ignoring of curb and requirement to repair. JH to contact Martin Cook and ask about how this could be rectified.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 7.59pm.

The next meeting will be on **Monday 8th March 2021** and the 2021 dates will be as follows:

10th May 2021 12th July 2021 (AGM) 13th September 2021 8th November 2021