**Parish of Ogbourne St Andrew,**

**Ogbourne Maizey and Rockley**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

12th July 2021

Held at Ogbourne St Andrew Church, 7pm

**Present:** Nick Parsons (Chair)

Allison Holland (Clerk)

Yvonne Parsons

John Edmunds
 Alan Brown

John Hetherington

**Public present**: Ian Davis
 Stuart Williamson

 Alex Hegarty

1. **Minutes from the last meeting**

The amended Minutes from the last meeting on 24th May 2021 were approved.

1. **Update on Community Pub Project**

Stuart updated on the Community Pub Project. Initial negotiations were not successful and the current pub owner was investigating opportunities for residential development. However, negotiations have recommenced, and it is hopeful that a price will be agreed. A minimum of £200k needs to be raised by the community to make the project work and this is not far off from where they currently are. The Community Funding window has been extended and it is hoped that everything can be finalised before Christmas 2021.

1. **Newsletter Printing**

Alex Hegarty attended to discuss the printing of the newsletter. The usual printing company can no longer print the newsletter and alternatives need to be sought. We had very competitive rates with our previous printer and Alex is struggling to find anyone else who can meet these high discount levels. The latest newsletter cost £112 vs previous costs in the area of £45 per issue.

Various options were discussed to make the printing cheaper:

* Moving to black and white
* Stricter page control – only 6 pages not 8-16
* Selling sponsorship/advertising
* Reducing the frequency to 3 times a year

Preferences were discussed and it was agreed that the Parish Council would rather pay for colour and look at the option of selling advertising space to cover the additional costs. Various quotes have been obtained by Alex and it was agreed that she would come back to the PC with a menu of options so a way forward could be agreed.

JH thanked Alex for her work on the newsletter and also asked that thanks were passed onto the distributors.

1. **Parish Council Constitution & policies**

Whilst applying for the SSEN resilience funding, NP identified that we do not have a constitution in place. A report was given (copy attached) highlighting the basic policies that need to be put in place.

NP emailed out a copy of the proposed constitution a few weeks ago and a few amendments made following comments from PC members. The amended constitution is to be sent out for agreement by all members.

AB requested a hard copy to be provided to councillors and soft copies emailed and put on parish council website.

NP declared that from now on, statements of interests to be declared at the start of each meeting to reveal personal and prejudicial interests. Councillors to declare an interest once the agenda is published.

*ACTION: NP to circulate the amended constitution and continue working on policies that need to be put in place.*

Declaration of office forms (following the recent elections) were signed by all councilllors present.

1. **Community Spirit events**

NP shared that he has picked up from various conversations with people in Ogbourne Maizey and Rockley an “us” and “them” mentality between the different villages within the Parish. He would like to launch a “One Community” approach to communications and events. Options for some event ideas were discussed and issues with social media and one channel (FB? Whats App?)

One idea was to create a village volunteer hub for people to sign up and get involved with village events – issues discussed around engaging volunteers.

Overall, it was agreed that this was a good idea and that NP should progress with more conversations.

*ACTION: NP to continue conversations and moving ideas forward.*

1. **SSEN Resilience Fund – Village Defibrillators**

Application made for £4,475 for 3 defibrillators and 3 storage containers and application has been received by SSEN. A lot of bids received and are being reviewed with a decision expected by late August/early September. If successful we would need to pay for the installation fees.
*ACTION: NP to provide an electronic copy of application for file.*

1. **Village Maintenance**

AB has been talking to Parish Steward about getting the local pot holes fixed but apparently this is no longer in their remit. Lots of things that used to be in their remits are no longer being done because WCC are in so much debt.

The footpath between Ogbourne St Andrew and Ogbourne St George was discussed and needs to be cleared to stop people walking in the road. NP to send photo so it can be supplied to WCC.

*ACTION: AH to email to WCC.*

1. **Planning**

No planning applications have been received.

1. **Financial Report**

Current account £7,044 Savings account £5,953 TOTAL: £12,997

No expenditure since the last council meeting.

1. **Correspondence**

**Pete Sparrow – Wiltshire Police –** Crime Prevention survey emailed around regarding SmartWater and a push to get more people using it. Opportunity for the PC to pay £10 per household (through the police) and hand the SmartWater out to households in our parish. AH completed survey to say we would like more info.**Wiltshire Council – Climate Strategy Consultation** – available from 1st September for 6 weeks and they would like as many people to read and respond during this time.
*ACTION: AH asked Alex to put in the newsletter*

1. **A.O.B.**

**Rights of way news** (Carol Davis update on personal actions):

Ian Davis asked to update the council on the conversations and actions taken by Carol Davis since the last parish council meeting. A report was delivered (see separate attachment).

**Parish Noticeboards**

The Rockley noticeboard has rotted and was taken down by the village some years ago. NP to make enquiries as to where a new board could be sited. Important to deliver parish news and keep the villages connected.

*ACTION: NP to communicate with Rockley Manor about most suitable positioning.*

**Clerk role**

AH tendered her resignation as Clerk. Demands of work and children mean that she no longer has the space to be Parish Clerk. A replacement to be found as soon as possible. Handover notes to be written up for a smooth handover.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

The next meeting (AGM) will be on **Monday 13th September 2021 at 7pm** and the remaining 2021 dates are:

8th November 2021