

Sibford Ferris Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting of the Parish Council held on **Monday 20th September 2021** at **7pm** at Sibford School

Present: Cllrs Simon Rayner, Ginny Bennett, John Wass, Katherine Roussel, Clerk.

In attendance: 29 members of the public, District and County Cllr George Reynolds.

32. Apologies for absence – Cllr Amy Taylor.

33. Members' declarations of interest for items on the agenda – None.

34. Public participation session – None.

35. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting held on 14th July 2021 - The minutes were proposed, agreed and duly signed. It was noted that it states in the minutes that Sibford School do not want the S106 funding allocated to them but the headmaster has not communicated directly with the PC other than the statement he requested be included in the May PC minutes so the PC's assumption that Sibford School do not want the funding may be incorrect. Any further conversations regarding the allocations of the S106 monies needs to be between Sibford School and Cherwell District Council (CDC).

It was agreed to discuss items 38, 39, and 40 at this point due to these being the main areas of interest to the members of the public present.

At the end of discussion of items 38, 39 and 40, 25 members of the public left the meeting.

36. Outstanding matters/actions from previous meetings

- i) Defibrillator training – Cllr Wass is still following this up and he hopes to have an update for the next meeting.
- ii) Tree planting – Cllr Taylor has submitted an application for trees to The Woodland Trust and is waiting to hear if the application has been successful. If this application is not successful there are other possible schemes through which the PC can apply for trees.
- iii) Emergency Plan – parishioner offer to support the Parish Council in the formation of a plan – A parishioner who has significant experience in emergency planning (risk assessor in fire and rescue service) has offered to support the PC in the formation of an Emergency Plan. It was agreed that the PC would appreciate the input of the parishioner and the **Clerk should contact the parishioner to take this forward.**
- iv) Update on actions relating to Speedwatch/Speed reduction in the parish – The speed detection device has been received and Richard Irons is in the process of organising a group of volunteers to receive the relevant training before starting active speedwatch sessions. **Clerk to contact Richard to provide details of Police contact to organise training and to discuss organising a meeting with the volunteers to update them about the status of the project.**
- v) Update re reducing flytipping at the Elms Bottle Banks and next steps – The amount of flytipping seems to have reduced although it is still an issue. **Cllr Rayner to pass remaining flytipping signs to Cllr Wass for him to install.**
- vi) Update on concerns raised by parishioner about road safety at the Elms Crossroads – The Clerk has contacted Highways to request additional safety measures due to recent accidents in that area. Highways agree that improvements are required in this area and they already have plans for repainting lines and installing additional signs but they don't have any maintenance funds left within this financial year to implement those plans at the moment.

Clerk to contact Highways to ask if the PC would be able to part fund the work and if so, what the costs would be.

- 37. Proposal to purchase salt bins at a cost of £250 per bin to be placed at the Elms Crossroads** – It was agreed to drop this proposal as this road is on the main gritting route.
- 38. Oxfordshire Plan 2050** – The Oxfordshire Plan is a long term vision to 2050 and considers addressing climate change, improving environmental quality, creating strong and healthy communities, sustainable travel, and creating jobs and providing homes. It is a joint plan shared by 6 Oxfordshire authorities. It will consider the needs of the whole county regarding housing needs and infrastructure. There is also a consultation on the Oxford-Cambridge ARC. The ARC consultation creates the number of houses that need to be built for each area. The ARC special framework will become part of national planning policy for the number of houses to be built. Parishioners are able to take part in the consultation processes for both of these plans. The ARC consultation closes on October 12th and parishioners can respond online at <https://placebuilder.io/futureofthearc> . The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 closes on October 8th and parishioners can respond online at <https://www.oxfordshireopenthought.org/>. At a meeting held by CDC last week it was noted that 100k to 150k houses are required in Oxfordshire but as there are a large number already in progress this only leaves a requirement for an additional 16-66k. The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) have put out some information that they feel is important to be included in responses to the consultation in order to protect the countryside. Parishioners can access this information on <http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk/news/item/2874-oxfordshire-plan-2050-why-care-about-the-future-of-our-county> should they wish to look into this further as it may help to provide details of planning law that can make responses to the consultation stronger. **Clerk to publish links to the various consultations and information on the PC website.**
- 39. Cherwell Local Plan Review** - The Chairman advised that the Cherwell Local Plan will be the consultation that the PC will spend most time on as it is the one that the PC are most likely to be able to have an impact on and most directly affects the parish. The consultation for the Cherwell Local Plan opens on 29th September and closes on 10th November. As soon as the PC has details about how parishioners can respond to the consultation they will publish information on the PC website. The final draft Plan will be published by CDC in May 2022.
- i) Review of categorisation of village – The PC has advised CDC that they wish for the village categorisation to be reviewed as currently it is categorised with Sibford Gower as a category A village which means it is considered to be a suitable area to support small scale development. CDC have agreed to review the categorisation of both villages as part of the Local Plan process but they also advised in the presentation held last Wednesday that they are considering removing village categorisations entirely so it is unclear what this means for the parish. It was agreed that if the consultation documents aren't received before 29th September the **Clerk should chase CDC for the documents asap after 29th September.**
 - ii) Proposed development sites included in the plan – Land at Folly Farm (22.11 hectares), Land to West of Hook Norton Road (6.8 hectares), and Land East of Woodway Road (0.8 hectares) – These areas have been put forward by the landowners as sites they would like CDC to consider as possible sites for housing development. CDC will now need to look at the sites to consider whether they think they are suitable for development and will make a response to the suggestion through the Local Plan. It was noted that these sites show just those that have been submitted to date but it is possible that more landowners could put forward their land during this consultation. It will be much easier to get planning permission on areas of land that are included in the final plan. It was agreed that the PC will publish all information that they believe could help parishioners make a response to the consultation that is informed by planning law as responses made purely based on opinion will not be considered by the planning officers. Once the PC has received the consultation documents all relevant information will be provided to the community through the village website.

40. Hook Norton Road Development

- i) Update re Allotment Survey – The survey has not yet closed as it runs to the end of September. As at 6th September Gade Homes has received 12 responses with 8 of those being interested in taking on an allotment. Gade will provide an update on the final outcome of the survey at the next meeting.
- ii) Options re Local Area of Play (LAP) – Gade will be spending around £15k on basic items of play such as boulders, and stepping stones so is aimed at younger children.
- iii) S106 funding allocation – The PC contacted Alex Chrusciak (CDC Senior Manager – Development Management) on 27th July and 29th July requesting that CDC review the S106 agreement and complete a deed of variation which removes the names of specific organisations and instead provides general funding headings within which applications can be made for the funding. Despite both the Chairman and District Cllr Chapman chasing this up there have not been any further communications from Alex advising where they are with this. Until CDC complete the process to reallocate the overall headings for the funds the PC cannot look at the detail of what funds could be requested for other village projects.
Chairman to follow this up if no update by 08.10.21.
- iv) General update – Gade Homes have submitted to discharge the following conditions pursuant to the outline application; Condition 1 (The Reserved Matters), Condition 12 (Energy Statement), Condition 13 (Archaeology). Subject to the timely discharge of Condition 13 they intend to start the further archaeology investigation works on site in mid-October.

41. Play area

- i) To receive the professional inspection report and agree any actions required in response to the report - There are a number of minor repairs required. **It was agreed that the Clerk should obtain a quote for all of the repairs required.**
- ii) Update re removal of dead tree and overhanging vegetation – Cllr Bennett is meeting with a contractor on 22nd September to obtain a quote. **Clerk to try to obtain another quote from play equipment contractor if this is work that they can complete.**
- iii) Update on concerns received from parishioners regarding the proposal to close the Cotswold Close play area when the new play area has opened on the Hook Norton Road development – Cllr Bennett and Selina (Play Area Group) met with Yourgos at Gade Homes to discuss the options available in relation to making the Gade Homes Play Area the main play area in the parish. The result of this is that the space allocated for play equipment on the new development appears to be too small to provide the kind of equipment currently offered in Cotswold Close so the existing play equipment should be repaired or replaced. A preliminary quote of £23k has been received for replacement of the play equipment on Cotswold Close and there will be additional costs for clearance of the site, fencing etc. Some of the items can be reused. New regulations require 2 access gates so discussions need to be had with Sibford School about where a second gate can be placed. It was noted that depending on the value of the contract it may need to go out to tender. The PC requested a high level plan of the proposals including potential timescales so the PC can consider which items should be repaired in the short term. **Cllr Bennett and Selina to put together plan to be reviewed at the next meeting.**

A member of the public left the meeting at 9pm.

42. **Sibford School request for dog waste bins to be installed on the footpath and Back Lane – cost per bin for purchase and installation will be around £220 with ongoing emptying costs of around £120 per annum per bin** – After some discussion the PC agreed that as there is already a bin at the top of Back Lane they do not think it is required to place another bin in that area. If the footpath suggested is that at the kissing gate near Field Barn the PC are willing to contact CDC to find out if they would empty a bin in that location as they have a limit to how far off the highway they will go. If they are willing to empty a bin in that location the PC will consider this request at the next meeting. It was also agreed that **Cllr Rayner should print and laminate more dog waste signs and pass on to Cllr**

Bennett to be displayed in the relevant areas. Clerk to contact the school to confirm the location of the footpath and contact CDC to ask if that is a suitable location for collection.

43. Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2022 – There are a number of events taking place in 2022 for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee with an extended bank holiday from Thu 2nd to Sun 5th Jun to provide an opportunity for communities to come together to celebrate the milestone. It was suggested that the Village Hall Committee may wish to organise an event for both of the Sibfords. **Cllr Bennett agreed to put this on the agenda for the Village Hall Committee and will let the PC know if any support, financial or other, is required from the PC.**

44. County Councillor Report – The priorities for the new administration at Oxfordshire County Council (WCC) are youth, environment and green issues. Last year OCC dropped their opposition to 20mph limits in villages so there is a pilot scheme starting in Kirtlington. Once the pilot has been completed further information will be sent out to PCs. Highways have now got an out of hours emergency number so parishioners can report emergencies on the highway (such as a fallen tree on the road) to Highways rather than calling the police. There is an open consultation about waste/recycling in Oxfordshire which can be found on <https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/lets-talk-waste-and-recycling-2021>. OCC will be taking on responsibility for civil parking enforcement from 1st November 2021.

45. District Councillor Report – There is a parliamentary constituency review taking place but it won’t affect Sibford Ferris. There is a Community Governance Review taking place which allows parish councils to request changes to boundaries and number of councillors etc but there have been no requests from Sibford Ferris PC. The forms showing charges for brown bins and how to register for a bin should be coming out soon. There may be some requirements for cars on the main road to be moved to make space for the womens’ cycle race.

46. Finance

- i) Confirmation of the bank balance as at 14.09.21 of £20,345.60 – Cllr Rayner confirmed that the balance stated is correct.
- ii) To consider instructing repair work on the noticeboard at a cost of £80 – Proposed and agreed.
- iii) Proposal for the PC to allow the Village Hall to have their own website hosted on the Sibfords account and fund the additional cost of around £10 per year for the domain name – Proposed and agreed.
- iv) Confirmation of payments made since the last meeting using delegated powers: Proposed and agreed.

27.07.21	Kirsty Buttle	Salary July	£165.50
13.08.21	Kirsty Buttle	Expenses - Radar Gun & Batteries	£177.47
13.08.21	Thomas Fox Landscaping	Mowing of play area 09.07, 29.07	£48.08
13.08.21	Playsafety Ltd	Play equipment inspection	£172.80
13.08.21	Kirsty Buttle	Salary August	£165.30

- v) To note the following receipts: Noted.

22.07.21	HMRC	VAT refund	£565.48
18.08.21	Sibford Gower Parish Council	Cost share – Radar Gun & Batteries	£73.95

47. Planning applications received

21/03014/TCA – West Town House, Woodway Road, Sibford Ferris. FIVE DAY NOTICE T1, T2 x Beech - Crown lift over highway to achieve the agreed clearance of 5.0m above ground level to include necessary end weight reduction of compromised branches. **No response required as 5 day notice.**

21/03135/TCA – The Long House, Main Street, Sibford Ferris. T1, T2 x Alder - Dismantle and remove to ground level as growing through crown of more desirable Beech tree. T3 x Pine - Fell as growing through

above Beech tree. T4 x Yew - Fell as poor specimen due to previous Conifers overshadowing. Replace with a more suitable specimen. **No objections.**

21/02870/DISC - Os Parcel 4300 North Of Shortlands And South Of High Rock, Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris. Discharge of condition 12 (Energy Statement) - Outline planning permission with all matters reserved for up to 25 dwellings with associated open space, parking and sustainable drainage of 18/01894/OUT. **No representation.**

21/02905/DISC - Os Parcel 4300 North Of Shortlands And South Of High Rock, Hook Norton Road, Sibford Ferris. Discharge of condition 13 (Archaeology) of 18/01894/OUT. **No representation.**

48. Planning decisions received

21/01712/F – Home Farm, Woodway Road, Sibford Ferris. Demolition of existing car port, erection of new garage, single storey rear extension to dwelling and conversion and extension of existing outbuilding. **Approved.**

Date of next meeting – 2nd November @ 7pm

Meeting closed @ 9:33pm

Signed..... Date.....

