



JULY 2019

## **MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 18<sup>th</sup> JULY 2019, AT 8.00 PM, IN THE NEW SEACOURT HALL, BOTLEY.**

Present: Councillor D Kay (Chair) and Councillors, Potter, Berrett, Fairclough, Blase, Allen, Bolder, Bastin, Dowie, Jones, Mackeith, and Dyke.

In Attendance: C A Ryde, Clerk to NHPC, Councillor Roberts and a member of the public

**19/40 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**

Councillor Church and Councillor Smith.

**19/41 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

**19/42 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF:**

Parish Council, 27<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were agreed subject to the following corrections:

**19/31** - Council AGREED by majority vote (Councillors Allen and Dowie voting against) and the membership of the Committee was agreed as: Councillor Church as Chair and Councillors, Mackeith, Berrett, Kay, Potter, Bastin, Jones, Dowie and Blase.

**19/32** 2) NHPC were being approached for support in lobbying on this issue because of the likely knock on impact on the local roads in North Hinksey Parish. "

Planning Committee minutes, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019, were referred to the Planning Committee for approval.

**19/43 APPROVAL/CONSIDERATION OF OTHER COMMITTEE MINUTES**

None.

**19/44 URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

None.

**19/45 MATTERS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Mr. A Pritchard: Question, "What action is the Parish Council taking to find the perpetrator(s) of a rash of fresh graffiti that have appeared in the Parish in the last few days (e.g. on the Laburnum Road bus stop and green communications cabinets outside the Laburnum Road shop and in Montague Road) and to remove them?"

Answer: The chair informed the meeting that NHPC could only deal with graffiti on NHPC property in terms of removal, but would pass the information onto the relevant owners in line with the NHPC Graffiti Policy.

2. Why is there no next buses indicator on the new bus stop outside the Seacourt pub? Is there any intention to re-provide this very useful feature, whose absence has already been commented upon most unfavorably by many parishioners?

Answer: Councillor Roberts explained that there was a problem with the software such that other bus stops with similar issues were not currently being replaced. The clerk had already made enquiries with Oxontime and was also asked to report the issue on the OCC fix my street web site.

**19/46 QUESTIONS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

None.

**19/47 REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Councillor Roberts reported on recent OCC motions including recycling, the review of the Growth Board that would seek expert advice from a growth commission and a proposal to speed up the resolution of new development snagging issues. The County Council were also considering adopting the living wage across the County. A money saving action group was to be established. Buses were to continue to use Queen Street but be restricted to 30 buses per hour.

The Oxfordshire Cycle survey was taking place and a consultation on young people 's activity.

In answer to a question from Councillor Berrett, Councillor Roberts said that there had been a problem with the approval process for white lines associated with the new pedestrian crossing across the Botley Road which was the reason why the new crossing and traffic lights were still out of commission.

It was further reported that Botley Bridges had been unsuccessful in their application for transition funding.

**19/48 ACTION REVIEWS FROM THE LAST MEETING**

**18/185/4 Fen Survey.**

Councillor Potter informed the meeting that the Fen survey had taken place and this would be reported to the R&A Committee to make recommendations to Council.

**18/208 vii) Anti-climb paint.**

The Clerk reported that the paint was available at around £12 a can plus more for the required warning Notices.

Council AGREED to purchase the paint and warning signs and to seek quotes for the painting.

**19/32/2 Flood Alleviation Scheme**

Cllr Kay reported that he had sent an agreed letter to all the relevant authorities.

**19/49 CLERKS REPORT.**

The Clerk reported the following:

A new caretaker had been appointed on 9<sup>th</sup> July. Councillors commented on and corrected their details for posting on Parish Notice Boards. Councillors were also informed about the ongoing problems trying to get HAGS (the Company who supplied and installed the new play equipment on the LM Field) to ongoing issues.

Council AGREED to the purchase and replacement of safety matting and a retrospective action to claim to HAGS.

The Clerks confirmed that he was taking leave from 29<sup>th</sup> July to 9<sup>th</sup> August and 19<sup>th</sup> August to 23<sup>rd</sup> August.

**19/50 COUNCIL MOTIONS.**

Cllr MacKeith proposed and Cllr Kay seconded the following motion:

Since re-routing of traffic in recent years has turned the hamlet of Old Botley into a traffic island, North Hinksey Parish Council requests that pedestrians and cyclists there are protected in the same way as the rest of the Botley Road Corridor.

NHPC objects to the current proposals to change the egress from North Hinksey Lane (east) from two way to exit only as that would mean that all HGV's servicing Curtis's Industrial Estate and North Hinksey Business Park will have to go between the houses in Old Botley or come along North Hinksey Lane from the other end. These roads are narrow, do not consistently have pavements and contain listed buildings.

NHPC agrees to send a letter to Ian Hudspeth, the Leader of Oxfordshire County Council, stating these concerns and requesting that a pedestrian pathway be provided on the eastern side of North Hinksey Lane at the Old Botley end so that pedestrians do not have to walk across the entrance to both industrial estates and can walk safely to and from North Hinksey School.

Council AGREED unanimously to support this motion. Cllr Kay will write to Cllr Hudspeth on this matter.

**19/51 COUNCIL MATTERS.**

**1) Pavilion planning application and status of the Scout Hut Lease.**

Cllr Potter updated Council on the current position and drew Council's attention to the fact that the Scout lease ended in July 2020 and suggested establishing a Council working group that would report directly to council on lease renewal.

Council AGREED to establishing a working group with Councillor Bastin as Chair and Councillors Kay, Potter, Blase, plus the Clerk. Council also AGREED to suggest to the Scouts that they should put forward a joint chair from their organisation so that the chair could alternate.





- 2) **Play equipment issues.**  
Cllr Potter shared with Council the wording of new signs to be displayed on the LM Field and asked for Councillors to email their comments.
- 3) **Seacourt Hall public meeting and new Constitution.**  
Cllrs Berrett and Kay updated Council on the outcome of the public meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July at which it was agreed that the old lease would be surrendered and a new one for the new Seacourt Hall be signed. The revised constitution and lease documents were to be sent to the Charity Commission for comment/approval.
- 4) **Fen survey.**  
As previously reported, the Fen survey would be put to R&A for comment and recommendation to Council.
- 5) **The Botley Centre redevelopment and the new Seacourt Hall building.**  
Cllrs Kay and Berrett informed Council that phase 1 was on track for completion in July 2020. SDC were undertaking some work for Botley School. Complaints had been raised concerning the illicit use of the "TESCO" service entrance from /to the Botley Road. SDC had stated that any contractors guilty of on street parking received a warning then were banned from site for a second offense.
- 6) **Neighbourhood Plan**  
Councillor Kay updated Council on the latest position.  
The Inspector had asked via the Vale for facts to be checked in his report as circulated this week and the Chair undertook to respond.
- 7) **Proposed temporary suspension of Allotment Rule 2 for a single allotment holder.**  
Allotment Committee members discussed and AGREED to the proposal put forward by Councillor Mackeith and seconded by Councillor Bolder: to allow an allotment holder to temporarily keep chickens for a period of 2 months on their plot to clear unwanted ants and weeds and in so doing agreed to the suspension of Rule 2 for the same period with the situation being monitored and then reviewed in the Allotments Committee meeting in September. The Allotment Committee members present plus The Parish Council Chair and Vice chair voted by 4 votes to 1, with Councillor Dowie voting against and Councillor Potter abstaining.  
Other Councillors had the opportunity to discuss the matter and raised no objections to the decision.  
**Pond:** The Allotment Committee voted by 3 votes for, 1 against (Councillor Dowie) and 1 abstention (Councillor Potter) to a proposal from Councillor Mackeith; seconded by Councillor Kay, to allow a tenant to dig a pond on one of the unusable clay plots to encourage wild life, hopefully to include frogs and toads to predate the slugs. It was stressed that this would have to be at the tenants own risk. This situation will also be monitored and then reviewed in the Allotments Committee meeting in September.  
**Lawn Mower:** Council did not agree to the purchase of a lawn mower for allotment holders use.  
**Inspections:** Councillor Mackeith agreed to circulate a list of dates and inspection teams.
- 8) **Brief Quarterly reports from Chairs of other Committees including progress and items of Interest**
  - i). Planning Committee.  
No report.
  - ii). Allotments Committee including North Hinksey Nature Reserve and Community Orchard.  
Council was informed that The Oxford Community Volunteers were to scythe the Community Orchard on the 28<sup>th</sup> July.
  - iii). Communications Committee  
No report.
  - iv). Finance and General Purposes Committee  
Was to meet on the 25<sup>th</sup> July.
  - v). Recreation and Amenities Committee  
Clerk was to request a ROSPA inspection of the Fen Pond.
  - vi). Remembrance Day Committee  
The Committee Chair reported that contact had been made with the clergy, PA team and this year and other permissions and invitations would be sought /issued during July.
  - vii) Environment & Wellbeing Committee  
A report had been circulated ahead of the meeting and Councillors were asked to respond to Councillor Church regarding the proposed date for the first Committee meeting.

**Other Connected Organisations**

- vii). Louie Memorial Pavilion Management Trust (PC Representatives)  
No report.
- viii). Seacourt Hall Management Committee.  
As previously reported.

**19/52 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.**

The accounts as per the supplementary agenda were agreed.

**19/53 OTHER DOCUMENTS AND LETTERS RECEIVED**

The Clerk drew attention to the temp Closure of North Hinksey Lane on the 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of October.

**19/54 DATES OF FUTURE MEETING: 12/09/19**

Meeting closed at 9.50pm.

*2nd draft inc chair 06/08/19*

 12/9/19