

GREAT COXWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Reading Room, Great Coxwell, Oxfordshire, SN7 7NB

Clerk: Joanna Farrant clerk@greatcoxwell.com

Minutes of Great Coxwell Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 26th September 2022, 6:30pm.

Present	Cllr Jacqui Russell (Chair) Cllr Mike Harris Cllr Richard Hankinson Joanna Farrant, Parish Clerk Daryoush Sharifi, RFO
In Attendance	District Cllr Simon Howell 1 member of the public
Apologies	Cllr Rory Gilmour Cllr Kym MacDonald D/Cllr Elaine Weare

Item	Minute	Action
1.	Apologies for Absence Cllr Rory Gilmour District Cllr Elaine Weare Cllr Kym MacDonald had notified the Council she was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to an unavoidable work commitment. It was proposed, seconded and resolved to formally approve the reason for Cllr MacDonald's absence, for the purposes of s.85 LGA 1972.	
2.	Approval and Signing of Minutes of Last Meeting Minutes of 18.07.2022 were approved and signed.	
3.	Declarations of Interest None declared	
4.	Representations by Members of the Public Representations were received on potential management of the verge area between Church Lane and the Holloway which is currently covered in nettles. Greener Great Coxwell ('GGC') advised that in order to eliminate or reduce the nettle-bed, they should be strimmed down on a bi-weekly/three-weekly basis from March to September/October. Wild grass and flower seed could then be sown, with spot strimming the following year on an approximately monthly basis. The Council agreed it would obtain quotes to ascertain the cost of such management. This could then be weighed against any environmental benefits of seeding the area, as compared with the wildlife attracted by the current nettle-bed and taking into account the visual impact of a grass/wildflower area. MH would ask BGG and one other contractor to quote. The difficulties of asking a volunteer to undertake the management were discussed: it would require a volunteer policy and health & safety risk assessment to be carried out on behalf of the Parish Council and they would have to have the required liability indemnity policy. However, the verge is OCC property, the management of which is currently governed by a legal agreement with OCC.	MH
5.	County Councillor's Report	

	July/August Report had been circulated.	
6.	District Councillor's Report September Report had been circulated. SH noted that with the down-sizing of Council offices, Council meetings would now be held in person only at The Beacon, Wantage, whilst all other meetings would continue to be held remotely. SH reported that the Joint Oxfordshire Plan 2050 had collapsed due to lack of consensus. Each District would continue with its own plans. SH excused himself from the remainder of the meeting (6:55pm).	
7.	Correspondence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Relating to traffic turning out of The Holloway, which is affected by traffic approaching from the Faringdon direction: travel on the BA4019 was too fast, given the limited visibility for cars turning out of the Holloway. Could a 40mph limit either side of the junction be considered, as had been put in place at Shilton Junction, Carterton? The PC agreed it would be appropriate in the first instance to raise the issue with Lee Turner, OCC Traffic Officer, to understand any processes involved. The matter could also be referred to FATAAC (Faringdon Area Traffic Advisory Committee) for consideration. JF to action. ii. Speed limit on The Holloway: could it be included in the consideration of 20mph throughout the village? The PC would raise in the same manner outlined for the Holloway. iii. Footpath/bridleway – possible s.106 funds for improvements. Nothing further had been heard from the Countryside Access Development Officer since August. JF to double-check if any action required or whether an error had been made and reference to funds, were those already spent on the footpath 231/10/10 from The Steeds Agreement. 	JF JF JF
8.	New Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Repair of track in Park: MH had been in contact with the National Trust, who had suggested four possible contractors who carry out such work. JR will contact them for quotes. 	JR
9.	Ongoing Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Dog Mess: KM has been in contact with Annabelle's Nursery. They will laminate some entries within the next few weeks. The winning entry will be re-produced and laminated for footpath posts (not highways). It was agreed no prize was needed. ii. Social/Welfare: Christmas Procession: the Parish Council could not insure the event without taking over control of the event, which had never been the case. A s.137 donation to pay for insurance could be investigated both from a legality perspective of gifts to the Church and a budgetary perspective, but KM to confirm if there is a need first. iii. Verges & Footpaths: MH has contacted BGG and the Vale regarding the diseased Elms. He has sent in photos and location map and is awaiting further guidance and a quote from BGG. MH has reported the car bumper and blue barrels on the verge between The Grange and the mini-roundabout to OCC who have said they will deal with removal. 	KM KM MH

	<p>BGG have performed one cut of verges to date. A second cut, the wildflower meadow and the hedge in the Park are still due a cut.</p> <p>iv. Training: Code of Conduct – see Item 11 below.</p> <p>v. Large Verge Management: discussed under Item 4 above.</p>	
10.	<p>The Park:</p> <p>MUGA: JR will be attending a site visit tomorrow morning and the work is due to start in the third week of October.</p> <p>Tree Planting: the contract has been received and JR is progressing.</p>	JR
11.	<p>Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Update Code of Conduct to align with Oxfordshire CC ii. Make Civility & Respect Pledge in accordance with NALC recommendations <p>It was proposed, seconded and resolved to adopt an updated Code of Conduct in line with OCC and the District Council codes. JF to insert paragraph to clarify first point of contact in both the Parish Council and the District Council.</p> <p>The Parish Council decided to postpone acceptance of the Pledge at until further detail is known about the level of training, policy and other documents that Councillors would be required to accept.</p>	JF
12.	<p>Finance:</p> <p>Approval of all payments since 16.05.2022:</p> <p>Honorarium and annual expenses: £500</p> <p>A J Gallagher, Insurance Brokers: £40.60 (16.08.22)</p> <p>Crampton & Moore (TV) Ltd, fridge: £205 (29.08.22)</p> <p>Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils: £66 (20.07.22)</p> <p>BGG Garden & Tree Care: £108 (31.07.22)</p> <p>Receipt of half precept £6548 (02.09.22); CPF (Councillor Priority Fund) £1471</p> <p>Current direct debits would be examined at next meeting when the annual budget is discussed.</p> <p>DS presented a budget forecast for the remainder of the financial year in order to identify funds available for exceptional expenses, such as repair projects in the Reading Room or repairs in the Park. This could be in the region of £5,388, pooled from all cost centres, distinct from already committed spending.</p>	
13.	<p>Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. P22/V1727/DIS: Planning application amendment, Walnut Cottage, Great Coxwell. Discharge of conditions. Not for public consultation. ii. P22/V0996/RM: Reserved Matters relating to outline planning for 125 dwellings on land to south of Steeds Farm: objection submitted (23.05.22) iii. P22/V1975/HH: Chowle Farmhouse, Great Coxwell, extension and internal alterations (Response submitted 16.09.22) 	
15.	<p>Any other business/announcements to be added to next agenda</p> <p>None</p>	

17.	Date of Next Meeting: Monday 28th November 2022, 6:30pm	
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Meeting Closed: 7:50pm