

**Minutes of Parish Council Virtual Meeting  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021 at 8.00pm**

**Present:**

Councillor John Summers (Chairman)  
Councillor Denise Hall  
Councillor Steve Lapper  
Councillor Phil John  
District Councillor George Reynolds  
District Councillor Phil Chapman  
The Clerk

Residents and Public - 0

**Welcome and Introductions** – The Chairman welcomed all present. Members are reminded that this is a meeting in public not a public meeting and all points, questions and comments should be addressed through the Chair. The virtual meeting should not last more than 40 minutes and members of the public should mute their devices until the Public Participation Session.

**Apologies for Absence** - None

**Declarations of Interest**

*Members are asked to declare any personal interest and the nature of that interest which they may have in any of the items under consideration at this meeting*

Cllr Steve Lapper declared an interest in Planning Application 21/00349/TCA because his address is a neighbouring property.

**999 Minutes of the meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (previously circulated) and Matters arising.**

The minutes had been circulated in advance of the Meeting. They were agreed to be a true record of the Meeting and were signed by the Chairman

**Matters Arising** – At the last PC Meeting District Councillor George Reynolds indicated that there was a possibility that OCC may soon have funding available for introduction of 20 mph schemes and signs, but he said they would be expensive schemes. The Clerk was asked to contact The Bourtons Parish Council to ascertain if they had any interest in joining in so that economies might be achieved. The Bourtons PC have confirmed that they would be interested, but only if grants were made available.

**1000 Clerks Report  
Financial Statement**

The Clerk reported that 2 cheques had been raised during January 2021:

626	Play Safety Ltd	New OP Community area inspection	474.00	From Play area reserve
627	Joe Bridson	Tree Cutting	1125.00	In Budget

There was £506.50 VAT outstanding at the end of January which will be claimed back from HMRC in March. During January the PC received £600 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of claimed Orchard Piece Community Area Grant, from the Cherwell DC Community Infrastructure Grant.

Taking the above into account, at the end of January, the expected bank balance was £19391.65 which is reconciled to Bank statement sheet No.197 at 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021. This balance contains the remaining reserves of £3492.50 for Orchard Piece Community Area and £1061.57 remaining in Mollington Playing Fields reserve.

The Clerk also reported that the new Internal Auditor had visited (virtually) on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February requiring 14 subjects to be addressed and some further copies of items are to be forwarded soon.  
**Resolved:** To accept the Financial Report.

**Bank Mandate Signatures.** NatWest Bank require that the Parish Council send a copy of a specific Council resolution with their Signature Mandate form, when changes are necessary.

**It was resolved that:** The Authorised Signatories in the current mandate, for the accounts detailed in section 1.3 be changed in accordance with section Authorised Signatories and the current mandate will continue as amended.

## 1001 Planning Matters

**Applications received** between meetings and considered by councillors. The recommendations are for approval.

- 21/00349/TCA Fell 20 Leylandii bordering either side of front driveway and replace with native hedging; fell 15 Leylandii Cypress and replace with fence; fell 10 Leylandii Cypress; and fell 2 infected apple, 4 Orchard Piece. It was agreed that the Parish Council have no objection to this application; removal of the leylandii will improve access on the adjacent public footpath.
- 21/00223/F Variation of condition 2 (plans) and 3 (tile sample) Manor House Main Street. The PC have No objection

### Applications published after the agenda

- None

### Decisions

- None published

## 1002 Consultation

### OCC Draft Transport Blueprint

OCC Local Transport and Connectivity Plan together with supporting documents have been circulated to councillors and are available for residents to review at the OCC consultations portal. Attached link to be published on the Parish Council website

- [https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/gf2.ti/f/1251138/92506821.1/PDF/-/OCC\\_LTCP\\_Vision\\_Document.pdf](https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/gf2.ti/f/1251138/92506821.1/PDF/-/OCC_LTCP_Vision_Document.pdf)  
Comments should be made by 29 March 2021

## 1003 Councillor Reports

### Councillor Summers

#### Playgrounds

Orchard Piece: It was reported that the installation of the remaining bark was now complete and the following would be put on a plaque: 'Improvements to Orchard Piece Community Play Area

were made possible in 2020 through Grants from 'Big Lottery Fund' and 'Cherwell D.C.' as well as fund raising by many Mollington Residents.'

It was further agreed that top-up bark for Mollington Playing Fields Play area would be purchased from Wickes and spread out in March.

### Trees

Following receipt of the detailed tree survey and plan from Joe Bridson Arboriculture the table below sets out a plan for the PC to deal with the tree maintenance identified as required over the next financial years, this will enable the PC to proactively manage tree works and reduce risk of failure. Location and works are listed in priority order and take account of nesting periods for birds. It is recommended to approve the plans to carry out maintenance on these trees. Costs are covered by the budget approved at the last PC meeting.

Location and works	£ incl VAT	Date/Year	Comments
Thacker Way - severing of ivy from all mature trees in order to reduce wind resistance amongst the trees and reveal any defects	375	March 2021	The first 2 items are planned to be carried out together to improve contractor's efficiency and potentially reduce the cost
Thacker Way - reduction of sycamore hedge line down to original cuts and lifting of ash limbs, thereby clearing vegetation from telephone lines & pedestrian access	500	March 2021	
<b>Cost 2021</b>	<b>875</b>		
Thacker Way - removal of significant dead wood from oaks to avoid harm from failing dead limbs over public highways	450	Autumn 2021	This may be brought forward if removal of ivy identifies earlier work necessary and nesting birds can be avoided
Thacker Way - crown reduction of ash showing signs of base rot alongside boundary with the allotments to reduce risk of failure	450	Autumn 2021	On-going monitoring of this tree will be required to identify if it becomes necessary to do more works and/or fell the tree
The Green and Skittle Alley Main Street - removal of significant dead wood from large sycamore and line of 5 sycamores on the opposite verge to avoid harm from failing dead limbs over public highways	950	Autumn 2021	TCA application will be required for this work
<b>Cost 2021/22</b>	<b>1850</b>		
Village Hall - removal of declining Prunus cerasifera due to failure issues caused by the presence of Phellinus pomaceus to consider replanting by village consensus	650	Autumn/Winter 2022	Dependent on emergency tree works and remaining budget in 2021/22 it may be possible to bring this forward one year
Removal of stumps from item 6 to prepare for replanting	350		
<b>Cost 2022/23</b>	<b>1000</b>		
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>3725</b>		

**Resolved:** To accept the proposal and proceed with the first 2 items soon.

## **Councillor Lapper Roads**

Water Leaking in road at the Holt. An email has been sent to Nick Watson, OCC, to see what could be done as the residents of 5 The Holt reported it to Thames Water and they visited the site, but found no chlorine in the water, so it was probably spring water and a highway's issue.

The Clerk has also posted the problem on Fix My Street

**Missing Street and Lane names;** Email has been sent to Julie Shea at CDC with locations and photos of the following missing street names

The Row,

Cow Lane,

Church Lane, both entrances

Ivy Lane

We are now awaiting CDC budget to be approved for these items.

## **Councillor Hall**

The Village Hall remains closed.

The Committee are checking to see if any Grant is available for any Covid 19 support in the Village

## **Councillor John**

### **Village Maintenance**

As a precaution Western Power are looking at trees' branches growing too near to power lines, to see if any cutting back is required.

It was reported that Thomas Fox are visiting the village on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March to discuss the bank/ verge on Roundhill Road, where the primroses grow. It will be considered if this part of the cutting schedule should be reduced to perhaps only say, cutting twice per year.

It was proposed and agreed that, subject to reasonable costs, within budget, the Village Notice Board / Bus Stop should be cleaned and given a further protective wood treatment.

### **1004 Councillors Points of Information**

1. Cherwell Local Plan Review 2040 - Village services questionnaire February 2021 has been received since the agenda was published. The questionnaire and a draft response will be circulated to councillors following the meeting for inclusion on the March PC agenda and return to CDC by 31 March 2021.

2. It was suggested that consideration should be given to replacing all of the wooden steps (instead of just one) to the slide at Orchard Piece Community play area; Clerk to obtain cost estimate and consider at next meeting.

3. It was reported that instructions / suggestions had been received from NALC / OALC regarding actions required by Councils in the event of the death of a senior figure. It was felt that most of the suggestions only applied to larger councils but perhaps flags and website notices applied to our Parish.

**1005 Dates of Future Meetings** The next scheduled meeting date of the Parish Council is Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 at 8.00pm. This will be a Virtual Meeting.

**Parish Council Meeting finished at 9.10pm**

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Chairman, Mollington Parish Council

**Public Participation Session** – No Public Present