

**MOLLINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Clerk: Geoff Hall, Sunnybank, Mollington. OX17 1BD**  
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**Minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Tuesday 22nd January 2019  
at 8.00pm in Mollington Village Hall**

**Present:**

Councillor John Summers (Chairman)  
Councillor Denise Hall  
Councillor Cathrine Webb  
Councillor Steve Lapper  
Councillor Cheryl Huntbach  
The Clerk  
Residents and Public - 2

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Apologies for Absence** – District Councillors Phil Chapman and George Reynolds

**Declarations of Interest** – Councillor Webb declared an interest in a planning item. It was noted that this was not a pecuniary interest and the Parish Council agreed that Councillor Webb should address her comments on the Agenda item.

**891 Minutes of Previous Meeting and Matters arising** – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018

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** – None

**892 Clerks Report  
Financial Statement**

The Clerk reported that 7 cheques had been raised in the period November and December 2018

535	Thomas Fox	Grass Cut	305.28	In Budget
536	Thomas Fox	Trees Cut	98.88	In Budget
537	DM Payroll	6 months Payroll	30.00	In Budget
538	SLCC	Subscription Fee 2019	76.00	£4 over
539	ALCC	Subscription Fee 2019	40.00	£4 over
540	HMRC	Income Tax	120.00	In Budget
541	Clerk	Quarters Salary	480.00	In Budget

There was £1107.33 VAT outstanding in December, which has been claimed back. Taking the above into account, the expected bank balance was £14362.81 which is reconciled to Bank statement sheet No.172 at 5<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Proposed Cllr Summers; Seconded Cllr Huntbach  
Resolved: To Accept the Financial Report

**Risk Assessment** – The new Parish Council Risk Assessment for 2019 had been done by the Clerk and Chairman and circulated to all Councillors. The Parish Council resolved to accept the Risk Assessment and it was signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

**Asset Register** – The Clerk had prepared and circulated an updated Asset Register for 2019, which included Land Registry numbers for the Village Hall and Car Park; this was as recommended in the latest Internal Audit report for last year. Resolved: to accept the updated Asset Register.

## Standing Orders

An amendment to Standing Order 23 was proposed. The effect of the amendment will allow planning applications to be considered by councillors between Parish Council meetings where an extension had not been allowed. This could potentially occur in August and/or December each year but could also include meetings where the council was not quorate or where meetings had been cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

The Chairman proposed a general resolution 'adopting the new Standing orders as generally amended and agreed for Mollington and specifically amended' after specific resolutions to cover:

### SO 23 A. Unauthorised activities

Unless authorised by a resolution, no individual councillor shall in the name or on behalf of the Council, a committee or a sub-committee inspect any land and/or premises which the Council has a right or duty to inspect; or issue orders, instructions or directions. The Chairman and one or more other councillor he or she nominates or two other councillors in the chairman's absence may act in planning matters.

#### **Add:**

### SO 23B

*'In the event that a planning submission(s) requires a response before the next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council, and an extension has not been agreed by the planning officer, the application may be published on the Parish Council notice board together with details of the Cherwell District Council planning portal. The link to the application(s) will be circulated (by email) to all councillors who may make comments in writing (including by email) on the application(s). The Clerk shall summarise those comments to councillors for their information prior to submitting a response to the Planning Officer. The response will be ratified by the Parish Council at its next meeting.'*

Resolved: To accept the amendment and review of Standing Orders.

A further amendment was proposed by Councillor Webb. As this had not been circulated in writing before the meeting the Chairman, in line with Standing Orders, was unable to allow a debate on the proposal and it was agreed that this would be circulated in writing prior to the February meeting so that it could be discussed then.

## Budget and Precept 2019/20

It is to be proposed to increase the Budget / Precept by just £100 from £10900 to £11000 per year, for the next financial year 2019 /20. This is equal to about 0.9% increase or about 45p per household.

There are some increases required in the budget for next year, particularly the requirement from CDC to raise £862 for the elections in May. However, it was forecast there would be some savings made this year which, when carried forward, would offset the elections cost. (which would be held if there were more than 5 Councillor nominations)

The Parish Council are required to advise CDC of the Precept Request this week. The Parish Council resolved to approve a Precept demand of £11,000 for financial year 2019/2020.

**Election timetable.** The election timetable was circulated to Councillors and public present; it was agreed that it would also be publicised on the Notice Board, website and Mollington Matters in due course. It was brought to the attention of councillors that the Election timetable required a Parish Council meeting to be held between Tuesday 7 May and Tuesday 21 May inclusive. It was therefore proposed to bring forward the planned Parish Council Meeting from Tuesday 28 May to Tuesday 21 May 2019. The Parish Council resolved to accept this change to meeting date.

## 893 Planning matters

Applications – The following applications were reported

- 18/01957/LB & 18/01956/F Conversion of outbuildings to form music/games room and two guest annexes Manor House Main Street. The application was visited by councillors Hall and Summers who recommended to support this application for the following reasons:
  - it causes no harm to the listed building (Manor House) in which curtilage the proposed development is located;
  - it causes no harm to other listed buildings or the conservation area;
  - it brings into use buildings that are in a state of dilapidation within both the conservation area and curtilage of the listed building (Manor House); and

- is in keeping with the refurbishment of the listed building Mansion House  
Resolved: To not object to the application for given reasons.
- 18/02106/F Extension forming car port with games room over DeeJay Farm Chestnut Road. The application was visited by councillors Hall and Huntbach who recommended that no objection was made to the application  
Resolved: To not object to the application.
- 19/0024/F Proposed garden room and workshop, block paving to driveway and mature trees and shrubs to rear boundary Ivy House Ivy Lane. The application was visited by Councillors Hall and Summers who noted that no drainage plan for the block paving to the driveway was included and were concerned that surface water may run off the block driveway down Ivy Lane. The Council debated the block paving drainage issue and the failure to erect a close board fence at the rear of the property, originally approved in a previous planning application and not varied.

Resolved: To not object to the application but to raise 2 observations as follows: -

1. Planning Officer to satisfy themselves that drainage for the block paving driveway is satisfactory, in order to avoid run off to Ivy Lane
  2. Application should include the completion of the close board fence at the rear of the property, which has been omitted without variation, from the previous planning application number 14/01465/F
- Application published since the Agenda was issued:
    - 19/00011/TCA G1 x 5 no's Sycamore - Reduce height by 6.0 (25m) and shape. G2 x 1 no Poplar, 1 no Unidentified stem - Fell.  
T1 x Willow - Remove branch in western crown to stem, reduce height by 5.0m. Mansion House Farm Roundhill Road. It is recommended that no objection to this tree works application is made.  
Resolved: To raise no objection to the application.

### Decisions

It was reported that the following planning decisions had been made by CDC since the last Parish Council meeting:

- 18/01904/F & 18/01905/LB Conversion of barn to provide swimming pool and leisure facilities Manor House Main Street – Permitted
- 18/01925/Q56 Change of use to one dwelling under Class Q(a) Point To Point Farm Claydon Road – Refused

## 894 Councillors Reports

**Councillor Summers** - The Chairman reported that:

**Village Maintenance and Mollington Playing Fields** – The waste bins need to be re-set in concrete blocks as the dry weather during the summer has resulted in the shrinkage of the ground surrounding the bins. Repairs will be carried out in the spring.

### Councillor Webb Footpaths

The footpaths both sides from main street onto Southam road have been put in very good order now, all cleared and widened as required.

Mollington's missing Footpath is still under investigation; hopefully we will get an update on this soon.

### Neighbourhood Watch/Police

It was reported that a resident contacted Cllr Webb regarding markings that had been made outside their property on a telegraph pole and down the end of their driveway just outside their front door; the residents were quite concerned because it appeared their property was being targeted; they did telephone the police who said until a crime had been committed, they could not assist. Due to the concern the residents had, Cllr Webb managed to get our local PCO to visit the resident, it was also posted on Mollington village Facebook. This is a reminder to ask any villagers to report anything that they don't think is right, and to be vigilant and aware of any markings on and near to their property.

Action Fraud reported that there is still an increase in malicious calls pretending to be from HMRC.

### Dogs and bins

There has been a spate of dogs being poisoned with tennis balls, the balls are being filled with poison, left in areas where dogs play and can be picked up easily by dogs. These balls have slits in them for the filling and

when squeezed the contents come out so, please be cautious if your dog finds a ball that is not yours. Do not let your dog play with it.

Remember if your dog poops please scoop and place it in one of the five bins available throughout the village; it is an offence not to pick up after your dog. Dog bags can be obtained from Jeanette Angel, Church Lane. Telephone 01295 758395

If you have walked through muddy/woodland areas remember to clean your dog's paws to hopefully avoid Alabama

#### **Councillor Hall –**

**Village Hall** – The ceiling in the Village Hall is to be repaired after damage caused by a water leak.

#### **Councillor Lapper –**

**Roads** - A pallet of salt has been delivered; the village bins are to be checked and filled if necessary.

Chestnut Road has had advance warning signs put up in regards to pothole repairs etc. It is not known when this work will start.

**Traffic Calming** – 'Twenty is Plenty' Signs are sourced – decision awaited on which type of sign will best suit the village.

#### **Councillor Huntbach**

##### **Orchard Piece Play area**

**Funding** - Reported that we are waiting for a quote to come back from Hags; Sovereign Playgrounds quote already received and was over 40k. Cllr Huntbach has referred back to them as we need to make a few savings. A meeting was held with Oxfordshire playing fields association who recommended a few things, one of which was to work with the current slide and mound we already have, and work around it.

Still waiting for outcome from 'Awards for all' - We will need to have another quote as CDC require three. We will be applying to Tesco for inclusion in their bag scheme. Cllr Huntbach would like to make an appeal to the village for support around the area and would like to put something in the next Mollington Matters. The funding project is currently ongoing.

Resolved; To accept all Councillor Reports.

#### **895 Councillors Points of Information –**

Cllr Webb asked if we have any ash trays outside Village Hall, this being an event place for the village; if not would it not be a good idea to install one. It was suggested this may not be appropriate as the Village Hall is a wooden Building and smoking may be a fire risk.

Councillors Webb and Lapper to see if the private salt bin on Orchard Piece could have salt replenished as it serves all on Orchard Piece

Parish Council Meeting finished at 9.00pm

**Dates of Future Meetings** The next scheduled meeting date of the Parish Council is on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in Mollington Village Hall at 8.00pm.

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Chairman, Mollington Parish Council

#### **Public Participation Session**

A Resident advised that after the demise of the last local dial-up bus service in July, it was now very disappointing to report that he had received a letter from Banbury 'Dial-a-ride' service advising that this service had also ceased at the end of December. Parish Council to find out detail and if it is planned to resume.

(The same resident had since tried the Volunteer Drivers Scheme, supported by Citizens Advice Bureau. This is as on the Village Notice board and is charged out at 45p per mile)