

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the OVERBURY AND CONDERTON PARISH COUNCIL
held at 6pm on Monday 17 January 2022 at Overbury Village Hall**

PRESENT: Mrs G Milway Chairman
Mrs Ruth Darling
Mrs Steff LeMarechal
Mr Stephen Voysey

Miss R Long - Parish Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Richard Southby had sent his apologies for his absence due to medical treatment. This was accepted by the Councillors present.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors were reminded of the need to keep up to date their Register of Interests, and to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary interests and Other Disclosable Interests in items on the Agenda and their nature. There were no Declarations of Interest for this Meeting.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 4 October, 2021, which had been circulated with the Agenda papers, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. PROGRESS REPORTS

(1) Overbury Footpath Surface Repair

As the work to replace the large Cotswold stone wall was completed before Christmas, the Clerk will contact Wychavon District Council to arrange a date for the repair of the several potholes and the footpath in Overbury extending from Nindfield to Pigeon Lane, all becoming increasingly fragmented not helped by all the extra walkers, cars etc during Lockdown.

(2) Possible purchase of Defibrillator for Conderton

The Clerk will research the latest charitable price reduction offers for a second defibrillator, which could be sited near to the Yew Tree if a suitable electricity supply can be found.

(3) Community Right To Buy Application for the Yew Tree public house

The application has not been progressed.

(4) The Queen's Green Canopy "Plant A Tree For The Jubilee"

The Chairman reported that she had been approached by the Treasurer of the COCO (Conderton and Overbury Community Orchard) to enquire if the Parish Council would consider a donation towards the cost of the local varieties of apple and pear trees that had been planted in the orchard. A donation of £100 was unanimously agreed.

5. WYCHAVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

(1) Vibrant Village Zoom Event on 21 October The Chairman attended this Zoom meeting and the slides from the event have been circulated to the Councillors.

(2) Housing Needs Survey Workshops were carried out by Zoom during November, which considered the method of understanding housing and community needs and explained the current Rural Lettings Policy which gives priority to applicants with a local connection to a parish/local area when an affordable home becomes available.

Other General Information Circulated The Community Legacy Grant Scheme is open again for further applications, the priority for grants to be given to councils with relatively high levels of housing growth; the Regeneration Plan for Evesham Public Hall is still on the table even though Wychavon was not successful in their bid for help from the Government's Levelling Up Fund; the Council has set aside more than £297,000 to support households in needs.

6. **WORCESTERSHIRE CALC and NALC** (County & National Associations of Local Councils)
Circulated for information: There is a dedicated page on NALC's website for the new Civility and Respect Project to protect those in public office from social media abuse and bullying; Training Opportunities available for councillors and clerks; Breakthrough Communications for an effective communication and engagement strategy for councils.
7. **TEWKESBURY BOROUGH PLAN**
(1) Main Modifications Consultation – the consultation period was extended until 4th January 2022 and the details are available on the Tewkesbury.gov.uk website. This led to a discussion about the proposed development by Wychavon District Council of up to 500 dwellings and associated infrastructure on land at Mitton Bank, Bredon's Hardwick; the Clerk reported that there is also an outline planning application for a site for a primary school with seven classrooms, nursery and ancillary facilities to serve the local community.
8. **SOUTH WORCESTERSHIRE POLICE Safer Neighbourhood Team**
The Clerk reported that the parish council is sent regular messages and newsletters from the Neighbourhood Alert system, and these are circulated to Councillors if relevant to our area.
9. **THE SWINGS ON THE CRICKET FIELD**
The swings have been tied up and out of use during Covid. The Clerk reported that the cricket field area and the swings are scheduled for the annual safety check during this coming March, but Councillors were keen that they should be untied and ready for use before the safety check had been completed.
10. **EXTRA WASTE BIN IN THE VILLAGE**
A resident has suggested that it would be helpful to provide a second bin in Pigeon Lane to be sited near to the seat with the panoramic view overlooking the orchard, which is often used by walkers for their picnics. The Clerk was instructed to obtain a quotation from Wychavon and an agreement for its location.
11. **FINANCE**
The sum brought forward to this meeting from the October meeting is £9379.27. There have been no receipts since this balance and only two payments have been made, being The Clerk's salary tax of £20 and £165 to Wychavon District Council for the annual maintenance of dog bins, to leave a current balance of £9194.27.

The following payments were then agreed:	£	
WDC – maintenance of 3 dog bins	279.32	
Ruth Hutt – bus shelter cleaning	100.00	
COCO – donation towards purchase of fruit trees	100.00	
Clerk's 3 month Salary	150.10	
HMRC – tax on Clerk's salary	37.40	
		_____ Total £666.82

These payments will leave a bank balance of £8527.45.

Application for Precept for the year 2022-23

Having considered the anticipated income and expenditure for next year, Councillors were anxious to reduce rather than increase the amount of Precept applied for in view of the financial difficulties faced by many householders following Covid. The Clerk reported that, according to the calculation provided by Wychavon, a reduced Precept of £2805.00 would result in a reduction of 16.5% on the Parish Council's share of the Council Tax. It was therefore agreed that the sum of £2705.00 should be applied for which, when added to the Grant from Wychavon of £295.00, brings the total Precept to £3000.00 for 2022-23.

12. **CLERK'S REPORT ON URGENT DECISIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING**

No urgent decisions were taken since the last meeting.

13. **COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

There were no Councillors' reports or items for a future agenda.

14. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the Parish Council at 6pm on Monday 21 March 2022 at Overbury Village Hall.

There being no further business the Meeting closed.

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