

**MINUTES of the MEETING of the OVERBURY AND CONDERTON PARISH
COUNCIL held on Tuesday 9 January 2024 at 6.30pm in Overbury Village Hall**

PRESENT: Mrs G Milway – Chairman
Mrs Ruth Darling
Mrs Steff Le Marechal
Mr Steven Voysey

In attendance: Miss R Long – Clerk to the Parish Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(a) Register of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to complete/update their registers of interests.

(b) To declare any Personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature

(c) To declare any Prejudicial interests in items on the agenda and their nature

There were no Declarations of Pecuniary, Personal or Prejudicial Interests for this Meeting.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 3 October 2023, which had been circulated to Councillors, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. PROGRESS REPORTS

(1) Vacancies for two councillors to represent the Overbury Ward of the Parish Council

The Chairman reported that Mr Patrick Harbour had expressed interest in becoming a Parish Councillor for Overbury, which the meeting was very pleased to hear. Mr Harbour's Co-option application will be tabled at the next meeting of the Parish Council in March and announced on the Community website and Parish Council noticeboards prior to the March meeting.

(2) Proposed Children's Play Area

The Clerk reported that Mr Devereux, Chairman of Overbury Cricket Club, had been unable to obtain any advice from the Cricket Association's Governing Body about the siting of playground equipment on a cricket field. Unfortunately, there was no representative officer available due to the ongoing reorganisation within the Cricket Association.

(3) Update ref Housing Development at The Close, Conderton

The Clerk reported that the planning application had been delayed because the Planning Authority's archaeologist had not yet approved the proposed trial trenches.

(4) Update ref Mitton Bank Housing Development planning application

No further information currently available.

(5) Overbury Playing Field – Renewal of Lease

It was agreed that the Parish Council is prepared to consider the renewal of the Lease of the Overbury Playing Field. However, the lease will need to be renegotiated as some of its current terms and conditions are considered too financially onerous for the Parish Council.

(6) Footpath Repairs in Overbury

The repair and reconstruction of the footpath at the top end of the village towards Pigeon Lane had been completed in November 2023 to the satisfaction of residents and visitors to the village.

5. WYCHAVON DISTRICT COUNCIL

(1) Planning Communities Together Event on 23 November 2023

This meeting at the Civic Centre was attended by the Chairman and Clerk. The meeting was called to outline the Council's strategy for the many aspects of community support offered, the main concerns being support for Youth Services, Schools and Health and Wellbeing. Various sources of funding were explained and help offered towards community and planning projects, as well as a survey of Rural Housing Needs. The Council is also part of the District Health Collaborative, which is the integrated system of Care Boards for NHS and Social Services so that the care system can become more preventative.

(2) Planning Application – Land at Kemerton Road, Westmancote

Change of use of land to provide 3 static caravans for occupation by related gypsies/travellers with associated works including laying of hardstandings and erection of two storage sheds. It was noted that occupation appeared to have taken place before planning permission had been granted. It was hoped that this development will be monitored.

(3) December E-Mail News

We are notified about the new Water Play development at Pershore; the Children Against Litter campaign; and the Battle of Evesham inspired play area.

(4) Rural Fund for Communities

It had been agreed that the Parish Council was willing to apply for funding from the Rural Fund for Communities towards the cost of the proposed children’s playground. Councillor Voysey reported that he had completed an Expression of Interest for the funding on behalf of the Parish Council in time for the 5 January deadline; this is not a full application, which would only be completed if the scheme is accepted for support. However, after further discussion, Councillors agreed that the proposed site for the play area on the playing field behind the cricket nets is not suitable. An alternative site, acceptable to all concerned, must therefore be agreed before this application for funding can proceed.

6. WORCESTERSHIRE CALC (County Association of Local Councils)

As mentioned in the previous meeting, Worcestershire CALC have distributed a Guide for events being considered for the National Remembrance Day on 6th June for the 80th Anniversary of D-Day (the Normandy Invasion during WW11). It was agreed to find out if there were any events being planned locally.

7. SOUTH WORCESTERSHIRE POLICE

The Parish Council has been circulated with the usual Rural Beat, Safer Neighbourhood Team and Economic Crime Unit newsletters dealing with scams and frauds with useful contact details for help. Councillors were also given the opportunity to comment on West Mercia’s budget proposals, and other specific projects included Funding for the knife crime prevention project; Law Change for the possession and use of Nitrous Oxide; £1 million investment in the Police vehicle fleet; the Safer Roads in West Mercia initiative.

8. TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL – Gardens Communities Parish Liaison Group

The Chairman joined the on-line meeting arranged for 3 January to discuss the draft Gardens Communities Charter. Garden Communities are part of a government programme to promote the new development of well designed, sustainable communities. The Tewkesbury garden communities will be located to the east of the M5 motorway, spanning across the railway and north and south of the A46. The development will begin between 2026 and 2035, and comments from and discussion with local communities is being encouraged at this consultation stage.

9. FINANCE

Current Finance Report – statement enclosed with Agenda papers

	£
Balance brought forward from 3 October 2023 meeting as per Minutes	7106.24
Receipts since October Meeting	
Wychavon District Council Precept & Grant – 50%	1374.00
	8480.24
Payments since October Meeting	
Overbury Enterprises – share of village hall building insurance	- 410.58
	8069.66
Bills now due for payment	
Daniel Hutt – bus shelter cleaning	100.00
WDC: Cleaning of bins	330.73
Clerk 3 month salary	150.10
HMRC Tax on salary	37.40
Royal British Legion – wreath	23.00
	- 641.23
Balance carried forward to next meeting	7428.43

Note: Further payments for grass cutting will be considered at the next meeting in March.

11. CLERK'S REPORT ON URGENT DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING

No urgent decisions were made since the June meeting.

12. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA

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

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was arranged for Monday 18 March 2024 at 6.30pm in the village hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed.