

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PIDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL held on 16th May 2023

| | | Action | By date |
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| | <p>Present: Cllr M Nixon, Cllr M Newbury, Cllr M Terzino, Cllr P Feltbower, Cllr T Wills</p> <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Also Present: Cllr C Miller (OCC), Cllr G Coton (CDC).</p> | | |
| 17 | <p>Declarations of Interest Cllrs Terzino and Newbury as members of the Village Hall Committee.</p> | all | |
| 18 | <p>Election of Chair and appointment of Vice Chair Cllr M Nixon was unanimously elected Chair of the Parish council for the year 2023/24 and Cllr M Newbury was appointed Vice Chair.</p> | | |
| 19 | <p>The Parish Council noted with great sadness the sudden death of former parish councillor Ken Howard, and sent its condolences to his family.</p> | | |
| 20 | <p>Minutes The Minutes of the meeting of 18th April 2023 were agreed as drawn, subject to the correction of typographical errors.</p> | clerk | |
| 21 | <p>Councillors' reports.</p> <p>Cllr Miller advised the meeting that OCC are currently not pursuing network Rail for repairs in Lower End Piddington, which means that any necessary repairs will need to be funded from OCC's budget. Cllr Wills agreed to send details of the correspondence between OCC and Network Rail, together with her contact at OCC.</p> <p>There will be a meeting of the Flood Forum on June 29th, with Thames Water having agreed to attend. OCC contractors will be cutting verges earlier than in other years. Additional Community bus services will be available from September 2023.</p> <p>A resident raised questions about potholes in Thame Road opposite the Church, which have been reported to OCC, but not yet dealt with. Parish Councillors expressed concern that Piddington was not shown on the flooding map, and agreed to clarify problem flooding areas with Cllr Miller. Traffic lights are still located on the railway bridge, despite no work being carried out.</p> <p>Cllr Coton confirmed she is chasing CDC for a response to the possibility of Piddington purchasing the land on which the Village hall is constructed (currently in the ownership of CDC).</p> <p>She confirmed also that CDC currently has no overall political control, and meetings are taking place to attempt to agreed a coalition to form an Executive.</p> | | |

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| 22 | <p>Finance</p> <p>The Council noted the current position with regard to the Council's financial position, and agreed the following payments: -</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 344 1246 539"> <tr> <td data-bbox="300 344 616 383">HMRC</td> <td data-bbox="620 344 930 383">clerk tax</td> <td data-bbox="935 344 1246 383">£55.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="300 389 616 427">A Davies</td> <td data-bbox="620 389 930 427">salary</td> <td data-bbox="935 389 1246 427">£244.86</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="300 434 616 472">PVH</td> <td data-bbox="620 434 930 472">room hire</td> <td data-bbox="935 434 1246 472">£14.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="300 479 616 517">M and J Cross</td> <td data-bbox="620 479 930 517">grass</td> <td data-bbox="935 479 1246 517">£522.00</td> </tr> </table> | HMRC | clerk tax | £55.40 | A Davies | salary | £244.86 | PVH | room hire | £14.00 | M and J Cross | grass | £522.00 | clerk | |
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| 23 | <p>The Council noted and agreed its end of year accounts and internal Governance statement and authorised the Chair and the Clerk to sign all the documents comprising the Annual Governance review.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | <p>Village Matters</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>Village memorial</p> <p>The Council agreed to the creation of the memorial garden at Pocket Park and would see if there are any appropriate ideas/suggestions from residents for its development. It was suggested that the Council would support a competition for a suitable design.</p> | TW | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>Allotments</p> <p>A quote for work on the hedge is awaited. Rents for allotments have now been received, and currently there are 2 vacant plots. It was agreed that some of the cash held in respect of the allotments would be paid into the Parish Council's bank account.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>Jubilee Reserve</p> <p>The parish council agreed to plant a tree at the Jubilee reserve to commemorate former Chair Francesca Darby, who led significant improvement works to the area.</p> | AD/MT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | <p>Planning appeal</p> <p>The clerk was asked to enquire of CDC what their plans were to review their Gypsy Needs Assessment, and to query with CDC whether the planners viewed that the permission for 6 pitches authorised on appeal was still valid, when work had commenced without complying with pre commencement conditions and when the work carried out had destroyed a newt pond.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | <p>Graveyard</p> <p>Councillors met following the previous meeting to view the condition of the churchyard. They had observed that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A) Some of the gravestones were in poor repair B) Ongoing maintenance of grass and trees was required C) Some basic repairs were required including the tombstones cleared on the left had side (looking at the Church. D) Damaged gravestones would be lain on the grave with the inscription uppermost. <p>It was observed that, although the churchyard was deemed closed some years ago, occasional burials were still taking place. After the meeting the Clerk clarified that once a churchyard is closed the formal right of burial for parishioners ends, but burials can still take place in vaults or graves that have been reserved by families.</p> | | |
| 25 | <p>Planning</p> <p>None.</p> | | |
| 26 | <p>Highways</p> <p>The Clerk has invited the OCC Footpath Officer to visit the village and inspect the footpaths.</p> | AD | |
| 27 | <p>Police</p> <p>The police forum is planned for June 2023. Dates will be circulated when available.</p> | KH | |
| 28 | <p>Circulated Between Meetings:</p> <p>OALC and CDC Updates</p> | AD | |
| 29 | <p>Any Other business.</p> <p>None.</p> | AD | |
| 30 | <p>The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.</p> | | |
| 31 | <p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>20th June 2023 at 7.30pm</p> | AD | |